

1996 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 74

Offered January 22, 1996

Continuing the joint subcommittee studying Virginia's criminal drug statutes.

Patrons—Stolle, Norment, Saslaw and Schrock; Delegate: Forbes

Referred to the Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the criminal laws and procedures found in Titles 18.2 and 19.2 of the Code of Virginia were last comprehensively studied and revised 20 years ago; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that society as a whole and criminal justice philosophy in particular have undergone significant changes since that time, the 1995 General Assembly authorized the creation of a joint subcommittee to conduct a comprehensive study and analysis of the laws of the Commonwealth affecting the investigation and prosecution of drug cases and make recommendations to facilitate law-enforcement efforts in the war on drugs; and

WHEREAS, the joint subcommittee requires additional time for study and reflection upon the best means available to ensure prompt investigation, efficient prosecution and certain and appropriate punishment ; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the joint subcommittee created to study Virginia' criminal drug laws be continued. Membership on the committee shall continue as provided in Senate Joint Resolution No. 296, with any vacancy being filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Department of State Police, the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, the Public Defender Commission and the Virginia Circuit Court Clerks Association shall continue to provide such input and assistance as the subcommittee may require. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee upon request.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$10,500.

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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