HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 47

Requesting the Department of Labor and Industry to study workplace violence in the Commonwealth.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 9, 2000 Agreed to by the Senate, March 8, 2000

WHEREAS, in recent years reports of violence in the workplace have increased in this country; and

WHEREAS, workplace violence often results in multiple injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, in many cases, the cause of this violence is rage directed at service providers who, in the mind of the attacker, failed to adequately perform their jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth maintains numerous social service and public service agencies which provide services to, and interact on a daily basis with, the public; and

WHEREAS, those agency personnel run the continuous risk of failing to satisfy particularly demanding individuals who may then resort to violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Labor and Industry be requested to study workplace violence in the Commonwealth. The Department shall examine the causes of workplace violence generally and investigate and suggest strategies for assuring worker safety. The Department shall make recommendations concerning the possible methods of reducing the risk of the occurrence of such violence.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

The Department shall complete its work in time to submit its written findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2001 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.