

2002 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 124

Requesting the Department of Business Assistance and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership to redouble their efforts to enhance the growth and prosperity of economically stressed communities in the Commonwealth.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 11, 2002

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2002

WHEREAS, economic development has been a major topic of discussion and study throughout the Commonwealth during the past decade; and

WHEREAS, a number of strategies have been considered and adopted to encourage businesses to locate and expand within the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, economically stressed communities are those localities that have had a net loss of 10 percent of their jobs in the last five years or have an unemployment rate of more than nine percent over a period of six months; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing may still have a place as part of the economic base in many parts of Virginia, but it is unlikely that it will take the form of big factories producing large volumes of standardized products for mass consumption; and

WHEREAS, the disparity in incomes and economic opportunity between rural and urban areas is widening; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth should help economically stressed communities gain access to the tools of the new economy so that they can make their own prosperity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Business Assistance and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership be requested to redouble their efforts to enhance the growth and prosperity of economically stressed communities in the Commonwealth.