

## 2000 SESSION

### SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 77**  
**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules  
on February 14, 2000)  
(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Newman)

*Directing the Joint Rules Committee to study webcasting.*

WHEREAS, the Internet is a new medium capable of effectively delivering government information and services to interested persons so that the citizens of the Commonwealth may become better informed about their government; and

WHEREAS, the House Committee on Science of the United States Congress and other state legislatures currently broadcast their meetings over the Internet through a technology referred to as "webcasting"; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 Session of the General Assembly created the Joint Commission on Technology and Science as a permanent legislative commission for the purpose of studying all aspects of technology and science and to promote the development of technology and science in the Commonwealth through sound public policies; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been receiving requests from Virginia's citizens to webcast its meetings, and the Commission favors webcasting not only the Commission's meetings but also the meetings of other legislative entities; and

WHEREAS, the Budget Oversight Subcommittee of the Joint Rules Committee has recommended that the Joint Rules Committee consider a study to develop guidelines on webcasting and remote broadcasting by legislative agencies and commissions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Rules Committee be directed to study webcasting. The Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Delegates shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members on this study. The Joint Rules Committee shall examine guidelines on webcasting and remote broadcasting by legislative entities.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Automated Systems. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Committee, upon request.

The Joint Rules Committee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2001 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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