HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 254

Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission, in communication with the State Compensation Board, to study the compensation of nonsworn law-enforcement personnel in sheriffs' offices.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 1996 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 1996

WHEREAS, nonsworn law-enforcement personnel in sheriffs' offices include dispatchers, secretaries, clerks, and other support personnel; and

WHEREAS, such personnel play a vital role in preserving public safety in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, such personnel deserve to be adequately compensated for the invaluable service they provide to the citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, compensation, including salaries, for such personnel is inadequate to keep pace with the rising cost of living; and

WHEREAS, compensation, including salaries, for such personnel is well below comparable positions in state government; and

WHEREAS, such lower compensation results in high turnover and low morale among the personnel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission, in communication with the State Compensation Board, be directed to study the compensation of nonsworn law-enforcement personnel in sheriffs' offices. The Commission shall examine the salaries of nonsworn law-enforcement personnel in sheriffs' offices and compare such compensation to that of comparable positions in state government. The Commission shall also examine methods to fund salary regrades for such personnel where necessary. 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.