

2001 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 423

Offered January 17, 2001

Memorializing the Congress to appropriate funds for improvement of rail infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor.

Patron—Edwards

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Interstate Route 81 corridor is among the most heavily traveled highway corridors in the United States; and

WHEREAS, a very high proportion of the traffic in the Interstate Route 81 corridor is composed of heavy trucks and other commercial vehicles; and

WHEREAS, this large number of heavy vehicles not only contributes traffic congestion and exacerbates the severity of highway crashes, but also increases frequency and the cost of highway maintenance and reconstruction on Interstate 81 and other highways in the corridor; and

WHEREAS, studies undertaken by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation indicate that, given certain improvements to the rail infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor, as much as ten percent of the freight now transported through the corridor on heavy trucks could be diverted to railroads; and

WHEREAS, diversion of ten percent of truck-borne freight in the Interstate Route 81 corridor to railroads could have a positive impact not only on highway transportation in the Commonwealth as a whole, but highways throughout the region; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the United States Congress be hereby memorialized to appropriate funds needed for engineering and other preliminary work associated with improving the rail infrastructure in the Interstate Route 81 corridor; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

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