

## 2002 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 205

Offered January 11, 2002

*Requesting the Secretary of Administration to study the feasibility of using biodiesel fuel in state-owned vehicles and equipment and recommend ways the Commonwealth could assist the private sector in the establishment of a biodiesel fuel refinery in Virginia.*

Patrons—Pollard and Orrock

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, environmental concerns and energy security issues have spurred the demand for alternative fuels to displace petroleum-based fuels; and

WHEREAS, biodiesel fuel is produced from renewable oilseed crops, such as soybeans; and

WHEREAS, producing biodiesel fuel from soybeans or other domestic crops reduces the United State's dependence on foreign petroleum, increases agricultural revenue, and creates jobs; and

WHEREAS, biodiesel fuel is similar in its operating performance to conventional diesel fuel and there are no required changes or modification necessary to engines or facilities that now use petroleum-based diesel fuel; and

WHEREAS, according to a joint study by the U.S. Departments of Energy and Agriculture, biodiesel fuel reduces the carbon dioxide greenhouse gases produced by petroleum diesel by 78% over its lifecycle; and

WHEREAS, states across the country are enacting legislation to either implement or study the feasibility of using biodiesel fuels in state diesel vehicles and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the George Washington Parkway Airport in Arlington, NASA Langley Research Center and the Manassas National Battlefield Park currently use a blend of biodiesel fuel in their diesel vehicles and equipment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Secretary of Administration be requested to study the feasibility of using biodiesel fuel in state-owned vehicles and equipment and recommend ways the Commonwealth could assist the private sector in the establishment of a biodiesel fuel refinery within Virginia. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Secretary of Administration for this study, upon request.

The Secretary of Administration shall complete his work by November 30, 2002, and shall submit his written findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2003 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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