

# 1996 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 130

Offered January 22, 1996

*Establishing a joint subcommittee to study "Megan's Law."*

Patrons—Deeds, Almand, Moran and Puller

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, "Megan's Law" is a measure passed in New Jersey which requires public notification of the presence in a community of a sex offender and establishes a means of tracking these offenders following release from incarceration or relocation at any time after conviction; and

WHEREAS, a number of states have adopted sex offender notification laws and, although Virginia tracks these offenders through notification to local law enforcement authorities, Virginia law does not provide for notification to the general public; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to review Virginia's current law on notification of sex offenders' residency, the possible expansion of the law, and the legal and public safety implications of such an expansion of the law; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That there be established a joint subcommittee to study Virginia's current sex offender notification law and its expansion to include provisions of New Jersey's "Megan's Law."

The joint subcommittee shall be composed of five members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House, and three members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$6,000.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1997 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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