

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1997 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 666

Continuing the joint subcommittee to study funding mechanisms for periodic maintenance dredging.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 1997

Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 1997

WHEREAS, House Joint Resolution No. 149 (1996) established a joint subcommittee to study funding mechanisms for periodic maintenance dredging; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of the joint subcommittee was to monitor the current and future availability of federal funding for maintenance dredging and formulate a response to the threat of decreased available federal funding for maintenance dredging; and

WHEREAS, the prospect for future federal funding for navigational dredging remains unclear, because relevant legislation in Congress remains under consideration and because the United States Army Corps of Engineers has established a Cost Reduction Task Force which plans to issue a report in early 1997; and

WHEREAS, the joint subcommittee has determined that further study is required; and

WHEREAS, the joint subcommittee has learned throughout the course of the first year of its study that not only are the prospects for federal funding of periodic maintenance dredging unclear, but federal funding for new navigational dredging projects may also be in jeopardy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the joint subcommittee to study funding mechanisms for periodic maintenance dredging be continued in order to complete its task of assessing the need for a state response to any reduction in federal funding for maintenance dredging projects that may occur. The joint subcommittee may assess the need for a state response to any reduction in federal funding for new dredging projects that may occur. The members duly appointed pursuant to HJR No. 149 (1996) shall continue to serve except that any vacancies shall be filled as provided in the enabling legislation.

Staffing shall continue to be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$3,000.

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 the processing of 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.

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