

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 263

Identifying study topics in the functional area of administration of justice to be reviewed and evaluated by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 1995

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 1995

WHEREAS, the Legislative Program Review and Evaluation Act (§ 30-65 et seq.) of the Code of Virginia provides for the evaluation of state government according to schedules and areas designated for study by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a companion resolution of this session of the General Assembly identifies administration of justice as a functional area of state government to be reviewed at such time as sufficient commission resources become available; and

WHEREAS, § 30-67 of the Code of Virginia provides that prior to the years in which a functional area of government is designated for review, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission may identify to the extent feasible the agencies, programs or activities selected for review and evaluation from the functional area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That study topics in the functional area of administration of justice to be reviewed and evaluated by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be hereby identified. Pursuant to §§ 30-65 through 30-72 of the Code of Virginia, the agencies, programs, and activities subject to review and evaluation in the designated functional area of administration of justice shall include, but not be limited to (i) the system of juvenile justice in Virginia, including the Department of Youth and Family Services, the Department of Correctional Education, and the operation of youth learning centers and services units at the state and local level; (ii) the system of courts in Virginia, including the various courts, the magistrate system, the Virginia State Bar, the Public Defender Commission, and the funding of court-appointed counselors; and (iii) the Department of Criminal Justice Services; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That pursuant to the powers and duties specified in § 30-58.1 of the Code of Virginia, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall plan and initiate reviews of these agencies, programs, or activities, including consideration of matters relating to any previous Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission report of these areas; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That in carrying out this review, the agencies identified for study by this resolution or subsequently identified by the commission, other affected agencies, and the Auditor of Public Accounts shall cooperate as requested and shall make available all records and information necessary for the completion of the work of the commission and its staff; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be directed to conduct an analysis of the Virginia State Bar, which shall include, but not be limited to, a thorough evaluation of the revenues and staffing and each of the activities and programs of the Virginia State Bar in relation to its statutory and Rules of Court authority with a view toward ensuring the maximum effectiveness of the Virginia State Bar in carrying out its assigned mission with the minimum resources necessary. The commission shall complete its analysis of the Virginia State Bar in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the commission shall complete its work and submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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