

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 155

Offered January 26, 1998

Requesting Judicial Council to study video and audio recording of general district and circuit court proceedings.

Patron—Almand

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

WHEREAS, technology is currently available which allows for the video and audio recording of court proceedings in an inconspicuous manner; and

WHEREAS, such recordings have been used in the legal system for presenting testimony, preserving - deposition testimony and the like, and allowing the public access to the courts through the broadcast of court proceedings, but most proceedings in court are conducted with paper transcripts - only, or without the preservation of a record at all; and

WHEREAS, the use of audio and video recordings could serve a number of purposes including preserving a record, and educating the public; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That Judicial Council be requested to study video and audio recording of general district and circuit court proceedings.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to Council for this study, upon request. Judicial Council shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.