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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 279

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 14, 2015

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study the dangers of Tannerite. Report.

Patron—Carrico

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, Tannerite is the brand name of an explosive combination of ammonium nitrate and aluminum powder used mainly for making exploding targets for firearms practice; and

WHEREAS, citizens around the Commonwealth have complained in recent months about the loud noise and earthquake-type rumbles caused by the use of these explosives; and

WHEREAS, some states are investigating the dangers that might be associated with the unregulated use of ammonium nitrate and aluminum powder; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth needs to evaluate whether these explosives should be regulated, or at least restricted, in their use; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study the dangers of Tannerite. The joint subcommittee shall consist of nine members that include seven legislative members and two nonlegislative citizen members. Members shall be appointed as follows: two members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; five members of the House of Delegates to be 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; one nonlegislative citizen member who shall be an attorney for the Commonwealth to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; and one nonlegislative citizen member who shall be a law-enforcement representative with explosives experience to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates. Nonlegislative citizen members shall be citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the chairman of the joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk, nonlegislative citizen members shall only be reimbursed for travel originating and ending within the Commonwealth of Virginia for the purpose of attending meetings. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required. The joint subcommittee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership, who shall be members of the General Assembly.

In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall study the dangers of Tannerite and, if necessary, identify the potential need to (i) restrict the amounts of Tannerite that can be purchased legally and (ii) add a warning label to such products due to the effects of their use.

Administrative staff support shall be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the Senate. Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the joint subcommittee shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Department of State Police. 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 2015 interim, and the direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$13,160 without approval as set out in this resolution. Approval for unbudgeted nonmember-related expenses shall require the written authorization of the chairman of the joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required.

No recommendation of the joint subcommittee shall be adopted if a majority of the Senate members or a majority of the House members appointed to the joint subcommittee (i) vote against the recommendation and (ii) vote for the recommendation to fail notwithstanding the majority vote of the joint subcommittee.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2015, and the chairman shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The 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 summary and report 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

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59 Rules Committee. The Committee may approve or disapprove expenditures for this study, extend or
60 delay the period for the conduct of the study, or authorize additional meetings during the 2015 interim.