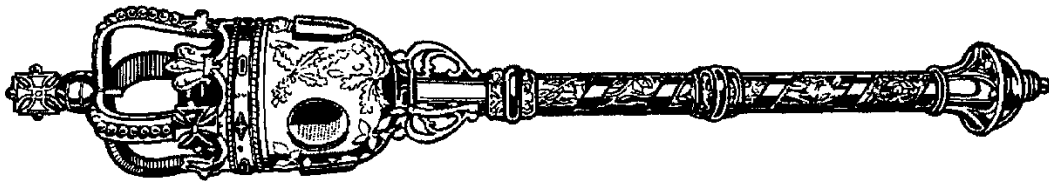


*Report of the
House Appropriations
Subcommittee*

on

Public Safety



*House Bill 29
&
House Bill 30*

February 17, 2002

February 17, 2002

Respectfully Submitted by the House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Public Safety:

Beverly J. Sherwood, Chairman

Lacey E. Putney

Phillip A. Hamilton

R. Steven Landes

S. Chris Jones

A. Victor Thomas

Lionell Spruill, Sr.

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

on

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

From fiscal year 1995 to fiscal year 2001, spending on law enforcement and corrections in Virginia has increased by \$947 million. This represents an increase in spending of 68% in just six years. Factors driving this increase include the opening of several new prisons, substantial increases in funding for police and sheriffs, and creation of a variety of new programs.

During the same period, crime in Virginia has decreased by 45 percent. Criminologists do not agree as to whether the cause of the reduction in crime has been a robust economy with record-low unemployment, the sharp reduction in demand for drugs such as crack cocaine, the aging of the crime-prone population, the dramatic increase in public safety spending, or some combination of these and other factors. However, the fiscal challenges that confront the Commonwealth provide us an opportunity to examine all aspects of state government, especially those areas that have grown the greatest. In good economic times, we have funded many new programs, without demanding a lot of accountability or proven results. In these times of retrenchment we have an obligation to take a hard look at all of our spending and to make difficult decisions while ensuring the public's safety in a cost-efficient, yet effective manner.

Recognizing that the Commonwealth is facing a huge budget deficit, the Subcommittee accepted that there must be a reduction in spending for Public Safety initiatives. Early on your Public Safety Subcommittee adopted several strategies to guide our deliberations. We agreed to 1) remove all new discretionary spending, 2) reduce or eliminate non-essential programs, 3) level fund essential

programs to the extent possible, 4) examine all recent initiatives and avoid all new initiatives, and, 5) reduce or eliminate programs that are not statewide or are not meeting original legislative intent.

As you are aware Mr. Chairman, based on current prison forecasts, our adult and juvenile correctional facilities will have up to 2,000 beds of excess capacity during the biennium. Over the last several years, the Commonwealth has “rented” our excess bed space to other states and to the federal government. As these contracts expire, the Department of Corrections will face the loss of approximately \$60.0 million, money that helped operate our prison system. Given our fiscal situation, we can not afford to backfill that lost revenue in order to keep an empty prison open. Therefore, we recommend that you follow the guidance of the executive branch in choosing which facilities will be affected by the impending downsizing of our correctional system, and accept amendments proposed by Governor Warner to implement these cost savings measures.

In the wake of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the challenge to state policy makers is to ensure that we are providing for the safety of our citizens at the same time we are dealing with the most difficult economic recession we have faced in decades. We are proud of Virginia’s first responders; state and local police, fire and rescue workers, who were on the scene at the Pentagon within minutes of the attack, many of whom were still there weeks later. One important lesson we learned was that, by all accounts, the immediate response of these public safety organizations was fantastic. Many years of planning, coordination, and cooperation among state and local agencies paid off with a heroic effort to find survivors, treat the injured and recover the dead during one of our worst nightmares. As we move forward in preparing for and responding to the threat of future disasters, let us not forget this fact.

We must make certain that we coordinate the efforts of our state and local law enforcement officials and ensure that our resources are focused effectively. We must employ the latest technol-

ogy to ensure state and local public safety agencies communicate effectively; and, to ensure that our first responders mobilize quickly and provide a coordinated and effective response in an emergency. To that end we recommend amendments that will provide \$8.0 million in general funds for disaster response and planning, including funding to move the state police radio system project forward, and grants for emergency response equipment for localities.

We also recommend the redeployment of a specialized state police division for homeland security, intelligence and disaster response, to include \$8.9 million in resources and up to 60 troopers. We have included funding for additional security at the seat of government, subject to further review by the Committee on Joint Rules. With the passage of the VPBA bond package we will provide \$13.6 million to replace our aging emergency operations center and state police headquarters. Finally, with the passage of the “four-for-life” legislation, there will be an additional \$20.8 million available for local rescue and emergency medical services.

Finally, the Subcommittee focused on identifying specific budget savings, as opposed to the administration’s 8 percent across-the-board reductions. These across-the-board cuts would have represented a reduction of \$88 million for public safety over the two-year period. By accepting Governor Warner’s recommendation on downsizing corrections and looking at all funding for public safety, the Subcommittee recommends amendments reducing spending by \$172 million. Approximately \$42 million of these identified savings will be used to reduce the across-the-board reductions in public safety to 4 percent. The remaining savings will flow to the bottom line to help restore the \$652 million taken from the Transportation Trust Fund.

Mr. Chairman and fellow Committee members, I will ask staff to take you through our detailed recommendations, and then I hope it will be your pleasure to adopt our subcommittee report.

Report of the Public Safety Subcommittee

House Bill 29
<u>Amendment</u>

FY 2002 TOTAL		
<u>General</u>	<u>Nongeneral</u>	<u>FTE</u>
<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>	

Compensation Board

Maintain Deputy Sheriffs at Current Levels (\$212,990)

Department Of Corrections

Faith-based Services 100,000

Department Of Criminal Justice Services

Freeze 599 Funding at 2000 Level (7,280,507)

Eliminate Unused SABRE Funds (1,000,000)

Department Of Juvenile Justice

Capture Excess Detention Funds (2,901,806)

Department Of Military Affairs

Camp Pendleton Fund Language

Department Of State Police

Contractual for Statewide Radio System Language

Virginia Parole Board

Parole Board Members' Salaries Language

Central Appropriations

Terrorism Funding Adjustment (5,500,000)

Part 3/Transfers

ABC 3% Reductions (804,000)

Intensified Drug Enforcement Fund (5,000,000)

Corrections Special Reserve Balance (547,398)

(\$23,246,701)	\$100,000	0
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Report of the Public Safety Subcommittee

House Bill 30

Amendment

2002-04 BIENNIAL TOTAL

General <u>Fund</u>	Nongeneral <u>Fund</u>	<u>FTE</u>
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Legislative Department Reversion Clearing Account

Security for Seat of Government	\$934,000	10.00
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Compensation Board

Transportation of Prisoner's	Language	
Maintain Deputy Sheriffs at Current Levels	(7,357,944)	
Across-the-board Reduction for Sheriffs	(22,835,944)	
Federal Inmate Jail Cost Recovery	(7,534,714)	
Definition of State-Responsible Inmates	Language	
Additional Jail Per Diem Funds	6,000,000	

Secretary Of Public Safety

Culpeper Correctional Facility Plan	Language	
Forecast to Include Local Juvenile Populator	Language	

Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council

Eliminate Funding for Council	(1,238,068)	
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Department Of Correctional Education

Reduce Correctional Education Funding	(2,920,234)	
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Department Of Corrections

Authorize Closing Facilities	Language	
White Post Detention Center	Language	
DOC Targeted Reduction	(25,395,891)	10,505,969
Eliminate DOC SABRE Funding	(8,799,970)	
Northampton Regional Jail	Language	
Southwest Virginia Regional Jail	Language	
Faith-based Services		200,000
Prison Visitation Project		60,000
"Pen Pals" Inmate Training Program		150,000
Out-of-state Inmate Revenue to Offset Cuts	Language	
Payments for State Inmates in Jails	Language	
Augusta Corr. Center Technical Amendment	Language	

Department Of Criminal Justice Services

Alzheimer's Assoc. Technical Amendment	Language	
Reduce IDEA Fund		(6,800,000)
Eliminate Funding for Forensic Institute	(2,000,000)	

Report of the Public Safety Subcommittee

House Bill 30	2002-04 BIENNIAL TOTAL		
<u>Amendment</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Nongeneral Fund</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Computer Crime Investigation Pilot Project	Language		
Virginia Center for School Safety	Language		3.00
School Resource Officer Incentive Grants Fund		3,000,000	
Eliminate PAPIS Funding	(4,382,738)		
Eliminate CCCA SABRE Funding	(5,000,000)		
Reduce GF Match for Federal Funds	(1,000,000)		
ICJIS Funds for Court Computers	Language		
Freeze 599 Funding at 2000 Level	(31,551,756)		
Department Of Emergency Management			
Terrorism Response Fund		5,000,000	
Department Of Juvenile Justice			
Beaumont Property Conveyance	Language		
Eliminate Funding for Offices on Youth	(4,177,152)		
Change VJCCCA to Grant Program	(30,000,000)		
Eliminate DJJ SABRE Funding	(4,680,000)		
Department Of Military Affairs			
Camp Pendleton Fund	Language		
Department Of State Police			
Contractual for Statewide Radio System	Language		
Additional E-911 Funds for Dispatchers	(1,000,000)	1,000,000	
Homeland Security and Terrorism Response	Language		
Insurance Fraud Division			12.00
Virginia Parole Board			
Reduce Parole Board Positions	(350,986)		(3.00)
Parole Board Members' Salaries	Language		
Central Appropriations			
Terrorism Funding Adjustment	(6,716,400)		
Part 3/Transfers			
Proceeds from Sale of DOC Property	(3,250,000)		
ABC 6% Reductions	(3,216,000)		
Intensified Drug Enforcement Fund	(6,000,000)		
Total For Public Safety/House Bill 30	(\$172,473,797)	\$13,115,969	22.00

Public Safety

Department Of Military Affairs

Language

Language:

Page 389, after line 20, insert:

"There is hereby created in the state treasury a special, nonreverting fund to be known as the Camp Pendleton Fund, hereafter referred to as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All moneys paid by the City of Virginia Beach for the lease of property at Camp Pendleton along General Booth Boulevard for use as a parking lot shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for facilities or activities at Camp Pendleton, to include the Commonwealth Challenge Program. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the Adjutant General of the Department of Military Affairs. Amounts in the Fund and distributed from it shall not diminish or replace allocations or appropriations to Camp Pendleton or to the National Guard by the Commonwealth, or any other source, but shall be supplemental to all such other allocations or appropriations. In addition, such amounts shall not be used to calculate or reduce the share of local, federal, or state revenues otherwise available to Camp Pendleton or to the National Guard."

Explanation:

(This amendment establishes that any funds received from the City of Virginia Beach from leasing property at Camp Pendleton shall be placed in a special fund that shall only be used for facilities or activities at Camp Pendleton.)

Public Safety

Department Of State Police

Language

Language:

Page 391, line 57, strike "3." and insert "4."

Page 391, after line 56, insert:

"3. The Department of State Police is authorized to conduct negotiations with potential vendor(s) and shall, based upon the outcome of such negotiations, report to the Governor and the General Assembly the expected funding requirements for the implementation of a statewide-shared land mobile radio system."

Explanation:

(This amendment directs the State Police to negotiate with vendors in order to determine the funding requirements of a statewide radio system, and report funding requirements to the Governor and General Assembly.)

Public Safety Subcommittee

Item 497 #1g

Public Safety

Virginia Parole Board

Language

Language:

Page 394, after line 21, insert:

"The Governor may adjust Parole Board members' salaries not to exceed those listed in the general provisions section of this act."

Explanation:

(This amendment allows the Governor to adjust Parole Board members' salaries.)