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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 679

Offered January 11, 2017

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Directing the Joint Committee to Study the Future of Public Elementary and Secondary Education in the Commonwealth to study experiential learning and workforce development opportunities for high school students in high-demand fields. Report.

Patrons—Filler-Corn, Boysko and Kory

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 112 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 85 of the Acts of Assembly of 2016, the General Assembly established the two-year Joint Committee to Study the Future of Public Elementary and Secondary Education in the Commonwealth to study "emerging education issues in the Commonwealth"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 750 of the Acts of Assembly of 2016, the General Assembly required the Board of Education to develop a Profile of a Virginia Graduate "that identifies the knowledge and skills that students should attain during high school in order to be successful contributors to the economy of the Commonwealth, giving due consideration to critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship"; and

WHEREAS, it is now imperative to study the emerging issue of how experiential learning and workforce development opportunities for high school students in high-demand fields fit into such Profile; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Committee to Study the Future of Public Elementary and Secondary Education in the Commonwealth be directed to study experiential learning and workforce development opportunities for high school students in high-demand fields.

In conducting its study, the Joint Committee to Study the Future of Public Elementary and Secondary Education in the Commonwealth (the Joint Committee) shall convene a work group of stakeholders to identify (i) experiential learning and workforce development opportunities for high school students in high-demand fields, especially STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields, that could be incorporated into the public high school experience and into high school graduation requirements and (ii) ways in which such experiential learning and workforce development opportunities can be supported and expanded.

The chairman of the Joint Committee shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary and report of its progress in meeting the directive of this resolution no later than the first day of the 2018 Regular Session of the General Assembly. 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.