

**FINAL REPORT OF
THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE STUDYING**

**THE REORGANIZATION OF
THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



SENATE DOCUMENT NO. 31

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1999**

MEMBERS

The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Chairman*
The Honorable Harvey B. Morgan, *Vice Chairman*
The Honorable Henry L. Marsh III
The Honorable Edward L. Schrock
The Honorable Robert H. Brink
The Honorable John J. Davies III
The Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.
Ruth Anne Brooks
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AUTHORITY AND STUDY OBJECTIVES

Adopted by the 1994 Session of the General Assembly, Senate Joint Resolution No. 96 established a nine-member joint subcommittee to study the future and possible reorganization of the Commonwealth's state library agency. The subcommittee was also directed to "inventory the collection of historical art work" in the State Capitol and develop recommendations regarding its restoration and preservation, and to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly.

Recognizing that further study was necessary to review The Library's internal reorganization and to develop recommendations that would not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records, the joint subcommittee proposed, and the General Assembly adopted, resolutions continuing the study in 1995 (SJR 258), 1996 (SJR 45), 1997 (SJR 300), and, finally, in 1998 (SJR 173).

Initial appointees to the joint subcommittee were Senators Stanley C. Walker, Hunter B. Andrews, and Robert L. Calhoun; Delegates Robert B. Ball, Sr., John J. Davies III, Harvey B. Morgan, and the Speaker of the House of Delegates, Thomas W. Moss, Jr.; and citizen members Ruth Ann Brooks and Eric Grundset. Senator Walker and Delegate Ball served as chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the joint subcommittee. In 1996, Senators Marsh and Schrock were appointed to replace the positions previously held by Senators Andrews and Calhoun, and Delegate Murphy assumed the appointment previously filled by Delegate Ball. In 1998, the Speaker's membership on the joint subcommittee was filled by Delegate Brink, pursuant to a letter by the Speaker.¹

Throughout its five-year study, the joint subcommittee has sought the input and expertise of agency leadership and staff, archivists, genealogists, and university librarians, and has examined the history, mission, and duties of The Library of Virginia and the designation and application of funds for The Library, including salary levels. The joint subcommittee also reviewed document preservation techniques and current archival practices, current and projected archival storage and space needs and preservation efforts, and the progress of construction of the new Library facility and a proposed Records Center.

Also warranting subcommittee consideration were the economic impact of The Library on tourism in the Richmond area, as well as the organization and funding of state libraries and archives in other states. Finally, the subcommittee focused on the financial and policy implications of creating separate organizational structures for the State Archives and The Library, and reviewed The Library's internal reorganization, initiated in 1995 in response to directives of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Government Reform. This reorganization made several significant changes, including eliminating the Archives and

¹May 6, 1998, letter from the Honorable Thomas W. Moss, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates, to the Honorable Robert H. Brink.

Records Division, placing archival research functions in a Research and Information Services Division, and modifying certain job descriptions and salary bases.²

In the final year of its study, the committee was specifically directed to examine (i) the efficacy and appropriateness of establishing an autonomous state archives agency separate from The Library; (ii) The Library's internal reorganization plan and the funding and staffing levels for the various divisions within The Library and the Archives; (iii) current and projected storage and space needs and preservation efforts, including the status of preservation needs of The Library's historic art works; and (iv) such other matters as it deems appropriate. The committee was to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly.



ISSUES AND INITIATIVES

In 1994, the same year the joint subcommittee was initially constituted, the State Library and Archives became "The Library of Virginia," pursuant to legislation adopted by

²The reorganization eliminated a level of supervisors and features four divisions: Records Management, which includes the circuit court records program; Research and Information Services, including archival research; Library Development and Networking; and Publication and Cultural Affairs. The State Archivist's duties will include working with collections as well as with the general public. Salary scales for archivists, librarians, and historians have been reviewed and professional job descriptions revised to address parity concerns. Library and Archives job classifications will include five employment levels: generalist, specialist, specialist senior, coordinator, and consultant.

Following the December 4 meeting, The Library provided responses to various inquiries by the joint subcommittee regarding the reorganization of The Library and the reassignment of the former Archives Division to the new Research and Information Services Division. The reorganization was based on several factors, including (i) staffing and management studies conducted by independent consultants, senior in-house staff, the Department Personnel and Training, and the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB), supporting consolidation of services and functions, particularly public service functions; (ii) an analysis by 32 senior staff members, conducted at the request of then-State Librarian John C. Tyson in 1993 in response to severe budget and staffing reductions, identifying reorganization of The Library's remaining resources to "meet the Library's and the public's needs with a more unified approach" as the agency's "most desperate need"; (iii) DPB analysis concluding that the new Library facility would require 209 employees, despite reductions in Library staffing levels from 168 to just over 130; (iv) concern raised by constituent groups; and (v) the recommendation of the Governor's Strike Force that The Library "move steadily towards the integration of its services and personnel" and the pending move into the new Library facility.

In addressing the realignment of the State Archivist position, The Library's response noted that the Archives program benefits "from institutional memory, programmatic knowledge, and familiarity with staff and patrons"; the frequent turnover of State Librarians prompted the placement of a Deputy State Librarian over four divisions to promote continuity in archival functions. Moving the State Archivist to a position below a Deputy State Librarian and a Division Director would make the position "more responsive to the needs of our patrons, and to the needs of our collections." The Archivist was previously at a Division Director level; maintaining the position at such a managerial level "removes it completely from its very customer and product base." The administrative function of a director and the service and collections duties of the Archivist could not "be adequately met in an individual staff position." Meeting Summary, December 4, 1995, committee meeting.

the 1994 Session.³ The ensuing years have witnessed the opening of the new Library facility on East Broad Street in Richmond, the ongoing construction of a new Records Center, and increased demand for funding and staffing levels sufficient to support The Library's ability to preserve its collections and to advance new technologies that would increase accessibility for citizens throughout Virginia.

Records Center

As of November 1998, construction of The Library's Record Center was about 85 percent complete for the new facility, combining an archives annex, imaging services, and a records center. With a projected opening date of July 1, 1999, the Records Center will be one of the largest in the United States and will provide services to state and local governments. Located in eastern Henrico County, the Records Center project has a budget of approximately \$10.4 million for construction, architectural services, and property. The Library has requested \$1,082,219 in general funds to support Records Center operations, personnel, utilities, and contracts in fiscal years 1999 and 2000. Six staff positions were requested for the Records Center.

Featuring a storage capacity of 155,000 cubic feet, the Archives Annex within the new Records Center will house low-reference permanent records; more frequently requested materials will be housed at The Library of Virginia facility in downtown Richmond. The Imaging Services section and Vital Records Vault at the new Records Center will supplant, respectively, space at the old Library building and rental space. Imaging Services will provide preservation microfilming for the most significant and fragile archival records, while the Vital Records Vault will hold 247,000 reels of duplicate microfilm records for security purposes.

Non-current and inactive state agency and local government records sent to the Records Center are bar-coded and will ultimately be destroyed. Although in the possession of The Library, these records nonetheless remain the individual agency's property, and are destroyed pursuant to an approved records retention plan. The retention and destruction schedules vary by type of record. The new facility's record center capacity of 360,000 boxes represents a significant increase from the current storage space of 30,000 boxes.⁴

Archives Issues

The Library receives an additional 1,228,500 items for its archival collections annually. Private papers, state records, and local records comprise five, 48, and 47 percent, respectively, of the archival records backlog. State records account for 62 percent of current archival holdings at The Library of Virginia, while local records claim 33 percent, with private papers comprising the remaining five percent. Historically lacking the resources and staffing to process and preserve these materials, The Library now faces a backlog of

³1994 Acts of Assembly, c. 64.

⁴Meeting Summary, November 25, 1998, committee meeting.

unprocessed archival materials totaling over 17,186 cubic feet. This current backlog of 25.8 million archival items—or over 17,000 boxes of 18th, 19th, and 20th century historical records—would require 54 years for processing at current Library staffing and resource levels. The addition of nine staff members—processing archivists and catalogers—would halve this time period, at a rate of 637 cubic feet (955,500 manuscript pages) a year; annual funding of \$452,975 would be required.

**The Library of Virginia
LOCAL RECORD HOLDINGS AND GROWTH RATE**

Year	Local Records Holdings (cu. ft.)	Annual Growth (%)
1979	1,856.70	12.0
1980	2,710.80	46.0
1981	3,171.70	17.0
1982	6,947.30	48.0
1983	10,560.00	52.0
1984	17,392.35	64.7
1985	17,456.35	00.3
1986	17,907.95	02.5
1987	18,281.37	02.0
1988	18,338.65	00.3
1989	18,341.37	00.0
1990	18,446.16	00.5
1991	18,585.00	00.7
1992	18,586.58	00.0
1993	18,679.61	00.5
1994	18,805.52	00.7
1995	18,857.32	00.3
1996	18,865.95	00.0
1997	18,866.95	00.0
1998	19,267.75	02.1

Lack of space and the move to the new building account for the declining rate of growth from 1988 to 1997.
Source: The Library of Virginia, November 1998.

With 17 additional staff members at an annual funding rate of \$787,943, an estimated 904 cubic feet might be processed annually, thereby reducing the backlog to 19 years. The Library has been able to meet the demands of processing incoming archival holdings; however, the current backlog remains a challenge.

**The Library of Virginia
Processing Schedule for Archival Collections Backlog**

Year	Total Cubic Feet Processed	Total Items Processed	Backlog Total Cubic Feet	Backlog Total Items
9 Additional Positions (27 years)				
1998	0	0	17,186	25,779,000
2000	637	955,500	16,549	24,823,500
2005	3,822	5,733,000	13,364	20,046,000
2010	7,007	10,510,500	10,179	15,268,500
2015	10,192	15,228,000	6,994	10,491,000
2020	13,377	20,065,500	3,809	5,713,500
2025	16,562	24,843,000	624	936,000
2026	17,186	25,779,000	0	0
17 Additional Positions (19 years)				
1998	0	0	17,186	25,779,000
2000	904	1,356,789	16,282	24,422,211
2005	5,424	8,140,734	11,762	17,638,266
2010	9,944	14,924,679	7,242	10,854,321
2015	14,464	21,708,624	2,722	4,070,376
2018	17,186	25,779,000	0	0

Source: The Library of Virginia, November 1998.

In response to this archival need, the 1999 Session expressed its intent to “relieve the 54-year backlog in processing significant archival, special and other historical collections before the year 2020” and provided \$787,943 in general funds and 17 positions in the second year of the 1998-2000 biennium. In addition, the 1999 Appropriations Act directs the Librarian of Virginia and the State Archivist to conduct an annual study of The Library’s archival preservation needs and priorities, and to report annually by December 1 to the Governor and the co-chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees of the General Assembly on The Library’s progress in addressing the archival backlog.⁵

Administrative Issues

A number of additional initiatives, perhaps spawned by the joint subcommittee’s focus on the various administrative challenges facing The Library, have enhanced the mission of The Library. In 1996, the General Assembly adopted HB 1228, transferring authority to appoint the Librarian from the Governor to the Library Board. Although the 1977 Session of the General Assembly approved legislation providing for gubernatorial appointment of the administrative heads of state agencies “notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,” it was not until 1984 that Title 42.1 was amended to clarify that the authority to appoint the State Librarian would be transferred from the Library Board

⁵1999 Acts of Assembly, c. 935, § 1-71, Item 265 B.

to the Governor.⁶ Consistent with The Library's name change, the State Librarian became "the Librarian of Virginia" in 1998.⁷

In November 1998, the joint subcommittee considered creating a special five-person subcommittee from among its members to develop a report and recommendations for the General Assembly. More specifically, the chairman suggested the options of continuing the joint subcommittee's work through a study by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) or by a permanent commission established as an advocate and monitor for The Library.⁸

Ultimately, the 1999 Session considered, but failed to pass, identical measures proffered by the chairman (SB 1261) and vice-chairman (HB 2402) that would have codified the Joint Subcommittee as the 11-member Commission on The Library of Virginia, a legislative agency that would have included the Librarian of Virginia and the State Archivist as ex officio, nonvoting members. This Commission would (i) recommend policies, legislation and funding that help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission; (ii) review The Library's document preservation techniques and archival practices, archival storage and space needs, and preservation efforts, and recommend preservation priorities; (iii) make recommendations regarding the advancement of new technologies that would increase accessibility of Library holdings for citizens throughout Virginia; (iv) encourage the development of programs and curricula within the state's higher education institutions for the training of personnel involved with archival collections; and (v) review and make recommendations regarding other issues involving The Library, public libraries in the Commonwealth, and archival holdings, as determined necessary. Although initially

⁶An 1823 legislative act had placed the library within the executive branch. While supervision of the library rested with the clerk of the executive council, the selection of books was initially within the purview of a three-member council, appointed by the executive. Control of the library was transferred in 1830 to a joint legislative committee. The Secretary of the Commonwealth became state librarian in 1832 and held this position until 1903. The 1902 Constitutional Revision and corresponding legislation placed the management of the state library with a five-member library board, appointed by the State Board of Education. The state librarian, now selected by the library board, would serve as board secretary.

Subsequent constitutional amendments omitted language regarding the appointing authority of the Board of Education as "a matter of detail that should not be in the Constitution." This appointment structure changed in 1944, however, when the General Assembly expanded the library board membership to seven and granted the Governor authority to appoint six members. The Superintendent of Public Instruction would serve as the seventh member, ex officio. The Board retained authority to appoint the state librarian. In 1968, statutory amendments increased the size of the Board to nine, and eliminated the Superintendent's ex officio position.

The Commission on State Governmental Management, known as the Hopkins Commission, agreed in its October 1974 meeting that appointment authority for agency heads should rest with the Governor; a formal recommendation, supported by Senate Bill No. 667, was submitted in 1977. See Interim Report of the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of the State Library and Archives, *Senate Document No. 53* at 2-3 (1995).

⁷1998 Acts of Assembly, c. 427.

⁸Meeting Summary, November 25, 1998, committee meeting.

reported out by a unanimous Senate vote, SB 1261 was defeated in the House Committee on General Laws. The House Committee on Education took no action on HB 2402.⁹



CONCLUSIONS

While these initiatives codifying the joint subcommittee as a commission failed to pass, the joint subcommittee is confident that the 1999 budget initiatives, providing the much-needed funding and staff positions, will go far to address critical archival needs at The Library. Further, the budget directive requiring annual study and reporting by the Librarian and the State Archivist regarding the archival backlog will help ensure continued constructive dialogue and cooperation between The Library and the legislative branch.

The Library of Virginia remains a true treasure, preserving key documents of our history as a Commonwealth and as a nation, and providing invaluable research and reference services to citizens of and visitors to Virginia. Yet, many challenges lie ahead for The Library as it moves into the next century.

The Library's organizational structure and administrative practices must continue to effectively promote the agency's mission, and adequate funding must be available to support ongoing programs and staffing levels. The Library—and the legislature—must demonstrate an unwavering commitment to addressing archival preservation and storage needs, as well as to providing greater access to Library services and functions consistent with The Library's threefold mission: to be the library agency of the Commonwealth; to act as the state's archival agency; and to serve as the reference library at the seat of government.

Respectfully submitted,
The SJR 173 Joint Subcommittee
Studying the Reorganization of
The Library of Virginia

⁹Division of Legislative Services, *1999 Session Summary* (1999).

MEETINGS OF THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE

1994—SJR 96

10 a.m.—Tuesday, October 18

Senate Room A—General Assembly Building, Richmond, Virginia

Call to Order and Opening Remarks: The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Patron*; Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman; Kathleen G. Harris, *Senior Attorney, Division of Legislative Services*: Review of Initial Staff Briefing Report; Andrew M. Cole, *Chairman, Library Board*: Introductory remarks; Nolan T. Yelich, *Acting State Librarian, The Library of Virginia*: Mission, Duties, and Operations of The Library of Virginia; Barbara Vines Little, *Vice President, Virginia Genealogical Society*: The Library's Archival Mission; Funding of State Archives; Gordon K. Davies, *Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia* and Barbara Ford, *Chief Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University*: Cooperation between The Library and University Libraries.

10 a.m.—Wednesday, November 30

Old Supreme Court Room—The Library of Virginia

Call to Order and Opening Remarks: The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Chairman*; Andrew McCutcheon, *Library Board Member*: Opening remarks; Nolan T. Yelich, *Acting State Librarian*, and Ann Harris, *Library Fiscal Officer, The Library of Virginia*: Designation and application of funds for The Library and the Archives, including federal, state, local, and private funds; review of plans for new facility; space allotments for Archives and other library divisions; description of new Records Center; economic impact of The Library and the Archives on tourism in the metropolitan Richmond area; Pete Anderson, *Glave Newman & Anderson, architects*: Description of new Library facility; Dennis Hallerman, *Assistant State Archivist*: Document preservation techniques and current archival practices; condition of records awaiting preservation; staff and funding necessary to meet preservation duties; Barbara Ford, *Chief Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University*: The "Virtual Library" and digitizing of resources; Tour of Library facility for members, staff, and interested parties.

1995—SJR 258

2 p.m.—Monday, December 4, 1995

Senate Room B—General Assembly Building

Call to Order and Opening Remarks: The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Chairman*; Kathleen G. Harris, *Senior Attorney*: Review of 1994 actions of joint subcommittee; Ann Harris, *Director of Administrative Services & Fiscal Director, The Library of Virginia* and Andrew McCutcheon, *Vice Chairman of Library Board*: Remarks; Conley Edwards, *Acting State Archivist, The Library of Virginia* and Louis Manarin, *Former State Archivist, The Library of Virginia*: Archives funding and staff levels, including salary levels; document preservation techniques and current archival practices (including condition of records awaiting preservation and staff and funding necessary to meet preservation duties); current and projected archival storage and space needs and preservation efforts; efficacy and appropriateness of establishing the Archives as an autonomous state agency; George Vogt, *State Archivist, South Carolina*: Archives organization in South Carolina: mission and goals; changes in information services; Representatives of Virginia Genealogical Society.

1996—SJR 45

10 a.m.—Friday, December 13, 1996—CANCELLED

Senate Room A—General Assembly Building

1997—SJR 300

10 a.m.—Monday, July 7, 1997

The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia

Call to order, opening remarks, and introduction of members and staff: The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Chairman*; Tour of The Library of Virginia; Serf L. Guerra, *Chairman of Library Board*; *The Library of Virginia*; Andrew McCutcheon, *immediate past chairman, Library Board*; Organizational issues; Nolan T. Yelich, *State Librarian*; Records Center construction and classification and pay disparity study; Conley L. Edwards, *State Archivist*; Update on specific Archives issues; Dr. David H. Harpole, *President, Richmond Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution and Chairman, Historic Documents Committee*; Mrs. Stephen R. Hunter, *State Regent, Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution*; Clarke Southall Wallace, *The Society of the Cincinnati*; Mrs. Harold A. Underhill, *Colonial Dames of the 17th Century and Huguenot Societies of Virginia*; Bill Thomas, *President, James Monroe Memorial Foundation*; Emily Rusk, *Virginia Genealogical Society*.

1998—SJR 173

10 a.m.—Wednesday, November 25, 1998

Senate Room B—General Assembly Building

Call to Order and Opening Remarks: The Honorable Stanley C. Walker, *Chairman*; Presentations by representatives of The Library of Virginia: Nolan T. Yelich, *Librarian of Virginia*; Overview; Preston Huff, *State Records Administrator, The Library of Virginia*; Records Center funding and construction; Conley L. Edwards, *State Archivist, The Library of Virginia*; Patron visitation and Archives use; Kip Campbell, *Director of Collection Management, The Library of Virginia*; Processing of archival materials.



SENATE BILL NO. 1261

Offered January 21, 1999

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 9-379, 9-380, and 9-381, relating to the Commission on The Library of Virginia.

Patron-- Walker

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 9-379, 9-380, and 9-381, as follows:

CHAPTER 50.
COMMISSION ON THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA.

§9-379. Commission created; purpose.

There is hereby created, as a legislative agency, the Commission on The Library of Virginia, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. The purpose of the Commission shall be to monitor and assist The Library in fulfilling its mission of serving as the library agency of the Commonwealth, acting as the state's archival agency, and serving as a reference library at the seat of government.

§9-380. Membership; appointment; terms.

A. The Commission shall consist of eleven members as follows: three members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; four members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; two citizen members at large, one to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and the Librarian of Virginia and the State Archivist, who shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.

B. The terms of legislative members shall be coincident with their service in the house from which appointed. The citizen members shall serve for terms of four years, their successors shall be appointed for like terms, and vacancies occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term.

C. The current membership of the Commission appointed pursuant to SJR 45 of the 1996 Acts of Assembly shall continue to serve as the legislative and citizen members. Any vacancies shall be filled by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and the Speaker of the House, as appropriate.

Commission members shall be compensated as specified in §30-19.12 and all members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

The staffs of the Division of Legislative Services, the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations, and The Library of Virginia shall provide such staff support, both administrative and professional, as the Commission may require. The Commission may also obtain such assistance as it may deem necessary from other state agencies and may employ experts who have special knowledge of the issues before it.

§9-381. Powers and duties of the Commission.

A. The Commission shall have the power and duty to:

- 1. Recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly policies, legislation and funding that will not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records;*
- 2. Review The Library's document preservation techniques and archival practices, archival storage and space needs, and preservation efforts, and recommend preservation priorities;*
- 3. Make recommendations regarding the advancement of new technologies that would increase accessibility of Library holdings for citizens throughout Virginia;*
- 4. Encourage the development of programs and curricula within the state's higher education institutions for the training of personnel involved with archival collections; and*
- 5. Review and make recommendations regarding other issues involving The Library, public libraries in the Commonwealth, and archival holdings, as determined necessary.*

B. The Commission shall report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly and at such other times as required by the Governor or the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2402

Offered January 21, 1999

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 9-379, 9-380, and 9-381, relating to the Commission on The Library of Virginia.

Patrons-- Morgan, Davies and Murphy; Senator: Walker

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 9-379, 9-380, and 9-381, as follows:

CHAPTER 50.
COMMISSION ON THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA.

§9-379. Commission created; purpose.

There is hereby created, as a legislative agency, the Commission on The Library of Virginia, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. The purpose of the Commission shall be to monitor and assist The Library in fulfilling its mission of serving as the library agency of the Commonwealth, acting as the state's archival agency, and serving as a reference library at the seat of government.

§ 9-380. Membership; appointment; terms.

A. The Commission shall consist of eleven members as follows: three members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; four members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; two citizen members at large, one to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and the Librarian of Virginia and the State Archivist, who shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.

B. The terms of legislative members shall be coincident with their service in the house from which appointed. The citizen members shall serve for terms of four years, their successors shall be appointed for like terms, and vacancies occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term.

C. The current membership of the Commission appointed pursuant to SJR 45 of the 1996 Acts of Assembly shall continue to serve as the legislative and citizen members. Any vacancies shall be filled by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and the Speaker of the House, as appropriate.

Commission members shall be compensated as specified in §30-19.12 and all members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

The staffs of the Division of Legislative Services, the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations, and The Library of Virginia shall provide such staff support, both administrative and professional, as the Commission may require. The Commission may also obtain such assistance as it may deem necessary from other state agencies and may employ experts who have special knowledge of the issues before it.

§9-381. Powers and duties of the Commission.

A. The Commission shall have the power and duty to:

- 1. Recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly policies, legislation and funding that will not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records;*
- 2. Review The Library's document preservation techniques and archival practices, archival storage and space needs, and preservation efforts, and recommend preservation priorities;*
- 3. Make recommendations regarding the advancement of new technologies that would increase accessibility of Library holdings for citizens throughout Virginia;*
- 4. Encourage the development of programs and curricula within the state's higher education institutions for the training of personnel involved with archival collections; and*
- 5. Review and make recommendations regarding other issues involving The Library, public libraries in the Commonwealth, and archival holdings, as determined necessary.*

B. The Commission shall report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly and at such other times as required by the Governor or the General Assembly.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 173

Continuing the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of The Library of Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 1998

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 12, 1998

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 96 (1994) established a nine-member subcommittee to study the future and possible reorganization of the Commonwealth's state library agency, to inventory the collection of historical art work in the State Capitol, and to develop recommendations regarding its restoration and preservation; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that further study was necessary to develop appropriate recommendations, the General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution No. 258, Senate Joint Resolution No. 45, and Senate Joint Resolution No. 300, which continued the work of the joint subcommittee in 1995, 1996, and 1997, respectively; and

WHEREAS, throughout its study, the joint subcommittee has sought the input and expertise of agency leadership and staff, archivists, genealogists, and university librarians; and

WHEREAS, the joint subcommittee has also examined the history, mission, and duties of The Library of Virginia, the designation and application of funds for The Library, including salary levels, and the organization and funding of state libraries and archives in other states; and

WHEREAS, to meet its study directives, the joint subcommittee has also reviewed document preservation techniques and current archival practices, current and projected archival storage and space needs and preservation efforts, and progress of construction of the new Library facility and a proposed Records Center; and

WHEREAS, although The Library is currently organized by statute as a single state agency, it has multiple purposes, objectives, and functions, and adequate funding and staff support are essential to fulfill those multiple purposes, objectives, and functions; and

WHEREAS, testimony before the joint subcommittee indicated that budget constraints hamper The Library's ability to preserve its collections and to advance new technologies that would increase accessibility for citizens throughout Virginia, and

WHEREAS, The Library is currently ranked 23rd among the Commonwealth's public libraries in library materials expenditures, and ninth when compared to Virginia's state university libraries; and

WHEREAS, the three-fold mission of The Library of Virginia, to be the library agency of the Commonwealth, to act as the state's archival agency, and to serve as a reference library at the seat of government, is reflected in The Library's organizational structure; and

WHEREAS, while The Library's present organizational and staffing structure, combining library and archival functions into one state agency, is consistent with practices that can be traced to The Library's founding, the placement of archival functions varies across the country, as different states have assigned this duty to other state agencies, as well as to independent state archival agencies; and

WHEREAS, responding to directives of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Government Reform, The Library initiated an internal reorganization in 1995, making several significant changes, including eliminating the Archives and Records Division, placing archival research functions in a Research and Information Services Division, and modifying certain job descriptions and salary bases; and

WHEREAS, further study is necessary to review The Library's internal reorganization and to develop recommendations that will not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Future of The Library of Virginia be continued for one additional year. The joint subcommittee shall examine the following: the efficacy and appropriateness of establishing an autonomous state archives agency separate from The Library; The Library's internal reorganization plan and the funding and staffing levels for the various divisions within The Library and the Archives; the current and projected storage and space needs and preservation efforts, including the status of preservation needs of The Library's historic art works; and such other matters as it deems appropriate.

The current membership of the joint subcommittee shall continue to serve as appointed pursuant to SJR No. 45 (1996); any vacancies shall be filled in the manner consistent with the original resolution.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the joint subcommittee. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The joint subcommittee 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.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$5,000.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 300

Continuing the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of
The Library of Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 30, 1997

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 1997

WHEREAS, pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 96, the 1994 Session of the General Assembly established a nine-member subcommittee to study the future and possible reorganization of the Commonwealth's state library agency, to inventory the collection of historical art work in the State Capitol, and to develop recommendations regarding its restoration and preservation; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that further study was necessary to develop appropriate recommendations, the Session adopted Senate Joint Resolution No. 258 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 45, which continued the work of the joint subcommittee in 1995 and 1996, respectively; and

WHEREAS, throughout its study, the joint subcommittee has sought the input and expertise of agency leadership and staff, archivists, genealogists, and university librarians, and has examined the history, mission, and duties of The Library of Virginia; the designation and application of funds for The Library, including salary levels; and the organization and funding of state libraries and archives in other states; and

WHEREAS, to meet its study directives, the subcommittee has also reviewed document preservation techniques and current archival practices, current and projected archival storage and space needs and preservation efforts, and progress of construction of the new Library facility and a proposed Records Center; and

WHEREAS, although The Library is currently organized by statute as a single state agency, adequate funding and staff support are essential to fulfill The Library's multiple purposes, objectives, and functions; and

WHEREAS, testimony before the joint subcommittee indicated that budget constraints hamper The Library's ability to preserve its collections and to advance new technologies that would increase accessibility for citizens throughout Virginia; and

WHEREAS, The Library is currently ranked 23rd among the Commonwealth's public libraries in library materials expenditures, and ninth when compared to Virginia's state university libraries; and

WHEREAS, the three-fold mission of The Library of Virginia--to be the library agency of the Commonwealth; to act as the state's archival agency; and to serve as a reference library at the seat of government--is reflected in The Library's organizational structure; and

WHEREAS, while The Library's present organizational and staffing structure--combining library and archival functions into one state agency--is consistent with practices that can be traced to The Library's founding, the placement of archival functions varies across the country, as states have assigned this duty to other state agencies as well as to independent state archival agencies; and

WHEREAS, responding to directives of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Government Reform, The Library initiated an internal reorganization in 1995, making several significant changes, including eliminating the Archives and Records Division, placing archival research functions in a Research and Information Services Division, and modifying certain job descriptions and salary bases; and

WHEREAS, further study is necessary to review The Library's internal reorganization and to develop recommendations that will not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of The Library of Virginia be continued for one year. The joint subcommittee shall examine the following: the efficacy and appropriateness of establishing an autonomous state archives agency separate from The Library; The Library's internal reorganization plan and the funding and staffing levels for the various divisions within The Library and the Archives; the current and projected storage and space needs and preservation efforts including the status of preservation needs of The Library's historic art works; and such other matters as it deems appropriate.

The current membership of the joint subcommittee shall continue to serve as appointed pursuant to SJR No. 45 (1996); any vacancies shall be filled in the manner consistent with the original resolution.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the joint subcommittee. All other agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 Session of the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$5,000.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

Continuing the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of The Library of Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 4, 1996

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 29, 1996

WHEREAS, pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 96, the 1994 Session of the General Assembly established a nine-member subcommittee to study the future and possible reorganization of the Commonwealth's state library agency, to inventory the collection of historical art work in the State Capitol, and to develop recommendations regarding its restoration and preservation; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that further study was necessary to develop appropriate recommendations, the 1995 Session adopted Senate Joint Resolution No. 258, which continued the work of the joint subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, throughout its two-year study, the joint subcommittee has sought the input and expertise of agency leadership and staff, archivists, genealogists, and university librarians, and has examined the history, mission, and duties of The Library of Virginia; the designation and application of funds for The Library, including salary levels; and the organization and funding of state libraries and archives in other states; and

WHEREAS, to meet its study directives, the subcommittee has also reviewed document preservation techniques and current archival practices, current and projected archival storage and space needs and preservation efforts, and the progress of construction of the new Library facility and a proposed Records Center; and

WHEREAS, although The Library is currently organized by statute as a single state agency with multiple purposes, objectives, and functions, adequate funding and staff support within each of its divisions, including the Archives, are essential to the effective operation of The Library; and

WHEREAS, testimony before the joint subcommittee indicated that budget constraints hamper The Library's ability to preserve its collections and to advance new technologies that would increase accessibility for citizens throughout Virginia, and that The Library currently ranks 23rd among the Commonwealth's public libraries in library materials expenditures, and ninth when compared to Virginia's state university libraries; and

WHEREAS, the three-fold mission of The Library of Virginia--to be the library agency of the Commonwealth, to act as the state's archival agency, and to serve as a reference library at the seat of government--is reflected in The Library's organizational structure; and

WHEREAS, while The Library's present organizational and staffing structure, combining library and archival functions in one state agency, is consistent with practices that can be traced to The Library's founding, the placement of archival functions varies across the

country, as states have assigned this duty to other state agencies as well as to independent state archival agencies; and

WHEREAS, responding to directives of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Government Reform, The Library initiated an internal reorganization in 1995, making several significant changes, including eliminating the Archives and Records Division, placing archival research functions in a Research and Information Services Division, and modifying certain job descriptions and salary bases; and

WHEREAS, further study is necessary to review The Library's internal reorganization and to develop recommendations that will not only help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission but also support its commitment to preserve and restore its holdings, and to serve those who use its facilities and records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Reorganization of The Library of Virginia be continued. The joint subcommittee shall consider the efficacy and appropriateness of establishing an autonomous state archives agency, separate from The Library. The joint subcommittee shall also examine The Library's internal reorganization plan and shall continue to monitor funding and staff levels for the various divisions within The Library; current and projected storage and space needs and preservation efforts; the progress of construction of the new Library facility and the proposed Records Center; and the status of preservation needs of The Library's historic art works.

The current membership of the joint subcommittee shall continue to serve as appointed pursuant to SJR No. 96 (1994); any vacancies shall be filled in the manner consistent with the original resolution.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the joint subcommittee. All other agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee, upon request.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1997 Session of the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$5,000.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 258

Continuing the joint subcommittee studying the reorganization of
The Library of Virginia.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 20, 1995

Agreed to be the House of Delegates, February 16, 1995

WHEREAS, the 1994 Session of the General Assembly established a nine-member subcommittee to study the future and possible reorganization of the Commonwealth's state library agency, to inventory the collection of historical art work in the State Capitol, and to develop recommendations regarding its restoration and preservation; and

WHEREAS, to meet its study directives, the joint subcommittee has sought the input and expertise of The Library leadership and staff, genealogists, and university librarians, and has examined the history, mission, and duties of The Library of Virginia; the designation and application of funds for The Library and the Archives; and the organization and funding of state libraries and archives in other states; and

WHEREAS, the mission of The Library of Virginia is threefold: to be the library agency of the Commonwealth; to act as the state's archival agency; and to serve as a reference library at the seat of government, and this mission is reflected in The Library's organizational structure; and

WHEREAS, as the Commonwealth's archival agency, The Library, through its Archives and Records Division, maintains archival holdings that include over 52,000 cubic feet of court and government records, tax documents, personal papers, and maps documenting Virginia history and government; and

WHEREAS, although The Library is currently organized by statute as a single state agency with multiple purposes, objectives, and functions, examination of the various funding and staffing needs within each of its divisions is essential to the effective operation of The Library; and

WHEREAS, further study is necessary to develop recommendations that will help ensure the fulfillment of The Library's multi-faceted mission and to the Archives' ability to preserve, restore, and serve those who use its facilities and records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the joint subcommittee studying the reorganization of The Library of Virginia be continued. The joint subcommittee shall consider, among other things, Library funding and staff levels; current and projected storage and space needs and preservation efforts; the progress of construction of the new Library facility and the proposed Record Center; the inventory and preservation needs of The Library's historic art works; and the efficacy and appropriateness of establishing the Archives as an autonomous state agency, separate from The Library.

The current membership of the joint subcommittee shall continue to serve as appointed pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 96 (1994); any vacancies shall be filled in the manner consistent with the original resolution.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the joint subcommittee. All other agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate as requested by the joint subcommittee.

The joint subcommittee shall be continued for one year only and shall complete its work in time to submit its final findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$5,000.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 96

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study the reorganization of the Virginia State Library and Archives.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 1, 1994

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 25, 1994

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Library and Archives is currently organized as a single state agency with multiple purposes, objectives, and functions; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Archives is responsible for the long-term care of historical records of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, these records date back to the inception of Virginia as the first permanent English settlement in North America; and

WHEREAS, the Archives is the repository for all state records including land patents and grants, military certificates, Confederate pensions, tax records, and other documents that chronicle Virginia's history and our ancestors' lives; and

WHEREAS, the Archives drew over 25,000 visitors to Virginia in 1992 from around the country and the world, making it the busiest Archives in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this creates a significant economic impact on the metropolitan Richmond area and the entire Commonwealth with out-of-state visitors contributing important tourism dollars to our coffers; and

WHEREAS, in the 1992-94 biennial budget, the State Archives received 26 percent of the total operating budget of the Virginia State Library and Archives; and

WHEREAS, this level of funding has hindered the Archives' ability to preserve, restore, and serve those who use its facilities and records; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, the House of Delegates concurring, That a joint subcommittee study the future of the Virginia State Library and Archives. The joint subcommittee shall examine the effects of the current funding available on the State Library and Archives' ability to serve the public and to preserve Virginia's history and shall also investigate the reorganization of the Archives into an autonomous state agency separate from the Virginia State Library. In its deliberations on the preservation of Virginia's historical records and documents, the joint subcommittee shall also inventory the collection of historical art work such as paintings, portraits, and pictures on display in the State Capitol and recommend appropriate ways to restore and preserve such items.

The joint subcommittee shall consist of nine members as follows: three from the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; four from the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker; and two members at large, one to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and one to be appointed by the Speaker.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the joint subcommittee. All other agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate as requested by the joint subcommittee.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$5,000.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

