

## 2004 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 116

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 13, 2004

*Encouraging the Secretary of Public Safety to refrain from utilizing bed space within the Virginia Department of Corrections to house out-of-state prisoners.*

Patron—Jones, D.C.

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

WHEREAS, overcrowding in Virginia's prisons is already estimated to cause a need for two to three new prisons in less than 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the use of any available empty bed space in high security facilities could be used to reduce overcrowding in lower security facilities; and

WHEREAS, this would result in available bed space in lower security facilities allowing for a quicker transfer of state-responsible prisoners out of local jails and into the state corrections system; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Public Safety should develop a plan for redistribution of prisoners throughout the Virginia prison system to better utilize all available bed space before resorting to renting these beds to other states; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Secretary of Public Safety is encouraged to refrain from utilizing bed space within the Virginia Department of Corrections to house out-of-state prisoners; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Public Safety so that he may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

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