

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

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2000 Regular Session
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By: **Delegates Taylor, Hurson, R. Baker, and Barve**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia Joint Legislative Commission on**
3 **Interstate Transportation**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia Joint
5 Legislative Commission on Interstate Transportation; providing for the
6 membership of the Commission; requiring the Commission to develop certain
7 recommendations concerning improved transportation links in the Metropolitan
8 Washington Region; allowing the Commission to appoint a certain Citizens
9 Advisory Committee; prohibiting the Commission from duplicating the work
10 and effort of certain public bodies; providing for the appointment of a Chairman
11 for the Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission; requiring the
12 Commission to submit a certain report on or before a certain date; terminating
13 the Commission after a certain date; and generally relating to a certain
14 Virginia-Maryland Joint Legislative Commission on Interstate Transportation.

15 WHEREAS, Residents in the Metropolitan Washington Region, particularly
16 those in Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland, face the second longest daily
17 commutes in the United States, with only Los Angeles area residents spending more
18 time each day commuting to work; and

19 WHEREAS, Residents in the Metropolitan Washington Region have the highest
20 per capita income lost because of transportation gridlock and pay nearly \$1,260 per
21 year per year in higher consumer prices because of the effects of traffic congestion;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, By the year 2020, trips to or from work will increase by 2.5 million
24 per day, for a total of 6.1 million trips per day with suburb-to-suburb work trips
25 accounting for 3 of every 4 work trips; and

26 WHEREAS, By the year 2020, traffic volumes across existing bridges in the
27 Metropolitan Washington Region will carry more than 400,000 trips above design
28 capacity each day, yet Virginia and Maryland have had difficulty agreeing on new or
29 expanded bridge crossings in the region; and

30 WHEREAS, Key transportation improvements in the Metropolitan Washington
31 Region, including new and expanded bridge crossings, transit expansions, and the

1 enhancement of existing interstate highways, will require cooperation among officials
2 from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; and

3 WHEREAS, Congress currently is considering legislation to improve regional
4 cooperation among Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia on regional
5 transportation issues; and

6 WHEREAS, Such legislation can be effective only with the support of the
7 General Assemblies of both Maryland and Virginia; and

8 WHEREAS, Although there is frequent and beneficial coordination among
9 executive branch officials and local government officials in Maryland, Virginia, and
10 the District of Columbia, greater participation of state legislative leaders in these
11 jurisdictions is needed to ensure improved transportation and mobility for residents
12 of the Metropolitan Washington Region, particularly residents of Northern Virginia
13 and suburban Maryland; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That there is a
15 Virginia-Maryland-District of Columbia Joint Legislative Commission on Interstate
16 Transportation; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall develop recommendations concerning
18 the identification of opportunities for and barriers to improved interstate
19 transportation links in the Metropolitan Washington Region including new or
20 expanded bridge crossings and transit services; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall be composed of 25 members, as follows:

22 (1) Ten members from the Virginia General Assembly and the Secretary
23 of the Virginia Department of Transportation;

24 (2) Five members of the Maryland House of Delegates appointed by the
25 Speaker of the House:

26 (i) Two of whom shall be members of the House Appropriations
27 Committee; and

28 (ii) Two of whom shall be members of the House Ways and Means
29 Committee; and

30 (iii) One of whom shall be members of the House Commerce and
31 Government Matters Committee;

32 (3) Five members of the Senate of Maryland appointed by the President
33 of the Senate:

34 (i) Two of whom shall be members of the Senate Budget and
35 Taxation Committee; and

1 (ii) Two of whom shall be members of the Senate Finance
2 Proceedings Committee; and

3 (4) The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, or the
4 Secretary's designee; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall elect two co-chairmen from its
6 members, one each from Virginia and Maryland. The Commission shall request the
7 Mayor of the District of Columbia to designate the appropriate Cabinet- or
8 Department-level official to represent the Mayor's Office and the Chairman of the
9 Council of the District of Columbia to designate two Council members to represent the
10 Council on the Commission; and be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall avoid duplication of effort of existing
12 public bodies, including the Transportation Planning Board for the National Capital
13 Area. The co-chairmen of the Commission may, in their discretion, appoint a Citizens
14 Advisory Committee comprised of representatives of area local governments, local
15 chambers of commerce and related business groups, the American Automobile
16 Association of the Potomac region, citizens' associations, and environmental
17 organizations. The Maryland Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the
18 Virginia Department of Transportation, shall provide staff support for the
19 Commission's work; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a member from Maryland appointed to the Commission:

21 (1) May not receive compensation; but

22 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
23 Travel Regulations as provided in the State budget; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That notice of each meeting of the Commission be made public by
25 delivering a copy of the meeting notice to the Legislative Information Officer, Room
26 B-6, Department of Legislative Services, Legislative Services Building, 90 State
27 Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991. The notice should be delivered no later than
28 Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. for inclusion in the weekly Hearing Schedule; and be
29 it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Commission report its findings and recommendations to
31 the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article in
32 time to submits its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2001
33 session of the respective General Assemblies, as well as the Mayor and Council of the
34 District of Columbia; and be it further

35 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
36 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;
37 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
38 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and the
39 appropriate officials in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia.