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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 231

Offered January 26, 1998

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study tax filing via the Internet.

Patron—O'Brien

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Internet has become widely available to many businesses and individuals; and
WHEREAS, many states are studying the Internet as a vehicle for filing tax returns; and
WHEREAS, filing tax returns through the Internet would likely be more convenient for many taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the convenience to taxpayers would likely increase timely compliance with filing dates and be beneficial to the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study use of the Internet as a vehicle for filing tax returns. The joint subcommittee shall be composed of five members, as follows: three members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, and two members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall focus on security concerns surrounding Internet use, including how to maintain and protect confidential taxpayer information and how to protect the integrity of the Tax Department's mainframe computer system.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$ 2,000.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Department of Taxation. 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 1999 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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