

2006 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35

Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the effectiveness of existing punishments and to recommend additional remedies for driving while intoxicated. Report.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 10, 2006

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2006

WHEREAS, drunk driving is, despite the best efforts of the Commonwealth, still responsible for numerous injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, this variety of criminal conduct continues despite the availability of harsh punishment; and

WHEREAS, an accurate measure of the use and effectiveness of the punishment should determine future measures to deter the conduct; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission be directed (i) to study the effectiveness of existing punishments by comparing current DUI rates to past rates and by determination of the degree to which offenders suffer multiple convictions and by use of any other appropriate punishment effectiveness measurement methodology adopted by the Commission and (ii) to recommend additional remedies for the offense of driving while intoxicated, if appropriate.

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

The Virginia State Crime Commission shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2006, and the chairman shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether the Virginia State Crime Commission intends to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. 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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