

Legislation Requiring Further Review, Staff “Watch List” and

Legislation Provided for Information

Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee

January 17, 2025

Legislation Requiring Further Review

HB 1795 (Thomas C. Wright, Jr.). Board of zoning appeals; petition for appeal. Clarifies the procedure by which a person aggrieved by a decision of the board of zoning appeals may appeal the decision to the circuit court by changing the manner in which a petition is styled. The bill also (i) changes instances of "board" to "board of zoning appeals" to clarify that "board" does not refer to a county's board of supervisors, (ii) provides that service of process is to be obtained as in other actions at law, and (iii) contains a retroactive savings clause that is intended to prevent dismissal of certain appeals that have not yet been finally adjudicated. The bill contains an emergency clause. (25103931D)

HJ 436 (Briana D. Sewell). Study; Department of State Police; vehicle noise-monitoring devices; report. Requests the Department of State Police to study the feasibility and impact of implementing vehicle noise-monitoring devices in the Commonwealth. Recommend further review. (25102246D)

SB 974 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). Subdivision ordinance; plan review by designated agent. Removes planning commission and governing body approval authority for the administrative review process for plats and plans and assigns such authority solely to a designated agent, defined in the bill. The bill also expedites the review process by shortening the timeframe for forwarding plats and plans to state agencies for review. (25104271D)

SB 1054 (Adam P. Ebbin). Virginia Cannabis Control Authority; draft regulations governing cannabis; report. Directs the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority to draft regulations governing the indoor cultivation, processing, manufacturing, testing, packaging, labeling, distribution, sale, and delivery of marijuana to adults age 21 or older in the Commonwealth, which shall (i) include appropriate application and license fees; (ii) include transaction limits; and (iii) model, to the greatest extent practicable, the regulations promulgated by the Authority governing the Medical Cannabis Program. The bill requires the Authority to report such draft regulations to the General Assembly by November 15, 2025, and indicate the date by which it would be able to implement and enforce such regulations, issue licenses, provide adequate enforcement, and implement a transitional sales program for pharmaceutical processors. The bill specifies that any regulations drafted by the Authority pursuant to the provisions of the bill shall not become effective until such regulations are approved by an act of the General Assembly. (25101513D)

Data Centers

HB 1601 (Joshua E. Thomas). Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility. Provides that prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF on residential areas and schools within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bill also allows a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed facility on (i) water, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, or (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land. The provisions of the bill shall not apply to a site with an existing legislative or administrative approval where an applicant is seeking an expansion or modification of an already existing or approved facility and such expansion does not exceed an additional 100 megawatts or more of electrical power. (25102219D)

SB 899 (Richard H. Stuart). Zoning; data centers; water use. Authorizes a locality to include in its zoning ordinance provisions for (i) requiring proposed data center developments to submit water use estimates and (ii) considering water use when making rezoning and special use permit decisions related to data center development. (25102484D)

Elections

HB 1657 (Rozia A. Henson, Jr.)/**SB 813** (Aaron R. Rouse). Voter registration, regular periodic review of registration records; 90-day quiet period before all primary and general elections. Requires the Department of Elections to complete not later than 90 days prior to the date of a primary or general election any program the purpose of which is to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the voter registration system. This restriction is not to be construed to preclude (i) the removal of names from the voter registration system at the request of the registrant or as provided by existing law by reason of criminal conviction or mental incapacity or the death of the registrant or (ii) the correction of registration records pursuant to existing law. Under current law, such restriction only applies to federal primaries and federal general elections. (25103643D)/(25102308D)

SB 760 (Barbara A. Favola). Elections; deadline for receipt of absentee ballots and certain other information; 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election. Moves the deadline for receipt of absentee ballots, information required to cure an absentee ballot, or proof of identification to accompany a provisional ballot provided for lack of identification from noon to 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election. (25100615D)

Elections - Access to Polling Places

SB 988 (Angelia Williams Graves). Elections; general provisions; prohibited area; within 40 feet of the curbside voting area. Adds the 40 feet beyond any area designated for voting outside the polling place to the prohibited area where campaigning and certain other activities are unlawful during elections. (25101922D)

Employment Issues

HB 1730 (Karrie K. Delaney). Civil actions; liability of employer or principal for criminal sexual assault by employee or agent. Provides that in an action for injury to a person arising out of an act that would constitute criminal sexual assault committed by an employee or agent, such act shall be deemed to have occurred within the course and scope of his employment or agency if certain factors are proven by a preponderance of the evidence. The bill provides that the injured person has a cause of action whether or not the employee or agent has been charged or convicted of criminal sexual assault. (25100275D)

Environment

HB 2050 (David L. Bulova). Drinking water; Occoquan Reservoir PFAS Reduction Program established. Creates the Occoquan Reservoir PFAS Reduction Program to reduce excessive levels of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in public drinking water derived from the Occoquan Reservoir. The bill requires certain facilities to monitor for PFAS on or before October 1, 2025, using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Method 1633 or an alternative method approved by the EPA and the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill requires any such facility to report all results to the Department no later than the tenth day of the next month after the month in which the result is reported by the laboratory and to include in such report all PFAS analytes measured by the test method. Beginning July 1, 2028, the bill requires PFAS discharged by such facilities that have PFAS in excess of the method detection level to not exceed the level of any maximum containment limits (MCL) for PFAS in drinking water promulgated on or before January 1, 2025. The bill exempts any industrial discharger not listed in the bill or any publicly owned treatment works or drinking water treatment plant but allows any public water system to follow the requirements of the bill for the purpose of planning for compliance with PFAS MCL in finished water. (25102842D)

SB 1319 (Jeremy S. McPike). Department of Environmental Quality; industrial wastewater; publicly owned treatment works; PFAS monitoring. Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to require quarterly monitoring for one year for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for every industrial wastewater source that discharges pollutants into a publicly owned treatment works. The bill requires (i) any owner or operator of such industrial wastewater source to submit the results of such monitoring quarterly to the publicly owned treatment works and the Department; (ii) if quarterly monitoring reveals PFAS in any amount, the owner or operator of such industrial wastewater source to continue to monitor for PFAS on a quarterly basis and submit the results of such monitoring to the publicly owned treatment works and the Department; and (iii) any new industrial wastewater source that discharges pollutants into a publicly owned treatment works to monitor discharges from each outfall for PFAS and submit the results of such monitoring within 90 days of the commencement of such discharges to the publicly owned treatment works and the Department. The bill allows the Department to reduce the frequency of such required monitoring in clause (ii) if an industrial wastewater source has at least two consecutive quarters of test results with all analyzed PFAS below the method detection level. The bill also requires any owner or operator of an industrial wastewater source that discharges pollutants into a publicly owned treatment works to submit the initial quarterly

monitoring results for PFAS as required by the bill within 30 days of the effective date of the bill. (25103320D)

SB 1093 (Russet Perry). Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program authority; right of entry. Removes the restriction on localities that operate regulated municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) to only enter on those properties from which a discharge enters their MS4 and allows such localities to, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances, enter any establishment or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations necessary in the enforcement of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program. However, the bill restricts operators of an MS4 that are not a locality, or any duly authorized agent thereof, to only enter on those properties from which a discharge enters their MS4. (25102392D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1596 (Nadarius E. Clark). Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; telemedicine services. Changes the definition of "telemedicine services" as it is used in the state plan for medical assistance services to include two-way, real-time, audio-only communication technology for any telehealth service furnished to a patient in his home. (25102681D)

SB 765 (Barbara A. Favola). Incapacitated persons; finding of mental incompetence. Provides that a finding that a person is incapacitated in a proceeding for guardianship or conservatorship shall not be synonymous with a finding that such person is "\"mentally incompetent, \"" as such term is used in relevant law, and therefore not qualified to vote in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Virginia. The bill requires a court to make a finding of mental incompetence by clear and convincing evidence that the person is unable to communicate, with or without accommodations, an interest in participating in the voting process. The bill applies to findings of mental incompetence made on or after July 1, 2025, and allows for individuals who were deemed mentally incompetent prior to July 1, 2025, to file a petition for a court to review such determination in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill is a recommendation of the Disability Commission. (25101178D)

SB 869 (Barbara A. Favola). Custodial interrogation of a person with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability; parental notification and contact; inadmissibility of statement. Requires that, prior to the custodial interrogation of a person with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability, such person have contact with his guardian, parent, or adult next of kin in person, electronically, by telephone, or by video conference. The bill also provides that any statement made by a person with autism spectrum disorder or a developmental disability during or after a custodial interrogation that does not comply with the provisions of the bill shall be inadmissible as evidence unless (i) the law-enforcement officer who conducted the custodial interrogation of such person reasonably believed the information he sought was necessary to protect life or property from an imminent threat and (ii) the law-enforcement officer's questions were limited to those that were reasonably necessary to obtain that information. (25102658D)

Housing

HB 1623 (Adele Y. McClure). Eviction Diversion Pilot Program; name change; general application; expiration repealed. Renames the Eviction Diversion Pilot Program as the Eviction Diversion Program, removes the July 1, 2025, expiration date from the Program, and makes the Program available to all general district courts. The bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. (25101756D)

SB 748 (Barbara A. Favola). Board of Housing and Community Development; USBC; stakeholder group to evaluate temperature regulation. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to convene a stakeholder advisory group to evaluate changes to the Uniform Statewide Building Code addressing temperature regulation. The stakeholder group shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Board and to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than November 1, 2025. (25105063D)

Information Technology

SB 1239 (Ryan T. McDougale). Cybersecurity; electric service by investor-owned electric utilities; work group; report. Directs the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group to evaluate cybersecurity as it relates to the provision of electric service by investor-owned electric utilities and requires the Commission to report on its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor by November 30, 2025. (25101903D)

Public Safety/Criminal Justice

SB 1013 (Jennifer B. Boysko). Affirmative defense or reduced penalty for a neurocognitive disorder or intellectual or developmental disability. Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution of an individual for assault or assault and battery against certain specified persons for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six-month mandatory minimum apply if such individual proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the individual's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or and intellectual disability or a developmental disability such as autism spectrum disorder, as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association, or (ii) the individual met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody order. The bill provides that if such individual does not prove that his behaviors were a result of his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder but the evidence establishes that his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder otherwise contributed to his behaviors, the finder of fact may find the accused guilty of a misdemeanor assault or assault and battery. The bill also provides that such affirmative defense shall not be construed to allow an affirmative defense for voluntary intoxication. (25104334D)

Taxation

SB 816 (Aaron R. Rouse). Real property tax; exemption for elderly and disabled individuals. Revises various provisions of the local real property tax exemption and deferral program for elderly and disabled individuals. The bill allows a locality to require that an individual pay all delinquent taxes or other amounts owed to the locality for the property that were incurred prior to becoming eligible for an exemption or deferral or enter into an installment agreement with the locality for the payment of all such delinquent amounts in installments over a period of up to 72 months. Additionally, the bill requires notice of the terms and conditions of the exemption and deferral program to be included in any notice of change in assessment and posted on the locality's website. Finally, the bill allows a locality to provide a prorated exemption or deferral for the portion of the taxable year during which the taxpayer would have qualified for such exemption or deferral but had not yet filed an application. (25101500D)

Transportation

HB 1615 (Michael B. Feggans). Transportation infrastructure and projects; noise analysis. Requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board or the Department of Transportation to begin a noise analysis within one year of receipt of a valid petition for a noise analysis. The bill also requires a noise analysis for any retrofit noise abatement project undertaken or considered by the Board or the Department. (25103198D)

HB 2041 (Holly M. Seibold). Speed safety cameras; placement and operation. Changes the terms "photo speed monitoring device" to "speed safety camera" and "high-risk intersection segment" to "high-risk speed corridor" in provisions related to vehicle speed violations. The bill authorizes localities to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of a speed safety camera by the law-enforcement agency of such locality in certain locations and requires signs to be placed indicating the use of the camera. For any new speed safety camera placed, the bill provides for a warning by mail instead of a summons and no civil penalty for alleged vehicle speed violations within the first 30 days of such camera's operation. The bill creates additional requirements for localities and law-enforcement agencies regarding periodic review and provision of information to the public related to the use of speed safety cameras, including publicizing locations of new speed safety cameras. The bill requires a locality in which speed safety cameras are placed and operated to create an advisory group to identify issues and public concerns regarding such speed safety cameras. (25101549D)

SB 947 (Bill DeSteph). Issuing citations; certain traffic offenses and odor of marijuana; exclusion of evidence. Removes provisions prohibiting a law-enforcement officer from stopping a motor vehicle for operating (i) with an expired registration sticker prior to the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date; (ii) with defective and unsafe equipment; (iii) without tail lights, brake lights, or a supplemental high mount stop light; (iv) without lighted headlights displayed when so required; (v) with certain tinting films, signs, posters, stickers, or decals; (vi) with objects or other equipment suspended so as to obstruct the driver's view; or (vii) with an expired inspection prior to the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date, as well as the accompanying exclusionary provisions. The bill also authorizes a law-enforcement officer to lawfully stop, search, or seize a person, place, or thing or a search warrant to be issued based solely on the odor of marijuana if such odor creates a

reasonable suspicion of a violation of the law prohibiting driving while intoxicated. (25103468D)

SJ 260 (Danica A. Roem). Study; JLARC; policies and funding allocations of the Department of Transportation for maintenance of transportation infrastructure; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to analyze policies and funding allocations of the Department of Transportation in regard to the maintenance of highways, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle paths and lanes, shared-use paths, and other transportation infrastructure. The study requires JLARC to submit each of its reports no later than the first days of the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions of the General Assembly. (25103359D)

Transportation - Express Lanes

SB 1086 (Christie New Craig). HOT lanes; high-occupancy requirement; law-enforcement vehicles. Expands the currently permitted uses of high occupancy lanes by law-enforcement vehicles regardless of the number of occupants in the vehicle to include responding to a call for law-enforcement services and patrolling HOT lanes within the law-enforcement officer's jurisdiction while such law-enforcement officer is on duty. Current law limits such use to when (i) responding to an emergency incident and (ii) patrolling HOT lanes pursuant to an agreement by a state agency with the HOT lane's operator. The bill does not change certain other authorized uses in current law. (25104241D)

Transportation - Speed Cameras

HB 1666 (Michael J. Jones). Photo speed monitoring devices; location. Allows a locality to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of a photo speed monitoring device by the law-enforcement agency of such locality for the purposes of recording vehicle speed violations on any highway in such locality (i) that is located in a high-injury network as designated by the Department of Transportation or (ii) where such placement is supported by Department of Transportation speed or vehicle incident data as determined by such governing body. The bill requires the placement of at least two conspicuous signs within 1,000 feet of any location other than a school crossing zone, highway work zone, or high-risk intersection segment at which a photo speed monitoring device is used, indicating the use of the device. Under current law, one conspicuous sign within 1,000 feet is required at a school crossing zone, highway work zone, or high-risk intersection segment at which such device is used. (25101434D)

Workers' Compensation

SB 860 (Bryce E. Reeves). Workers' compensation benefits; post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters. Increases from 52 weeks to 500 weeks the maximum duration after the date of diagnosis that workers' compensation benefits are payable for post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters acting in the line of duty. The bill also removes the prohibition on medical treatment, temporary total incapacity benefits, or temporary partial incapacity benefits from being awarded beyond four years from the date of the qualifying event that was the primary cause of the post-traumatic stress disorder,

anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder. Additionally, the bill expands the definition of law-enforcement officer to include any civilian employed by a county, city, or town police department or by a sheriff's office as a crime scene investigator for the purposes of worker's compensation claims related to post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder. (25100224D)

Staff “Watch List”

HB 1561 (Joseph P. McNamara). Classification of land and improvements for tax purposes; localities. Reclassifies improvements to real property as a separate class of real property and authorizes any locality to impose a real property tax on improvements to real property at a tax rate that is different than the rate applied to the land on which such improvements are located. Such rate may exceed, equal, or be less than the tax imposed upon the land on which the improvements are located. Under current law, such classification is allowed only for the Cities of Fairfax, Poquoson, Richmond, and Roanoke. For the Cities of Fairfax, Richmond, and Roanoke, the rate applied is required to be less than the rate applied to land under current law. The City of Poquoson is currently the only locality authorized to impose a rate in excess of the rate applied to land. The bill applies only to taxable years beginning on and after July 1, 2025. (25100558D)

SB 1337 (David W. Marsden). Coastal storm risk management; Office of Commonwealth Resilience to study costs of feasibility studies; report. Directs the Office of Commonwealth Resilience to conduct a study to (i) examine the methodologies and criteria, if any, that other states in the United States use to apportion responsibility between the state and the participating localities for that portion of the cost of coastal storm risk management (CSRM) feasibility studies and plan implementation for which the nonfederal sponsor is responsible and (ii) develop a recommended methodology and associated criteria for apportioning responsibility of the same for CSRM feasibility studies and plan implementation in Virginia. The bill directs the Office of Commonwealth Resilience to complete its work no later than November 30, 2026, and the Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth to submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the study to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than December 31, 2026. (25103765D)

Elections

HB 1566 (W. Chad Green). Elections; absentee ballot security measures; watermark. Requires that any ballot mailed to an absentee voter must be printed on security paper that incorporates a visible watermark that identifies the ballot as an official ballot in a manner that preserves the absolute secrecy of the ballot. (25100051D)

SB 994 (Angelia Williams Graves). Elections; general provisions; prohibited area; 100 feet. Increases from 40 feet to 100 feet the areas around polling places, certain electoral board meetings, and recount locations within which certain activities or conduct are prohibited. (25102504D)

SJ 253 (Scott A. Surovell). Study; joint subcommittee to study the consolidation and scheduling of general elections in Virginia; report. Creates a two-year legislative study on the consolidation and scheduling of general elections in Virginia. A 13-member joint subcommittee is established, consisting of eight members of the General Assembly, four nonlegislative citizen members, and one ex officio member, and is tasked with weighing the potential and probable effects of moving some or all of Virginia's state or local elections to even-numbered years in

order to coincide with the federal election schedule. Any recommendations by the joint subcommittee to consolidate or reschedule Virginia's general elections must include recommendations for any amendments to the Constitution of Virginia and the Code of Virginia needed to effectuate the shift. The joint subcommittee is given two years to complete its study, with its final report due no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly. (25100844D)

Employment Issues

HB 1620 (Nadarius E. Clark). Department of Labor and Industry; work group to evaluate workplace violence. Directs the Department of Labor and Industry to convene a work group for the purpose of evaluating the prevalence of workplace violence in the Commonwealth, including its effects on the workplace and measures to address workplace violence. The bill requires the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than December 1, 2026. (25102571D)

Environment

HB 2247 (Chris S. Runion). Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund; Director of Department of Environmental Quality; point source pollution grant agreements. Clarifies that the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality is only required to enter into water quality improvement grant agreements with all facilities designated as significant dischargers or eligible nonsignificant dischargers that apply for such grants if sufficient and unobligated funds are available in the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund at the time the Director enters into such grant agreements. (25100722D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1618 (Nadarius E. Clark). Commissioner of Health; work group to study the occurrence of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water; report. Directs the Commissioner of Health to convene a work group to study the occurrence of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water and develop recommendations for the reduction of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Education and Health by December 1, 2025. (25102677D)

SB 740 (Mamie E. Locke). Board of Medicine; continuing education; unconscious bias and cultural competency. Directs the Board of Medicine to require unconscious bias and cultural competency training as part of the continuing education requirements for renewal of licensure. The bill specifies requirements for the training and requires the Board of Medicine to report on the training to the Department of Health and the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative. (25100134D)

Housing

HB 1658 (Karen Keys-Gamarra). Board of Housing and Community Development; USBC; stakeholder group to evaluate temperature regulation. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to convene a stakeholder advisory group to evaluate changes to the Uniform Statewide Building Code addressing temperature regulation. The stakeholder group shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Board and to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than November 1, 2025. (25102708D)

SB 995 (Angelia Williams Graves). Department of Housing and Community Development; Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity. Creates the Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity to study the misvaluation and undervaluation of real property owned by minority individuals to combat bias in real property appraisal and valuation. The bill requires the Task Force to meet at least annually and to report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities and any recommendations. The bill expires on July 1, 2028. (25102981D)

Information Technology

HB 2591 (Nicholas J. Freitas). Information and communications technology and services; transactions with foreign adversaries. Requires the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to establish and maintain a list of prohibited information and communications technology and services that (i) are designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary and (ii) have been determined to pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of the United States. The bill specifies that the list shall include any information and communications technology and services determined by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, or any other appropriate federal agency to pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of the United States pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 13873 on Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain and any related regulations or official guidance. The bill prohibits any public body or person conducting business in the Commonwealth from acquiring, importing, transferring, installing, dealing in, or using any information and communications technology and services included on the list established and maintained by the CIO unless (i) (a) such transaction was initiated, is pending, or will be completed after July 1, 2025, or (b) the public body received a waiver from the CIO and (ii) such transaction is not otherwise prohibited by law. The bill also allows the Superintendent of State Police, in consultation with the CIO, to grant an exception to the prohibition on such transactions by public bodies for the purpose of allowing any employee, agent, person, or entity to participate in any law-enforcement-related matters (25103274D)

Land Use

HB 1987 (Ian T. Lovejoy). Disclosures in land use proceedings; statewide application. Alters certain land use disclosure requirements applicable to officials in any county with the urban county executive form of government (Fairfax County) by replacing "relationship of employee-employer, agent-principal, or attorney-client" with the broader phrase of "business or financial relationship." The bill makes the same change to existing provisions that currently apply only to Loudoun County and applies the change statewide. (25103563D)

Public Safety

HB 1731 (Karrie K. Delaney)/**SB 1005** (Jennifer B. Boysko). Services for sexual assault patients; provision of information for sexual assault patients; Task Force on Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault; work group; report. Changes instances of "sexual assault survivor" and its variations to "sexual assault patient." The bill requires health care facilities to provide information on local or statewide sexual and domestic violence advocacy services to adult and pediatric patients. The bill removes language requiring hospitals to enter into a memorandum of understanding with rape crisis centers, removes language allowing sexual assault patients to be transferred to clinics, and repeals the statute establishing the Task Force on Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault. The bill directs the Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services to convene a work group to address sustainable funding for sexual assault medical forensic examinations and services. The bill requires the work group to submit a report with recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2025. (25100439D)/(25104422D)

Taxation

SB 1184 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy). Virginia Economic Development Partnership; evaluation of new economic development incentives for companies engaging in the microchip and semiconductor and related equipment and material supplies sector; report. Directs the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, in collaboration with the Department of Taxation, to evaluate the benefits and impacts of new economic development incentives for companies engaging in the microchip and semiconductor and related equipment and material supplies sector. The bill requires VEDP to provide a report on its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committee on Appropriations no later than November 30, 2025. (25103987D)

Transportation

SB 847 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy). Improper driving as a lesser included offense of reckless driving. Permits a jury, in its discretion, to find an accused, where the degree of culpability is slight, not guilty of reckless driving but guilty of improper driving. Current law only permits

the trial court to do so or the attorney for the Commonwealth to reduce a charge of reckless driving to improper driving at any time prior to the court's decision. (25101028D)

SJ 252 (Timmy F. French). Study; Department of Transportation; traffic congestion reduction on Virginia State Route 55; report. Requests the Department of Transportation to study traffic reduction on Virginia State Route 55. The study shall include the identification of methods and solutions for traffic reduction on Virginia State Route 55 and an assessment of the feasibility, cost, and impact on traffic flow of such methods and solutions. (25102062D)

Legislation Provided for Information

HB 1691 (Michael J. Jones). Study; JLARC to study Virginia's campaign finance system; independent agency; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study Virginia's campaign finance system. In its study, JLARC is directed to (i) identify any legal, technical, and staffing shortcomings in the current campaign finance and ethics systems relating to (a) reporting and investigating violations, (b) enforcing legal and regulatory requirements, and (c) implementing directions from state government at the local level and (ii) determine whether current budgetary allocations are sufficient to effectively carry out such aspects of the campaign finance and ethics systems. To that end, JLARC is required to analyze how existing campaign finance and ethics systems can be modernized by creating a new independent agency to increase transparency and accountability using best practices from other jurisdictions across the United States. JLARC is required to produce a report of clear recommendations and best practices for creating such an independent agency for improving the current system. (25102455D)

HJ 1 (Charniele L. Herring)/**SJ 247** (Jennifer B. Boysko). Constitutional amendment (first reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that the right to make and effectuate one's own decisions about all matters related to one's pregnancy cannot be denied, burdened, or otherwise infringed upon by the Commonwealth, unless justified by a compelling state interest and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth from penalizing, prosecuting, or otherwise taking adverse action against an individual for exercising the individual's right to reproductive freedom or for aiding another individual in the exercise of such right, unless justified by a compelling state interest. (24101028D)/(25101789D)

HR 454 (Eric R. Zehr). Directing the Speaker of the House of Delegates to order a study of the legal effects and consequences of a constitutional amendment enshrining a right to reproductive freedom. Directs the Speaker of the House of Delegates to order a study of the legal effects and consequences of a constitutional amendment enshrining a right to reproductive freedom, including whether the language of the proposed amendment would constitutionally protect abortion throughout all of pregnancy, create a constitutional right for the parents of a dead child to sell such child's body parts, and legally permit partial birth infanticide, born-alive murder, child pornography, sexual assault, and any other crime after complete extraction or expulsion from the mother so long as the umbilical cord is attached. (25102468D)

SB 945 (Bill DeSteph). Campaign finance; appeal of penalties. Provides for an appeal process for any person or committee assessed a civil penalty under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006. Upon petition, the State Board of Elections may provide relief to the petitioner for good cause shown. Such relief may include forgiveness of all or a portion of an assessed civil penalty, the retroactive extension of a deadline, or other appropriate remedy. (25103420D)

SJ 247 (Jennifer B. Boysko). Constitutional amendment (first reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that such right shall not be denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest, defined within the text of the amendment, and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment allows the Commonwealth to regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester when it is medically indicated to protect the life or health of the pregnant individual or when the fetus is not viable. The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth from penalizing, prosecuting, or taking adverse action against an individual for exercising the individual's right to reproductive freedom or for aiding another individual in the exercise of such right. (25101789D)

Campaign Finance

HB 2140 (Paul E. Krizek). Elections; campaign finance disclosure reports; searchable electronic database. Requires the Department of Elections to provide an interface for the campaign finance database maintained by the Department that allows users to easily search for and sort information by individual candidates and types of elections, offices, committees, other spenders, and contributors; contributions, receipts, disbursements, expenditures, loans, and other categories of information included in campaign finance reports; and late filings, incomplete filings, and other violations. The bill specifies that the interface shall also provide users tools for manipulating and exporting data. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25104495D)

Elections

HB 1575 (Mike A. Cherry). Campaign fundraising; legislative sessions; enforcement of civil penalty. Provides that violations of the prohibition on campaign fundraising during legislative sessions are to be reported to the Attorney General who shall initiate civil proceedings to enforce the civil penalty currently assessed for such violations. The bill provides that in the case of an alleged violation by the Attorney General, the State Board of Elections shall request the Supreme Court of Virginia to appoint outside counsel to receive such violation report and such outside counsel shall be responsible for initiating civil proceedings to enforce the civil penalty. (25100478D)

SB 906 (William M. Stanley, Jr.). Campaign advertisements; independent expenditures; electioneering communications; disclaimer requirements. Broadens the scope of disclaimer requirements for campaign advertisements to include electioneering communications, as defined in the bill, and messages advocating for the passage or defeat of a referendum. The bill also requires an advertisement that is an independent expenditure to contain a disclaimer providing the names of the advertisement sponsor's three largest contributors. The bill also requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing. The bill increases the reporting and disclosure thresholds for independent expenditures from \$1,000 or more for a statewide election or \$200 or more for any other election to \$5,000 or more for a statewide election or \$1,000 or more for any other election and exempts the sponsor of an independent expenditure from disclosing its top three contributors if its independent expenditures aggregate to less than \$20,000 in an election cycle. Finally, the bill includes in the definition of "political action

committee" any organization holding tax-exempt status that expressly advocates for or against candidates, solicits donations for such purpose, and makes contributions or independent expenditures in excess of \$20,000 for such purpose. (25101911D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1723 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price). Department of Social Services; establishment of Task Force on Improving Access to Food Assistance Programs. Requires the Department of Social Services to establish and appoint such members as it deems necessary or appropriate to the Task Force on Improving Access to Food Assistance Programs for the purpose of improving access to and maximizing participation in all federal public assistance programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture relating to assistance with food access and improving food security. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission to End Hunger. (25102684D)

Presidential Election

HB 1794 (Dan I. Helmer). Elections; primary dates; presidential year primaries. Provides that all primaries for offices to be filled at the November election in presidential election years shall be held on the date of the presidential primary. With respect to candidates for election in November of a presidential election year, the bill also lifts the requirement that petition signatures must be collected after January 1 of the presidential election year. The bill adjusts campaign finance filing deadlines for candidates in presidential year elections to account for the March primary date. (25101115D)

Procurement

SB 962 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy). Virginia Public Procurement Act; additional public works contract requirements. Provides that public bodies shall require the contractor and its subcontractors for any capital outlay project, as defined in the bill, to complete certain safety training programs, maintain records of compliance with applicable laws, and participate in approved apprenticeship training programs. The bill provides exemptions from such requirements for reasons related to lack of availability of apprentices and high costs. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25103604D)

Transportation

HB 1747 (N. Baxter Ennis). Motor vehicle safety inspection approval sticker: armed services grace period. Increases the grace period for motor vehicle safety inspection from 14 calendar days to 30 calendar days for members of the armed services following their return to Virginia from active duty. (25100150D)

SB 750 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs). Vehicle operation; unlicensed minor; penalty. Prohibits any person from knowingly authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle by a minor who such person knows has no operator's license or who has a learner's permit but who such person knows would operate such motor vehicle in violation of certain limitations on operating a motor

vehicle with a learner's permit. Existing law prohibits any person from knowingly authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle by any person who the authorizing person knows (i) has had his operator's license or permit suspended or revoked or (ii) has no operator's license or permit and has been previously convicted of driving without a license. (25102958D)