

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1995

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBERTS.

5426H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 21, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the joint committee on unsolved civil rights cases.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 21, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 21.870, to read as follows:

- 21.870. 1. **There is hereby established a special joint committee of the general assembly to be known as the "Joint Committee on Unsolved Civil Rights Cases", which shall be composed of three members of the house of representatives and three members of the senate. The house members of the committee shall be appointed by the speaker of the house and the senate members by the president pro tempore of the senate. No major party shall be represented by more than two appointed members from either house.**
2. **The joint committee on unsolved civil rights cases shall meet within ten days of its creation and organize by selecting a chair and a vice chair, one of whom shall be a member of the senate and one of whom shall be a member of the house of representatives. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. Meetings of the committee may be called at such time and place as the chair designates.**
3. **The committee shall study issues relating to the investigation and prosecution of unsolved civil rights crimes and cold cases from the civil rights era. It shall make recommendations concerning the desirability of a statutorily established commission or other appropriate means to conduct investigations and prosecutions of civil rights crimes that may still be undertaken. In its investigation the committee may take such action as it deems necessary, which may include holding hearings.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **4. The special joint committee shall timely report its findings and**
19 **recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the general assembly no later than**
20 **January 15, 2019, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.**

21 **5. All appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint**
22 **committee upon request of the chair.**

23 **6. The members of the committee shall receive no compensation in addition to their**
24 **salary as members of the general assembly, but may receive their necessary expenses while**
25 **attending the meetings of the committee.**

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