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Offered January 17, 1997

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study the formulation of the composite index.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 513

Patrons—Katzen, Albo, Bryant, Callahan, Drake, Guest, Howell, Ingram, Rollison and Way; Senators: Benedetti and Quayle

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the composite index was developed in 1974 as a means of distributing state aid to public schools across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, it has often been criticized for its inability to adequately reflect the many varying stresses and incapacities facing local governments throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, more than a decade has passed since the composite index was the subject of a comprehensive review; and

WHEREAS, questions remain on whether it is the most accurate and appropriate measure through which to distribute state appropriations for public education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a joint subcommittee be appointed to study the formulation of the composite index.

The joint subcommittee shall be comprised of nine members to be appointed as follows: five members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker and four members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$6,750.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Department of Education. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.