

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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1997 Regular Session  
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**By: Senators Trotter and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1997

Assigned to: Rules

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Diversity Training for Court and Law Enforcement Personnel**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting that the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the  
4 Deputy Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
5 jointly develop and implement diversity training programs for judges, clerks, and  
6 other employees of certain courts in the State for lawyers admitted to the State Bar,  
7 and for law enforcement personnel enrolled in approved police training schools in  
8 the State.

9 WHEREAS, Racial, cultural, sexual, linguistic, and religious bias are pervasive  
10 societal problems; and

11 WHEREAS, There is a great danger that discriminatory practices may occur  
12 throughout the criminal justice system in both capital and noncapital cases; and

13 WHEREAS, Justice demands that our court system be kept free from the taint of  
14 discrimination, especially in criminal matters; and

15 WHEREAS, Diversity training programs have in many instances proven to be  
16 effective in promoting understanding of discrimination and to prevent problems of  
17 discrimination from occurring; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,** That the Chief  
19 Judge of the Court of Appeals along with the Deputy Secretary of the Department of  
20 Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly develop and implement diversity training  
21 programs for: (1) judges, clerks, and other employees of the appellate, circuit and District  
22 courts in the State; (2) lawyers admitted to the State Bar; and (3) law enforcement  
23 personnel enrolled in police training schools approved by the Police Training  
24 Commission; and be it further

25 **RESOLVED,** That these diversity training programs explore: (1) the differences  
26 among ethnic, religious, racial, sexual, linguistic, and other groups; (2) the causes and  
27 manifestations of discrimination; and (3) methods to avoid or resolve problems relating to  
28 discrimination; and be it further

29 **RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
30 Legislative Reference to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the  
31 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the  
32 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Honorable  
33 Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals; the Honorable Joseph F.

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1 Murphy, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Special Appeals; the Honorable Frederick  
2 C. Wright III, Chair of the Conference of Circuit Judges, Washington County Circuit  
3 Court, Courthouse, 95 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740; the  
4 Honorable Martha F. Rasin, Chief Judge of the District Court of Maryland; and the  
5 Honorable David N. Bezanson, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and  
6 Correctional Services, Suite 1000, 300 East Joppa Road, Towson, Maryland 21286-3020.