

1998 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 274

Requesting the Southeast Rural Communities Assistance Project to establish a voluntary contribution program for indoor plumbing assistance in Virginia to assist low-income households.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 1998

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 1998

WHEREAS, during the past decade various public, private, and nonprofit organizations in the Commonwealth have sponsored a variety of programs designed to assist households living with inadequate residential water and wastewater facilities; and

WHEREAS, despite the success of these programs, thousands of lower-income Virginians continue to live in housing lacking the most basic water and wastewater facilities; and

WHEREAS, more than 46,000 Virginia households live daily with incomplete indoor plumbing facilities, and over 90,000 housing units in Virginia are utilizing sewage disposal means, generally outdoor privies, other than septic tank or public sewer systems; and

WHEREAS, as governmental sources of funding for housing improvement programs become more limited, there is an increased need to find alternative means of financing indoor plumbing efforts; and

WHEREAS, one option for encouraging voluntary private sector assistance is the establishment of a special fund to which Virginia residents could contribute through their water and sewer utility invoices, a program similar to the one established by Virginia Power to provide assistance to low-income household for energy and heating costs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Southeast Rural Communities Assistance Project be requested to establish a voluntary contribution program for indoor plumbing assistance in Virginia to assist low-income households; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Director of the Southeast Rural Communities Assistance Project to apprise her of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

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