

1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 113

Offered January 24, 1994

Requesting the State Corporation Commission to study railroad safety.

Patron—Deeds

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, in 1992 2,366 people were killed or injured in accidents at railroad crossings in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in that same year, Virginia experienced 59 accidents at railroad crossings, resulting in the death of four persons and injury to 49 others; and

WHEREAS, out of a total of 1,173 accidents reported by American railroads to the federal Railroad Administration in 1992, 579 (49 percent) occurred at railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, despite efforts by the General Assembly, the Department of Transportation, local governments, and the railroad industry, there still remain in Virginia many locations where highways cross railroad tracks at grade, without a bridge or underpass; and

WHEREAS, particularly in eastern Virginia, topography makes construction of grade-separated railroad crossings difficult, time-consuming, and expensive; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable that all appropriate steps be taken to eliminate as many at-grade highway/railroad crossings as possible and render the remainder as safe as they can be; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the State Corporation Commission be requested to study railroad safety. The Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

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