

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act for the relief of Yvonne Crittle Johnson.*

3 [H 190]

4 Approved

5 Whereas, in June 1988, Yvonne Crittle Johnson was arrested by the City of Newport News police;  
6 and7 Whereas, Ms. Johnson was charged with forcible rape, robbery, aggravated sexual battery and use of  
8 a firearm in the commission of a felony; and9 Whereas, on November 1, 1988, Ms. Johnson, having pled not guilty to all charges, nevertheless was  
10 convicted and found guilty of all the crimes charged; and11 Whereas, Ms. Johnson was subsequently sentenced to twenty-two years in the state penitentiary with  
12 fifteen years suspended; and13 Whereas, Ms. Johnson was incarcerated from the time of her arrest in June 1988 until she was  
14 released on October 4, 1990; and15 Whereas, at the time of her incarceration and subsequent conviction Ms. Johnson was twenty-four  
16 years old and the mother of two small children; and17 Whereas, the alleged victim, Tammy Wilson, recanted her testimony in a sworn statement dated  
18 January 2, 1997; and19 Whereas, as a result of the recantation, the Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Newport News  
20 conducted an investigation; and21 Whereas, on April 30, 1997, in response to a petition filed by Ms. Johnson and supported by the  
22 Commonwealth's Attorney, Governor George Allen granted Ms. Johnson an absolute pardon for her  
23 1988 conviction; and24 Whereas, Ms. Johnson has suffered severe physical, emotional and psychological damage as a result  
25 of this wrongful restraint and has no means to obtain adequate relief except by action of this body; now,  
26 therefore,27 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**28 **1. § 1.** *That there is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$28,000 for the relief of*  
29 *Yvonne Crittle Johnson. This sum shall be paid by check issued by the State Treasurer on warrant of*  
30 *the Comptroller to Yvonne Crittle Johnson, upon her (i) execution of a release of all claims she may*  
31 *have against the Commonwealth or any agency, instrumentality, officer, employee or political*  
32 *subdivision thereof, in connection with the aforesaid occurrence and (ii) assignment to the*  
33 *Commonwealth of any and all rights she may have to collect any damages from Tammy Wilson based*  
34 *on the recanted testimony up to the amount of \$28,000.*