

1998 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 110
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules
on February 10, 1998)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Forbes)

Directing the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Appropriations to study staffing standards for sheriffs' departments.

WHEREAS, Virginia's sheriffs' offices are generally responsible for operating jails, providing law enforcement to counties, securing the courthouses, and serving process; and

WHEREAS, inadequate staffing of these functions has serious implications for local governments and the Commonwealth relative to the safety and security of citizens, sheriffs and their staffs, and inmates in local correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, the current process for funding sheriffs' departments is a traditional budgeting and reimbursement process that has undergone little revision in the last 50 years; and

WHEREAS, although the Compensation Board uses the staffing standards set forth in the budget in addition to requests from local departments, significant discrepancies exist between state-recognized staffing levels and actual workload in many departments; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to develop staffing standards for sheriffs' departments which more accurately reflect actual workloads and requirements and to determine the number and funding of additional positions that such revised standards may indicate are necessary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Appropriations be directed to study staffing standards for sheriffs' departments.

Technical assistance for the study shall be provided by the Virginia Sheriffs' Association. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the committees, upon request.

The Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Appropriations shall complete their work in time to submit their 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.

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