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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 7, 2014

Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the Commonwealth's child support enforcement system. Report.

Patron—Campbell

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services' Division of Child Support Enforcement has identified unpaid child support as a significant problem in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, 353,000 child support cases are pending in the Commonwealth and, collectively, 422,000 children are owed more than \$2.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive assessment and cost-benefit analysis of the Commonwealth's current child support enforcement system may help custodial parents collect child support payments, improve the overall efficiency of the system, and lead to significant cost savings for the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be directed to study the Commonwealth's child support enforcement system.

In conducting its study, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall (i) conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the Commonwealth's current child support enforcement system; (ii) analyze the efficiency of current processes, including obtaining court orders, enforcing court orders, and collecting and distributing child support payments; (iii) examine the costs and effectiveness of the Division of Child Support Enforcement and the intensive case monitoring program; and (iv) make recommendations regarding strategies to improve the cost-effectiveness and productivity of the Commonwealth's current child support enforcement system.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission for this study, upon request.

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2014, 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 2015 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether the Joint Legislative Audit and Review 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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