## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 503**

Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study "hot spot" communities.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 5, 1999 Agreed to by the Senate, February 18, 1999

WHEREAS, the State of Maryland is currently supporting a program called HotSpot Communities, which is a crime reduction strategy targeting all available resources into certain at-risk neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in this project, communities are selected by the local officials who are best able to judge their own at-risk areas based on the amount of crime, fear of crime, and the community's ability and willingness to participate; and

WHEREAS, part of this project is funded through federal grant money apportioned according to each community's needs and the strength of its plan; and

WHEREAS, using existing programs more effectively is a major part of the initiative, along with the development of new services; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's communities may be able to benefit from a similar concentration of program services in at-risk and high crime areas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission be directed to study "hot spot" communities. Technical assistance shall be provided to the Commission by the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission for this study, upon request.

The Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2000 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.