April 2, 2003

S 703. LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON RURAL SCHOOLS. *TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON RURAL SCHOOLS.* Establishes 22-member Comm'n as title indicates, composed of five Senators and three public members appointed by the Pres. Pro Tem., five Representatives and three public members appointed by the Speaker, and six public members appointed by the Governor, appointments to be made before Sept. 15, 2003. Comm'n authorized to obtain information concerning state of rural public schools and students, including consulting higher education faculty, conducting hearings, and meeting with representatives of appropriate organizations and agencies, and to make recommendations to ensure that rural students have equal access to educational opportunities. Final report due on or before commencement of 2005 session. Appropriates \$50,000 for 2003-2004 fiscal year and \$50,000 for 2004-2005 fiscal year for Comm'n expenses. Effective July 1, 2003.

Intro. by Metcalf, Swindell, Holloman.

Ref. to Rules

STUDY, APPROP