

1995 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 283

Offered January 18, 1995

Requesting the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to make the checklist related to child visitation schedules developed pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 64 (1994) available to pro se litigants.

Patrons—Calhoun, Houck and Miller, Y.B.; Delegates: Cantor, Darner and Jones, J.C.

Referred to the Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Office of The Executive Secretary of the Virginia Supreme Court, in cooperation with the Family Law Section of the Virginia State Bar and the Domestic Relations Section of the Virginia Bar Association, developed a checklist to assist the judiciary in developing and implementing model child visitation schedules pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 64 (1994); and

WHEREAS, the checklist incorporates the factors to be addressed in child-focused visitation schedules in accordance with the work done by the Commission on Youth pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 243 (1993); and

WHEREAS, the checklist is based on the concept that children need frequent and predictable contact with both parents, while avoiding an overly rigid or formalistic approach to allocating time with the child between both parents; and

WHEREAS, parents who enter the court system, whether represented by counsel or not, should be informed of these considerations and of the bases on which judges may formulate visitation schedules when the parents are unable to reach agreement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Office of the Executive Secretary is requested to develop one or more mechanisms to make the checklist available to pro se litigants in cases involving child visitation issues.

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