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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 87
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules
on March 4, 1996)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Brickley)

Requesting the Virginia Commonwealth University Transportation Training Center to study spectator safety at certain racing competitions.

WHEREAS, on May 6, 1995, three people were killed and six others injured when an off-the-road racing vehicle, participating in a race at the Bodacious Motor Sports Park in Cumberland County, vaulted over the guard rail; and

WHEREAS, the physical condition of the race track, the construction of and modifications to the participating vehicles, the proximity of the spectators to the race track, and the construction and location of barriers separating the spectators from the race track all combined to produce tragic results; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable that appropriate steps be promptly taken to ensure the safety of spectators at similar events in the future; and

WHEREAS, while no single agency of state government is charged with the unified and comprehensive responsibility for the safety and protection of spectators at racing competitions or similar spectator sporting events, the Virginia Commonwealth University Transportation Training Center has expertise that may productively be brought to bear on spectator safety at racing competitions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Commonwealth University Transportation Training Center be requested to study spectator safety at racing competitions. The Center shall focus particularly on events involving "monster cars" and "mud dragsters," and shall consider whether some form of regulation of these events and the facilities where these events are held is in the interest of reducing the risk of injury to spectators. However, speedways and racetracks where races sanctioned by NASCAR and the National Hotrod Association are held shall be excluded from this study. The Board of Housing and Community Development shall provide technical assistance to the study, upon request. Other agencies which have experience or expertise relevant to this study shall provide assistance, upon request. In conducting the study, the Center shall seek the participation of representatives of the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties.

The Center shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1997 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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