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REPORT OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND REPORT SPECIALLY ON THE LEGALITY AND PRACTICABILITY OF CONSOLIDATION AND UNIFICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY AND THE NEW JERSEY HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

January 12, 1965

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 6 (1964) created a joint legislative committee to study and report on the legality and practicability of consolidating or unifying the administration of the operations of the New Jersey Turnpike and the New Jersey Highway Authority. This joint committee consisted of the membership of the standing committees on Highways, Transportation and Public Utilities of the Senate and General Assembly. The chairman of the Senate standing committee served as chairman of the joint legislative committee and the chairman of the Assembly standing committee served as vice-chairman.

The joint legislative committee this year turned its attention primarily to the complicated legal problems involved in consolidating the operations of the Turnpike and the Highway Authority. Discussions were held with the office of the Attorney General of New Jersey and with bond counsel. These legal authorities were asked to research a number of points of law and to report their investigations and conclusions to this joint committee.

This committee has concluded that the legal problems involved are of such complexity as to preclude any immediate plan designed to consolidate the operations of the Turnpike Authority and the Highway Authority. The committee is of the opinion, however, that these legal problems may not preclude other approaches to the objective of achieving better and more efficient administration of New Jersey's two superhighways.

Outright consolidation of the operations of the two roads appears to face insurmountable obstacles at this time. However, our studies have indicated that it would be beneficial to explore the feasibility of placing the administration of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the New Jersey Highway Authority under the jurisdiction of the State Highway Department.

This joint legislative committee therefore recommends that its membership be reconstituted for the 1965 legislative session to study this proposal and to continue the work assigned to it under Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 6 (1964).

SIGNED:



Richard R. Stout, Chairman



Thomas J. Hillery



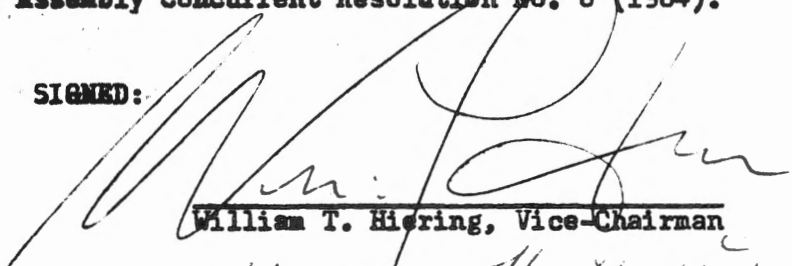
John E. Hunt



Edwin B. Forsythe

John A. Waddington

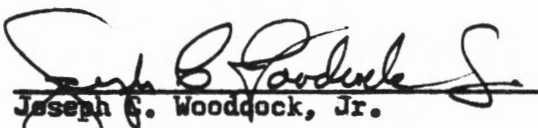
William F. Kelly, Jr.



William T. Hering, Vice-Chairman



William H. Everett



Joseph G. Woodcock, Jr.



Robert E. Kay



Richard J. Vander Pleat

John W. Davis

Joseph M. Keegan