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SENATE BILL NO. 804

Offered January 23, 2026

A BILL to amend and reenact § 17.1-905 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; submission of annual report.

Patron—Deeds

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 17.1-905 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 17.1-905. Annual report.**

On or before December 1 of each year, the Commission shall submit to the ~~Chairmen and ranking members~~ Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice *and to the ranking Delegate and Senator of the minority party serving on such Committees* a report detailing the activities of the Commission for the prior year. The report shall include the number of complaints filed with the Commission; the number of complaints originating from attorneys, judges, court employees, or the general public; the number of complaints dismissed based on (i) failure to fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission, (ii) failure to state a violation of the Canons of Judicial Conduct, or (iii) failure of the Commission to reach a conclusion that the Canons were breached; the number of complaints for which the Commission concluded that the Canons of Judicial Conduct were breached; and the number of cases from which the staff or any member of the Commission recused himself due to an actual or possible conflict. The report shall also include (a) the name of any judge who the Commission concluded breached the Canons of Judicial Conduct and took disciplinary action against as a result of such conclusion, if the date on which the Commission reached such conclusion was after the previous annual report was published; (b) the specific Canons of Judicial Conduct breached by such judge; and (c) the disciplinary action taken against such judge by the Commission. ~~No annual report shall be considered confidential following the~~ *Following* submission of such report to the ~~Chairmen~~ Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice, *no report shall be considered confidential to the extent that such Chairs may release such report to members of the General Assembly and in accordance with the provisions of this section.* The decision of whether to ~~release~~ *rescind or redact any portion of such annual report publicly shall be made by the General Assembly require the consensus of a majority of the Chairs and such ranking members to whom the annual report is submitted pursuant to this section. If no action to rescind or redact any portion of the annual report is taken or if a consensus to take such action cannot be reached within 30 days of submission to the Chairs and ranking members, the annual report shall be publicly released.*

INTRODUCED

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