

## 2004 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 122

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 13, 2004

*Requesting the State Council of Higher Education to develop and disseminate best practices for campus safety policies and programs to public and private institutions of higher education in Virginia. Report.*

Patrons—Hamilton, Reid and Watts; Senators: Devolites and Mims

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, numerous aggravated assaults, sexual offenses, robberies, burglaries and other serious crimes are committed every year on the campuses of Virginia's institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education around the country as well as private campus safety organizations have developed innovative campus safety programs that would be beneficial to Virginia colleges; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Center for School Safety is developing a list of best practices of safety procedures for elementary and secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, no such information has been developed for the system of higher education; and

WHEREAS, information about best practices of campus safety programs and policies would be extremely beneficial to the security of students attending Virginia institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, personal safety and security are crucial preconditions that facilitate learning on college campuses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the State Council of Higher Education be requested to develop and disseminate best practices for campus safety policies and programs to public and private institutions of higher education in Virginia. In developing such best practices, the Council shall provide opportunities for the participation of and contributions by all public and private colleges in Virginia. The Council shall also review best practices established by and seek the assistance of other institutions of higher education in the nation and private campus safety organizations.

The State Council of Higher Education shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary and report of its progress in meeting the requests of this resolution no later than the first day of the 2005 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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