

# 1997 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 470

Offered January 15, 1997

*Requesting the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to review the effectiveness of state oversight of commercial driver-training schools.*

Patrons—Connally, Almand, Darner, Keating, Puller, Van Landingham and Watts; Senator: Whipple

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, every year, scores of thousands of Virginians learn to drive motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, most of these new drivers are less than 20 years old; and

WHEREAS, year after year, statistics show that a disproportionate number of traffic accidents and fatalities involve youthful drivers; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that youthful drivers receive uniformly high quality instruction in order to compensate for their relative immaturity, inexperience, and occasional lack of sound judgment; and

WHEREAS, although many youthful drivers learn to drive through driver training programs in public and private high schools, very many others learn through commercial driver-training schools; and

WHEREAS, the importance of uniformly high quality in-class and behind-the-wheel driver training for young drivers has been underscored since July 1, 1995, when Virginia residents aged 16 through 18 were first allowed to receive driver's licenses without taking the Department of Motor Vehicles road skills examination if they have successfully completed a state-approved in-school or commercial driver-education program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be requested to study commercial driver-training schools, including the licensing and monitoring of such schools. Such study shall not include schools whose instruction focuses solely on preparing students to receive commercial driver's licenses provided for in Article 6.1 (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of Title 46.2 of the Code of Virginia.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission for this study, upon request.

The Commission shall report on its progress to the 1998 Session of the General Assembly and submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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