

2001 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 623

Offered January 10, 2001

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Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study staffing levels of the circuit courts and salary levels of deputy circuit court clerks.

Patrons—Jackson, Albo, Bloxom, Howell, Johnson, Keister, Kilgore, Rust and Woodrum

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, during the past decade, the workloads of Virginia's circuit courts have increased dramatically, however, the staffing levels within the clerks' offices has remained the same; and

WHEREAS, as new circuit court judgeships have been created, staffing levels of other constitutional offices, such as the Commonwealth's attorneys, have increased to cover these additional courts; and

WHEREAS, despite the addition of 207 positions in the circuit court clerks' offices, those offices remain 20% below the personnel needed to function effectively; and

WHEREAS, deputy clerks continue to be undercompensated for the amount of work and overtime required by the system; and

WHEREAS, the pay scales applicable to deputy clerks do not reflect the level of responsibility and commitment necessary to keep the system functioning at a level commensurate with the public's expectations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study staffing levels of the circuit courts and salary levels of deputy circuit court clerks. Technical assistance shall be provided to the Commission by the Supreme Court's Executive Secretary's Office.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission for this study, upon request.

The Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2002 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

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