

# 1995 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 471

*Directing the Virginia State Crime Commission to study specially appointed police officers regarding training issues, liability issues, and scope of authority.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 1995

Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 1995

WHEREAS, by authorization of § 15.1-144 of the Code of Virginia, special police officers for a county may be appointed by the county circuit court to assist in the efforts of local law-enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, specially appointed police officers have the same powers and authority as conservators of the peace; and

WHEREAS, the current training requirements are undefined; and

WHEREAS, issues concerning the extent of powers for specially appointed police officers, and liability for their actions while serving in their appointed capacity, may also require further consideration; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia State Crime Commission be directed to study the appointment of special police officers, the extent of their police powers and liability issues connected to their actions, and examine the feasibility of a standardization of responsibilities and minimal training standards. The Commission shall be assisted by the agencies of the Commonwealth at the request of the Commission. Representatives of local law-enforcement agencies and the circuit court will be requested to assist in the study.

The Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of documents.

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