# Staff "Watch List" and Legislation Provided for Information Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee March 1, 2024

# "Watch List"/May Have State Revenue/Policy Implications

### **Administration of Government**

**HB 368** (McClure) (Passed House; SGL) directs the Board of Housing and Community Development (the Board) to convene a stakeholder advisory group to evaluate and recommend revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to permit Group R-2 occupancies to be served by a single exit, provided that the building has not more than six stories above grade plane. The bill requires the stakeholder advisory group to 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 December 1, 2024. (24104623D-E)

**HB 607** (Price) (Passed House; SRUL) establishes the Virginia Commission to End Hunger. The bill states that the purpose of the Commission is to develop an action plan every two years for ending hunger in the Commonwealth, review the progress of such plan, and ensure cross-collaboration among government entities and community partners toward the goal of ending hunger in the Commonwealth. (24103375D)

**HB 619** (Price) (Passed House, Passed Senate)/**SB 343** (Rouse) (Passed Senate; Passed House) allows localities to establish, by ordinance, one or more military centered community zones, defined in the bill as a community that has a significant presence of military personnel living or working in the designated area and where such presence drives, or has the potential to drive, significant economic activity. The bill provides that a locality, or another political subdivision acting on behalf of the locality, may offer unique benefits to businesses looking to locate within a zone for the purpose of serving the needs of the military personnel, including reduction of certain fees and taxes. In addition, the bill provides that local governing bodies are authorized to enter into agreements for the payment of economic development incentive grants to such businesses. The bill also allows a governing body to provide for certain regulatory flexibility and incentives and provides that the establishment of a military centered community zone shall not preclude the area from also being designated as an enterprise zone or from receiving support under the Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program. (HB619ER; SB343ER)

**HB 1475** (Keys-Gamarra) (Passed House; SGL) Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to amend the Uniform Statewide Building Code to require that owners and operators of certain apartment buildings begin to supply cooling to maintain certain temperatures by April 1 of each year. Under the current regulations, such required cooling period begins May 15 and such heating period begins October 15. (24107110D-H1)

**HJ 10** (Krizek) (Passed House; SRUL) continues the Joint Subcommittee to Study the Feasibility of Establishing the Virginia Gaming Commission for two additional years, through November 30, 2025. (24100329D-E)

**HJ 30** (Sullivan) (Passed HAPP; SRUL) requests the State Corporation Commission, in consultation with the Department of Energy, to study performance-based regulatory tools for investor-owned electric utilities in the Commonwealth. (24106412D-H1)

SB 324 (Roem) (Passed Senate; Passed House) prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any costs incurred during the first two hours spent accessing or searching for requested records when such requester has made four or fewer individual record requests to such public body within 31 consecutive days. The bill provides that for any additional time spent accessing or searching for such records, or when such requester makes five or more individual record requests to such public body within any 31-consecutive-day period, the public body shall not charge an hourly rate for accessing or searching for the records exceeding the lesser of the hourly rate of pay of the lowest-paid individual capable of fulfilling the request or \$33 per hour. The bill allows a public body to petition the appropriate court for relief from the \$33 per hour fee cap upon showing by a preponderance of the evidence that there is no qualified individual capable of fulfilling the request for \$33 per hour or less and requires such petition to be heard within seven days of when the petition is made, provided that the public body has sent and the requester has received a copy of the petition at least three working days prior to filing. The bill also provides that in certain instances a hearing on any petition shall be given precedence on a circuit court's docket over all cases that are not otherwise given precedence by law and that the time period the public body has to respond to a record request shall be tolled between the requester's receipt of the petition and the final disposition of the court. Finally, the bill prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any court costs or fees resulting from a petition. Finally, the bill directs the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council to study whether public bodies should charge requesters and report on its findings by December 2024. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly. (24106023D-ES1)

**SB 487** (Aird) (Passed Senate; HAPP) prohibits any public body from implementing any system that employs artificial intelligence, defined in the bill, unless such public body (i) performs an initial impact assessment and ongoing impact assessments of such system to ensure its use will not result in any unlawful discrimination against any individual or group of individuals or have any disparate impact on any individual or group of individuals and (ii) does not implement or ceases to use such system if such effects occur. The bill requires all public bodies that implement such systems to submit an annual report on such assessments and provide an inventory of all such systems used to the appropriate entity designated in the bill. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning systems that employ artificial intelligence to advise the General Assembly on issues related to artificial intelligence and make advisory recommendations on its findings. The Commission sunsets on July 1, 2027. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill incorporates SB 621. (24108421D-H1)

**SB 650** (Rouse) (Passed Senate; HAPP) directs the Department of Fire Programs to convene a work group to assess eligibility for funding, qualifying emergencies, and other criteria and directs the work group to submit a report to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. (24108426D-H1)

# Animals

**SB 11** (Favola) (Passed Senate; HAG) provides that any person convicted of felony cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of companion or equine animals for life and any person convicted of misdemeanor cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of such animals for a period of up to five years. Under current law, such prohibition is limited to companion animals and a period equal to the statutory maximum period of incarceration. The bill also specifies that a court may order that any animal possessed or owned by such person may be disposed of by a local governing body or delivered to another person with a right of property in the animal. (24106527D-ES1)

**SB 93** (Stanley) (Passed Senate; HAG) allows any locality to establish an animal cruelty registry for public access on the website of such locality or its local police department. The bill provides that such registry may include the names and relevant information of persons convicted of certain felony offenses for animal cruelty and that a person on such registry may request removal of his name after 15 years, provided that he has no additional felony convictions of an animal cruelty offense. The bill directs that all costs relating to a locality's animal cruelty registry shall be borne by such locality. (24104230D)

**SB 412** (Boysko) (Passed Senate; HAG) allows rabies clinics approved by local health departments and governing bodies to offer microchipping and additional animal health vaccines at the discretion of the licensed veterinarian or veterinarians participating in the clinic. The bill requires any licensed veterinarian who administers animal health vaccinations at the clinic to provide the owner or custodian of an animal a vaccination record for each vaccinated animal and ensure that a licensed veterinary establishment retains a copy of each vaccination record. The bill allows licensed veterinary technicians to administer animal health vaccines at a rabies clinic under the immediate and direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises unless otherwise provided by regulations. The bill requires local health departments to submit a report to the Department of Health no later than December 31 of each year that includes (i) the number and location of rabies clinics approved and (ii) the number and type of vaccinations administered, the number of microchips administered, and the number of veterinarians and veterinary technicians in attendance at each clinic to determine the type of service utilized. (24105740D-S1)

**HB 1264** (Shin) (Passed House; Passed Senate) provides that any court costs, fines, and fees assessed to a juvenile or his parent or guardian in circuit court and juvenile and domestic relations court related to prosecutions of traffic infractions are discretionary. (24106584D-H1)

**SB 356** (Perry) (Senate rejects House substitute; HAPP) raises the limitation of fees that courtappointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. (24107778D-H1)

### **SB 514** (Bagby) (Passed Senate; HTRAN)

changes the period of limitations for the collection of court fines and costs from within 60 years from the date of the offense or delinquency giving rise to imposition of such penalty if imposed by a circuit court or within 30 years if imposed by a general district court to within 10 years from

the date of the judgment whether imposed by a circuit court or general district court. The bill provides that upon the expiration of the period of limitations, no action shall be brought to collect the debt. The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. (24108380D-H1)

**SB 625** (Perry) (Passed Senate; Passed House) provides that in any case in which a defendant owes fines and costs and where such defendant's sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, such defendant shall be exempt from making payments until he has another source of income and, if such defendant notifies the court that his sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, the case shall not be referred to collections. The bill also prohibits a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income from being considered an available resource in determining the length of time to pay under a deferred, modified deferred, or installment payment agreement and the amount of payments, if any. (SB625ER)

**SB 637** (Jordan) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires that at least 30 days prior to the execution of a contract with a private attorney or private collection agency to undertake the collection of fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, and restitution, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall consult with the clerk of the circuit court. (24104406D-E)

# **Casinos**

**HB 525** (Krizek) (Passed House; Passed Senate) provides that the governing body of any eligible host city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another referendum on the same question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum. (24104581D-E)

**SB 628** (Aird) (Senate Floor; HAPP) amends the list of cities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth by replacing Richmond with Petersburg. The bill also provides that the governing body of any eligible host city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another local referendum on the same question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum. (24106958D-S1)

# **Conservation**

**HB 320** (Bulova) (Passed House; Passed Senate) exempts from the provisions of state pesticide laws and regulations any unpaid volunteer who uses or supervises the use of any nonrestricted herbicide with the express authorization of a local political subdivision for the sole purpose of controlling invasive plants or noxious weeds on properties owned by such local political

subdivision. The bill provides that such unpaid volunteer shall use such herbicide under the direct supervision of a certified applicator and the local political subdivision shall provide instruction to the unpaid volunteer prior to application on (i) the risks associated with the herbicide utilized, (ii) the proper use of equipment used to apply the herbicide, (iii) other information to prevent an unreasonable adverse effect on the environment, and (iv) any other information relevant to the specific herbicide utilized. (HB320ER)

**HB 459** (Sullivan) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 121** (Subramanyam) (Passed Senate) expands authority of certain localities to adopt an ordinance providing for the planting and replacement of trees during the development process by allowing a tree canopy fund that currently applies to the planting of trees on public property to include maintenance of trees on public property and planting and maintenance of trees on private property. The bill removes a provision that requires that any funds collected for the purposes of the tree canopy fund be returned to the original contributor if not spent within five years but maintains the requirement that such finds be spent within five years. The bill also includes an expansion of the canopy credit. (HB459ER; SB121ER)

**HB 529** (Hope) (Passed House; Passed Senate) expands existing local government authority to conserve or replace trees during the development process by allowing localities to establish higher tree canopy replacement percentages, based on density per acre, lot size, or any other measurement relevant to the practices of the locality to achieve MS4 stormwater nutrient reductions, mitigate urban heat islands, increase resilience to climate change, including reducing coastal and inland flooding, and mitigate air pollution. The bill also alters the current process for granting exceptions to a local ordinance by removing a provision that requires the granting of an exception when strict application of the ordinance would result in unnecessary or unreasonable hardship to the developer and replacing it with a determination by the locality that the strict application would be unreasonable in a specific instance. The bill makes numerous technical amendments. (24106192D-H1)

# **Court Fees**

**HB 102** (Reaser) (Passed House; SFIN) raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts (24108419D-S2)

**HB 125** (Watts) (Passed House; Passed Senate) increases the fee that a special justice receives for presiding over emergency custody and voluntary and involuntary civil admissions from \$86.25 to \$120 for each commitment hearing and from \$43.25 to \$70 for each certification hearing. The bill also increases the fee that an independent evaluator receives if required to serve as a witness or an interpreter from \$75 to \$120 for each commitment hearing and from \$43.25 to \$70 for each certification hearing. (24101208D)

**HB 612** (Price) (Passed House; Passed Senate) extends from 90 days without payment to 180 days without payment the period of delinquency necessary for an account to be included on the required monthly report of delinquent accounts made by the clerk of the circuit court and district court. The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated

for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. (24104752D-E)

**HB 824** (Cousins) (Passed House; Passed Senate) limits the fees charged for the cost of courtappointed counsel or public defender representation to persons determined to be indigent to an amount no greater than the amount such person would have owed if such fees had been assessed on or before June 30, 2024. (24107595D-H1)

**HB 896** (Hernandez) (Passed House; Passed Senate) Provides that in any case in which a defendant owes fines and costs and where such defendant's sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, such defendant shall be exempt from making payments until he has another source of income and, if such defendant notifies the court that his sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, the case shall not be referred to collections. The bill also prohibits a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income from being considered an available resource in determining the length of time to pay under a deferred, modified deferred, or installment payment agreement and the amount of payments, if any. (24106272D-H1)

# **Education**

**HB 1504** (Siebold) (In Conference) requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies to aid local school boards in the implementation of such policies. The bill requires such guidelines to include (i) a model action plan for each school board to follow in responding to any school-connected overdose, including communicating and coordinating with the Department of Education and the applicable law-enforcement liaison or the local law-enforcement agency that employs such school division's school resources officers and (ii) criteria for issuing parental notification to ensure sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals and compliance with any applicable law, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information. (24107761D-S1)

**SB 352** (Peake) (In Conference) establishes universal licensure by reciprocity as a category of teacher licensure in the Commonwealth for teachers who hold a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that has been in force for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time of application and meet other provisions set forth in the bill. The bill also permits the division superintendent rather than the Board of Education, as in current law, to issue a career and technical education teacher a provisional license to allow time for the teacher to attain the industry certification credential required by law. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education to compile, publicly post on its website, and update as necessary, data on teacher licensure standards and requirements for each state for the purposes of facilitating the determination of the compatibility of out-of-state teacher licenses with requirements for teacher

licensure and licensure by reciprocity in the Commonwealth and increasing transparency of such licensure requirements. (24107850D-H1)

**SB 498** (Carroll Foy) (In Conference) requires each division superintendent or his designee to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose, defined as any verified overdose that occurs on school premises during or after regular school hours or during school-sanctioned activities whether on or off school premises, within 24 hours of learning of the overdose and to include in such notification as much information as is known about the circumstances surrounding the overdose. The bill requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies, including (a) a model action plan for each school board to follow in responding to the overdose, including communicating and coordinating with the Department of Education and the local law-enforcement liaison or local law-enforcement agency that employs the school resource officers for such school division, and (b) criteria for issuing the parental notification to ensure sensitivity to the privacy interests of any affected individuals. (24107852D-H1)

# **Elections**

HB 55 (Wright) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/SB 131 (Ruff) (Passed Senate; Passed House) provides that if a person who is a candidate for nomination by a political party at a primary election and who appears on the ballot for such election withdraws his candidacy on or after the fortyfourth day before but prior to the Tuesday immediately preceding the primary election, and the result of such withdrawal is one remaining candidate who is now unopposed, the remaining candidate will be declared the party's nominee for the office sought and the primary election will be canceled. The bill requires the notice of withdrawal to be signed and notarized and to be submitted to the general registrar, who then transmits it to the local electoral board and the State Board of Elections, along with a certification that the remaining candidate is now unopposed for nomination. The State Board is required to declare the remaining candidate to be the nominee within one calendar day of receiving such notice, and the local electoral board is then required to petition the circuit court for the cancellation of the primary election. Finally, the bill directs the State Board to prescribe procedures for canceling a primary election, including instructions for locking and securing voting systems, disposition of marked and unmarked absentee ballots, and voter notification. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. (HB55ER; 24107833D-H1)

**HB 111** (Sullivan) (Passed House; Passed Senate) provides that an elector who is selected by the state convention of any political party and who, at the convening of the electors after the election, refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or presents a ballot marked in violation of his oath stating that he would, if elected, cast his ballot for the candidates for President and Vice President nominated by the party that selected the elector, or as the party may direct in the event of the death, withdrawal, or disqualification of the party nominee, is deemed to vacate the office of elector. The bill provides that the other electors present shall immediately fill such vacancy in the same manner as a vacancy due to an elector's death or failure or inability to attend. The bill applies the same provisions to electors who are named in a petition of qualified voters not constituting a political party. The bill contains technical amendments that consolidate into a single chapter the provisions of Title 24.2 relating to presidential electors. (HB111ER)

**HB 126** (Watts) (Passed House; Reported from SPE) provides that a person who fails to file at least one of the campaign finance reports required by law to be filed in an election year by July 20 is not entitled to have his name printed on the ballot at the general election for the office sought. (24106115D-H1)

**HB 265** (Simon) (Passed House; Referred to SPE) requires the signatures collected on a petition for removal of certain public officers to be collected within 90 days of the first signature being collected and provides that no signatures gathered after such period shall count toward the required number. A petition for the removal of an elected official from office is not sufficient and shall not be certified by the general registrar when the grounds or reasons stated for removal of such official have been the basis for a previously filed petition against the same official that was dismissed for a failure to state valid grounds or did not result in the subject's removal from office at trial pursuant to law. The bill also provides that, in proceedings to remove a public officer from office, if the attorney for the Commonwealth who would be responsible for reviewing a removal petition and determining whether valid grounds for removal exist or for representing the Commonwealth at a removal proceeding has a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia shall appoint an alternate attorney for the Commonwealth. Lastly, the bill provides that discovery shall not be permitted in any removal proceeding. (24108120D-S1)

**HB 943** (Shin) (Passed House; Passed Senate) adds to the list of protected voters any person serving as a member of a local electoral board, a general registrar, a deputy registrar or employee in an office of a general registrar, or an officer of election. Protected voters are permitted by law to provide on the application for voter registration, in addition to the voter's residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth to be included on (i) lists of registered voters and persons who voted, (ii) voter registration records made available for public inspection, and (iii) lists of absentee voter applicants. (HB943ER)

**HB 1330** (Ward) (Passed House; Passed Senate) provides that any registered voter who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor may vote by absentee ballot and requires the institution or facility in which such voter is confined to (i) provide the means and opportunity for such voter to complete and submit a timely application for an absentee ballot and to properly mark his absentee ballot and (ii) ensure such voter's marked absentee ballot is returned in accordance with law (HB1330ER)

**HB 1534** (Sickles) (Passed House; Passed Senate) eliminates the process by which any voter could challenge, in a polling place on the day of an election, the right of any other voter to cast a ballot. The bill also eliminates the process by which any three voters could challenge a voter's registration before the general registrar; such challenges may still be made by filing with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond a petition stating the petitioner's objections to such voter's registration. The bill also requires challenges to a person's eligibility to appear on the ballot on the basis that such person did not meet all qualifications or fulfill all requirements for candidacy to be made at least 60 days before the date of the election. Candidates who are nominated at a primary election cannot be later challenged on the basis of facts that were present prior to the primary election and could have been raised in a challenge to such candidate's eligibility for the primary ballot. Any challenge

to a candidate's qualifications or eligibility shall be made by filing a petition with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, which shall have jurisdiction over such proceedings. (HB1534ER)

**SB 109** (Suetterlein) (In Conference) provides that the declaration of candidacy include a statement that if the signer's name appears on the primary ballot and he is not nominated then his name is not to be printed on the ballots for that office in the succeeding general election. (24107832D-H1)

**SB 165** (Reeves) (Passed Senate; Passed House) clarifies the date from which valid signatures for petitions of qualified voters can be collected for persons seeking to become candidates in certain elections. (24100110D)

SB 364 (Ebbin) (Passed Senate; HPE) adds to the list of protected voters any current or former elector for President and Vice President of the United States and any current or former election official or employee of an election official. Protected voters are permitted by law to provide on the application for voter registration, in addition to the voter's residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth, which would be the address included on (i) lists of registered voters and persons who voted, (ii) voter registration records made available for public inspection, and (iii) lists of absentee voter applicants. The bill also makes it a Class 5 felony to, by bribery, intimidation, threats, coercion, or other means in violation of election laws, willfully and intentionally, hinder or prevent an election official or employee of an election official from administering elections. Under current law, it is only a Class 5 felony to hinder or prevent an officer of election at a location being used for voting from holding an election. The bill also makes it a Class 5 felony to commit such acts against an elector for President and Vice President of the United States. The bill also makes it a Class 6 felony for any person who, by threats to kill or do bodily injury, willfully and intentionally intimidates, coerces, or harasses another because of his current or former status as an elector, election official, or employee of an election official. The bill creates a civil action for any person who was a victim of any conduct that constitutes a felony or a misdemeanor and establishes that such conduct was directed at him because of his status as an elector, election official, employee of an election official, election worker, or election volunteer. (24107084D-S1)

**SB 428** (VanValkenburg) (Passed Senate; HPE) allows elections for any local or constitutional office to be conducted by ranked choice voting. Under current law, only elections of members of a county board of supervisors or a city council are allowed to be conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also clarifies requirements for conducting elections using ranked choice voting and requires results for elections conducted by ranked choice voting to be reported along with other results reported on election night, except that such results must clearly be identified as preliminary and based on the first rankings in a ranked choice voting election. The bill provides that final tabulation for an election for a local or constitutional office that is not shared by more than one county or city is required to be conducted on the same day as other results are canvassed by the local electoral board and that final tabulation for an elections. The bill specifies that ranking data is required to be made publicly available by the Department and requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also limits a risk-limiting audit

of an election conducted using ranked choice voting to the first-choice rankings reported on voting systems. Finally, the bill directs the Department to review the testing and approval framework for voting equipment in the Commonwealth and submit a report of such review no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly. (24106306D-S1)

# **Environment**

**HB 122** (Sullivan) (Passed House, SCT)/**SB 580** (Deeds) (Passed Senate, Passed House) allows any interested party seeking judicial review for the final decision of the Department of Environmental Quality to seek judicial review of such decision by filing an action in the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond with 30 days after such decision in accordance with the Administrative Process Act. The bill requires the court to hear and decide such action as soon as practicable after the date of filing. (24107131D-H1; SB580ER)

**HB 220** (Orrock) (Passed House; Passed Senate) requires sewage treatment works, classified waterworks, and classified water treatment facilities to employ a licensed operator. The bill establishes a protocol for responding to an unexpected vacancy of the licensed operator position. The bill also permits remote monitoring of the facility by the licensed operator upon a demonstration of sufficient technology for the remote operator to adequately monitor the waterworks or treatment facility and manage onsite operators. (HB220ER)

**SB 329** (Surovell) (Passed Senate; HAPP) allows a locality by ordinance to require certain generators, as defined in the bill, of large quantities of organic waste to separate the organic waste from other solid waste and ensure that the organic waste is diverted from final disposal in a refuse disposal system. The bill allows a locality to establish civil penalties for violations of such ordinance but requires the locality to issue a warning to a generator that violates the ordinance prior to collecting such a civil penalty. Finally, the bill expresses that it is the intent of the General Assembly that new public school buildings and facilities and improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities include waste disposal infrastructure, as defined in the bill. (24107567D-S1)

**SB 641** (Craig) (Passed Senate; HCCT) repeals an existing statute that allows localities by ordinance to require certification of boiler and pressure vessel operators. (24102779D)

# <u>Firearms</u>

**HB 351** (Clark) (Passed House; SFIN) requires any person who purchases a firearm to either (i) purchase a locking device for such firearm if such person resides in the same household as a minor or (ii) complete a certification statement on a form provided by the Department of State Police, under penalty of perjury, certifying that he does not reside in the same household as a minor, with exceptions enumerated in the bill. Accordingly, the bill provides that it is unlawful for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any firearm to any person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer, unless the transferee (a) purchases a locking device for such firearm if such person resides in the same household as a minor or (b) completes a certification statement on a form provided by the Department of State Police, under penalty of perjury, certifying that he does not reside in the same household as a minor. A violation of either provision is a Class 1 misdemeanor. (24108583D-S1)

**SB 2** (Deeds) (Passed Senate; Passed House) creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, possesses, transports, or transfers an assault firearm, as that term is defined in the bill, and prohibits a person who has been convicted of such violation from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm for a period of three years from the date of conviction. The bill provides that an assault firearm does not include any firearm that is an antique firearm, has been rendered permanently inoperable, is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, or was manufactured before July 1, 2024. The bill also prohibits the sale of a large capacity ammunition feeding device, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill provides that any person who willfully and intentionally (i) sells an assault firearm to another person or (ii) purchases an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports, sells, barters, or transfers a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person younger than 21 years of age to import, sell, manufacture, purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm. (24107815D-H1)

**HB 861** (Hernandez) (Passed House; SFIN)/**SB 515** (Williams-Graves) (Passed Senate; Passed House) makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to possess in or transport into any facility that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including a hospital or an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, any (i) firearm or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile or projectile of any kind; (ii) knife, except a pocket knife having a folding metal blade of less than three inches; or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including explosives and stun weapons. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon is subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and specifies exceptions to the prohibition. (24106763D-H1; SB515ER)

# Health and Human Services

**HB 27** (Callsen) (Passed House; SFIN)/**SB 39** (Favola) (Passed Senate; Passed House) establishes the Parental Child Safety Placement Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the requirements for a parental child safety placement agreement, the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the Parental Child Safety Placement Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the requirements for a parental child safety placement, the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the placement. The bill incorporates SB 162 and SB 467. (24106095D-H1; SB39ER)

**HB 78** (Watts) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 16** (Favola) (Passed Senate; Passed House) prohibits the issuance of a search warrant for the search and seizure of menstrual health data, as defined in the bill, stored on a computer, computer network, or other device containing electronic or digital information. (24108044D-S1; SB16ER)

**HB 150** (Helmer) (Passed House; SRSS) prohibits the Board of Social Services from requiring persons applying to participate or renewing their participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to appear in person. The bill also codifies the Department of Health's authority

to implement a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program), which is currently authorized by regulation. (24105707D-H1)

**HB 291** (Cherry) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 24** (Locke) (Passed Senate; Passed House) modifies existing provisions regarding the required long-term services and supports screening under the state plan for medical assistance services by creating greater flexibility for how screening are completed under certain circumstances. Under the bill, any individual receiving inpatient services in an acute care hospital discharged to a nursing facility for skilled care only is not required to be screened prior to discharge from the hospital unless the individual requests the screening. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill contains an emergency clause. (HB291ER; SB24ER)

**HB 329** (Sickles) (Passed House; Passed Senate) directs the Board of Counseling to amend its regulations related to the process for licensure by endorsement for marriage and family therapists. The bill removes requirements that applicants for licensure by endorsement provide evidence that they meet certain educational and experience requirements. (HB329ER)

**HB 342** (Hope) (Passed House; SFIN) requires state agencies to possess naloxone or other opioid antagonists used for overdose reversal to a person who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid overdose and permits employees of any state agency to possess and administer naloxone or other opioid antagonists. (24106801D-H1)

**HB 354** (Hope) (Passed House; Passed Senate) directs the Board of Health to adopt regulations governing swimming pools and other water recreational facilities operated for public use, including swimming pools and other water recreational facilities operated in conjunction with a tourist facility or health spa. (HB354ER)

**HB 426** (Cole) (House Floor; SEH) Directs the Board of Counseling to develop an examination alternative to licensure for professional counselors. The bill states that such alternative shall allow an applicant to be licensed as a professional counselor if the applicant meets the education, experience, and fitness to practice requirements determined by the Board. (24108023D-S1)

**HB 434** (Arnold) (House Floor; Passed Senate) directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend its regulations to require that any facility licensed by the Department to provide inpatient substance use disorder treatment be required to prepare and record a valid discharge plan upon the discharge or withdrawal of any individual from the facility who has received substance use disorder treatment while admitted to such facility. The bill requires such discharge plan to include the provision of funds withheld from the individual's prior payments to the facility to assist the individual in the execution of such discharge plan. The bill requires the regulations to provide that failure by a facility to prepare and record valid discharge plans may result in civil penalties, license suspension, or license revocation. (HB434ER)

**HB 453** (Callsen) (Passed House; Passed Senate) allows local boards of social services or childplacing agencies to approve kinship foster care parent applicants who have been convicted of certain felony drug offenses if five years have elapsed since the date of the conviction, where under current law 10 years must have lapsed in order to be eligible for approval as a kinship foster care parent. The bill also adds exceptions for certain misdemeanor assault and battery convictions not involving the abuse, neglect, or moral turpitude of a minor if five years have elapsed since the date of the conviction. The bill directs the State Board of Social Services to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill to be effective no later than September 1, 2024. (24104807D)

### HB 515 (Hope) (Passed House; Passed Senate)

directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop and implement a pilot program relating to the discharge of individuals at one state hospital. The bill requires the Department to submit a report to the General Assembly on its findings and recommendations no later than November 1, 2025. (HB515ER)

**HB 516** (Hope) (Passed House; SEH) requires pharmacies to notify any person receiving a prescription drug that an accessible prescription label is available upon request at no cost and to provide to individuals who are blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled accessible prescription labels that meet specified accessibility requirements. The bill requires the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations implementing the provisions of the bill no later than April 1, 2025. (24108563D-S1)

**HB 699** (Maldonado) (Passed House; Passed Senate) directs the Board of Medicine, the Board of Dentistry, the Board of Optometry, and the Boards of Medicine and Nursing to amend their regulations to require the provision of certain information to patients being prescribed an opioid for the treatment of acute or chronic pain. The bill requires that the regulations include an exception to the required provision of such information for patients who are (i) in active treatment for cancer, (ii) receiving hospice care from a licensed hospice or palliative care, (iii) residents of a long-term care facility, (iv) being prescribed an opioid in the course of treatment for substance abuse or opioid dependence, or (v) receiving treatment for sickle cell disease. The bill directs the Boards to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. (HB699ER)

**HB 823** (Cherry) (Passed Both Chambers)/**SB 497** (Carroll Foy) (Passed Senate; Passed House with Substitute) provides that when a magistrate is determining whether an alternative transportation provider is available for the purposes of designating a transportation provider for the transportation of a person who is the subject of a temporary detention order, an alternative transportation provider shall be deemed available if the provider states that it is available to take custody of the person from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider. The bill also provides that if (a) no alternative transportation provider is available to provide transportation, willing to provide transportation, and able to provide transportation in a safe manner or (b) the law-enforcement agency elects to provide transportation, the magistrate shall designate the primary law-enforcement agency and jurisdiction designated to execute the temporary detention order to provide transportation of the person. (HB823ER; SB497ER)

**HB 908** (Shin) (Passed House; SFIN) requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the financial eligibility standards for certain waivers providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities so that Social Security Disability Insurance income is disregarded by

the Department when calculating such individuals' financial eligibility for such waivers. (24108117D-S1)

**HB 909** (Shin) (Passed House; Passed Senate) directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek federal authority through the necessary state plan amendments under Titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to (i) modify the 40-hour-per-week work limit to allow legally responsible individuals with more than one waiver-receiving child to receive reimbursement for 40 hours of work per week per child receiving a waiver; (ii) eliminate the requirement that, in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide services to the member; (iii) modify the program rules to allow for respite services when the legally responsible individual is the paid caregiver; and (iv) modify the program rules to allow a legally responsible individual or stepparent to be the employer of record. (24108085D-S1)

**HB 1130** (Hayes) (Passed House)/**SB 35** (Locke) (Passed Senate) directs the Board of Medicine and the Board of Nursing to require unconscious bias and cultural competency training as part of the continuing education and continuing competency requirements for renewal of licensure. The bill specifies requirements for the training and requires the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to report on the training to the Department of Health and the Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative. (HB1130ER; SB35ER)

**HB 1165** (Sickles) (Passed House; SRSS) adds definitions related to the rights of persons with disabilities to relevant law. The bill defines "path of travel," "place of public accommodation," "public entity," "private entity," and "readily achievable." The bill requires places of public accommodation to ensure that barriers to accessibility are removed when the removal is readily achievable. (24103115D)

**HB 1242** (Willett) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 546** (Bagby) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires (i) the evaluator conducting the evaluation of an individual to determine whether such individual meets the criteria for temporary detention or (ii) the hospital emergency department and treating physician or other health care provider designated by the physician, when providing services to an individual who is being evaluated to determine whether the individual meets the criteria for temporary detention, to allow the individual's family member or legal guardian who is present and who may provide support and supportive decision making to be present with the individual unless the individual objects or the evaluator or treating physician determines that their presence would create a medical, clinical, or safety risk to the patient or health care provider or interferes with patient care. (HB1242ER; SB546ER)

**HB 1269** (Price) (In Conference) creates an exception to the barrier crime rules for employment at an adult substance abuse or mental health treatment program that permits persons convicted of certain offenses to be eligible for employment if such conviction occurred more than three years prior to the date of their application for employment. (24107793D-S1)

**HB 1318** (Cole) (Passed House; Passed Senate) directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waivers to eliminate the requirement that in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide such services to the Medicaid member. (24106944D-H1)

**HB 1366** (Delaney) (Passed House; SFIN) establishes a process for local departments of social services to conduct background checks for current or prospective employees and prohibits local departments from employing any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense that relates to his employment. The bill includes criteria for the local department to consider when deciding if a criminal offense related to employment is relevant when hiring a specific employment position. (24102916D)

HB 1539 (Simon) (Passed House; SCT)/SB 15 (Favola) (Passed House; Passed House) provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of the law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt of or assistance with reproductive health care services, defined in the bill, within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that such limit on extradition shall not apply when the person who is subject to such demand for extradition by another state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. The bill adds obtaining, disclosing, selling, or disseminating certain enumerated personal reproductive or sexual health information without the consent of the consumer as a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. Provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt or provision of or assistance with reproductive health care services within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that such limit on extradition shall not apply when the person who is subject to such demand for extradition by another state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. (24107461D-H1; 24107789D-H1)

**HJ 41** (Srinivasan) (Passed House; SRUL) directs the Joint Commission on Health Care (JCHC) to study policy solutions to the Commonwealth's fentanyl crisis. The resolution directs JCHC to (i) study the causes of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth, (ii) study the impact of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth on Virginians and the Commonwealth's health care system, (iii) study and provide insight into the fentanyl crisis within the context of other drug crises and addiction trends in recent history, and (iv) establish and make policy recommendations related to reducing the prevalence of fentanyl in the Commonwealth and reducing the number of fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth. The resolution requires JCHC to complete its meetings for the first year by November 30, 2024, and for the second year by November 30, 2025, and to submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no

later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly for each year. (24104895D-E)

**SB 13** (Favola) (Passed Senate; Passed House) Permits any locality to provide by ordinance for the waiver of any requirements for zoning permits for the operation of a child day program in an office building, defined as any building containing more than two rental units that are rented primarily for retail, commercial, or professional use, provided such facility satisfies the requirements for state licensure as a child day program. (24104110D-S1)

**SB 19** (Favola) (Passed Both Chambers) requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to promulgate regulations that require recovery residences to report to the Department, in the same manner as licensed facilities and programs, any death that occurs in the recovery residence. (SB19ER)

**SB 74** (Durant) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires the Director of the Department of Health Professions to release otherwise confidential information from the Prescription Monitoring Program when such information is relevant to a specific investigation, supervision, or monitoring of a specific recipient for purposes of the administration of criminal justice to drug court administrators and behavioral health docket administrators who have completed the Virginia State Police Drug Diversion School designated by the Director of the Department of Corrections or his designee. The bill requires release of the information upon receiving a request for information in accordance with the Department of Health Profession's regulations and in compliance with applicable federal law and regulations. (SB74ER)

**SB 80** (Favola) (Passed Senate; HAPP) directs the Department of Corrections to meet with the Virginia Probation and Parole Association, criminal justice reform organizations, and other relevant stakeholders and provide a report to the General Assembly, no later than November 1, 2024, that describes (i) current probation practices regarding the monitoring of participation in education, employment, treatment, and other programs and the submission of requests for probation modification based on such participation and (iii) how such practices compare to the processes and practices that would have been established pursuant to SB 80, as reported by the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services. (24108394D-H1)

**SB 133** (Head) (Passed Senate; Passed House) allows physician assistants employed by a hospital or employed in certain facilities operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or in federally qualified health centers designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to practice without a separate practice agreement if the credentialing and privileging requirements of the applicable facility include a practice arrangement, as described in the bill. (SB133ER)

**SB 155** (Head) (Passed Senate; HAPP) modifies the enabling legislation for the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority by adding four additional ex officio members to the Authority, directing changes to regulations regarding qualifications for nursing faculty and qualified mental health professionals, establishing a work group to address health workforce shortages, and creating a program for health workforce development. The bill directs the Board of Nursing and the Board of Counseling to adopt emergency regulations to implement relevant provisions of the bill and for

the work group to submit its report to the Governor and the relevant committees of the General Assembly by October 1, 2025. (24108081D-H1)

### **SB 186** (Subramanyam) (Passed Senate; HAPP)

directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to investigate wholesale prescription drug importation programs in other states and evaluate best practices for the establishment and application of such a program in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to provide a report to the Governor, the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services, and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by November 1, 2024. (24107494D-S2)

**SB 239** (Hashmi) (Passed Senate; Passed House) authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Social Work Licensure Compact allows social workers who have or are eligible for an active, unencumbered license in the compact member state where they reside to apply for a multistate license. After verifying eligibility, the social worker is granted a multistate license that authorizes practice in all other compact member states. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh member state. (SB239ER)

**SB 488** (Aird) (Passed Senate; HHHS) Department of Medical Assistance Services to review the requirements related to payment to legally responsible individuals for personal care services. The bill requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to report by December 1, 2024 to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations on the results of its review and provide recommendations on program modifications related to payments to legally responsible individuals for personal care services. (24108201D-H1)

**SB 553** (Hackworth) (Passed Senate; Passed House) directs the Board of Nursing to amend its regulations to permit nursing education programs located within the designated area to contract for an unlimited number of required clinical hours at out-of-state clinical sites. The bill requires the regulations to specify that the Board must accept such hours for licensure. (SB553ER)

**SB 569** (Deeds) (Passed Senate, HAPP) directs the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend its regulations to ensure that its licensing and human rights regulations support high-quality crisis services, including by authorizing the appropriate and safe use of seclusion in crisis receiving centers and crisis stabilization units. The bill exempts the Board's initial adoption of such regulations from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act. The bill also directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene a work group to propose additional regulations to allow for the use of (i) evidence-based and recovery-oriented seclusion and restraint practices and (ii) alternative behavior management practices that may limit or replace the use of seclusion and restraint in hospitals, residential programs, and licensed facilities. The bill requires the Department to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed regulations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2025. (24105832D-S1)

**SB 626** (Pillion) (In Conference) permits the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, providers of substance abuse or mental health services to adults, and community service boards and behavioral health authorities to hire applicants convicted of certain barrier crimes of

misdemeanor assault and battery or involving controlled substances without additional screening or other requirements, provided that such conviction occurred more than five years prior to the application date for employment. (24107756D-H1)

## Housing

**SB 489** (Carroll Foy) (Passed Senate; Referred to HAPP) directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to convene a technical advisory committee to develop draft legislation establishing a Virginia residential development infrastructure fund with a report to be submitted to the General Assembly no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session. (24107368D-S1)

## Land Use

SB 18 (Locke) (Passed Senate; HGL) limits the use of construction management or design-build contracts by state public bodies and covered institutions for complex projects. The bill requires state public bodies, covered institutions, and local public bodies to provide documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a contract to all the unsuccessful applicants upon request. The bill adds certain requirements for covered institutions, including posting all documents that are open to public inspection exchanged between the Department of General Services and the covered institution on the central electronic procurement website eVA. The bill requires approval by the covered institution's board of visitors or governing board if the covered institution chooses to proceed with construction management or design-build against the recommendation of the Department if the project is funded by funds other than those provided from the state general fund and, if the project is funded by funds from the state general fund and over \$65 million, secure approval by a two-thirds vote of all board members. The bill requires a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build, if required by its local governing body, prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or eVA. The bill provides that the Department shall report annually, for any construction management or design-build project, on the qualifications that made such project complex. Finally, the bill requires the Department, with the assistance of staff of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, assess implementation of construction management and design-build projects and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2029. (24108354D-H1)

**SB 296** (VanValkenburg) (Passed Senate, HCCT) requires local planning commissions to use the same approval process for residential development projects as is currently required for commercial development projects. (24103598D)

**SB 298** (French) (Passed Senate; Passed House) extends the sunset date of the individual and corporate tax credit for purchase of conservation tillage and precision agricultural application equipment from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030. (SB298ER)

**SB 337** (Stuart) (Passed Senate; HAG) directs the State Water Control Board to waive the expiration of any ground water withdrawal permit for a well that serves exclusively residential users, is located in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area north of the Occoquan River, and is located within five miles of any commercial or industrial permitted ground water

withdrawal. The bill provides that such waiver shall continue in force until the commercial or industrial permitted ground water withdrawals have been halted for five years. The Department of Environmental Quality shall then assess whether the termination of the commercial or industrial permitted ground water withdrawals has substantially mitigated the stress upon the aquifer and redetermine whether the permit for the residential well shall be renewed. (24101713D)

**SB 342** (Stuart) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires the Virginia Waste Management Board to amend regulations to allow for vegetative waste to be transported to another location for destruction if it is impractical or unsafe to destroy such waste on the premises of private property. (SB342ER)

**HB 656** (Wiley) (Passed Both Chambers)/**SB 365** (DeSteph) (Passed Both Chambers) prohibits a person from engaging in any land-disturbing activity until, where Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit coverage is required, the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program (VESCP) authority has obtained evidence of such permit coverage from the Department of Environmental Quality's online reporting system prior to issuing its land-disturbance approval. Current law requires the VESCP authority to obtain such evidence of VPDES permit coverage prior to approving an erosion and sediment control plan. (HB656ER; SB365ER)

# **Public Safety**

HB 250 (Glass) (Passed House; SFIN) provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall have the power and duty to establish a comprehensive framework for the custodial and noncustodial interrogation of adults and juveniles by law-enforcement officers within the Commonwealth, which shall include (i) developing policies and procedures for interrogation practices, including guidance on when the use of the following is considered lawful: (a) false promises of leniency,(b) misleading statements regarding evidence or statements of witnesses or co-conspirators, and (c) inauthentic replica documents or computer-generated audiovisual evidence;(ii) establishing and publishing a model policy for conducting such interrogations to serve as a guideline for criminal justice agencies in the Commonwealth, with the provision that criminal justice agencies may adopt additional policies beyond such model policy but shall not adopt policies that contradict such model policy; and (iii)establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of law-enforcement officers on conducting such interrogations. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policy by January 1, 2025, and that all criminal justice agencies shall adopt a policy consistent with such model policy by July1, 2025. The bill requires any person employed as a lawenforcement officer prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the training required by the bill by July 1, 2025. (24104173D-Е)

**SB 391** (Pekarsky) (Passed Senate; Passed House) amends the provision that prohibits an employer from discriminating against an employee for such employee's lawful use of medical cannabis oil, with certain exceptions, by specifying that such use must conform to the laws of the Commonwealth and by including the employees, other than law-enforcement officers, of the Commonwealth and other public bodies in such protections. (SB391ER)

## Skill Games

**HB 590** (Hayes) (In Conference) authorizes and specifies the licensing requirements for the manufacture, distribution, operation, hosting, and playing of electronic gaming devices, as defined in the bill, under the regulatory authority of the Virginia Lottery Board. The bill imposes a 30 percent tax on all gross profits from the play of such electronic gaming devices and provides for the use of such tax proceeds. The bill also imposes criminal and civil penalties for violations of the law and regulations related to electronic gaming devices. (24108118D-S1)

**SB 212** (Rouse) (In Conference) establishes the Virginia Small Business Economic Development Act for the purpose of providing a regulatory and registration scheme for skill game machines in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes and specifies the registration requirements for the distribution, operation, hosting, and play of skill game machines, as defined in the bill. The bill imposes a 22 percent tax on the gross revenue from the play of each skill game machine from each distributor and provides for the use of such tax proceeds, with most being deposited into the PreK-12 Priority Fund, established in the bill. The bill directs the Virginia Lottery Board to promulgate regulations no later than January 1, 2026, to implement the provisions of the bill and authorizes the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant a provisional registration to any entity that is duly licensed or registered to engage in the distribution, operation, or hosting of any skill game machine in another state on July 1, 2024. (24107929D-H1)

# <u>Taxation</u>

**HB 558** (McClure) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/ **SB 4** (McPike) (Passed Senate; Passed House) provides for a referendum at the November 5, 2024, election to approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia that would expand the real property tax exemption that is currently available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to be available to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense. (24104020D; SB4ER)

**HJ 45** (Tran) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/ **SJ 3** (McPike) (Passed Senate; Passed House) expands the current tax exemption for real property available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense. (24100305D; 24100970D)

### **Transportation**

**HB 201** (Krizek) (Passed Both Chambers) requires, rather than permits, the four members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the two members of the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, and the two members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority who are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to be members of the House of Delegates. (HB201ER)

**HB 282** (Seibold) (Passed Both Chambers) creates a traffic infraction for any moving violation in a highway work zone punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 for the first offense and not less than \$500 for any subsequent offense. The bill provides that for any subsequent offense that occurs

within the same 12-month period as another such offense such fine shall be not less than \$750. (HB282ER)

**HB 1254** (Runion) (Passed House; SFIN) designates bridges with a general condition rating, defined in the bill, of no more than five for at least one major bridge component as eligible for state of good repair funds. Currently, bridges must be structurally deficient to be eligible. The bill authorizes the use of state of good repair funds for improvements anticipated to extend the useful life of a bridge by at least 10 years. The bill applies to new project allocations made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board after June 1, 2025. (24101127D)

**HB 1425** (Austin) (Passed Both Chambers) exempts railway tunnels and bridges owned by the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority from the Uniform Statewide Building Code and the Statewide Fire Prevention Code Act. The bill requires the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority to report annually to the State Fire Marshal on the maintenance and operability of installed fire protection and detection systems in its railway tunnels and bridges. (HB1425ER)

# Legislation Provided for Information

## **American Revolution Commission**

**HB 839** (Austin) (Passed House; Passed Senate) amends the membership of the American Revolution 250 Commission to allow for the appointment of ex officio members who are directors of historic homes, historic sites, or National Park Service sites or former legislative members of the Commission. The bill also provides for staff of the Commission to serve as the Commission's fiscal agent. (24101649D)

### **Campaign Finance**

**HB 1346** (Bloxom) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/ **SB 577** (Obenshain) (Passed Senate; Reported from HPE) provides that a candidate for local office or for director of a soil and water conservation district may also seek an exemption from the requirement that he designate a separate campaign depository by certifying that (i) he has not and will not contribute any money to his own campaign and (ii) he has not and will not expend any money in the course of the campaign. The bill also provides that a candidate for local office or for director of a soil and water conservation district applying for a general exemption is exempt from having to make special reports for certain large pre-election contributions. (HB1346ER; SB577ER )

**HB 839** (Austin) (Passed House; SRUL)/**SB 117** (Locke) (Passed Senate; HRUL) amends the membership of the American Revolution 250 Commission to allow for the appointment of ex officio members who are directors of historic homes, historic sites, or National Park Service sites or former legislative members of the Commission. The bill also provides for staff of the Commission to serve as the Commission's fiscal agent. (24101649D; 24101930D)

**SB 301** (DeSteph) (Passed Senate; HPE) 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. (24106304D-S1)

**HB 730** (Sickles) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 692** (Perry) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. (HB730ER; SB692ER)

### **Conservation**

**HB 288** (Wiley) (Passed House; Passed Senate) requires a person that is obtaining a waterfowl blind license, at the time of the transaction, to provide the unique location of each stationary waterfowl blind to the Department of Wildlife Resources, identified as standardized latitude and longitude coordinates, using the decimal degrees format with a minimum of five-digit precision. The bill further requires the Department to publish such coordinates by November 1 of each year, excluding any customer personal information, on its website in a searchable, publicly accessible, and conspicuous manner. This bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. (HB288ER)

**HB 316** (Bulova) (Passed House; SFIN) establishes the Virginia Recycling Development Center for the purposes of furthering the development of markets and processing for recycled commodities and products, to be run by a director appointed and supervised by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. The bill creates the Virginia Recycling Development Center Advisory Committee, establishes reporting requirements, and creates the Recycling Market Development Fund to be used to fund the Center. The bill requires the Advisory Committee to make recommendations on the sources of potential funding for and detailed qualifying uses of the Fund and report its recommendations to the Secretary no later than October 1, 2024. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2038. (24108386D-S1)

**HB 1100** (Carr) (Passed House; Passed Senate) expands current provisions that provide that certain localities in Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia) may, by ordinance, require conservation of trees during the land development process by making such provisions available to localities statewide. (24106858D-H1)

### **Elections**

**HB 69** (Bulova) (Passed House; Passed Senate) requires the local governing body or elected school board making an interim appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of such body or board to hold a public meeting at least seven days prior to making such appointment. The bill specifies that at such meeting, the body or board shall announce the names of all persons being proposed for the interim appointment and shall make available for inspection each person's resume and any other materials required by the body or board. (HB69ER)

**HB 1177** (Sickles) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 606** (VanValkenburg) (Passed Senate; Passed House) requires the Commissioner of Elections to apply for, enter into, and maintain membership for the Commonwealth in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). (24100506D; SB606ER)

# **Education**

**HB 1083** (Coyner) (Passed House; Passed Senate) renames the Virginia Longitudinal Data System as the Virginia Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System (the System), shifts the duty to administer the System from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to the Office of Education Economics (the Office) of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and establishes several duties for the Office relating to the administration of the System, including collaborating with the Office of Data Governance and Analytics, developing a strategic plan, overseeing compliance regarding the protection of data shared with the System, and establishing the research agenda for the System. The bill requires the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to provide technical assistance to the Office relating to the administration of the System. (24108355D-S1)

## **Environment**

**HB 208** (Simonds) (Passed House; Passed Senate)/**SB 595** (Bagby) (Passed Senate; Passed House) authorizes localities, beginning July 1, 2024, to adopt a healthy communities strategy as part of its next and any subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan. The bill provides that the locality's strategy may include identifying (i) major sources of pollution or hazardous waste sites within the locality, (ii) policies to mitigate the unique or compounded health risks to residents that may be caused by such pollution sources or hazardous waste sites, (iii) objectives and policies to promote civic engagement in public decision-making processes by residents, (iv) objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that promote healthy communities, and (v) objectives and policies that encourage linking public transit with community and health services and siting or co-locating health services in unconventional settings to ensure convenient access for all community members. (HB208ER; SB595ER)

**HB 281** (Reaser) (Passed House; Passed Senate) permits any locality to, by ordinance, provide for the waiver of any requirements for zoning permits for the operation of a child day program in an office building, as defined by the bill, provided that such facility satisfies the requirements for state licensure as a child day program. (HB281ER)

**SB 135** (Head) (In Conference) provides that the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority may determine a site of at least 50 contiguous acres to be an eligible site if such site meets certain criteria provided in the bill to receive a site development grant from the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund. (24108051D-H1)

**SB 581** (Stuart) (Passed Senate; HAG) authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to utilize and incorporate comprehensive groundwater, surface water, and aquifer data in its decision-making processes related to the issuance and renewal of groundwater withdrawal permits and surface water withdrawal permits. Such data may include information relating to water levels, flow rates, and water quality. (24107628D-S1)

## Health and Human Services

**HB 514** (Hope) (Passed House; Passed Senate) extends from July 1, 2020, to July 1, 2028, the sunset of the Advisory Council on Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome. (HB514ER)

**HB 729** (Sickles) (Passed Both Chambers)/**SB 620** (Pillion) (Passed Both Chambers) allows qualified staff of programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) to conduct the required long-term services and supports screening in accordance with requirements established by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and contains an emergency clause. (HB729ER; SB620ER)

## Housing

**HB 1461** (King) (Passed House; SGL) prohibits a locality from barring an operator, as defined in existing law, who is a lessee or sublessee of property from offering such property as a short-term rental provided the property owner has granted permission for its use as a short-term rental. The bill adds an attestation that the property owner has granted such permission if the operator is a lessee or sublessee to the information that an operator must provide to annually register such short-term rental. (24108491D-S1)

### Land Use

**SB 461** (Marsden) (Passed Senate; HAPP) directs the Department of Forestry to convene a technical advisory committee to evaluate current methods of forest canopy and health assessment to identify the most cost-effective means for the Department to perform a forestland and tree canopy assessment study for the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to report the technical advisory committee's findings to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024. (24108391D-H1)

### **Transportation**

**HB 144** (Reid) (Passed House; Passed Senate) requires the Department of Transportation, if the Commissioner of Highways increases or decreases a speed limit, to notify the primary liaison with the Department in each locality within which such speed limit change will occur. The bill also requires the locality to notify the governing body of any property owners' association or condominium association if any such speed limit change will occur in a community subject to such association. (24106376D-H1)

**HB 285** (McQuinn) (Passed House; SFIN) exempts plans and specifications for bus shelters that do not exceed 256 square feet that are to be constructed for transit agencies receiving state money and that will be constructed on state-owned property from the Department of General Services' review process required by the Uniform Statewide Building Code. (24101088D-E)

**HB 924** (Srinivasan) (Passed House; Passed Senate) requires a transportation network company (TNC) to (i) issue an annual report to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles containing the aggregate data regarding the average fare collected from passengers, the total time driven by TNC partners while transporting a passenger, and the total amount earned by TNC partners in connection with prearranged rides and (ii) disclose to TNC partners details about the deactivation process and provide a weekly summary that includes the total fare collected from passengers, the total amount earned, and the percentage earned by such TNC partner that week. (24107282D-H1)

**HB 1362** (Maldonado) (Passed House; Passed Senate) prohibits a contract between a private vendor and a school division for the operation of school bus video-monitoring systems to capture passing stopped school bus violations from requiring a minimum quota of violations captured or citations issued for the video-monitoring system to be deployed. (24104633D-E)

# **Towing**

**SB 94** (Stanley) (Passed Senate; Passed House) prohibits tow truck drivers and towing and recovery operators from soliciting or offering towing services or causing any other person to solicit or offer towing services in any manner, directly or indirectly, at the scene of any wrecked or disabled motor vehicle upon a highway when such wrecked or disabled motor vehicle reasonably necessitates removal by a tow truck. The bill provides that a violation of such prohibition constitutes a Class 3 misdemeanor for the first offense and a Class 2 misdemeanor for any subsequent offense. (24102071D-E)