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JLARC Meeting July 1, 2024 – MINUTES

JLARC Members Present:

Delegate Mark D. Sickles, chair; Senator Mamie E. Locke, vice chair; Senator R. Creigh Deeds; Senator Adam P. Ebbin; Senator Ryan T. McDougle; Senator Jeremy S. McPike; Delegate Betsy B. Carr; Delegate Marcus B. Simon; Delegate Anne Ferrell Tata; Delegate Luke E. Torian; Delegate R. Lee Ware; Delegate Tony O. Wilt; and Staci Henshaw, auditor of public accounts.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Delegate Sickles, who welcomed and greeted the Commission. Delegate Sickles then announced a change to JLARC's studies for 2024. Delegate Torian made a motion that JLARC staff be directed to conduct a review of the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program as requested in a letter from the chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations committees to the chair of JLARC, which was dated June 28, 2024. The motion was seconded by Delegate Ware and approved by the members of the Commission. Delegate Torian then made a second motion that the deadline for completion of the JLARC review of whether to transfer the Department of Juvenile Justice to the Health and Human Services Secretariat be extended to June 30, 2025. It was seconded by Senator Locke and approved by the members of the Commission.

Delegate Sickles introduced Mr. Hal Greer, JLARC director, who gave an overview of the meeting agenda.

APA Prior Year Results

Mr. Greer then introduced Ms. Staci Henshaw, auditor of public accounts, who addressed the Commission on the APA's prior year results. Ms. Henshaw introduced Ms. LaToya Jordan, deputy auditor for human capital and operations, who presented additional information on their prior year results. During and at the conclusion of their presentations, there were several questions from Commission members.

Review of VRS and Virginia529 Benchmarks

Ms. Kimberly Sarte gave an overview of JLARC's oversight of the Virginia Retirement System and Virginia529, then introduced Mr. Jamie Bitz, who presented the review of the VRS and Virginia529 investment benchmarks. During and following Mr. Bitz's presentation, there were questions from Commission members.

Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Oversight Report

Mr. Jamie Bitz presented JLARC's oversight report on VRS. During his presentation there was a question from a Commission member.

Virginia Retirement System Annual Status Report

Mr. Bitz introduced Mr. A. Scott Andrews, chair, VRS Board of Trustees, who provided the Commission with the annual status report for VRS. Mr. Andrews then introduced Mr. Andrew Junkin, chief investment officer, VRS, who gave an update on VRS investments. Following Mr. Junkin, Ms. Trish Bishop, director, VRS, gave the annual VRS administrative status report. Following Ms. Bishop, there was a question from a Commission member.

Virginia529 Oversight Report

Mr. Jamie Bitz took the podium and presented JLARC's oversight report on Virginia529. At the conclusion of Mr. Bitz's presentation, there were several questions from Commission members.

Virginia529 Annual Status Report

Mr. Bitz introduced Ms. Mary Morris, chief executive officer, Virginia529, who along with Mr. Peter Thompson, RetirePath Virginia program director, and Mr. Michael Swink, Virginia529 investment director, presented the annual Virginia529 status report to the Commission. At the conclusion of their presentations, there were several questions from a Commission member.

Adjournment

Mr. Greer announced the next Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2024, at 10:00 AM. There being no further business, Delegate Sickles adjourned the meeting at 12:12 PM.

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Approved by:

Hal E. Greer, JLARC Director

Date:

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Prepared by:

Elizabeth C. Gibbs, JLARC Business Manager