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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 127

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 11, 2012

Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the creation of a rating mechanism to determine which nonviolent felony offenders would be best served by receiving aid in obtaining employment upon release from incarceration. Report.

Patron—James

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, upon release from incarceration, many convicted felons reoffend and are returned to incarceration; and

WHEREAS, some offenders, because of the offense committed or because of a lack of work history and experience or both are unable or unlikely to find employment following release from incarceration; and

WHEREAS, such nonviolent offenders who seek and find gainful employment are less likely to reoffend; and

WHEREAS, preparation for release of such offenders could include preparation for successful employment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission be directed to study creation of a rating mechanism to determine which nonviolent felony offenders would be best served by receiving aid in obtaining employment upon release from incarceration.

In conducting its study, the Virginia State Crime Commission shall investigate, to the extent possible, which offenders or classes of offenders are most likely to succeed in a job after release and which offenders or classes of offenders are least likely to re-offend when given the opportunity at employment after release.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Virginia State Crime Commission by the Virginia Department of Corrections and the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission for this study, upon request.

The Virginia State Crime Commission shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2012, 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 2013 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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