

October 17, 2001

To: **Members of the Joint Study on Treatment Options for Offenders who have Mental Illness or Substance Abuse Disorders (SJR 440, 2001)**

A meeting of the above named study group has been scheduled for Thursday **November 8, 2001**, at **2:00 PM** in **Senate Room A** of the General Assembly Building in Richmond, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments on the joint study group's decision matrix.

The study has a website at <http://dls.state.va.us/jcbhc.htm> that may be useful to the panel's members and to the public. A copy of the decision matrix may be found at the website by clicking on the reference to the SJR 440 study.

Individuals requiring interpreter services or other special accommodations should contact Senate Committee Operations at (804) 698-7450, TDD number (804) 698-7419, or write P.O. Box 396, Richmond, VA 23218 at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

Questions regarding the **agenda** should be directed to Nancy Roberts, Health and Human Resources Section Manager with the Division of Legislative Services (804) 786-3591.

Please call John Garrett, Senate Committee Operations at (804) 698-7450 if you require other assistance.

Sincerely,

John McE. Garrett
Senate Committee Operations

cc: Hon. Susan Clarke Schaar
Hon. Bruce F. Jamerson
Nancy Roberts,

Human and Natural Resources Section Manager, Division of Legislative Services
Amy Atkinson, Executive Director, Virginia Commission on Youth
Rich Savage, Director, Virginia State Crime Commission
Other Interested Parties

See reverse for the public hearing notice

For Immediate Release

Senator Stephen H. Martin, Chairman of the Joint Committee Studying the Needs of Offenders with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Disorders (SJR 440) announced today that the committee will hold a public hearing on **November 8, 2001, at 2:00 PM in Senate Room A** of the **General Assembly Building, Richmond, Virginia**. Other members of the committee are: Senator R. Edward Houck, Senator Janet D. Howell, Delegate David B. Albo, Delegate John H. Rust, Jr., Delegate Robert Tata, Delegate Glenn M. Weatherholtz (Vice-Chairman), the Honorable Gary L. Close, and the Honorable William G. Petty.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear public comments related to the options contained in the Decision Matrix, which can be found at the following web site: <http://dls.state.va.us/groups/sjr440/matrix.pdf> or you may call Iris Kincaid at 804-786-3591 and a copy of the matrix will be sent to you.

Persons desiring to speak to these options are asked to **register in advance no later than 4:30 p.m. on November 1** with John McE. Garrett, Senate Committee Operations, P.O. Box 396, Richmond, Virginia 23218, (804) 698-7450, TDD number (804) 698-7419, or FAX 698-7672. All speakers are requested to **limit their remarks to five minutes**. However, the Chairman reserves the right to further limit the time for oral presentations to accommodate all persons who wish to address the committee. Individuals requiring interpreter services or other special accommodations should contact Senate Committee Operations at least seven days prior to the meeting. **All speakers are requested to submit a written copy of their remarks to the committee at the hearing.** Persons who would like to address the joint committee, but who are unable to register in advance, may register to speak at the door. Others who are unable to attend the public hearing may mail or fax their written comments to Nancy L. Roberts, Division of Legislative Services, General Assembly Building, Second Floor, Capitol Square, Richmond, Virginia 23219 (nroberts@leg.state.va.us; FAX 804-786-3591). The committee welcomes all persons who would like to attend the public hearing.