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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 127

Offered January 11, 2006

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*Establishing a joint subcommittee to study mass transit in the Commonwealth. Report.*_____
Patron—Marshall, R.G._____
Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the economic prosperity of the Commonwealth and the quality of life of its citizens are dependent in large measure upon an adequate, efficient, safe, and affordable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the transportation needs of the Commonwealth and its citizens are growing and evolving; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has experienced a significant growth in population and in registered vehicles; and

WHEREAS, existing mass transit is often overcrowded; and

WHEREAS, the improved use of mass transit is essential in meeting the transportation needs of Virginia's citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study mass transit in the Commonwealth.

The joint subcommittee shall have a total membership of 10 members appointed as follows: the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and five other members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates, and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation and three other members of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation shall be co-chairs of the joint subcommittee.

In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall consult with representatives of state, regional, and local transportation agencies and entities with transportation responsibilities; state and local elected officials; and persons in the private sector with relevant expertise in transportation, mass transit, and transportation services delivery.

Administrative staff support shall be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the House. Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the joint subcommittee shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee for this study, upon request.

The joint subcommittee shall be limited to four meetings for the 2006 interim and four meetings for the 2007 interim, and the direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$10,000 for each year.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its meetings for the first year by November 30, 2006, and for the second year by November 30, 2007, and the co-chairs shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of the joint subcommittee's findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly for each year. Each executive summary shall state whether the joint subcommittee intends to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summaries and reports shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may approve or disapprove expenditures for this study, extend or delay the period for the conduct of the study, or authorize additional meetings during the 2006 or 2007 interim.

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