

National Coalition of Public Safety Officers

"The Toughest Beat in Virginia"

5809 Lakeside Avenue • Richmond, Virginia 23228 • (877) 223-2303

All DOC Staff,

As a result of the tireless efforts of the National Coalition of Public Safety Officers and our continuous presence in the halls of the General Assembly, we are pleased to announce the passage of HJ522. This House Resolution establishes a committee made up of five legislators and four citizen members. Three of the four citizen members are affiliated with NCPSO-VA, the union for Correctional Officers and staff within the Virginia Department of Corrections. The placement of these members to the committee is critical in ensuring your concerns are met with understanding and insight into the challenges you face.

This study is intended to do a "deep dive" into the staffing levels, working conditions, health and safety, as well as employee compensation. The results of the study will determine recommendations made by the committee to the General Assembly and the Governor.

Your participation is imperative to provide the committee with insight and perspective needed to identify issues and solutions to the challenges faced when working in the Department of Corrections. The mutual goal is to provide a satisfying, rewarding, safe place to work and grow professionally. This is your opportunity to be a part of making that a reality.

Over the next few months, you will have your opportunity to voice your concerns, provide input, and feedback without fear of reprisal. There will be a multitude of avenues provided for you to participate. There will be virtual town halls, individual interviews, facility visits, surveys, etc. Do not assume that someone else has communicated your concerns. Your voice matters and is welcomed in this study.

We have come too far and worked too hard to make this Study a reality. You have written, called, and visited your legislators. You have lobbied the General Assembly as members of NCPSO-VA. Your legislators and the Department have recognized, by the passage of this bill, that there are needs to be met. Now is the time to be steadfast and see the challenges through. Be ready to voice your concerns and exercise your right to have a seat at the table to make positive changes for you, your co-workers, and future employees in the Virginia Department of Corrections.

In Solidarity,

Charles "Bubba" Craddock

Charles (Bubba) Craddock President, CWA 2201

CC/spc opeiu 334 afl-cio In Solidarity,

Chuck Simpson

Chuck Simpson President, CWA 2204