HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 155

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

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 1998 Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 1998

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 the 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 the Council for this study, upon request.

The 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.