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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 452

House Amendments in [] — February 4, 1995

Requesting the A. L. Philpott Southside Economic Development Commission to review and monitor the progress of the Route 58 Corridor Development Program.

Patrons—Armstrong, Abbitt, Bennett, Clement, Councill, Cranwell, Dudley, Reynolds and Ruff;
Senators: Goode, Holland, R.J. and Lucas

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the A. L. Philpott Southside Economic Development Commission (the Commission) was established pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 106 (1990) to propose recommendations to improve and enhance the economic development of Southside Virginia and has continued to examine the economic, educational, financial, infrastructural, and industrial challenges facing the region pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 300 (1991), House Joint Resolution No. 71 (1992), House Joint Resolution No. 412 (1993), and House Joint Resolution No. 353 (1994); and

WHEREAS, recognizing that adequate infrastructure is essential to the development of Southside Virginia as an active participant in the Commonwealth's economic prosperity, the Commission has examined the transportation needs of the region over the course of its five-year study; and

WHEREAS, the development and ultimate completion of U.S. Route 58 are critical to the economic future of Southside Virginia, as the highway would provide an east-west corridor to facilitate shipping and receipt of goods by Southside businesses, enhance travel within and through Southside, and improve the overall quality of life in the region; and

WHEREAS, while improvements to Route 58 have eased a number of Southside's transportation woes, many bypass and other construction efforts have yet to be completed, and these unfinished promised improvements may actually diminish Southside's marketability; and

WHEREAS, in § 1-122, Item 565D of the 1992 Appropriation Act, the General Assembly expressed its intent to "restore full funding to the Route 58 Corridor Development Program prescribed in § 58.1-815 of the Code of Virginia, as soon as economic and state revenue conditions in the Commonwealth warrant"; and

WHEREAS, additional review of the U.S. Route 58 Corridor project may facilitate the continued progress and completion of this crucial highway initiative; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the A. L. Philpott Southside Economic Development Commission be requested to review and monitor progress on the U.S. Route 58 Corridor project.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request.

The Commission shall [~~submit any additional~~ be continued for one year only and shall submit its final] findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

ENGROSSED

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