

# 1996 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 131

*Requesting the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to study sentencing of juveniles.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 4, 1996

Agreed to by the Senate, February 29, 1996

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to study and maintain data on the sentencing of criminals in the Commonwealth and to advise the General Assembly as to needed changes in the criminal law and sentencing procedures; and

WHEREAS, the juvenile justice system and dealing with juveniles as adults under the criminal law have become the solutions to a perceived explosion of crime involving young people; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a comprehensive study of sentencing of juveniles in order to better determine the solutions to society's problems when it comes to juvenile crime; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission be requested to study sentencing of juveniles. The Commission shall examine juvenile sentencing by the circuit courts when sentencing juveniles as adults and by the juvenile courts when sentencing serious juvenile offenders and delinquents.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request.

The Commission 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 the processing of legislative documents.

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