

1998 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 236

Requesting the State Water Commission to study ways of making optimal use of Virginia's water resources.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 6, 1998

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 1998

WHEREAS, protecting the Virginia water supply is a shared responsibility among state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, providing drinking water supplies in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner is critical to the health, safety, and welfare of citizens and the economic well-being of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, without a comprehensive water policy for Virginia, an increasing number of conflicts over the use of the state's water have arisen, only to be resolved after protracted litigation; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that the fast-developing areas along Virginia's eastern crescent will experience a greater demand for water supplies over the next 20 to 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the transfer of water from one region to another has been the primary strategy for providing additional water supply to areas of increasing population; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the State Water Commission be requested to study ways of making optimal use of Virginia's water resources. The study shall include an examination of the relative merits and costs of such water supply strategies as water recycling, desalinization, tertiary treatment, and conservation.

Technical assistance shall be provided by the Department of Environmental Quality.

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

The Commission 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.

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