REPORT OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA

Interim Status Report, House Joint Resolution 111 (2012)

TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA



HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 18

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND 2012

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December 3, 2012

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The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell Office of the Governor Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor 1111 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Members of the General Assembly of Virginia General Assembly Building 201 North 9th Street Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Interim Status Report, House Joint Resolution 111

Dear Governor McDonnell and Members of the General Assembly:

As Secretary of the Judicial Council of Virginia, I am pleased to submit this interim status report required by House Joint Resolution 111, which was agreed to by the General Assembly of Virginia during its 2012 Regular Session.

HJR 111 directs the Judicial Council to study the jurisdictional capacity of the Court of Appeals to determine whether its current jurisdiction should be expanded. In accord with the terms of the Resolution, the Judicial Council directed the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to assemble the data necessary in order for the Judicial Council to review the respective caseloads of the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Court of Appeals of Virginia to determine if the quality of appellate review would be better served by expanding the jurisdiction of the latter court. This caseload data has been compiled and provided to both appellate courts.

During the course of the next year, a detailed review and evaluation of the data will occur along with an analysis of the jurisdictional capacity of the Court of Appeals, in preparation for the recommendations to be presented to the Judicial Council. The Judicial Council will produce its final report and convey those findings, along with the requisite executive summary, to the Governor and the General Assembly by the first day of the 2014 Session of the General Assembly.

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Very truly yours,

MR // H

Karl R. Hade

KRH:knh

cc: Division of Legislative Automated Systems