



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 4, 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Bryan J. Hill, County Executive

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SUBJECT: 2025 Legislative Report No. 1 – Board Legislative Committee Meetings of January 17, January 24, and January 31, 2025

The regular 2025 Session of the Virginia General Assembly convened on January 8, 2025, and is scheduled to adjourn on February 22, 2025. This is a “short” session of 45 days, made shorter by a delay of several days due to a water crisis in Richmond City which caused state government buildings to be closed for health and sanitation reasons. The 2025 General Assembly has been very active, and the volume of legislation is comparable to years past. As of February 2, 2025, 2,393 bills and resolutions have been introduced.

Three weeks remain in the 2025 General Assembly session, with today being the "crossover" date. This is one of the most significant dates for the conduct of legislative activities, as the House and Senate are required to consider and act on their respective non-budget legislative initiatives by crossover, and thereafter, from that point forward, will only be considering legislation passed by the other body. Additionally, the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees presented their budget bills on February 2, which now must be passed by each chamber. As in years past, we anticipate that each chamber will reject the other's budget and appoint members to a conference committee to resolve these differences.

The Legislative Committee met on January 17, January 24, and January 31 to consider several issues of importance to the County. The Committee offers the following report and recommendations for action to the Board.

Legislative Committee Actions of January 17, 2025:

Legislative Committee Actions of January 24, 2025, begin on page 38 and Legislative Committee Actions of January 31, 2025, begin on page 100.

Members Present: Legislative Chairman Walkinshaw
Chairman McKay
Supervisor Bierman, Jr.
Supervisor Lusk
Supervisor Alcorn
Supervisor Storck
Supervisor Palchik

Specific Issues

Update on State Budget: The Committee received a summary of budget amendments submitted by Governor Youngkin and their respective impacts on the County, including K-12 education funding, and other proposals related to budget priorities in the County's Legislative Program. More detailed information may be found in the chart provided on "Supplementary Documents," pages 83-104.

Senate Member Budget Amendments: The Committee received an overview of a few key Senate member budget amendments relating to K-12 funding, transportation, and Commonwealth's Attorneys (see handout on "Supplementary Documents," page 105).

K-12 JLARC Funding Bills: The Committee received an overview of bills currently before the House and Senate committees that related to K-12 funding and the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report, and took positions on several bills (see handout on "Supplementary Documents," pages 106-107).

Board of Supervisors Letter on Casinos: The Committee received a copy of the Board's Letter on casinos (see "Supplementary Documents," pages 108-109).

Virginia Gaming Commission Presentation: The Committee received copies of a presentation by the Virginia Gaming Commission on its study of operation models and policy recommendations to be considered by the 2025 General Assembly (see "Supplementary Documents," pages 110-133).

Priority Principles for Reviewing Legislation

1. Adequately fund K-12 education.
2. Fully restore the \$102 million of regional funding to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and continue to support efforts to provide sustainable funding for WMATA.
3. Build upon the successful enactment of significant transportation revenues by the 2013 and 2020 GAs to ensure sufficient funding for transportation needs.
4. Preserve and expand on existing local government authority, particularly in key areas such as taxation, land use, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

Specific Legislation

Legislative Summary: The Legislative Committee formed positions on 61 bills at its meeting on January 17, 2025, which are presented in this report. All bills with positions have actions current as of February 2, 2025 (see "Supplementary Documents," pages 1-82).

Specific Legislation and Legislation for Discussion

Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee

January 17, 2025

County Initiatives

Public Safety

HB 2036 (Bulova). Reckless driving; street takeover and exhibition driving; penalties. Expands reckless driving to include street takeovers and exhibition driving, defined in the bill. The bill prohibits (i) slowing or stopping traffic for a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; (ii) riding as a passenger on or in an area of a motor vehicle that is not designed or intended for passenger transportation during a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; or (iii) participating in any such event as a spectator or aiding or abetting a street takeover or exhibition driving. The bill establishes penalties for violations and establishes a process for impounding or immobilizing motor vehicles driven by persons arrested for street takeovers or exhibition driving. Initiate. (25104526D)

Transportation

HB 2550 (Sullivan). Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties. Authorizes counties in Planning District 8 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, for the purpose of recording and enforcing exhaust system violations, also defined in the bill. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$100, but the violation shall not be reported on the driver's operating record or to the driver's insurance agency. Under the bill, the civil penalty will be paid to the locality in which the violation occurred to be used for the cost of administering the noise abatement monitoring system program and for transportation safety initiatives. The bill contains the same data privacy and storage requirements as are in current law for photo speed monitoring devices. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. Initiate. (25103227D)

Historical Positions of the Board

SUPPORT

Constitutional Amendment - Right to Vote

HJ 2 (Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker)/**SJ 248** (Mamie E. Locke). Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished. Support; Board has historically supported. (24101042D, 25101531D)

Firearms

HB 1597 (Michael B. Feggans). Secure storage of firearms; penalties. Creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm on any premises where such person knows, or reasonably should know, that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is, or is likely to be, present. The bill increases the penalty to a Class 1 misdemeanor if a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm obtains such firearm and to a Class 5 felony if such possession of the firearm results in a crime or injury. The bill includes certain exceptions and requires firearms dealers to post a notice stating firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. The bill also creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm in an unattended vehicle, a Class 1 misdemeanor if another person obtains such firearm, and a Class 5 felony if such possession results in injury to the person obtaining the firearm or to another. Finally, the bill requires the Superintendent of State Police, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Health, to create a public

awareness campaign on the importance of the secure storage of firearms by January 1, 2026. Support; Board has historically supported. (25103182D)

HB 1607 (Dan I. Helmer). Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited, penalties. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, 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, 2025. 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, barter, 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. Support; Board has historically supported (25100326D)

HB 1608 (Dan I. Helmer). Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability. Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction

and to recover costs and damages. Support; Board has historically supported. (25100327D)

HB 1622 (Amy J. Laufer). Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such unattended motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 and that such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping. Support; Board has historically supported. (25101585D)

SB 848 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Purchase of certain firearms; age requirement; penalty. Prohibits any person under 21 years of age from purchasing an assault firearm, with exceptions for the purchase of an assault firearm by a law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, jail officer, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Virginia National Guard, or the National Guard of any other state. Accordingly, the bill prohibits a licensed dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory an assault firearm to any person under 21 years of age. A violation of either prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The bill also expands the definition of assault firearm as the term applies to criminal history record information checks. Support; Board has historically supported (25101315D)

SB 880 (Adam P. Ebbin). Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited, penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range of firearms, only in certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded. Support; Board has historically supported. (25100408D)

SB 881 (Adam P. Ebbin). Manufacture, importation, sale, transfer, or possession of plastic firearms and unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms prohibited, penalties. Creates a Class 5 felony for any person who knowingly manufactures or assembles, imports, purchases, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening. The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to

knowingly import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any completed or unfinished frame or receiver, unless the completed or unfinished frame or receiver (i) is deemed to be a firearm pursuant to federal law and (ii) is imprinted with a valid serial number. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Support; Board has historically supported. (25100407D)

SB 883 (Russet Perry). Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2025, for the offense of assault and battery against an intimate partner or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Support; Board has historically supported. (25100381D)

SB 886 (Russet Perry). Trigger activator definition; penalty. Defines "trigger activator" as a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device designed to alter the rate of fire of a semi-automatic firearm to mimic automatic weapon fire or used to increase the rate of fire to a rate faster than that possible for a person to fire such semi-automatic firearm unassisted by a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device. Support; Board has historically supported. (25101931D)

SB 891 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least five days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. Support; Board has historically supported. (25101316D)

SB 1134 (Jennifer B. Boysko). Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present, penalty. Requires any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present to store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. The bill provides that

a violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill exempts (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm who carries such firearm on or about his person and (ii) the storage of antique firearms and provides that the lawful authorization of a minor to access a firearm is not a violation of the bill's provisions. The bill also requires firearm dealers to post a notice stating such firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. Support; Board has historically supported. (25103145D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1710 (Debra D. Gardner). Department of Medical Assistance Services; reimbursement rates for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to assess and make recommendations related to reimbursement rates for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. The bill requires the work group to report its recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025. Support; Board has historically supported. (25102530D)

HB 1716 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)/**SB 1105** (Ghazala F. Hashmi). Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. Support; Board has historically supported. (25101990D)/(25100261D)

HB 2109 (Charniele L. Herring). Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. The bill directs the Task Force to conclude its work by December 1, 2026. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023. Support; Board has historically supported. (25102833D)

HB 2485 (Paul E. Krizek)/**SB 970** (Aaron R. Rouse). Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2025, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2026. Support with amendment; Board has historically supported with amendment.

Support strong local government land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legalization legislation. (25101954D)/(25102567D)

OPPOSE

Elections

SB 764 (Ryan T. McDougale). Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. Oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25101753D)

SB 856 (Timmy F. French). Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election. Oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102326D)

SB 1070 (Mark J. Peake). Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. Oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102275D)

SB 1072 (Mark J. Peake). Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election. Oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102274D)

SB 1073. (Mark J. Peake). Requires the general registrar to verify that the name, date of birth, and social security number provided by an applicant on the voter registration application match the information on file in the Social Security Administration database or any other database approved by the State Board of Elections before registering such applicant. The bill specifies that if the information provided by the applicant does not match the information on file in such database, the applicant (i) is provisionally registered to vote and notified as to what steps are needed to be fully registered to vote and (ii) is permitted to vote by provisional ballot but such ballot shall not be counted until the voter presents certain information. The bill also requires the general registrar to verify annually no later than August 1 that the name, date of birth, and social security number in the registration record of each registered voter in

the registrar's jurisdiction match the information on file with the Social Security Administration or any other database approved by the State Board and, in accordance with current law, to initiate the cancellation of the registration of any voter whose registration record information does not match such database information. The State Board is authorized by the bill to approve the use of any government database to the extent required to enable each general registrar to carry out the provisions of the bill and to promulgate rules for the use of such database. The bill requires the Department of Elections to provide each general registrar access to the Social Security Administration database and any other database approved by the State Board and to enter into any agreement with any federal or state agency to facilitate such access. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. Oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102276D)

AMEND

Information Technology

HB 2541 (Kathy K.L. Tran). Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility. Makes numerous organizational changes to the Information Technology Access Act. The bill defines "information and communications technology" as it relates to digital accessibility, defined in the bill, for all persons with disabilities. The bill permits the head of each covered entity, defined in the bill, to designate an employee to serve as such covered entity's digital accessibility coordinator and provides that such digital accessibility coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing such covered entity's digital accessibility policy. The bill has delayed effective dates of April 24, 2026, and April 26, 2027, for specific covered entities according to population size. Amend; Board has historically recommended amendment. (25104578D)

MONITOR

Health and Human Services

HB 2353 (Tony O. Wilt)/**SB 1143** (Mark D. Obenshain). Discharge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools. Provides that, prior to the discharge of any minor admitted to inpatient treatment (i) who is a student at a public elementary or secondary school and (ii) for whom the facility deems (a) such discharge poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self and others or (b) additional educational services are needed, such facility is required to provide to the school's mental health professional or school counselor the portions of such discharge plan relevant to the threat of violence or harm or the necessary additional educational services. The bill requires such facility to, prior to providing any such portions of any minor's discharge plan, provide to the parent of such minor student reasonable notice of the types of information that would be included in any portions of the discharge plan being

provided and of the parent's right to, upon written request, refuse the provision of any such information.

Monitor; Board has historically monitored. (25104127D)/(25102442D)

New Bills – 2025 General Assembly

HB 1557 (R. Lee Ware). Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Taxation to establish a registry of short-term rental properties and require accommodations providers and intermediaries to register. Under the bill, an accommodations provider shall provide to the Department its name and the address of each property it offers for short-term rental. The bill states that the Department shall issue each such accommodations provider a unique numerical identifier for each such property. An accommodations intermediary shall provide the Department its name and the contact information for the individual responsible for liaising with state and local officials regarding noncompliant short-term rental listings. The bill states that as a condition of listing a short-term rental on its platform, an accommodations intermediary shall require each accommodations provider to provide such provider's name and the unique numerical identifier and specific address for each short term-rental offered. Under the bill, such information, as well as information regarding receipts and taxes paid, shall be provided to the Department by the accommodation's intermediary on a quarterly basis. However, an accommodations intermediary shall not be required to provide such information to the Department if the intermediary provides monthly reports of property addresses and gross receipts for all accommodations facilitated by the accommodation's intermediary to each locality in which an accommodation is located. Such monthly reports are a compliance requirement imposed by law for the payment of transient occupancy taxes. The bill states that the Department shall provide the commissioner of the revenue for each locality with access to the registry and information contained therein. The commissioner of the revenue shall notify an accommodations intermediary of any short-term rental on its platform that is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform, and the accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Support. (25100268D)

HB 1570 (Bill Wiley). Virginia Public Procurement Act; project labor agreements. Repeals the provision of the Virginia Public Procurement Act that authorizes any public body, including any state or local government, when engaged in procuring products or services or letting contracts for construction, manufacture, maintenance, or operation of public works, to require bidders to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements on the public works projects. Oppose. (25101701D)

HB 1941 (Holly M. Seibold). Invasive plant species; retail sales. Requires, for the retail sale of certain invasive plant species for outdoor use, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2025, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Support. (25103898D)

Courts

HB 1557 (R. Lee Ware). Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Taxation to establish a registry of short-term rental properties and require accommodations providers and intermediaries to register. Under the bill, an accommodations provider shall provide to the Department its name and the address of each property it offers for short-term rental. The bill states that the Department shall issue each such accommodations provider a unique numerical identifier for each such property. An accommodations intermediary shall provide the Department its name and the contact information for the individual responsible for liaising with state and local officials regarding noncompliant short-term rental listings. The bill states that as a condition of listing a short-term rental on its platform, an accommodations intermediary shall require each accommodations provider to provide such provider's name and the unique numerical identifier and specific address for each short term-rental offered. Under the bill, such information, as well as information regarding receipts and taxes paid, shall be provided to the Department by the accommodation's intermediary on a quarterly basis. However, an accommodations intermediary shall not be required to provide such information to the Department if the intermediary provides monthly reports of property addresses and gross receipts for all accommodations facilitated by the accommodation's intermediary to each locality in which an accommodation is located. Such monthly reports are a compliance requirement imposed by law for the payment of transient occupancy taxes. The bill states that the Department shall provide the commissioner of the revenue for each locality with access to the registry and information contained therein. The commissioner of the revenue shall notify an accommodations intermediary of any short-term rental on its platform that is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform, and the accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Support. (25100268D)

HB 1570 (Bill Wiley). Virginia Public Procurement Act; project labor agreements. Repeals the provision of the Virginia Public Procurement Act that authorizes any public body, including any state or local government, when engaged in procuring products or services or letting contracts for construction, manufacture, maintenance, or operation of public works, to require bidders to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements on the public works projects. Oppose. (25101701D)

HB 1941 (Holly M. Seibold). Invasive plant species; retail sales. Requires, for the retail sale of certain invasive plant species for outdoor use, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2025, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Support. (25103898D)

Courts

SJ 259 (Scott A. Surovell). Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology used to determine judicial allocations to state courts within the Commonwealth. JLARC is directed to submit its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Support. (25104574D)

Data Centers

SB 960 (Russet Perry). Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent. The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026. Support. (25103266D)

Early Childhood

HB 2538 (David L. Bulova)/**SB 756** (Mamie E. Locke). Public education; early childhood care and education; funding formula calculations; Early Childhood Care and Education Fund established; report. Requires the Department of Education to (i) establish and maintain a funding formula for the provision of early childhood care and education services that establishes the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium for such providers based on a cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, unserved waitlists, and a multiplier based on enrollment and parent demand growth in prior biennia; (ii) make disbursements from the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund (the Fund), established in the bill, to support the provision of early childhood care and education services in accordance with the funding formula set forth in the bill; (iii) make certain funding calculations, in consultation with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, to be included in the funding formula, for the purpose of determining the number of slots to be added to support local or regional economic development efforts; and (iv) submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education a report on the status of the Fund, including the data used to calculate the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium established pursuant to the funding formula. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the General Assembly by November 1 of each year a report on Fund revenues, distributions, and balances. Support with amendment. Support with amendment to ensure state childcare funding is increased and provided equitably to localities throughout the Commonwealth (the bill currently includes language related to prioritizing childcare deserts). (25104342D)/(25101269D)

Housing

HB 1706 (David L. Bulova). Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purchaser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and purchasers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purchaser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. Support. (25102167D)

HB 1832 (Shelly A. Simonds)/**SB 932** (Saddam Azlan Salim). Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units. Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinances for single-family residential zoning districts accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, as defined in the bill, as a permitted accessory use. The bill requires a person to seek a permit for an ADU from the locality, requires the locality to issue such permit if the person meets certain requirements enumerated in the bill, and restricts the fee for such permit to \$500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) dedicated parking for the ADU except in densely developed neighborhoods; (ii) setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling; and (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Oppose. (25102648D)

SB 1210 (Stella G. Pekarsky). Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purchaser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and purchasers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purchaser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. Support. (25103621D)

SB 773 (Barbara A. Favola). Foster care; housing services; housing plan; report. Requires local departments of social services to develop housing plans for individuals leaving foster care due to age that includes a description of housing options being pursued. The bill requires the Commissioner of Social Services to provide reports to the Governor and General Assembly on housing services for individuals aging out of foster care on or before October 1 of each year. The bill also directs the Virginia Department of Social Services to enter into a memorandum of understanding with local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to secure federal Family Unification Program Housing Choice Vouchers for individuals leaving foster care within 90 days and certain individuals who have left foster care within the past five years. The bill also directs local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to take any action required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to administer the Foster Youth to Independence Initiative. Amend. Amend to encourage local housing authorities and departments of social services to seek Family Unification Program and Foster

Youth to Independence vouchers, while ensuring that localities can continue existing arrangements with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to secure such vouchers. (25105189D-S1)

SB 839 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). Zoning: by-right multifamily development in areas zoned for commercial use. Requires a locality to provide in its zoning ordinance provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications. The bill provides that the review and approval of such development shall be done administratively by the locality's staff and that any residential development that dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to households with a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income shall be granted an accelerated plan review and permit approval process by the locality's staff. Oppose. (25104855A)

SB 975 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). Statewide housing targets for localities. Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2026. The bill provides that, in order to meet the 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality and may include any of various listed housing growth strategies. The bill further provides that, after January 1, 2031, an applicant who seeks local government approval for a residential development that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the Housing Approval Board, which shall be established by the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill authorizes the Housing Approval Board to overturn local decisions and approve applications under certain circumstances. However, if the Housing Approval Board determines that a locality has in good faith implemented at least three of the housing growth strategies listed in the bill and has not rejected more than 25 percent of new housing development proposals over the previous five years, the Housing Approval Board shall allow the local decision to stand. Finally, the bill provides that the Housing Approval Board shall give extra weight for increases in affordable housing and for the rehabilitation of current, underutilized housing stock. Oppose. (25104261D)

SB 1256 (William M. Stanley, Jr.). Counties, cities, and towns; comprehensive plan; accessory dwelling units. Clarifies that the comprehensive plan prepared by a local planning commission and adopted by a local governing body may include the use of accessory dwelling units, defined in the bill, as part of any residential development and use designated within such plan. The bill contains technical amendments. Monitor. (25101140D)

SB 1351 (Kannan Srinivasan). Affordable housing; religious organizations and other tax-exempt properties. Provides that no local ordinance shall require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, or additional fee to be obtained

for the development and construction of affordable housing on real property owned by a religious organization or certain nonprofit organizations that is connected to a public sewage system. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 50 years. Oppose. (25102124D)

Information Technology

HB 2046 (Bonita G. Anthony)/**SB 1214** (Lashrecse D. Aird). High-risk artificial intelligence: development, deployment, and use by public bodies; work group; report. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, as defined in the bill, by public bodies. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO) to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, implementation, utilization, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ high-risk artificial intelligence systems that are consistent with the requirements created by the bill. The bill also requires the CIO to compile into a publicly available registry certain required monthly reports on initial and ongoing high-risk artificial intelligence system assessments and inventories of such systems used by public bodies Under the bill, the Joint Commission on Technology and Science is required to establish an Artificial Intelligence Oversight Task Force to oversee the implementation of and compliance with the requirements for development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by public bodies. Monitor. (25102638D)/(25102954D)

HB 2094 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado). Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, and civil penalties for noncompliance, to be enforced by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Monitor. (25104439D)

Solar

HB 2438 (Candi Mundon King)/**SB 1114** (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions. Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be permitted pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities. Oppose. (25102097D)/(25104663D)

Taxation

HB 1560 (Joseph P. McNamara). Sales and use tax, accommodations for transients. Provides that the term "retail sale" shall include the sale of accommodations to

transients for less than 30 days. Under current law, "retail sale" includes such sales to transients for less than 90 days. Oppose. (25101530D)

SB 1305 (Jeremy S. McPike). Local taxes; zoning; assessments; injunctions; ordinances. Provides that for purposes of real estate subject to a special tax assessment for land preservation by local ordinance, a change to the zoning ordinance shall only be effective following (i) the approval of the relevant modification in the zoning classification of real estate; (ii) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period; and (iii) if pending, the final determination of any challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also provides that for purposes of subdivided or rezoned lots, the assessment or reassessment required by law shall only be effective following (a) the approval of a modification in the zoning classification of the subject real estate, an exception to zoning or classification of the subject real estate, or a reclassification of the subject real estate; (b) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period for such approvals; or (c) if pending, the final determination of any such challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also authorizes the circuit court to issue an injunction to stay the collection of taxes during the pendency of any application to the circuit court for an assessment correction upon a showing of (1) a bona fide hardship caused by such assessment and (2) a bona fide financial inability to satisfy such assessed tax obligation. Any injunction so issued shall not remain in effect later than when a final determination is made on the merits of an assessment correction application. Under current law, no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of any local tax shall be maintained in any court of the Commonwealth, except when the party has no adequate remedy at law. Finally, the bill provides that any zoning ordinance enacted after December 1, 2023, shall not become effective until the later of either (A) the exhaustion of the period within which a decision of the local governing body may be contested or (B) if pending, the date of final determination for all actions related to a contested decision of the local governing body. Oppose. (25104325D)

Transportation

SB 852 (Christie New Craig). Photo speed monitoring devices; proof of violation; retired law-enforcement officials. Allows a retired sworn law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, to swear to or affirm a certificate for a vehicle speed violation enforced by a photo speed monitoring device. Support. (25102952D)

SB 1097 (Aaron R. Rouse). Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission. Creates a new allocation from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund for the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, adjusts the amounts of certain other allocations from such Fund, and removes the light rail system operated by the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads from eligibility for funds from such other allocations from such Fund. The bill requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to

withhold 20 percent of the funds from such new allocation unless the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads submits to it certain information annually. The bill directs the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, for fiscal year 2027, to reserve and utilize certain funds in amounts necessary to provide certain supplemental operating assistance to certain transit providers that would experience a reduction in allocable funds due to the reallocations in this bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Amend. Amend to reduce set aside to less than 1%, which is the amount the fiscal impact statement says the light rail has historically received. (25104237D)

Legislation Provided for Discussion

Casinos

SB 982 (Scott A. Surovell). Casino gaming; eligible host localities. Adds Fairfax County to the list of localities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth and provides that any proposed site for a casino gaming establishment considered by Fairfax County shall be (i) located within one-quarter of a mile of an existing station on the Metro Silver Line, (ii) part of a coordinated mixed-use project development consisting of no less than 1.5 million square feet, (iii) within two miles of a regional enclosed mall containing not less than 1.5 million square feet of gross building area, and (iv) outside of the Interstate 495 Beltway. (25104309D)

Employment Issues

SB 917 (Scott A. Surovell). Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement. Oppose unless amended. Oppose unless amended to eliminate applicability to Fairfax County. (25102162D)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

SB 876 (Adam P. Ebbin). Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required. Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at its meeting. The bill allows for amendments to be made to any such proposed agenda but provides that the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items. Oppose. Oppose additional FOIA requirements for localities; any additional requirements should apply to both state and local public bodies. (25101521D)

Housing

HB 2153 (Betsy B. Carr)/**SB 1178** (Ghazala F. Hashmi). Faith and housing; comprehensive plan; zoning; Department of Housing and Community Development. Grants authority to localities to adopt a variety of strategies intended to encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing on property owned by religious organizations or tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The bill allows localities to request administrative support from the Department of Housing and Community Development in the preparation of a faith and housing ordinance. Monitor. (25101682D)

Taxation

HB 1743 (Vivian E. Watts). License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts. Provides that the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts in which the taxpayer is liable for a net income tax shall also apply to any type of tax on gross receipts or other tax in lieu of an income tax. (25105038A)

Transportation

SB 776 (Scott A. Surovell). Enforcement of federal traffic violations by state and local law-enforcement officers; photo speed monitoring devices; Planning District 8. Provides that state and local law-enforcement officers may enforce federal traffic violations on any highway within Planning District 8. The bill also provides that a state or local law-enforcement agency may place and operate a photo speed monitoring device on a National Park highway, as defined in the bill, for the purposes of recording vehicle speed violations, provided that such law-enforcement agency has been authorized by the federal government or the National Park Service to place such photo speed monitoring device on such National Park highway. (25100831D)

SB 919 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Private companies providing public transportation services; employee protections. Requires the governing body or transportation district commission of any county or city that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services to (i) require such company to provide any employee of such company providing such services compensation and benefits that are at a minimum equivalent to the compensation and benefits provided to a public

employee, as defined in the bill, with a position requiring equivalent qualifications and (ii) if a county or city within such transportation district has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing collective bargaining by employees of such county or city, require such company to enter into and adhere to a collective bargaining agreement. (25100149D)

Transportation – Bicycle Operations

SB 1007 (Scott A. Surovell). Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund and Program; parking facility tax. Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual \$0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund. (25104144D)

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 (Roza 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)

Casino

SB982 (Scott A. Surovell). Adds Fairfax County to the list of localities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth and provides that any proposed site for a casino gaming establishment considered by Fairfax County shall be (i) located within one-quarter of a mile of an existing station on the Metro Silver Line, (ii) part of a coordinated mixed-use project development consisting of no less than 1.5 million square feet, (iii) within two miles of a regional enclosed mall containing not less than 1.5 million square feet of gross building area, and (iv) outside of the Interstate 495 Beltway. (25104309D)

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)

SB 917 (Scott A. Surovell)

Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement (25102162D)

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)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

SB 876 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required. Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at its meeting. The bill allows for amendments to be made to any such proposed agenda but provides that the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items. (25101521D)

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

SB 776 (Scott A. Surovell). Provides that state and local law-enforcement officers may enforce federal traffic violations on any highway within Planning District 8. The bill also provides that a state or local law-enforcement agency may place and operate a photo speed monitoring device on a National Park highway, as defined in the bill, for the purposes of recording vehicle speed violations, provided that such law-enforcement agency has been authorized by the federal

government or the National Park Service to place such photo speed monitoring device on such National Park highway. (25100831D)

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)

HB 1743 (Vivian E. Watts). Provides that the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts in which the taxpayer is liable for a net income tax shall also apply to any type of tax on gross receipts or other tax in lieu of an income tax. (25102625D)

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)

SB 919 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Requires the governing body or transportation district commission of any county or city that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services to (i) require such company to provide any employee of such company providing such services compensation and benefits that are at a minimum equivalent to the compensation and

benefits provided to a public employee, as defined in the bill, with a position requiring equivalent qualifications and (ii) if a county or city within such transportation district has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing collective bargaining by employees of such county or city, require such company to enter into and adhere to a collective bargaining agreement. (25100149D)

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)

Transportation – Bicycle Safety

SB 1007 (Scott A. Surovell). Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual \$0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund. (25104144D)

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 Virginias'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)

Legislative Committee Actions of January 24, 2025:

Members Present: Legislative Chairman Walkinshaw
 Chairman McKay
 Supervisor Bierman, Jr.
 Supervisor Lusk
 Supervisor Alcorn
 Supervisor Storck
 Supervisor Palchik
 Supervisor Smith
 Supervisor Jimenez

Specific Issues

Member Budget Amendments Handout: The Committee received a handout detailing member budget amendments that pertain to the County’s priorities (see handout on “Supplementary Documents,” pages 134-138).

K-12 JLARC Funding Bills: The Committee received a handout with updated information on the K-12 and JLARC funding bills and member budget amendments (see handout on “Supplementary Documents” pages 139-143).

Data Centers: The Committee received an overview of bills currently before the House and Senate committees that related to data center legislation and took positions on three bills and changed the position on one bill (see handout on “Supplementary Documents,” pages 144-149).

Analyzing the Governor’s Introduced Budget – VACo Day: The Committee received copies of a budget slide deck presented at the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) local government lobbying day (see “Supplementary Documents,” pages 159-166).

VACo Legislative Day Capital Contact: The Committee received copies of the VACo program of current legislation and budget amendments that pertain to local governments as presented at the VACo local government lobbying day (see “Supplementary Documents” pages 167-196).

Priority Principles for Reviewing Legislation

- 1. Adequately fund K-12 education.**
- 2. Fully restore the \$102 million of regional funding to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and continue to support efforts to provide sustainable funding for WMATA.**
- 3. Build upon the successful enactment of significant transportation revenues by the 2013 and 2020 GAs to ensure sufficient funding for transportation needs.**
- 4. Preserve and expand on existing local government authority, particularly in key areas such as taxation, land use, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.**



Specific Legislation and Legislation for New Bill List Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 24, 2025

Historical Positions of the Board

HB 2724 (Charniele L. Herring)

Use of automatic license plate recognition systems; reports; penalty. Requires the Division of Purchases and Supply of the Department of General Services (the Division) to determine and approve the automatic license plate recognition systems, defined in the bill, for use in the Commonwealth and provides requirements for use of such systems by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems by law-enforcement agencies to the following purposes: (i) as part of an active criminal investigation; (ii) as part of an active investigation related to a missing or endangered person, including whether to issue an alert for such person, or a person associated with human trafficking; or (iii) to receive notifications related to a missing or endangered person, a person with an outstanding warrant, a person associated with human trafficking, a stolen vehicle, or a stolen license plate. The bill provides that a law-enforcement agency must obtain a permit from the Department of Transportation in accordance with regulations of the Commonwealth Transportation Board before installing an automatic license plate recognition system on a state right-of-way. The bill requires annual reports from law-enforcement agencies using such systems that provide de-identified information concerning the use of the systems and by the State Police aggregating such information statewide. The bill also requires a law-enforcement officer or State Police officer to collect data on whether a stop of a driver of a motor vehicle or stop or temporary detention of a person was based on a notification from an automatic license plate recognition system. Except for the provisions requiring the Division to determine and approve automatic license plate recognition systems for use in the Commonwealth, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 31, 2026. The bill requires the Division, in consultation with the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, to determine such systems for use in the Commonwealth and publicly post a list of such systems by January 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission. Monitor. Board has historically monitored. (25103292D)

Elections

HB 2434 (Timothy P. Griffin)

Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. Oppose. Board has historically opposed. (25102502D)

HB 2445 (Phillip A. Scott)

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election; hours of operation. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. During these two weeks, the bill requires that absentee voting in person be available Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available during regular business hours of the office of the general registrar beginning 45 days prior to any election with a requirement to be open a minimum of eight hours between



Specific Legislation and Legislation for New Bill List Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 24, 2025

the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first and second Saturdays immediately preceding the election.
Oppose. Board has historically opposed. (25101428D)

Firearms

HB 1622 (Amy J. Laufer)

Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such unattended motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 and that such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping. Support. Board has historically supported. (25101585D)

SB 744 (Barbara A. Favola)

Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person. Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member may transfer a firearm owned by such prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that such person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm is 21 years of age or older and does not reside with the person who is subject to the protective order. Under current law, there is no requirement that such transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with such prohibited person. The bill also provides that such prohibited person who transfers, sells, or surrenders a firearm pursuant to the provisions of the bill shall inform the clerk of the court of the name and address of the transferee, the federally licensed firearms dealer, or the law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of such form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member shall be advised that a law-enforcement officer may obtain a search warrant to search for any firearms from such person if such law-enforcement officer has reason to believe that such person has not relinquished all firearms in his possession. Support. Board has historically supported. (25100612D)

Housing

HB 2054 (Atoosa R. Reaser)

Affordable housing; assisted living facilities. Allows localities that have adopted an affordable housing program to negotiate that in an application for a special exception or special use permit affordable rental units be included for any proposed development of an assisted living facility. Such ordinance shall apply to applications approved on or after January 1, 2026. Support. Board has historically supported. (25104244D)

Taxation

HB 2006 (Joseph P. McNamara)

Sales and use tax; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Eliminates, beginning July 1, 2025, the remaining one percent local sales and use tax that is imposed on food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Under current law, no other sales and use tax is



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currently applied to such products. The bill requires an equivalent amount of revenue to be distributed to cities and counties on a monthly basis in compensation for the lost tax revenue. Oppose. Board has historically opposed.
(25101491D)



Specific Legislation and Legislation for New Bill List Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 24, 2025

New Bills

Courts

SB 1271 (Russet Perry)

Threats of death or bodily injury; penalty. Clarifies that for crimes involving communicating orally or in writing a threat to kill or do bodily injury, an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message includes an email, a text message, or a message or post on any social media platform. Support. (25104285D)

Data Centers

SB 1046 (Danica A. Roem)

Data centers; noise abatement. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall be approved only in accordance with certain notice and noise abatement requirements. The bill provides that residents within a half-mile radius of the parcel shall receive notice of the proposed data center and that the data center operator shall hold two neighborhood meetings. The bill requires a data center operator to design and build the data center to incorporate sound mitigation methods sufficient to prevent the sound levels emanating from the data center from exceeding the ambient noise levels that were observed in a baseline study, as determined by a third-party acoustic engineer. The bill also provides that upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy, and for five years thereafter, the data center operator shall conduct a noise study performed by a third-party acoustical engineer to document noise levels emanating from the data center measured at the property line of the nearest property to the data center property that is planned or zoned for residential land uses, or other noise-sensitive use as reasonably determined by the locality, during peak operation of the data center mechanical equipment. The bill also provides that if the data center operator intends to use backup power generators on the parcel, the operator shall maintain a public website announcing the times when the generators will be in operation. Finally, the bill provides that any noise ordinance adopted by a locality shall set maximum allowable sound levels for data centers, including by (i) using alternative low frequency noise metrics and (ii) setting noise rules and enforcement mechanisms in its zoning ordinance, separate from existing noise ordinances. Oppose. (25104257D)

Elections

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. Support. (25100615D)



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Environment

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. Support. (25102392D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1596 (Nadarius E. Clark) (HHHS)

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. Support. (25102681D)

HB 1762 (James W. Morefield)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid; Social Security Disability Insurance. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek federal authorization to provide Medicaid coverage, regardless of income or assets, to individuals who receive Social Security Disability Insurance but are not yet eligible for Medicare coverage. Support. (25103510D)

HB 2534 (Briana D. Sewell)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; emergency. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to remove the prohibition that crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals cannot be provided in institutions for mental disease. The bill contains an emergency clause. Support. (25105285D)

SB 841 (Barbara A. Favola) (Passed Senate)

Board of Pharmacy; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; opioid treatment programs; mobile units; report. Directs the Board of Pharmacy, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, to develop and implement a process by which opioid treatment programs can apply for and receive the necessary permissions and waivers to dispense opioid use disorder treatment medications from mobile units. The bill directs the Board to report to the Joint Commission on Health Care by November 1, 2025, on the status of and any barriers to the development and implementation of such process. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. Support. (25102177D)



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SB 1064 (Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Relocation, conversion, and addition of beds in medical care facilities; application for certificate of public need; expedited review. Expands the State Board of Health's procedures for expedited review of applications for certificates of public need for certain projects to include the relocation or conversion of beds from, or the addition of beds to, an already existing medical facility, as well as the establishment of a new psychiatric medical care facility by an existing medical care facility. Support. (25104546D)

SB 1304 (Jeremy S. McPike) (SEH)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; emergency. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to remove the prohibition that crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals cannot be provided in institutions for mental disease. The bill contains an emergency clause. Support. (25102036D)

SB 1432 (David W. Marsden)

Juvenile secure detention facilities; closure or consolidation; funding contributions; education programs. Provides that upon the closure or consolidation of a juvenile secure detention facility, any locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility in which juveniles will be placed who previously would have been placed in the closed or consolidated juvenile secure detention facility shall negotiate in good faith with the locality from which a potential juvenile may be placed to arrive at mutually agreeable funding contributions for the operation of such receiving juvenile secure detention facility. The bill requires such agreements to include certain provisions related to equal access to post-dispositional programming and medical and hospitalization costs and provides that such agreements may include provisions related to transportation of juveniles and transportation options for parents or guardians. The bill further states that if the localities or commissions are unable to reach such an agreement, then the Department of Juvenile Justice shall determine the funding contributions and that failure of any locality or commission to comply with such determination may result in the loss or reduction of state funding. Under the bill, any locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility that refuses to accept placement of children who previously would have been placed in a closed or consolidated juvenile secure detention facility shall not be eligible for state funding. The bill changes the required staffing ratio for education programs in regional and local detention homes to one full-time equivalent program employee for every six students based on a rolling average daily population at the facility as calculated by the Department of Education from the previous three fiscal years. Under current law, the ratio for such programs is one teacher for every 12 beds based on the capacity of the facility. The bill also provides that the Board of Education shall require all such education programs to have either a principal or a lead teacher on site and requires contracts for the hiring and supervision of teachers to allow a teacher employed by a local school board to continue teaching in his local school division and be hired as a part-time teacher for such an education program. The bill requires each part-time teacher for an education program be provided an annual \$3,000 bonus. Lastly, the bill directs the closure of seven juvenile secure detention facilities across the Commonwealth and specifies the facilities to be closed and the facilities into which they may be consolidated. The bill requires the facilities to be closed and consolidated by January 1, 2026, and states that any such facility that fails to comply with the requirements for closure and consolidation, in addition to any other remedy available at law, shall not be eligible for state funding. Oppose. (25104396D)



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Housing

HB 2293 (Carrie E. Coyner) /**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. Amend. (25104575D)/(25104271D)

Information Technology

HB 2124 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

Synthetic digital content; penalty; work group. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic digital content, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to use any synthetic digital content for the purpose of committing any criminal offense involving fraud, constituting a separate and distinct offense with punishment separate and apart from any punishment received for the commission of the primary criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the synthetic digital content to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of synthetic digital content, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts. Support. (25101882D)

SB 1053 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Synthetic digital content; penalty; work group. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic digital content, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to use any synthetic digital content for the purpose of committing any criminal offense involving fraud, constituting a separate and distinct offense with punishment separate and apart from any punishment received for the commission of the primary criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the synthetic digital content to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of synthetic digital content, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science. Support. (25105900A)

Land Use

HB 1721 (Vivian E. Watts)

Uniform Easement Relocation Act. Creates the Uniform Easement Relocation Act, which allows the owner of real estate burdened by an easement to obtain a court order to relocate the easement if the relocation does not materially impair, among other impairments, (i) the utility of the easement holder or (ii) the physical condition, use, or value of the benefited property. The Act requires that the burdened property owner file a civil action, give notice to other potentially affected real property interest owners, and bear the costs of relocation. Under current



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law, the owner of land that is subject to an easement may seek relocation of the easement on the servient estate upon petition to the circuit court and notice to all parties in interest, and the petition will be granted if, after a hearing held, the court finds that (a) the relocation will not result in economic damage to the parties in interest, (b) there will be no undue hardship created by the relocation, and (c) the easement has been in existence for not less than 10 years. The bill applies to easements created on or after July 1, 2025. Oppose. (25100287D)

Public Safety

SB 1181 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Purchase, possession, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalty. 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, 2025. 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, barter, 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. Support. (25100426D)

SB 1296 (Mark D. Obenshain)

Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund; established. Establishes the Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund (the Fund), to be managed by the Virginia Resources Authority, for the purpose of making loans and awarding grants to local governments for the purpose of assisting with improvement projects relating to public safety radio and communications infrastructure. Amend. (25102483D)

SB 1389 (Kannan Srinivasan)

Firearm safety device tax credit; defines commercial retailer. Support. (25105731A)

Studies

HB 2666 (Kim A. Taylor)

Attorney General; distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates; advisory work group. Directs the Attorney General to convene a work group for the purpose of advising on the distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates. The work group shall include legislators and local elected officials who represent distressed localities, and other persons with relevant experience and expertise. Oppose. (25104710D)



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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. Support. (25103765D)

SB 1385 (Barbara A. Favola)

Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health to study the makeup and composition of the emergency management regions, state health regions, and local health districts; report. Directs the Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health to study the makeup and composition of the seven emergency management regions, the five Virginia health regions, and the 35 local health districts to determine the feasibility of mutually beneficial alignment of such regions and districts. The bill directs the Departments to complete their work and report findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth. Support. (25102789D)

Transportation

HB 2764 (Kathy K.L. Tran)

Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement. Oppose. (25104837D)

SB 1007 (Scott A. Surovell)

Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund and Program; parking facility tax. Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual \$0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund. Support. (25105905D)



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Legislation Provided for Discussion

Cannabis/Marijuana

SB 1054 (Adam P. Ebbin) (SRSS)

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. Monitor. (25101513D)

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. Amend. (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



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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. Amend. (25103320D)

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. Support. (25103604D)

Transportation

SB 1158 (Mark D. Obenshain)

Eminent domain; condemnation proceedings. Makes various changes to provisions governing eminent domain, primarily relating to procedures in condemnation proceedings and the transfer of a defeasible title by certificate. The bill sets forth reasonable costs of discovery in condemnation proceedings and provides that when a condemnor initiates discovery in a condemnation proceeding, such condemnor shall pay all reasonable costs of such discovery. The bill also specifies that, in a condemnation proceeding initiated by an authorized condemnor or the Commissioner of Highways, a certificate transferring a defeasible title shall include certain information describing the property and any rights to the property being taken or damaged. Finally, the bill repeals the requirement that the court refer a matter initiating a condemnation proceeding to a dispute resolution orientation. Oppose unless amended. (25105772D)

SB 1233 (Angelia Williams Graves)

Pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems and stop sign violation monitoring systems; violation enforcement; civil penalty. Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk intersection segments for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill imposes the same requirements on pedestrian crossing and stop sign violation monitoring systems as currently exist for photo speed monitoring devices and requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of such systems to, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion. (25101944D)

SB 1332 (David W. Marsden)

Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish; report. Repeals the authority for localities to establish trespass towing fees, with exceptions, and requires the State Corporation Commission to establish such fees and adjust such fees annually based on the Transportation Consumer Price Index. The bill permits localities



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to, by ordinance, allow for and establish reasonable limits on storage fees, administration fees, and additional fees for towing vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds. The bill requires the Commission, beginning November 30, 2030, and every five year thereafter, to submit a report to the General Assembly reviewing the process for adjusting towing rates, provided that funds are appropriated for such review. Oppose. (25106022D)

Transportation - Bicycle Operations

HB 2368 (Candi Mundon King)

Toll relief; maximum charges. Limits to \$200 per month the tolls charged to residents of the Commonwealth via electronic toll collection devices for the use of toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels, or toll roads in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits misusing, sharing, or transferring an electronic toll collection device for the purpose of (i) generating tolls to reach the toll charges limit or (ii) obtaining toll-free use of toll facilities in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes the free use of all toll bridges, toll roads, and other toll facilities in the Commonwealth for drivers who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits. Monitor. (25103422D)

Transportation - Speed Cameras

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. Amend. (25101549D)

SB 1209 (Mark D. Obenshain)

Photo speed monitoring devices; private vendors; calibration; civil penalty. Requires any private vendor that has entered into an agreement with a law-enforcement agency to provide a photo speed monitoring device and is also compensated for the calibration of such device to calibrate such device in the same manner and to the same specifications as all other devices determining speed, to the extent that such devices utilize the same method of speed detection as such photo speed monitoring device, used by such law-enforcement agency. The bill also (i) requires such a private vendor to provide, within 10 days of a request by a person receiving a summons by mail for a vehicle speed violation recorded by a photo speed monitoring device provided by such private vendor, for proof of calibration for such photo speed monitoring device; (ii) requires such a summons to provide notice of such right to request such proof of calibration; and (iii) imposes a civil penalty on any private vendor who fails to provide such proof of calibration within such time. Oppose. (25102448D)



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Legislation Requiring Further Review

HB 2043 (Bonita G. Anthony)

Consumer Data Protection Act; user-generated content protected; civil penalty. Requires controllers and processors to provide consumers with a privacy notice that applies to the consumers' user-generated content, defined in the bill, under the Consumer Data Protection Act and requires that any secondary use, defined in the bill, of personal data or user-generated content be consented to by the consumer. The bill requires a controller or processor, upon request by a consumer, to provide such consumer with a report that describes how the consumer's personal data or user-generated content was processed over the prior 12 months. The bill increases from \$7,500 to \$15,000 the maximum civil penalties for violations and allows civil penalties of up to \$22,500 per violation for repeated noncompliance or egregious violations. The bill also allows a consumer who suffers a loss due to a violation to bring a private right of action against a controller or processor. (25102628D)

HB 2188 (Nicholas J. Freitas)

Transfer of prisoners convicted of designated illegal acts. Requires the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, with the consent of the appropriate state authorities, to take physical custody of and responsibility for any alien upon conviction of certain felony offenses. Under current law, such agency has discretion to take physical custody of any such alien. Additionally, the bill adds any felony violation of criminal sexual assault to the list of such authorized felony offenses. (25100582D)

HB 2250 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

Consumer Data Protection Act; Artificial Intelligence Training Data Transparency Act. Allows consumers to authorize a third party, acting on the consumer's behalf, to opt out of the processing of the consumer's personal data. Such authorization may be made using technology that indicates the consumer's intent to opt out, including a browser setting, browser extension, global device setting, or other user-selected universal opt-out mechanism. Where a controller has actual knowledge or willfully disregards that a consumer is an adolescent, defined in the bill as at least 13 years of age but younger than 16 years of age, no controller shall process any personal data collected or collect precise geolocation data from such adolescent without obtaining consent from such adolescent. The bill provides that the Attorney General has discretion regarding whether to provide an opportunity to cure a violation to a controller or processor beginning January 1, 2026. The bill also revises the definitions of "sale of personal data," "sensitive data," and "biometric data." The bill requires a developer of a generative artificial intelligence system or service, defined in the bill, to disclose on the developer's website information about the generative artificial intelligence data set used to train such system or service. A developer shall keep detailed records of the generative artificial intelligence data set used to train a generative artificial intelligence system or service and provide clearly designated and publicly available mechanisms for submissions of Training Data Verification Requests, defined in the bill, and Training Data Deletion Requests, defined in the bill. The bill also prohibits nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements from concealing noncompliance with the bill. The bill allows the Attorney General to offer developers an opportunity to cure noncompliance that is noticed by the Attorney General and provides that a person or entity claiming to be injured due to a violation of such provisions shall be entitled to initiate an action for monetary damages or equitable relief. The provisions of the bill regarding such developers have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25104553D)



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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. (25102246D)

SB 870 (Barbara A. Favola)/**HB 2290** (Carrie E. Coyner)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities. Permits the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Social Services, and any local department of social services to access medical and mental health information and records for persons committed to any correctional facility for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. The bill also authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services to access a juvenile's social, medical, psychiatric, and psychological reports and records during pre-release and up to 30 days following such juvenile's release from commitment for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. (25104025D)/(25104100D)

SB 1029 (Danica A. Roem)

Virginia Freedom of Information Act; procedure for responding to requests; charges; posting of notice of rights and responsibilities. Limits the fees charged for producing public records to the median hourly rate of pay of employees of the public body or the actual hourly rate of pay of the person performing the work, whichever is less, and provides that a public body may petition a court for relief from this fee limit if there is no one who can process the request at the median hourly rate of pay or less. The bill makes corresponding amendments to the required statement on charges in the notice of rights and responsibilities that must be posted on a public body's website. The bill also amends existing law providing that a public body may petition a court for additional time to respond to a request for public records to allow such petitions to be heard in either general district or circuit court, to give such petitions priority on the court's docket, and to toll the response time while such a petition is pending before a court. The bill makes technical amendments, including moving provisions regarding charges for the production of public records into a separate section of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. (25101081D)

SB 1141 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

Transfer of certain incarcerated persons to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Requires the Director of the Department of Corrections, sheriff, or other official in charge of the facility in which an alien is incarcerated to, upon receipt of a detainer from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, (i) provide U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with prerelease notification of such alien's release and (ii) upon request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, transfer custody of the alien to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement upon such alien's release, which shall occur no more than five days prior to the date that he would otherwise be released from custody. Current law states that the Director, sheriff, or other official in charge of the facility may transfer such incarcerated person upon receipt of a detainer. (25104245D)

SB 1372 (David R. Suetterlein)

Petitions for relief of care and custody of a child; investigation by local department of social services; Office of the Children's Ombudsman work group; report. Requires a local department of social services, as a part of its investigation after the referral of a request for a petition for relief of the care and custody of a child, to (i) refer the parent to the local family assessment and planning team and (ii) create a written report. The bill directs the Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Virginia League of Social Services Executives, to create a template for and provide guidance on what should be included in such written report. The bill also changes the evidentiary standard of whether there is good cause shown for the petitioner's desire to be relieved of the child's care and custody from a finding based on preponderance of the evidence to a finding based on clear and convincing evidence. The bill also directs the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to convene a work group



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composed of relevant stakeholders to determine the factors a court should consider when determining whether there is good cause shown for a petitioner's desire to be relieved of the care and custody of a child. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Virginia Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth. (25103978D)

SB 1446 (Luther Cifers, III)

Human smuggling; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person who, with the intent to obtain a pecuniary benefit, knowingly and with the intent to evade the immigration laws of the United States uses a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or other means of conveyance to transport another person in or through the Commonwealth and knows or should have known that such person being transported is likely to be exploited for the financial gain of another. The bill provides that any person who commits human smuggling (i) in a manner that creates a substantial likelihood that the individual being smuggled will suffer serious bodily injury or death, (ii) by smuggling a child younger than 18 years of age at the time of the offense, or (iii) while knowingly possessing a firearm during the commission of the offense is guilty of a Class 3 felony. The bill also provides that any person who commits human smuggling and as a direct result of the commission of the offense the individual being smuggled (a) became a victim of human trafficking, commercial sex trafficking, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault or (b) suffered serious bodily injury or death is guilty of a Class 2 felony. (25103943D)

SB 1454 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

Voter registration; systematic citizenship verification program. Provides that the Department of Elections is required to implement policies and procedures necessary to ensure that processes are in place to validate voter registrations and prevent noncitizens from registering to vote. Such processes must include (i) cooperation with state agencies to ensure that noncitizen registrations are not included in the registrations forwarded to the Department; (ii) effective utilization of all data available for identifying noncitizens, including data provided by state and federal agencies; (iii) a monthly systematic review of the voter registration system to identify noncitizens; and (iv) display of messages communicating the citizenship requirements for registration and penalties for violation. The bill also requires jury commissioners to collect information obtained from those persons not qualified to serve on a jury as a result of a condition that would also make them unqualified to register to vote. The sheriff, clerk of court, or other official responsible for maintaining such information provided by the commissioners is required to regularly transmit such information to the general registrar for the locality or localities served by such official. The bill requires general registrars to utilize such information to identify voters who are no longer qualified to vote and to initiate list maintenance procedures. (25104789D)

Campaign Finance

HB 1761 (Marcus B. Simon)

Public campaign financing; counties and cities may establish for certain offices. Authorizes the governing body of a county or city to establish by ordinance a system of public campaign financing for elected local offices. The bill specifies certain requirements for a system of public campaign financing established by a governing body, including the provision of a public election fund to be administered by the treasurer of the county or city. A system of public campaign financing established by a county or city is permitted to more stringently regulate the campaign finance activity of participating candidates and shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Board of Elections to ensure its conformity with state law and policy to the extent practicable. (25100387D)

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



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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)

Court Fees

HB 1665 (Michael J. Jones)

Fines, restitution, forfeiture, penalties, other costs; criminal and traffic cases; itemized statement. Requires the clerk of the court to provide an itemized statement to any defendant convicted of a traffic infraction or a violation of any criminal law of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision thereof, or found not innocent in the case of a juvenile, who is sentenced to pay a fine, restitution, forfeiture, or penalty or assessed any other costs in the circuit court or appropriate district court of his county or city at the time such fine, restitution, forfeiture, penalty, or other costs are assessed, or within a reasonable time after assessment. The bill requires the clerk to also provide an updated statement of the outstanding balances of any fines, forfeiture, and penalties, restitution and costs, or payment history upon request of the defendant. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. (25101433D)

SB 999 (Scott A. Surovell) Appeals; security for appeal and fees; procedure on appeal. Changes the amount of the suspending bond required during the pendency of all appeals of any judgment granting legal, equitable, or any other form of relief from one year's interest calculated from the date of the notice of appeal to the value of the judgment plus two and one-half years' interest calculated from the date of the notice of appeal. The bill also provides an appellate court with discretion in assessing attorney fees, costs, and necessary expenses against an indigent defendant when the conviction of the defendant is upheld on appeal. Under current law, the appellate court must assess such fees, costs, and expenses against an indigent defendant when the conviction of the defendant is upheld on appeal. Finally, the bill also provides that a panel of the Court of Appeals may dispense with oral argument if such panel unanimously decides that such oral argument is unnecessary because the facts and legal arguments are adequately presented in the briefs and the record such that the decisional process would not be significantly aided by oral argument and provides that this provision shall expire on June 30, 2027, unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. (25104339D)

Courts

HB 1748 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Wrongful death action; who may bring. Allows an immediate family member of a deceased person, as defined in the bill, to bring a wrongful death action on behalf of the deceased. Under current law, such action may only be brought by the deceased person's personal representative. (25100167D)

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



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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)

SB 1045 (Danica A. Roem)

Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use. Requires that any local government land use application for the siting of a data center shall only be approved if such application is for a data center located on property classified by local ordinance for industrial use. This section shall only apply to such applications submitted on or after July 1, 2025. (25104569D)

Education

HB 1958 (Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker)

School breakfasts; availability at no cost to students. Requires each school board to require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student. The bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast per student per school day and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill. (25102182D)

SB 1003 (Danica A. Roem)

School breakfasts; availability at no cost to students. Requires each school board to require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student. The bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast per student per school day and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill. (25104131D)

SB 1017 (Danica A. Roem)

School boards; powers and duties; school meal policies; payment of school meal debt. Requires each school board, at the end of each school year, to pay for the total unpaid school meal balance, resulting from uncollected school meal debts on any student account, on the nonprofit school food service account for each public elementary or secondary school in the school division using any appropriated nonfederal funds, except that each school board is prohibited from requiring any public elementary or secondary school in the school division from paying for or providing any funds to pay for such school's unpaid school meal balance. The bill requires each school board to adopt policies in accordance with the provisions of the bill in order to pay these unpaid balances at the end of each school year. (25101833D)



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Elections

HB 1735 (Joshua G. Cole)/**SB 991** (Angelia Williams Graves)

Voter registration time period for closing registration records before certain elections. Reduces from 21 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before primary and general elections and from 13 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before special elections that are not called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate. (25101671D)/(25102477D)

HB 1751 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Elections; general provisions; loudspeakers prohibited at polls and certain other locations; penalty. Extends the prohibition on loudspeakers at the polls on election day to the office of the general registrar, a central absentee voter precinct, or a voter satellite office on election day and during hours when such facilities are open for the purpose of casting absentee ballots. (25101528D)

HB 1863 (Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.)

Voter registration; time period for closing registration records before elections; five (5) days. Provides that registration records be closed during the five days before any election. Under current law registration records are close during the 21 days before a primary or general election and, if the registration records have not been closed previously for a primary or general election, during the six days before a special election called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate, or pursuant to rule or resolution of either house of the General Assembly and during the 13 days before any other special election. (25103089D)

HB 2056 (Atoosa R. Reaser)

Absentee voting in person; voter satellite offices; days and hours of operation. Authorizes the governing body of any county or city establishing voter satellite offices for absentee voting in person to prescribe, by ordinance, the dates and hours of operation for such offices. (25104174D)

HB 2057 (W. Chad Green)

Voter registration; automatic registration of hunting, fishing, and milk distributor license and concealed handgun permit applicants; penalty. Provides for automatic voter registration by the clerk of any circuit court of the Commonwealth, the Department of Wildlife Resources, and the Milk Commission upon the application for any hunting, fishing, or milk distributor license or Virginia resident concealed handgun permit. (25101529D)

HB 2276 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Voter registration; list maintenance activities; cancellation procedures; required record matches; required identification information; data standards. Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections for list maintenance purposes and requires the Department, upon receiving any such list, to do an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters and determine the confidence score for any match. Matches with a confidence score of at least 80 are transmitted to the appropriate general registrars. The bill prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to annually review all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source, and to include the results of such review in its annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to



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cancelling a voter's record regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is canceled, a cancellation record must be created, and that such records are public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the National Voter Registration Act. The bill includes numerous technical amendments for organizational purposes. (25101670D)

HB 2277 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Elections administration; duties of local electoral board; certification of election; grounds for removal; civil penalty. Provides that the certification of the results of an election is a clear, ministerial duty of the local electoral boards and that a member of the local electoral board who neglects or refuses to perform such duty in accordance with law shall be subject to removal proceedings by the State Board of Elections and assessed a penalty not exceeding \$1,000. The bill also authorizes the State Board of Elections to intervene and carry out the duties related to election certification in the event a local electoral board fails or refuses to do so. (25101672D)

HB 2402 (Delores Oates)

Elections; conduct of election; affirmation statement in lieu of identification; additional information required. Requires a person voting absentee in person or at the polls on election day who signs a statement in lieu of providing a valid form of identification to also provide his full name, year of birth, and the last four digits of his social security number, if any. The form containing the statement and voter information is required to be retained as election materials. (25103687D)

SB 991 (Angelia Williams Graves)/**HB 1735** (Joshua G. Cole)

Voter registration; time period for closing registration records before certain elections. Reduces from 21 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before primary and general elections and from 13 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before special elections that are not called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate. (25102477D)/(25101671D)

SB 1044 (Danica A. Roem)

Elections; election results; reporting; provisional ballots. Requires the general registrar of each locality to report to the Department of Elections for each precinct in his locality the total number of provisional ballots cast, the number of those provisional ballots determined to be valid by the electoral board, and the results of such valid provisional ballots by voters assigned to such precinct. Results from provisional voting and voting at the precinct on election day must be reported separately. The general registrar must also report to the Department the number and results of provisional ballots cast by persons voting early in person separately from the number and results of provisional ballots cast on election day. The Department shall establish standards for ascertaining and reporting such information. Such standards must direct that all results be posted promptly and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the tenth day after the election day. (25105532A)

SB 1174 (David R. Suetterlein)

Elections; prohibited activities; distribution of referendum materials. Adds "referendum" to the description of materials that are prohibited from being distributed within certain areas while voting and registration activities are being conducted. (25103618D)

SB 1175 (David R. Suetterlein)

Elections; absentee voting in person; uniform availability. Requires absentee voting in person to be available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during early voting and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first Saturday and second Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding all elections. Under current



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law, local electoral boards have some discretion to decide certain hours and days when absentee voting in person is available. (25103642D)

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)

Energy

SB 944 (Bill DeSteph)

Natural gas utilities; retail supply choice; work group; report. Allows every person access to distribution service or retail natural gas from a natural gas utility authorized to provide natural gas service to the area where the service will be received. The bill prohibits a public entity from adopting an ordinance, resolution, or any other requirement that limits or prohibits customers from acquiring natural gas service and supply from both utility and non-utility gas companies. The bill prohibits public entities from denying building permits solely based on a proposed utility provider and directs public entities to ensure that all applicable permits and fees are reasonable, as compared to other utility providers, and do not restrict an applicant's ability to use the services of an authorized utility provider. The bill also directs the Department of Energy to convene a work group for the purposes of evaluating the impact of critical infrastructure sectors on natural gas service or natural gas supply choice and the impact of any public entity restricting a critical infrastructure sector from acquiring fuel and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2025. (25102169D)

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)



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Health and Human Services

HB 1593 (Hillary Pugh Kent)/**SB 846** (Christie New Craig)

Access to minor's records; records contained in or made available through secure website. Specifies that for the purposes of allowing a parent to access the academic or health records of such parent's minor child such access includes access to a secure website where such records are contained or made available. (25105491D)/(25105071D)

HB 1612 (Phil M. Hernandez)

Board of Education; Child Care Subsidy Program; maximum reimbursement rate; vendors providing care outside of normal business hours. Directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations relating to the Child Care Subsidy Program to permit payment over the maximum reimbursable rate for any vendor that provides child care outside of normal business hours, provided that such rate may not exceed twice the maximum reimbursable rate for child care provided within normal business hours. (25100791D)

HB 1617 (Adele Y. McClure)

Homeless youth; fees; certain government documents. Provides that when a homeless youth seeks to receive any (i) copies of vital records; (ii) copies of health records; or (iii) DMV-issued learner's permits, driver's licenses, special identification cards, or identification privilege cards or permits, no fee for issuance shall be assessed against the youth. (25103004D)

HB 1631 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)

Department of Social Services; foster care; new luggage; report. Directs the Department of Social Services (the Department) to establish and maintain a decentralized supply of new luggage to be used to transport the personal belongings of a child in foster care. The bill requires the Department to provide new luggage to a child who is entering or exiting foster care or moving from one foster care placement to another and prohibits the Department from using disposable bags or trash bags to transport any items for a child in foster care. The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department to report certain information related to new luggage to the General Assembly by no later than December 1 of each year. (25102315D)

HB 1733 (Joshua G. Cole)

Petitions for relief of care and custody of a child; investigation by local department of social services; Office of the Children's Ombudsman work group; report. Requires a local department of social services, as a part of its investigation after the referral of a request for a petition for relief of the care and custody of a child, to (i) refer the parent to the local family assessment and planning team and (ii) create a written report. The bill directs the Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Virginia League of Social Services Executives, to create a template for and provide guidance on what should be included in such written report. The bill also changes the evidentiary standard of whether there is good cause shown for the petitioner's desire to be relieved of the child's care and custody from a finding based on preponderance of the evidence to a finding based on clear and convincing evidence. The bill also directs the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to convene a work group composed of relevant stakeholders to determine the factors a court should consider when determining whether there is good cause shown for a petitioner's desire to be relieved of the care and custody of a child. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Virginia Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth. (25105494D)



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HB 1893 (Holly M. Seibold)

State plan for medical assistance services; recovery residences; work group; report. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of care provided at certain recovery residences for individuals diagnosed with a substance use disorder. The bill also directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to (i) convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to (a) establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness and impact of recovery residences on long-term recovery outcomes and (b) study the economic impact of recovery residences on the Commonwealth and (ii) in consultation with such work group, promulgate regulations to ensure recovery residences are operating in compliance with American Society of Addiction Medicine standards. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025. (25103164D)

HB 1906 (Rodney T. Willett)

Department of Social Services; Department of Health; local departments of social services; local health districts; screening for unmet social needs; service referrals. Directs the Department of Social Services and Virginia Department of Health to require local departments of social services and local health districts to screen clients seeking services for unmet social needs and refer clients to services for such unmet needs. (25104350D)

HB 1964 (Anne Ferrell Tata)

Bright Futures program. Establishes the Bright Futures program to provide services and support to individuals age 21 through 23 who were in foster care as a minor and are transitioning to full adulthood and self-sufficiency. (25104904D)

HB 2290 (Carrie E. Coyner)/**SB 870** (Barbara A. Favola)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities. Permits the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Social Services, and any local department of social services to access medical and mental health information and records for persons committed to any correctional facility for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. The bill also authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services to access a juvenile's social, medical, psychiatric, and psychological reports and records during pre-release and up to 30 days following such juvenile's release from commitment for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. (25104100D)/(25104025D)

HB 2308 (M. Keith Hodges)

Inhaling drugs or other noxious chemical substances or causing, etc., others to do so; distribution of nitrous oxide to persons under 18 prohibited; penalties. Prohibits the sale or distribution of nitrous oxide to persons under 18 years of age with exceptions as defined in the bill. Any person who fails to make diligent inquiry as to whether the person trying to obtain nitrous oxide is 18 years of age or older or sells, distributes, or attempts to sell or distribute nitrous oxide to a person under 18 years of age is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also adds nitrous oxide to the list of noxious chemical substances for which it is unlawful to deliberately smell or inhale with the intent to become intoxicated, inebriated, excited, or stupefied or to dull the brain or nervous system, or to deliberately cause another person to do so. (25100988D)

HB 2399 (Phillip A. Scott)

Parental access to minor's health records. Requires health care entities that provide access to health records of minors through a secure website to make such health records available to the minor's parent or guardian through the same secure website. (25100009D)



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HB 2457 (Jackie H. Glass)

State Board of Social Services; regulations; application for and use of foster care benefits. Directs the State Board of Social Services to amend its regulations by January 1, 2026, to (i) require local departments of social services to apply for federal benefits on behalf of children in foster care that they may be eligible for, (ii) prohibit the use of military survivor benefits to pay for the care and support of children in foster care that the Commonwealth is otherwise obligated to pay for, and (iii) require local departments of social services that are representative payees for children in foster care to conserve such military survivor benefits in an appropriate trust instrument or protected account that is exempt from federal asset and resource limits. (25100277D)

HB 2754 (JJ Singh)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities. (25105324D)

SB 791 (Christopher T. Head)

Certain practical nursing programs; common curriculum; transferability to registered nursing programs. Requires the Virginia Community College System (the System), in consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Board of Nursing, and representatives from both associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and baccalaureate public institutions of higher education that offer nursing programs, to develop a common curriculum for practical nursing programs that shall be implemented at each comprehensive community college in the System that offers a practical nursing program. The bill requires such common curriculum, to the extent possible, to (i) align with the degree requirements for registered nursing programs offered at associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and baccalaureate public institutions of higher education and (ii) be transferable to each registered nursing program offered at an associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education or a baccalaureate public institution of higher education. The bill (a) requires each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education and each baccalaureate public institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to participate in a practical nursing program to registered nursing program transfer agreement with the System that aligns with the practical nursing program common curriculum established pursuant to the bill and (b) permits any private institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to be consulted regarding and participate on a voluntary basis in such a transfer agreement. (25101918D)

SB 838 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; recovery residences; certification required; penalty; work group. Changes the existing civil penalty for a violation of law related to the operation of recovery residences to a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to (i) make recommendations related to oversight and transparency for recovery residences and (ii) develop credentialing guidelines for recovery residences. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2025. (25102136D)

SB 846 (Christie New Craig)

Access to minor's records; records contained in or made available through secure website. Specifies that for the purposes of allowing a parent to access the academic or health records of such parent's minor child such access includes access to a secure website where such records are contained or made available. (25102899D)

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



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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)

SB 953 (Barbara A. Favola)

Certain practical nursing programs; common curriculum; transferability to registered nursing programs; pathway of stackable credentials. Requires the Virginia Community College System, in consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Board of Nursing, and representatives from associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education that offer nursing programs, to develop a common curriculum for practical nursing programs that shall be implemented at each comprehensive community college in the System that offers a practical nursing program. The bill requires such common curriculum, to the extent possible, to (i) align with the degree requirements for registered nursing programs offered at associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and (ii) be transferable to each registered nursing program offered at an associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education. The bill (a) requires each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to participate in a practical nursing program to registered nursing program transfer agreement with the System that aligns with the practical nursing program common curriculum established pursuant to the bill and (b) permits any private institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to be consulted regarding and participate on a voluntary basis in such a transfer agreement. The bill also requires the System to establish a pathway of stackable nursing credentials that consists of a practical nursing to associate registered nursing to bachelor of science in nursing program pathway. (25105795D)

SB 1036 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

Seizure rescue medications; administration by certain school employees; possession by certain students. Permits a prescriber to authorize an employee of (i) a school board, (ii) a school for students with disabilities, (iii) an accredited private school, (iv) a local governing body, or (v) a local health department who is trained in the administration of intranasal seizure rescue medications for the treatment of seizures resulting from a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters to administer such medications to a student diagnosed with a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters when the student is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a seizure pursuant to a written order or standing protocol issued within the course of the prescriber's professional practice and with the consent of the student's parents. The bill provides that any such authorized employee who administers or assists in the administration of such medications to a student diagnosed with a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters when the student is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a seizure in accordance with the prescriber's instructions shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such treatment. The bill also permits any local school board to adopt and implement policies (a) permitting any student enrolled in any elementary or secondary school in the local school division who has a diagnosis of a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters to possess intranasal seizure rescue medications during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while on a school bus or other school property if the student's parent has submitted a seizure management and action plan that includes written consent of the parent and written approval of the student's primary care provider for such self-possession or (b) for the administration of intranasal seizure rescue medications to any student enrolled in any elementary or secondary school in the local school division who has a diagnosis of a condition causing acute



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repetitive seizures or clusters, consistent with the provisions of the bill relating to prescriber authorization. (25103037D)

SB 1290 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Health insurance; reimbursement for services rendered by certain practitioners other than physicians. Requires health insurers and health service plan providers whose accident and sickness insurance policies or subscription contracts cover services that may be legally performed by a physician assistant to provide equal coverage for such services when rendered by a licensed athletic trainer when such services are performed in an office setting. Additionally, the bill requires the reimbursement or payment for a service provided by certain licensed practitioners listed in the bill to be in the same amount as the reimbursement or payment paid under such policy or subscription contract to a licensed physician performing such service in the area served. (25100991D)

SB 1326 (Russet Perry)/**HB 1831** (Shelly A. Simonds)

Department of Emergency Management; work groups related to the Commonwealth's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; report. Directs the Department of Emergency Management to convene work groups to (i) study the reliance of the Commonwealth and its localities on federal grants for core emergency management functions, (ii) study and develop a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework to take effect during a disaster for which a state of emergency has been declared, and (iii) study and develop solutions to address breaks in technology continuity among communities across the Commonwealth during emergencies. The bill directs each work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth. (25102605D)/(25101156D)

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)

HB 1688 (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Short-term rentals; compliance; civil penalty. Authorizes localities to notify an accommodations intermediary that a short-term rental on its platform is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform. The accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform within seven days of receiving notice and shall provide a refund to any customer reserving such listing. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Any such listing required to be removed shall remain unlisted until the accommodations intermediary has been notified by the locality that the short-term rental has been brought into compliance. Once the locality determines that a delisted short-term rental has been brought into compliance, the locality shall have seven days to notify the accommodations intermediary of the change in status. (25101999D)

HB 1690 (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Eminent domain; documents provided to landowner. Clarifies that the documents to be provided by the condemnor to a landowner in a condemnation action are those listed in the required title report. (25102002D)



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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. (25105006A)

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)

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 1136 (Jennifer B. Boysko)

Local anti-rent gouging authority; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt anti-rent gouging provisions. The bill provides for notice and a public hearing prior to the adoption of such ordinance and specifies that all landlords who are under the ordinance may be required to give at least two months' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, not to exceed three percent, and states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year. The bill requires the locality to publish such allowance on its website by June 1 of each year. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from such ordinance. The bill also requires a locality to establish an anti-rent gouging board to establish rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance or delegate such duties and functions to an existing local board, department, or agency. Finally, the bill provides that a locality shall establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in its ordinance. (25101933D)

Information Technology

HB 2546 (Sam Rasoul)

Obtaining records concerning electronic communication service or remote computing service without a warrant. Provides that when disclosure of real-time location data or subscriber data is not prohibited by federal law, an investigative or law-enforcement officer may obtain real-time location data or subscriber data without a warrant if the investigative or law-enforcement officer reasonably believes that (i) an individual or group of individuals has made a credible threat via electronic communication to commit an act of violence upon the property, including the buildings and grounds thereof, of any (a) child day center, including any preschool program offered by a publicly funded provider; (b) preschool or nursery program certified by the Board of Education; or (c) public, private, or religious elementary or secondary school and (ii) a warrant cannot be obtained in time to prevent the identified danger or identify the source of the threat. (25102127D)



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SB 1239 (Ryan T. McDougle)

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)

Juvenile Justice

HB 1583 (Jason S. Ballard)

Threats to discharge a firearm within or at buildings or means of transportation; penalties. Provides that any person (i) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, discharge a firearm within or at, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation or (ii) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, discharging of a firearm within or at, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation is guilty of a Class 5 felony, provided, however, that if such person is under 18 years of age, he is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under current law, any person 15 years of age or older (i) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation or (ii) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation is guilty of a Class 5 felony. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference. (25103755D)

SB 1268 (Tara A. Durant)

Department of Juvenile Justice; inquiry and report of immigration status; juvenile or adult adjudicated delinquent or convicted of violent juvenile felony. Requires the Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice or other person in charge of a secure facility where a juvenile or adult has been committed upon an adjudication of delinquency or a finding of guilt for a violent juvenile felony to ascertain whether such juvenile or adult is in the United States illegally and, if such juvenile or adult is found to be in the United States illegally, to communicate such information to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Under current law, such immigration inquiries are required of jail officers or correctional officers in charge of state, local, or regional correctional facilities. (25104378D)

Public Safety

HB 1643 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)

Dismissal of certain traffic violations for proof of compliance with law. Provides that a court may, in its discretion, dismiss a violation for driving without a license if such person can prove to the court compliance with the law on or before the court date and payment of court fees. The bill also provides that a court may, in its discretion and where there have been no prior violations or convictions, dismiss a person's violation for driving while his driver's license, learner's permit, or privilege to drive is suspended or revoked if such person can prove to the court compliance with the law on or before the court date and payment of court fees. (25105849A)

HB 1865 (Katrina Callsen)

Virginia Access to Justice Act. Establishes a public defender office in each judicial circuit. Currently, public defender offices have been established in certain localities. The bill also establishes an appellate defender office to



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represent indigent persons in appeals of their convictions to the Court of Appeals of Virginia or Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. Further, the bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and assistant attorney for the Commonwealth to prosecute Class 1, 2, and 3 misdemeanors, or any other violation, the conviction of which carries a penalty of confinement in jail, or a fine of \$500 or more, or both such confinement and fine. Current law allows discretion for prosecuting such misdemeanors and violations. Lastly, the bill expands the definition of "victim" as it relates to compensating victims of crime to include persons awarded restitution pursuant to relevant law. (25100088D)

HB 1874 (Rozia A. Henson, Jr.)

Publication of personal information of retired or former law-enforcement officers. Adds retired or former law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, to the definition of "public official" for the purposes of prohibiting the Commonwealth from publishing a public official's personal information on the Internet. The bill provides that the demand in writing required to prohibit the publication of such personal information shall be effective for a period of four years, provided that such retired or former law-enforcement officer was retired or ended his service within four years of filing a petition with a circuit court. (25103674D)

HB 2385 (Eric R. Zehr)

Motor vehicle accidents; actions brought by uninsured motorists; limited damages. Places limits on the amount of recoverable damages in a motor vehicle accident resulting in personal injury or property damage when the person injured or whose property was damaged is an uninsured motorist. The bill provides that the limits do not apply if (i) the tortfeasor was driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, (ii) the tortfeasor failed to stop and report the injury or damage after such accident, or (iii) the injury or damage was a result of an intentional act taken by the tortfeasor to injure the person or damage such person's property. (25102577D)

HB 2492 (Eric R. Zehr)

Motor vehicle accidents; actions brought by uninsured motorists; limited damages. Places limits on the amount of recoverable damages in a motor vehicle accident resulting in personal injury or property damage when the person injured or whose property was damaged is an uninsured motorist. The bill provides that the limits do not apply if (i) the tortfeasor was driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, (ii) the tortfeasor failed to stop and report the injury or damage after such accident, or (iii) the injury or damage was a result of an intentional act taken by the tortfeasor to injure the person or damage such person's property. (25104151D)

SB 781 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy)

Publication of personal information of retired or former law-enforcement officers. Adds retired or former law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, to the definition of "public official" for the purposes of prohibiting the Commonwealth from publishing a public official's personal information on the Internet. The bill provides that the demand in writing required to prohibit the publication of such personal information shall be effective for a period of four years, provided that such retired or former law-enforcement officer was retired or ended his service within four years of filing a petition with a circuit court. (25101049D)

SB 825 (Barbara A. Favola)

Seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Permits a law-enforcement officer investigating the financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult to seek a warrant from a judicial officer to seize moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities, including those in deposit accounts, and retain, pending a prosecution or appeal, sufficient amounts of such moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities as is necessary to prove such financial exploitation. The bill allows a court, upon motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth and for good cause shown, to order the release



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of all moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities. Any remaining moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities may also be released to the owner by the court with the consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth. (25101929D)

SB 936 (Christie New Craig)

Decreasing probation period; criteria for mandatory reduction. Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing qualifying educational activities, maintaining verifiable employment, complying with or completing any state-certified or state-approved mental health or substance abuse treatment program, securing and maintaining qualifying health insurance or a qualifying health care plan, and obtaining housing and establishing residence. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct and in the interests of justice and may do so without a hearing. (25103378D)

SB 1110 (Angelia Williams Graves)

Weapons; possession prohibited in a hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly possess in the building of any hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, a (i) firearm, (ii) knife with a blade over three and one-half inches, or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including explosives and stun weapons. The bill also provides that notice of such prohibitions shall be posted conspicuously at the public entrance of any hospital and no person shall be convicted of the offense if such notice is not posted, unless such person had actual notice of the prohibitions. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies exceptions to the prohibition. (25104369D)

SB 1183 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Virginia Access to Justice Act. Establishes a public defender office in each judicial circuit. Currently, public defender offices have been established in certain localities. The bill also establishes an appellate defender office to represent indigent persons in appeals of their convictions to the Court of Appeals of Virginia or Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. Further, the bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and assistant attorney for the Commonwealth to prosecute Class 1, 2, and 3 misdemeanors, or any other violation, the conviction of which carries a penalty of confinement in jail, or a fine of \$500 or more, or both such confinement and fine. Current law allows discretion for prosecuting such misdemeanors and violations. Lastly, the bill expands the definition of "victim" as it relates to compensating victims of crime to include persons awarded restitution pursuant to relevant law. (25100428D)

Public Safety/Criminal Justice

HB 1692 (Ellen H. Campbell)

Virginia Parole Board; investigation of cases for executive clemency. Requires all public bodies engaged in criminal law-enforcement activities to provide certain specified records upon request by the Virginia Parole Board related to cases in which executive clemency is sought or the Virginia Parole Board believes action on the part of the Governor is proper or in the best interest of the Commonwealth. The bill specifies that records of any general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court, or circuit court and the Department of Forensic Science shall be subject to such provisions and that any records requested shall be provided to the Virginia Parole Board at no cost. The bill requires any requested records be provided within five working days of receiving the request. Additionally, the bill specifies that records obtained pursuant to such request are for the internal use of the Virginia



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Parole Board, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the Office of the Governor and shall not be further disseminated. (25100761D)

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. (25105938D)

SB 900 (Bill DeSteph)

Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Authorizes localities by ordinance to provide a total exemption from real property taxes regardless of assessed value beginning in taxable year 2025. Under current law, a total exemption is only allowed for those dwellings in the locality with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential. (25102345D)

Transportation

HB 1673 (Michael J. Jones)

Pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems and stop sign violation monitoring systems; violation enforcement; civil penalty. Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk intersection segments for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those



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terms are defined in the bill. The bill imposes the same requirements on pedestrian crossing and stop sign violation monitoring systems as currently exist for photo speed monitoring devices and requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of such systems to, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion. (25102447D)

HB 1750 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Department of Transportation; maintenance on components of the Interstate System. Authorizes the Department of Transportation to perform nonemergency work on the Interstate System with its own employees or agents. Current law requires nonemergency maintenance on components of the Interstate System to be carried out by contractors unless the Commissioner of Highways provides good and sufficient reasons for not doing so. (25100436D)

HB 1926 (Jeion A. Ward)

Traffic control device and traffic light signal violation monitoring systems; issuance of summons. Increases from 10 business days to 30 business days the deadline for a locality to execute a summons for a traffic control device or traffic light signal violation enforced by a violation monitoring system. (25101874D)

HB 2256 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

Report of motor vehicle accident; damage threshold. Increases from \$1,500 to \$5,000 the property damage threshold at which law enforcement is required to forward a written report of a motor vehicle accident to the Department of Motor Vehicles. (25101543D)

HB 2464 (Geary Higgins)

Highway rights-of-way; invasive species. Requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish and implement a policy for identifying, digging up, and destroying any invasive plant on the list of invasive plants created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on any state highway right-of-way. (25103728D)

HB 2627 (Jackie H. Glass)

Automated driving systems and remotely operated vehicles. Provides requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles and motor vehicles operated with an automated driving system engaged. The bill requires fully autonomous vehicles and automated driving systems operated in the Commonwealth to receive autonomous operation licenses prior to being operated in the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that all requirements for a human driver physically present in a motor vehicle also apply to a human driver who operates a motor vehicle through remote means and requires such human driver to be physically present in the Commonwealth when operating such motor vehicle. (25100161D)

HB 2702 (Mike A. Cherry)

State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act; contracts; nonexclusive towing service programs. Provides that a contract, for purposes of the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, does not include a contract for nonexclusive towing service programs regulated pursuant to an ordinance adopted by the governing body of a locality to regulate towing services rendered pursuant to police towing requests by any business engaged in the towing or storage of unattended, abandoned, or immobile vehicles. (25104323D)

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



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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)

SB 1131 (Russet Perry)

Abandonment of highways and roads; consideration of alternative use. Provides that in Planning District 8, consideration shall be given to the discontinuance, rather than the abandonment, of a highway in the primary or secondary state highway system and its potential uses for (i) hiking or bicycle trails, (ii) greenway corridors, or (iii) access to historic, cultural, and educational sites. The bill also requires the governing body of a county in Planning District 8, prior to the abandonment of a road not in the primary or secondary state highway system, in determining whether public necessity exists for the continuance of a section of road as a public road, to consider such potential uses of such road as described in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii). (25104236D)

SB 1144 (Mark D. Obenshain)

Commonwealth Rail Fund; Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund. Removes the \$4 million cap on those Commonwealth Rail Fund (Fund) moneys distributed to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation that may be applied to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund. The bill retains the current provisions granting 93 percent of Fund moneys to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and seven percent to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation. (25102452D)

SB 1173 (David R. Suetterlein)

Virginia coordinate systems; federal updates. Updates several references in Code to the Virginia Coordinate System of 2022 and aligns state law with federal changes with respect to measurement standards. The bill replaces the U.S. survey foot with the international foot. The provisions of the bill become effective upon the official release by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Geodetic Survey of the State Plane Coordinate System of 2022 and certification in writing to the Virginia Code Commission that such contingency has been met. (25100657D)

SB 1250 (Lamont Bagby)

Transportation Trust Fund; investments; personal liability. Extends the limitation on personal liability for loss in investments from moneys in the Transportation Trust Fund to an individual's actions taken while serving on or employed by certain entities, even if such individual no longer serves on or is employed by any such entity. The bill also applies such limitation on personal liability for loss in investments to members and employees of the Central Virginia Transportation Authority. (25100598D)

SB 1340 (David W. Marsden)

Commissioner of Highways; prequalification program for self-bonding program; certain reports; repealed. Removes (i) the biennial report requirement for the Commissioner of Highways regarding the use of funds in the Innovation and Technology Transportation Fund; (ii) the requirement for a prequalification program agreed upon by the Commissioner of Highways and the Department of the Treasury for the self-bonding program for transportation-related construction projects; and (iii) reporting requirements for the Department of Transportation regarding certain information related to performance or payment bonds, waivers, and self-bonding program enrollment. (25100652D)



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SB 1411 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Lighted vehicle headlights; lawful stop by law-enforcement officer. Repeals provisions that prohibit a law-enforcement officer from stopping a vehicle for failing to display lighted headlights in certain circumstances. The bill also repeals provisions rendering inadmissible at any trial, hearing, or other proceeding any evidence discovered or obtained as the result of such a stop. (25103890D)

SB 1445 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Traffic control device violation or traffic light signal violation monitoring systems; school bus video-monitoring systems; inspection of photograph, video, recording, etc., of certain violations. Provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer, certified special conservator of the peace, or technician employed by a locality authorized to impose penalties for certain traffic violations who has obtained and inspected photographs, microphotographs, video, recorded images, or other recordings from a traffic light signal violation monitoring system, traffic control device violation monitoring system, or video-monitoring system installed and operated on a school bus shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein. (25104703D)

SB 1458 (William M. Stanley, Jr.)

Display of single license plate; fee. Authorizes any owner of a passenger car that is otherwise required to display two license plates to display, upon payment of an additional annual fee of \$100 at the time of vehicle registration or renewal of vehicle registration and upon receipt of proof of the payment of such fee from the Department of Motor Vehicles, a single license plate on the rear of such vehicle instead of two. The bill authorizes any law-enforcement officer to require the owner to furnish such proof of the payment of such fee. The bill directs the funds from such fees to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. (25104592D)

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 - 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)



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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)



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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)

HB 2216 (Israel D. O'Quinn)

State Board of Elections; appointment of Commissioner of Elections. Changes the appointing authority of the Commissioner of Elections from the Governor to the State Board of Elections, with an affirmative vote of four of the five State Board members required for the appointment or removal of the Commissioner, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. The bill also changes the start of the four-year term of the Commissioner from July 1 of the year following a gubernatorial election to the second year following such election. The bill exempts the Department of Elections from provisions allowing the Governor to appoint a chief deputy and a confidential assistant for policy or administration. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the Commissioner, the bill provides that the Director of Operations of the Department will perform the duties of the Commissioner until such vacancy is filled by the State Board. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. (25100943D)

HJ 434 (Michael B. Feggans)

Study; JLARC; non-federal sponsor contributions by localities to conduct coastal storm risk management studies; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology for determining the monetary contributions by localities or other non-federal sponsors to the total cost of coastal storm risk management studies. The study also directs JLARC to determine whether a separate fund should be established to support and manage cost-share requests from non-federal sponsors for such studies. (25103183D)

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. (25102308D)

SB 940 (Scott A. Surovell)

Elections; candidates for office; challenges to candidate qualifications. Requires any legal action relating to a person's eligibility to appear on the ballot on the basis that such person did not meet all qualifications or fulfill all



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requirements for candidacy to be filed in a circuit court and served on all parties at least 60 days before the date of the election. The bill specifies that any such legal action will be given precedence on the docket and be decided by the court no later than 30 days from service on all parties. The bill also specifies that 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. (25104113D)

SB 992 (Angelia Williams Graves)

Civil penalties for certain repeat zoning violations in Planning District 23; appeals. Provides an enhanced level of civil penalties in Planning District 23 (Hampton Roads) for repeat violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses, defined in the bill. The bill also clarifies (i) that when a board of zoning appeals hears appeals from the decision of an administrative officer and alters the statutorily required order of evidence, it is a reversible error and (ii) that the required statement of a right to appeal an administrative officer's decision must be sent to the aggrieved person by certified mail with proof of delivery. (25102414D)

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. (25104422D)

SB 1342 (Lamont Bagby)

Department of Energy; work group; barriers to reducing energy-related costs of living in low-income households; report. Directs the Department of Energy to convene a work group to identify existing barriers to reducing energy-related costs of living in low-income households in the Commonwealth and to submit a report of its findings to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation by November 15, 2025. (25104503D)

Education

HB 1732 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Health records; disclosure of laboratory test results. Requires health care entities to wait 72 hours before disclosing test results that could indicate malignancy or genetic markers as part of a patient's health records. The bill permits health care entities to disclose health records to an electronic health information exchange to comply with the 21st Century Cures Act. (25103088D)

HB 2287 (Carrie E. Coyner)

Guidelines and policies on school-connected overdose; response and parental notification. Adjusts the contents of the guidelines that the Board of Education is required to establish for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies by requiring such guidelines to include guidance and model language for the development and implementation of a policy requiring each school board to provide within 24 hours of any school-



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connected overdose notification to the parent of each student within the local school division and criteria for ensuring sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals in issuing such notification. The bill also requires each school board to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose within 24 hours of the overdose occurring in accordance with the guidance and criteria provided by the Board of Education. (25103388D)

HB 2424 (Geary Higgins)
(25104380D)

HB 2774 (JJ Singh)
Board of Education; school-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; requirements. (25105363D)

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)

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)/(25105642D)

SB 775 (Scott A. Surovell)
Elections; election offenses; dissemination of artificial audio or artificial visual media to influence an election; penalty. Provides that any person who knowingly disseminates artificial audio or artificial visual media, as defined in the bill, intended to influence a political campaign shall include a conspicuous statement at the beginning of such media that states "THIS MEDIA DOES NOT REPRESENT A TRUE RECORDING OF THE CANDIDATE." The bill provides that any person who fails to include such statement is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor, but if such person knows or reasonably should have known that such artificial audio or artificial visual media being disseminated is deceptive or misleading and such dissemination (i) takes place within 90 days before an election, (ii) is made without the consent of the depicted candidate, and (iii) is made with the intent to injure a candidate or influence the result of an election, such person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also provides that any (a) depicted individual, (b) candidate for office who has been injured or is likely to be injured by the distribution of artificial audio or artificial visual media, or (c) entity that represents the interests of voters likely to be deceived by the distribution of artificial audio or artificial visual media shall be entitled to institute an action for preventative relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order, against the person who has disseminated the artificial audio or artificial visual



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media. The bill also provides exceptions for any content that constitutes satire or parody that is substantially dependent on the ability of an individual to impersonate a candidate physically or verbally and not upon technology or artificial intelligence or for any news organization or newsperson engaged in journalism, as those terms are defined in the bill. (25101007D)

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)

SB 1404 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School boards; method of selection; election required. Requires election as the method of selecting the members of each school board in the Commonwealth and makes several changes to eliminate provisions relating to appointed school boards. Current law requires such members to be appointed but permits their election under certain circumstances. (25100262D)

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)

SB 917 (Scott A. Surovell)

Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement (25102162D)

Environment

SB 1234 (Lashrecse D. Aird)

Water Testing and Treatment Program; Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program Fund; certification; permits. Requires the Board of Health to promulgate regulations for use of drinking water treatment or filtration systems certified as compliant with National Sanitation Foundation and American National Standards Institute standards to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonate, and other contaminants of concern. The bill requires any permit application for private well construction to include (i) an indication as to whether such permit is for new construction of a well, repair of an existing well, or modification of an existing well and (ii) if such permit is for new construction of a well that is intended to



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replace an existing well, an indication as to the reason such existing well will no longer be used. The bill establishes the Water Testing and Treatment Program and the Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program Fund to assist with the testing and treating of contaminated drinking water through grants for the use of eligible treatment and filtration systems in private residential wells. Such grants are contingent on applicants demonstrating (a) the severity of the drinking water contamination, (b) the lack of available public water alternatives, and (c) the economic need of the private residential well owner. (25102983D)

SB 1254 (Lamont Bagby)

Comprehensive plan; environmental justice strategy. Requires cities with populations greater than 20,000 and counties with populations greater than 100,000 to consider, at the next and all subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan, adopting an environmental justice strategy. The bill provides that the locality's strategy shall be to identify environmental justice and fenceline communities within the jurisdiction of the local planning commission and identify objectives and policies to reduce health risks, to promote civic engagement, and to prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of environmental justice and fenceline communities, as those terms are defined by the bill. (25103447D)

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)

HB 1637 (Patrick A. Hope)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone. (25101183D)

HB 1649 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)

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. (25102272D)

HB 1651 (Jason S. Ballard)/**SB 772** (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

Department of Social Services; applications for public assistance; immigration status inquiry. Requires the director of a local department of social services or the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, whichever is applicable, to inquire as to the immigration status of all persons applying for public assistance benefits administered by the Department of Social Services. (25100898D)/(25100899D)



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HB 1675 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)

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. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. (25102220D)

HB 1760 (Debra D. Gardner)

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Act; report. Directs the Department of Health (the Department), in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Education, to establish several programs related to mental health for children five years of age or younger. The bill directs the Department to establish a mental health consultation program for early childhood education providers, health care providers, and families. In service of this program, the bill requires the Department to employ or contract with mental health professionals to provide consulting services on mental health. The bill also requires the Department to establish mandatory training programs for early childhood educators, child care providers, and pediatric health care providers, as those terms are defined in the bill, and to require such programs in order to maintain licensure in such professions. The bill directs the Department to establish parent education programs that are available in multiple locations as well as to create an evidence-based home visiting program to provide at-risk families with direct support and education on early childhood development. The bill requires the Department to collect data on the programs and report annually to the General Assembly. (25101729D)

HB 1777 (Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr.)

Office of the Children's Ombudsman; foster youth's right to receive information. Requires the Department of Social Services or a local department of social services, a children's residential facility, or any child-placing agency to provide certain information along with the contact information for the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to a biological parent, prospective adoptive parent, or foster parent, as well as to any child in foster care age 12 or older upon the opening of a foster care case for such child. The bill also provides that, in relation to complaints made to the Ombudsman, if such child is the complainant, the Ombudsman need not gain the consent of the Department or local department of social services, the children's residential facility, the child-placing agency, or the foster parent or guardian of the child or other person having custody or care of the child to receive information from or communicate with the child. (25102551D)

HB 1804 (Laura Jane Cohen)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; application for medical assistance; eligibility for Medicaid Works. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary approvals from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to amend its application for medical assistance to gather all necessary information to determine an applicant's eligibility for the Medicaid Works program. (25102557D)

HB 1811 (Ellen H. Campbell)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; income exemption for personal care assistants. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the appropriate approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to create an income exemption for licensed providers of personal care assistance. (25101124D)

HB 1895 (Rodney T. Willett)

Involuntary temporary detention orders; definition of "psychiatric emergency department." Amends the definition of "psychiatric emergency department" as it relates to involuntary temporary detention orders to remove the



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requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be located adjacent to a facility licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and to add a requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be licensed by either the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or the Department of Health. (25100461D)

HB 1902 (Rodney T. Willett)

Board of Health; Department of Health Professions; Prescription Monitoring Program; overdose information. Directs the Board of Health to report patient level data on patients who overdose on opioids to the Department of Health Professions for use in the Prescription Monitoring Program. The bill requires practitioners to obtain such data when prescribing opioids. (25101768D)

HB 1937 (Patrick A. Hope)

Acute psychiatric bed registry; Bed Registry Advisory Council; patient privacy and data security; Virginia Freedom of Information Act exemption. Requires the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to include provisions for the protection of patient privacy and data security pursuant to state and federal law and regulations in contracts with private entities for the administration of the acute psychiatric bed registry. The bill requires the Commissioner to create the Bed Registry Advisory Council, consisting of representatives from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards; two representatives from hospitals or health systems; and two representatives from community services boards, to advise the Commissioner and any such private entity on the administration of such registry and to review and approve requests for access to data from the registry. The bill also creates a Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemption for information submitted to such registry. (25104280D)

HB 2189 (Nicholas J. Freitas)

Immunizations; authority of the Commissioner of Health; religious exception. Exempts a person, including a parent or guardian on behalf of a child, who objects to administration of a vaccine on religious grounds from mandatory immunization requirements issued by the State Health Commissioner during an epidemic. Currently, exemption from mandatory immunization requirements during an epidemic is available only to those persons to whose health the administration of a vaccine would be detrimental, as certified in writing by a licensed physician. (25100793D)

HB 2300 (Ellen H. Campbell)

Drinking water; maximum contaminant levels; water treatment or filtration systems; Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Program Fund established. Directs the State Board of Health to adopt regulations to utilize point-of-use or point-of-entry drinking water treatment or filtration systems to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of contaminants of concern that meet or exceed any maximum contaminant level or health advisory for the same contaminant adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The bill also establishes the Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Program Fund to allow the Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water to test and treat contaminated drinking water through grants for the use of eligible treatment or filtration systems in private residential wells. (25101679D)

HB 2309 (M. Keith Hodges)

Department of Health; local health districts and local health departments; guidance for septic and well permits. Directs the Department of Health to develop guidance directing local health districts and local health departments to evaluate and recommend administrative solutions to problems with a valid septic or well permit prior to issuing a revocation for such valid septic or well permit. (25102737D)



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HB 2344 (Chris Obenshain)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; program extension. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to take all steps necessary to implement the federal extension option for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities to allow children four years of age or younger to receive services through such program. (25102784D)

HB 2407 (Phillip A. Scott)/**SB 1408** (Bryce E. Reeves)

Department of Health; waterworks; mandatory reporting of anomalies; negligence. Requires owners of waterworks to report any operational anomaly that could affect water quality, public health, or service continuity to the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water (the Office) within 24 hours of discovery. The bill requires any critical equipment failure, including a pump failure or any other malfunction that poses an immediate risk to public health or disrupts water service to be reported to the Office within six hours of discovery. Under the bill, failure to comply with the reporting requirements constitutes negligence and failure to comply with the critical equipment failure reporting requirements constitutes gross negligence. (25100594D)/(25105777D)

HB 2562 (Kim A. Taylor)

Abortion; treatment of a nonviable pregnancy; emergency. Provides that the criminal penalties applicable to the performance of an abortion do not apply to the treatment of a nonviable pregnancy, as defined in the bill, provided that, pursuant to reasonable standards of care, failure to treat such nonviable pregnancy by terminating the pregnancy or attempting to terminate the pregnancy by performing an abortion or inducing a miscarriage is likely to result in the death of the woman or would substantially and irretrievably impair the physical health of the woman. The bill contains an emergency clause. (25101842D)

HB 2614 (Wren M. Williams)

Department of Health; food service permits; out-of-state caterers. Directs the Department of Health to adopt regulations allowing caterers located outside of the Commonwealth to obtain a permit to provide food services for events located in the Commonwealth. (25104596D)

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)

SB 743 (Barbara A. Favola)

Reproductive health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes. 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, as 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 accused of an alleged offense in the demanding state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. (25101042D)



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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 768 (Barbara A. Favola)

Department of Education; survey of local education agencies on school-based mental and behavioral health services; report. Requires the Department of Education (the Department) to survey each local education agency (LEA) in the Commonwealth to determine (i) how public schools governed by such LEA currently grant access to local departments of social services and community services boards and other community-based providers of mental and behavioral health services and (ii) what school-based mental and behavioral health services are made available by such LEA. The bill requires the Department to utilize the results of and feedback from the survey to inform the continued development and improvement of guidelines for school professionals to support students and families by connecting them with community resources that provide mental and behavioral health services. The bill requires the Department to report to the Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025, any findings and recommendations that result from the survey. (25101253D)

SB 790 (Christopher T. Head)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone. (25101902D)

SB 801 (Barbara A. Favola)

Children's Services Act; state pool of funds. Makes a number of changes to the Children's Services Act state pool of funds for the provision of public or private nonresidential or residential services for troubled youth and families, including (i) removing the requirement that the Office of Children's Services consult with private special education services providers in developing the standard reporting template for tuition rates; (ii) removing from the purpose of the state pool of funds the consolidation of categorical agency funding and the institution of community responsibility for the provision of services; (iii) removing language specifying that references to funding sources and current placement authority for the target population served by the state pool of funds are for the purpose of accounting for the funds and should not be intended to categorize children and youth into funding streams in order to access services; (iv) modifying the target population served by the state pool of funds by (a) removing references to the Department of Education's private tuition assistance and the Interagency Assistance Fund for Noneducational Placement for Handicapped Children and (b) adding children and youth who are determined to be a child in need of services, as such term is defined in relevant law; (v) removing the requirement that the financial and legal responsibility for certain special education services remains with the placing jurisdiction, unless the placing jurisdiction has transitioned all appropriate services; (vi) requiring that the uniform assessment instrument used to determine eligibility for funding through the state pool of funds be approved by the State Executive



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Council for Children's Services; and (vii) modifying the eligibility criteria for funding through the state pool of funds by adding language that (a) specifies that the child or youth's emotional or behavioral problems have resulted in the child or youth, or place the child or youth at imminent risk of, entering purchased residential care and (b) includes the determination by a court that the child or youth is a child in need of services, as such term is defined in relevant law. The bill also includes technical changes. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth. (25104681A)

SB 817 (Aaron R. Rouse)

Public elementary and secondary schools; cardiac emergency response or emergency action plans required; CERP/EAP Grant Program established. Requires each public elementary or secondary school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) or an athletic emergency action plan (EAP), as that term is defined by the bill, that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual who is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds and, in the event that such school has an athletic department or organized athletic program, while attending or participating in an athletic practice or event. The bill requires each such CERP or athletic EAP to integrate nationally recognized evidence-based core elements and nationally recognized evidence-based guidelines and to integrate certain provisions and guidelines, including those relating to establishing a cardiac emergency response team, activating such team in response to a sudden cardiac event, and integrating the CERP or athletic EAP into the local community's emergency medical services response protocols. The bill also requires, with such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, the Department of Education to establish and administer the CERP /EAP Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants, on a competitive basis, to any public elementary or secondary school to assist such school in the development or implementation of its CERP or athletic EAP or in the purchase or funding of activities or equipment that further promotes CERP or athletic EAP preparedness, giving priority to certain high-need schools, as defined in the bill. (25101340D)

SB 818 (Barbara A. Favola)

Department of Social Services; children in foster care; federal benefits; notice of eligibility. Directs the Department of Social Services to provide written notice of a child in foster care's eligibility to receive certain federal benefits, specified in the bill, to (i) the child, if the child is 13 years of age or older; (ii) the child's parent, parents or guardians, or other person responsible for the child; (iii) the guardian ad litem; (iv) the counsel appointed for the child; and (v) the local department of social services or child-placing agency. (25104462D)

SB 819 (Barbara A. Favola)

Referrals to community-based outpatient stabilization programs for voluntary treatment. Requires health care professionals and evaluators to consider whether a referral to a community-based outpatient stabilization program for voluntary treatment is appropriate prior to a patient's release from an emergency custody order or a temporary detention order. (25100803D)

SB 826 (Mamie E. Locke)

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Department of Health Professions; predetermination for licensing eligibility; prior convictions. Prohibits the use of vague or arbitrary terms by a regulatory board or department within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or Department of Health when refusing a person a license, certificate, or registration to practice, pursue, or engage in any regulated occupation or profession. The bill requires such regulatory board or department denying a registration, license, or certificate based on information in the applicant's criminal history record to notify the applicant in writing of (i) the specific offense or offenses that contributed to such denial; (ii) how the criminal history directly relates to the occupation for which the registration, license, or certificate applies; and (iii) how the regulatory board or department weighed rehabilitation factors when making its decision. The bill further allows an applicant to request a written



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predetermination from a regulatory board or department within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation concerning whether his criminal record would disqualify him from obtaining a license, certificate, registration, or other authority to engage in a particular occupation, trade, or profession in the Commonwealth. (25100569D)

SB 859 (Bryce E. Reeves)

School boards; policies relating to volunteer student life counseling and support services; guidelines and requirements. Permits any school board to adopt a policy permitting certain individuals or groups to provide, on a volunteer basis, student life counseling or support services, as defined by the bill, on school property after regular school hours, in accordance with the requirements in the bill. The bill (i) requires a school board to hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed policy prior to adopting such policy, to ensure that each student is free from pressure from the Commonwealth to engage in or refrain from religious observation on school property, and to ensure that the constitutional principles of freedom of religion and separation of church and state are observed at all times and (ii) requires such policy (a) to include background and criminal records check requirements for individuals volunteering to provide such support services; (b) to require written parental consent before any minor student participates in or receives such support services; (c) to require any approved individual or group to include on materials provided to students and parents information a parent or student may need in order to provide full and informed consent; (d) to be neutral with regard to religious preference, affiliation, or belief, or lack thereof, in the approval of an individual or group to provide such services and in the administration, oversight, or supervision of such services; and (e) to ensure that no such services are provided during regular school hours or in any manner that could cause conflict with instructional time. (25100180D)

SB 980 (Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; work group; state plan amendment; reimbursement for services by certified community health workers. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group to (i) design a state plan amendment to provide reimbursement for services provided by certified community health workers, (ii) identify opportunities to expand the use of community health workers by Medicaid managed care organizations, and (iii) determine the feasibility of developing flexible training and certification standards that allow community health workers to use their education and experience to satisfy some of the requirements for qualification as a doula or registered peer recovery specialist. The bill requires the Department to report the work group findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. (25102196D)

SB 1035 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone. (25102390D)

SB 1037 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School boards; student access to telehealth services; policies. Directs each school board to consider, for the purpose of increasing access to health care services for students, developing and implementing policies for permitting any public school student in the school division to schedule and participate in telehealth services on school property during regular school hours with parental consent. The bill requires any such policies developed and implemented by a school board to (i) require each public elementary and secondary school to designate a



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location in the school for student use for such telehealth appointments and implement measures to ensure the safety and privacy of any student participating in a telehealth appointment, (ii) prohibit any student from being subject to any disciplinary measure or consequence for participating in a telehealth appointment during regular school hours if such student would not be subject to any disciplinary measure or consequence for an absence for the purpose of receiving any health care services in person during regular school hours, and (iii) include such other requirements as the school board deems necessary and appropriate. Finally, the bill requires any school board that develops and implements any policies for permitting students to schedule and participate in telehealth services pursuant to the bill to provide and post in a publicly accessible location on its website at the beginning of each school year guidance relating to the implementation of such policies for administrative and instructional personnel. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. (25105458D)

SB 1038 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; best practice training; telehealth visits for patients with disabilities. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop and disseminate best practice educational training for health care providers on how to conduct telehealth visits for patients with disabilities. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. (25102205D)

SB 1048 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of prescription drugs and firearms in the household. Requires each local school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the local school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message within 30 calendar days succeeding the first day of each school year, of (i) the importance of securely storing any prescription drug, as defined in relevant law, present in the household and (ii) the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household. The bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. (25103031D)

SB 1084 (Christie New Craig)

Board of Education; out-of-school time programs; exemptions from licensure. Exempts from licensure any out-of-school time program that (i) serves only school-age children; (ii) operates primarily before or after regular school hours, during the summer, or at times when school is not normally in session; and (iii) is offered for the purpose of promoting expanded childhood learning and enrichment, child and youth development, or educational, recreational, or character-building activities. (25104472D)

SB 1094 (Emily M. Jordan)

Involuntary temporary detention orders; definition of "psychiatric emergency department." Amends the definition of "psychiatric emergency department" as it relates to involuntary temporary detention orders to remove the requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be located adjacent to a facility licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and to add a requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be licensed by either the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or the Department of Health. (25105531A)

SB 1098 (Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Virginia Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act established; prohibition on extradition for certain crimes; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth that all persons are entitled to provide, receive, and help others to provide or receive protected health care activity, defined in the bill as reproductive and gender-affirming health care services, not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth, and that such provision, receipt, and assistance is not diminished, chilled, or infringed by public or private actors. The bill provides that no



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law-enforcement officer acting in the Commonwealth or employed by the Commonwealth or any of its localities or political subdivisions may investigate, arrest, or detain any person, seek the issuance of a warrant, or otherwise assist in or provide support for any investigation involving protected health care activity not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill creates a private right of action for any person who is aggrieved by such unlawful investigation to obtain an injunction or other equitable relief against such law-enforcement officer. The bill creates a private right of action for any person who sustains any injury, damages, or other harm resulting from another person who, under the laws of a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, engages or attempts to engage in abusive litigation, as defined in the bill. The bill also 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 protected health care activity within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth.

The bill provides that any subpoena under the Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act or any summons for a witness for another state in a criminal case shall include an attestation, made under penalty of perjury, stating whether the subpoena or summons seeks documents, information, or testimony related to protected health care activity. (25105570D)

SB 1240 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

School-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; requirements. Expands current law relating to school-connected overdose parental notification and response policies by, in addition to requiring the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies, requiring (i) each division superintendent or his designee to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any suspected school-connected overdose, with 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 suspected overdose and requiring such notification to include as much information as is known about the circumstances surrounding the suspected overdose, to the extent that the disclosure of any such information is not prohibited by any applicable laws, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information, and (ii) requiring each local school board to adopt, implement, and maintain policies consistent with the provisions of the bill and the guidelines developed by the Board of Education. (25105815D)

SB 1324 (Scott A. Surovell)

Obstructing health care facility access; penalties. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly obstructs, detains, hinders, impedes, blocks, or delays another person's entry to or exit from a health care facility, as defined in the bill. The bill also creates a Class 3 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly approaches another person within eight feet of such person in the public way or sidewalk area within a radius of 40 feet from any entrance door to a health care facility, unless such other person consents to the approach, for the purpose of giving, tendering, or exhibiting any material to, displaying a sign to, or engaging in oral protest, education, or counseling with such other person. (25100270D)

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)



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HB 1718 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; enforcement by localities. Provides that if a condition exists in a rental dwelling unit that constitutes a material noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not promptly corrected, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of tenants or occupants of the premises, a locality may institute an action for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the rental dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the property where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the property, either directly or through the managing agent, of the nature of the violation and the landlord has failed to remedy the violation to the satisfaction of the locality within a reasonable time after receiving such notice. (25101994D)

HB 2037 (David L. Bulova)

Land development; solar canopies in parking areas. Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential parking areas with 100 parking spaces or more and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the parking area. Localities are authorized to provide development density bonuses for properties that are subject to such provisions. (25104573D)

HB 2137 (Marcus B. Simon)/**SB 1011** (Saddam Azlan Salim)

Affordable dwelling unit program; City of Falls Church. Adds the City of Falls Church to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable dwelling unit program. (25100822D)/(25101125D)

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)

SB 1011 (Saddam Azlan Salim)/**HB 2137** (Marcus B. Simon)

Affordable dwelling unit program; City of Falls Church. Adds the City of Falls Church to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable dwelling unit program. (25101125D)/(25100822D)

SB 1313 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority; comprehensive plan. Authorizes any locality in the Commonwealth to provide for an affordable housing dwelling unit program by amending the zoning ordinance of such locality. Current law restricts such authorization to counties with an urban county executive form of government or county manager plan of government and certain other localities. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25102498D)

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,



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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)

HB 1864 (Phil M. Hernandez)

Poor debtor's exemption; depository institution account exemption. Allows a householder to hold exempt from creditor process up to \$5,000 held in an account in any bank or savings institution. The bill provides that when a depository institution in which a householder has an account receives an order of garnishment, attachment, or other levy, such depository institution's answer shall state either that such account does not exceed \$5,000 or the amount of any funds in such account in excess of \$5,000 being held pending further order of the court. (25102122D)



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Taxation

SB 895 (Aaron R. Rouse)

Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Authorizes localities by ordinance to provide a total exemption from real property taxes regardless of assessed value beginning in tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2025, for surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Under law effective January 1, 2025, a total exemption is only allowed for such surviving spouses for those dwellings in the locality with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential. (25101300D)

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

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 2080 (Terry L. Austin)

Registration decals; discontinued. Discontinues the requirement for and issuance of decals displaying the expiration month and year of motor vehicle registration to be displayed on license plates. The bill also removes the requirement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue appropriately designated license plates for motor vehicles held for rental. The bill does not eliminate existing requirements that vehicles are to be registered. (25100643D)

HB 2466 (Jackie H. Glass)

Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program and Fund; Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program and Fund; sales and use tax; Planning District 23. Creates (i) the Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and otherwise making infrastructure and safety improvements to new or existing highway corridors connected to, surrounding, or paralleling interstate highways in Planning District 23 (Hampton Roads) and (ii) the Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and maintaining infrastructure to address transportation infrastructure that is at risk due to recurrent and coastal flooding in Planning District 23. The bill creates a 0.30 percent retail sales and use tax to be levied and imposed in each county and city located in Planning District 23 and provides that, less the applicable portion of any refunds to taxpayers, two-thirds of the moneys generated shall be deposited in the Hampton Roads



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Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Fund, created by the bill, and one-third of moneys generated shall be deposited in the Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Fund, created by the bill. (25103937D)

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)

SB 1302 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards; expiration. Extends the validity of limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards, other than REAL ID credentials, as defined in the bill, and commercial driver's licenses and permits, to a period of time consistent with the validity of (i) driver's licenses, which under current law is a period not to exceed eight years or for a person age 75 or older, a period not to exceed five years; (ii) permits, which under current law is the period of time until a driver's license is issued or the person is no longer eligible for such permit, a period of 12 months for motorcycle permits, or a period of the 60 days prior to the person's first behind-the-wheel exam for persons 25 years of age or older; and (iii) special identification cards, which under current law is a period between three and eight years, with exceptions, or for a person younger than the age of 15, until such person's sixteenth birthday, unless extended under certain circumstances for a period no longer than 90 days. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for such documents upon reissuance. (25101215D)

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)

Transportation Safety

HB 2159 (Betsy B. Carr)

School crossing zones; institutions of higher education. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. The existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets such expanded definition. (25101680D)



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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)

HB 2438 (Candi Mundon King)

Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions. Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be permitted pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities. (25102097D)

HB 2671 (Eric Phillips)

Septic system inspectors; minimum requirements. Adds a definition of "inspection" for the purposes of septic system inspections in connection with real estate transactions. The bill also adds minimum requirements for septic system inspectors in conducting such inspections. (25104282D)

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)/(25105020A)

HJ 9 (Mark D. Sickles)/**SJ 249** (Adam P. Ebbin)

Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two individuals; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of persons and prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two parties and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The amendment provides that religious organizations



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and clergy acting in their religious capacity have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.
(24101382D)/(25100123D)

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)

SB 1002 (Jennifer B. Boysko)/**HB 1686** (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee for personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's dependent care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections. (25104176D)/(25101199D)

SB 1050 (Danica A. Roem)

Campaign finance; contributions from corporations prohibited; civil penalty. Prohibits any corporation from making any contribution to any committee organized under the provisions of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006 and prohibits any such committee from soliciting or accepting any contribution from any corporation. Any committee that knowingly accepts, or any person who knowingly makes to such committee, contributions in violation of the prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of up to two times the amount of the contribution, as assessed by the State Board of Elections. (25102736D)

SB 1185 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy)

Campaign finance; coordination and required independent expenditure committee disclosure; civil penalties. Provides a more detailed definition of the term "coordinated" or "coordination" in the context of campaign finance



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than current law. The bill also requires all persons making independent expenditures to file statements of organization and to file campaign finance reports thus making such persons subject to existing civil penalties for violations of filing laws. (25104175D)

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)

SJ 249 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two adult persons; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. (25100123D)

SJ 254 (Russet Perry)

Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Month. Designates May, in 2025 and in each succeeding year, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Month in Virginia. (25100296D)

Campaign Finance

HB 1744 (Vivian E. Watts)

Candidates for office; persons entitled to have name printed on ballot; required campaign finance reports. 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. (25102676D)

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)

HB 2165 (Joshua G. Cole)

Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee for



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personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's dependent care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections. (25104173D)

HB 2173 (Nadarius E. Clark)

Campaign finance; coordination and required independent expenditure committee disclosure; civil penalties. Provides a more detailed definition of the term "coordinated" or "coordination" in the context of campaign finance than current law. The bill also requires all persons making independent expenditures to file statements of organization and to file campaign finance reports thus making such persons subject to existing civil penalties for violations of filing laws. (25104570D)

HB 2607 (R. Lee Ware)

Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates; Phase I Utility and Phase II Utility. Prohibits candidates, campaign committees, and political committees from soliciting or accepting contributions from any public utility, as defined in the bill, and prohibits any public utility or any political committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution. (25103884D)

HB 2670 (Mark D. Sickles)

Campaign finance; campaign required tax-exempt organization disclosure; work group; report; civil penalties. Establishes campaign finance reporting requirements for tax-exempt organizations making contributions or independent expenditures for the purpose of advocating for the election or defeat of a clearly identified Virginia candidate. Committees are prohibited from accepting contributions from tax-exempt organizations that do not file required campaign finance disclosure reports. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill may equal up to four times the excess contribution amounts. The bill also requires electronically filed independent expenditure reports to be made publically available within 48 hours of being filed and to be entered into a publicly available campaign finance database accessible through the Internet. Finally, the bill requires that the Chair of the House Privileges and Elections Committee and the Chair of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee convene a work group to evaluate campaign finance contribution limits and disclosure requirements among the various states and at the federal level and to report their findings by November 30, 2025. (25104764D)

HB 2701 (David L. Bulova)

Campaign finance; campaign contribution limits; civil penalty. Prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$20,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$10,000 to any one candidate for the House of Delegates in any one election cycle. The bill does not place any limits on in-kind contributions to such candidates from political party committees. The bill establishes thresholds for any candidates making contributions to their own campaign in excess of \$400,000 in a race for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$200,000 in a race for House of Delegates. The bill also prohibits persons from making any single



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contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$10,000 to any one political committee in any calendar year. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts. (25102841D)

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)

Courts

SJ 259 (Scott A. Surovell)

Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology used to determine judicial allocations to state courts within the Commonwealth. JLARC is directed to submit its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly. (25104574D)

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)

HB 1576 (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. (25101596D)



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HB 1862 (Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.)

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to primary election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person for primary elections to beginning 14 days prior to such election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election. (25104124D)

SB 1009 (Saddam Azlan Salim)

Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report. Allows elections for any local office to be conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards for and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting and to produce generalized voter education materials on ranked choice voting. The bill permits the State Board to create and modify recount procedures to the extent necessary to accommodate a recount of an election conducted by ranked choice voting. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Elections 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 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly. (25104511D)

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)

HB 1753 (Vivian E. Watts)

Department of Health; regulations; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule; Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities. Directs the Department of Health to develop regulations to implement the requirements of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule for Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting. The bill also repeals Chapters 482 and 483 the Acts of Assembly of 2023, which are made obsolete by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule. (25100118D)

SB 831 (Mamie E. Locke)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals; qualified entities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek federal authority to implement presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals, in addition to the existing hospital presumptive eligibility program and, if the Department receives such authority, allows the Department to authorize qualified entities to make determinations of presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals. (25104815D)

SB 1019 (Danica A. Roem)

Department of Health; WIC applications; information. Directs the Department of Health to provide information, resources, and education to food banks regarding providing assistance to individuals completing a Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) application. (25101952D)

SB 1273 (Emily M. Jordan)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Virginia Initiative for Education and Work; Subsidized Work Experience Program established. Establishes the Subsidized Work Experience Program (SWEP) for persons who



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are otherwise eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. The bill directs the Department of Social Services to conduct SWEP and assign SWEP participants as volunteers to agencies, community organizations, and educational institutions. The bill also directs the Department to promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of SWEP. (25100662D)

Information Technology

HB 2046 (Bonita G. Anthony)/**SB 1214** (Lashrecse D. Aird)

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use by public bodies; work group; report. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, as defined in the bill, by public bodies. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO) to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, implementation, utilization, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ high-risk artificial intelligence systems that are consistent with the requirements created by the bill. The bill also requires the CIO to compile into a publicly available registry certain required monthly reports on initial and ongoing high-risk artificial intelligence system assessments and inventories of such systems used by public bodies. Under the bill, the Joint Commission on Technology and Science is required to establish an Artificial Intelligence Oversight Task Force to oversee the implementation of and compliance with the requirements for development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by public bodies. Finally, bill directs the CIO to convene a work group to examine the impact on and the ability of local governments to comply with the requirements of the bill. The substantive requirements of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25102638D)/(25102954D)

HB 2094 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use; civil penalties. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, and civil penalties for noncompliance, to be enforced by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25104439D)

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)

HB 2096 (Patrick A. Hope)

Intelligent Speed Assistance Program established; penalty. Establishes the Intelligent Speed Assistance Program to be administered by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program. The bill authorizes enrollment in such Program as an alternative to suspending a person's driver's license upon such person's conviction of certain speed-related offenses and requires a court to order enrollment in such Program for a person convicted of reckless driving and who was found to have been driving in excess of 100 miles per hour. The bill requires any participant in the Program to install an intelligent speed assistance system, defined in the bill, in any motor vehicle owned by or registered to the participant and prohibits the participant from driving any motor vehicle that does not have such a system installed. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for tampering with or attempting to bypass or circumvent such a system. (25102621D)



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HB 2116 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)

Driver's licenses, identification cards, and learner's permits; indication of non-apparent disability; indication of a disability that can impair communication. Adds non-apparent disabilities, defined in the bill, to the list of conditions that the Department of Motor Vehicles, when requested by an applicant and upon presentation of a signed statement by a licensed physician confirming the applicant's condition, is required to indicate on such applicant's driver's license. Such requirement is also extended to identification cards. Such an indication on a person's driver's license allows for the voluntary indication of a disability that can impair communication on a motor vehicle registration. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, when requested by an applicant and upon presentation of a signed statement by a licensed physician confirming the applicant's condition, to indicate on a learner's permit that the applicant has any condition on such list of conditions that may be indicated on driver's licenses or that the applicant is blind or vision impaired. The bill also authorizes any such indication on a learner's permit to allow for the voluntary indication of a disability that can impair communication on a motor vehicle registration. (25104519D)

HB 2324 (Ian T. Lovejoy)

Transportation district commissions; contracts or agreements. Expands the localities and entities with which transportation district commissions may enter into contracts or agreements to provide transit facilities and services and other modes of transportation. (25101559D)

HB 2334 (Amanda E. Batten)

Vehicle safety inspections; new motor vehicles. Extends from 12 months to 24 months the period for which a vehicle safety inspection is valid for new motor vehicles. The bill requires the fee for a 24-month inspection approval sticker to be double the price of a 12-month inspection approval sticker. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. (25101488D)

HB 2475 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)

Use of safety belt systems. Requires all adult passengers in a motor vehicle equipped with a safety belt system to wear such safety belt system when the motor vehicle is in motion on a public highway. Current law requires adult passengers to wear such safety belts when occupying the front seat. (25104235D)

HB 2501 (Sam Rasoul)

Department of Motor Vehicles; driver communication improvement program. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a program for the promotion, printing, and distribution of envelopes for use by drivers with a disability that can impair communication, as that term is defined in relevant law, provide to a law-enforcement officer for the purpose of easing communication during a traffic stop or upon such law-enforcement officer's arrival at the scene of a traffic accident. (25100550D)

HB 2600 (Ian T. Lovejoy)

Department of State Police; work group; reporting threshold for motor vehicle accidents; report. Directs the Department of State Police to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to review the property damage threshold for submitting a motor vehicle accident report to the Department of Motor Vehicles. (25100542D)

HB 2609 (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Transportation network companies; minimum compensation. Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation



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network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms. (25102773D)

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)

SB 887 (Russet Perry)

Dulles Greenway; toll rates. Requires that (i) the toll rates for the Dulles Greenway set by the State Corporation Commission do not materially discourage the public's use of the toll road; (ii) the cost of operating the toll road is reasonably apportioned across all toll road users based on the relative distance each class of user travels on the toll road, such that the toll rates are established in a reasonable and nondiscriminatory manner in relation to the benefit obtained; and (iii) such toll rates provide the operator with no more than a reasonable return, which is defined in the bill. (25103369D)

SB 1024 (Danica A. Roem)

Voluntary contributions during electronic Department of Motor Vehicles transactions. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a method by which an individual conducting an electronic Department transaction may make a voluntary contribution to the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program. Under current law, the Department is only required to provide a method by which voluntary contributions may be made to the Virginia Donor Registry and Public Awareness Fund. (25102519D)

SB 1061 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Registration decals; discontinued. Discontinues the requirement for and issuance of decals displaying the expiration month and year of motor vehicle registration to be displayed on license plates. The bill also removes the requirement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue appropriately designated license plates for motor vehicles held for rental. The bill does not eliminate existing requirements that vehicles are to be registered. (25100644D)

SB 1082 (Ryan T. McDougale)

Transportation; Commonwealth Transportation Special Structures Program Revenue Bond Act of 2025. Authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board to issue revenue bonds to be known and designated as "Commonwealth of Virginia Special Structures Program Revenue Bonds." The bill provides that such bonds shall be payable solely (i) first from revenues received from the Special Structure Fund; (ii) second and to the extent required, from revenues legally available from the Transportation Trust Fund; and (iii) then to the extent required, from any other legally available funds. (25104273D)

SB 1167 (Saddam Azlan Salim)

Transportation network companies; minimum compensation. Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation



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network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms. (25102018D)

SB 1265 (Bill DeSteph)

Department of Motor Vehicles; driver communication improvement program. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a program for the promotion, printing, and distribution of envelopes for use by drivers with a disability that can impair communication, as that term is defined in relevant law, provide to a law-enforcement officer for the purpose of easing communication during a traffic stop or upon such law-enforcement officer's arrival at the scene of a traffic accident. (25103530D)

SB 1317 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Transportation district commissions; contracts or agreements. Expands the localities and entities with which transportation district commissions may enter into contracts or agreements to provide transit facilities and services and other modes of transportation. (25102023D)

SB 1416 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Careless driving and infliction of injury or death on vulnerable road users; definition. Defines "careless or distracted manner" for the purposes of the Class 1 misdemeanor of operating a motor vehicle in a careless or distracted manner such that such operation is the proximate cause of serious bodily injury or death of a vulnerable road user lawfully present on the highway at the time of injury or death. (25100411D)

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 lanes operator. The bill does not change certain other authorized uses in current law. (25104241D)

Specific Legislation

Legislative Summary: The Legislative Committee formed positions on 42 bills and changed the position on one bill at its meeting on January 24, 2025, which are presented in this report. All bills with positions have actions current as of February 2, 2025 (see "Supplementary Documents," pages 1-82).

Legislative Committee Actions of January 31, 2025:

Members Present: Legislative Chairman Walkinshaw
 Chairman McKay
 Supervisor Bierman, Jr.
 Supervisor Lusk
 Supervisor Alcorn
 Supervisor Palchik
 Supervisor Jimenez

Priority Principles for Reviewing Legislation

- 1. Adequately fund K-12 education.**
- 2. Fully restore the \$102 million of regional funding to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) and continue to support efforts to provide sustainable funding for WMATA.**
- 3. Build upon the successful enactment of significant transportation revenues by the 2013 and 2020 GAs to ensure sufficient funding for transportation needs.**
- 4. Preserve and expand on existing local government authority, particularly in key areas such as taxation, land use, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.**

Specific Legislation

Legislative Summary: The Legislative Committee formed positions on 23 bills and changed positions on six bills at its meeting on January 31, 2025, which are presented in this report. All bills with positions have actions current as of February 2, 2025.



**New Bills and Legislation for Discussion
Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee
January 31, 2025**

New Bills – 2025 General Assembly

Cannabis/Marijuana

HJ 497 (Paul E. Krizek)

Joint commission to oversee transition of the Commonwealth into a retail cannabis market established; report. Establishes a joint commission to oversee the transition of the Commonwealth into a retail cannabis market. The joint commission shall expire on July 1, 2028. Monitor. Support strong local governmental land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legislation. (25104831D)

Courts

HB 1713 (Vivian E. Watts)

Jurisdiction of district courts in felony cases; specialty dockets; Behavioral Health Docket Act. Authorizes a general district court and a juvenile and domestic relations district court to retain jurisdiction over a felony offense for the purpose of allowing the accused to complete a specialty docket or behavioral health docket established pursuant to relevant law. Current law only explicitly provides such courts with the ability to certify felony charges to the circuit court or dismiss such charges after a preliminary hearing to determine if probable cause exists for such charges. Support. (25102619D)

HB 1748 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Wrongful death action; who may bring. Allows an immediate family member of a deceased person, as defined in the bill, to bring a wrongful death action on behalf of the deceased. Under current law, such action may only be brought by the deceased person's personal representative. Amend. Amend to clarify only a single case can be brought for each circumstance. (25100167D)

HB 2746 (Kathy K.L. Tran)/**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. Support. (25104774D)/(25104745D)



New Bills and Legislation for Discussion Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 31, 2025

Education

SB 1017 (Danica A. Roem)

School boards; powers and duties; school meal policies; payment of school meal debt. Requires each school board, at the end of each school year, to pay for the total unpaid school meal balance, resulting from uncollected school meal debts on any student account, on the nonprofit school food service account for each public elementary or secondary school in the school division using any appropriated nonfederal funds, except that each school board is prohibited from requiring any public elementary or secondary school in the school division from paying for or providing any funds to pay for such school's unpaid school meal balance. The bill requires each school board to adopt policies in accordance with the provisions of the bill in order to pay these unpaid balances at the end of each school year. Oppose. Oppose unless amended to provide state funding. (25101833D)

Elections

HB 2002 (Amy J. Laufer)

Voter registration; cancellation of registration; sources of data. Requires that, except for a written request from the voter to have his registration cancelled, the general registrar may not cancel the registration of any voter based on data or reports provided to him by any source other than the Department of Elections or a state agency approved to provide such data or reports by the State Board of Elections. The bill also reinstates a provision prohibiting the general registrar from cancelling the registration of (i) certain members of the uniformed service of the United States who are on active duty; (ii) certain persons who reside temporarily outside of the United States; or (iii) any spouse or dependent residing with such persons. Amend. Amend to ensure cancellation standards are the same for all voters. (25101668D)

SB 940 (Scott A. Surovell)

Elections; candidates for office; challenges to candidate qualifications. Requires any legal action relating 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 filed in a circuit court and served on all parties at least 60 days before the date of the election. The bill specifies that any such legal action will be given precedence on the docket and be decided by the court no later than 30 days from service on all parties. The bill also specifies that 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. Support. (25104113D)



New Bills and Legislation for Discussion Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 31, 2025

Health and Human Services

HB 1964 (Anne Ferrell Tata)

Bright Futures program. Establishes the Bright Futures program to provide services and support to individuals age 21 through 23 who were in foster care as a minor and are transitioning to full adulthood and self-sufficiency. Support. Support with amendment to ensure adequate state funding for implementation. (25104904D)

Public Safety

HB 1712 (Vivian E. Watts)

Arrest of certain persons with or without a warrant not required. Provides that no law-enforcement officer with the power to arrest is required to arrest an individual who is currently subject to an emergency custody order, temporary detention order, or involuntary admission; however, such officer may arrest such individual upon the expiration of any such order. The bill further provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, shall (i) provide and require in-person training to all law-enforcement agencies and officers and (ii) provide information to advise attorneys for the Commonwealth on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to January 1, 2026, to complete such training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person employed as a law-enforcement officer after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his date of hire and biennially thereafter. Lastly, the bill directs the Criminal Justice Services Board to promulgate regulations pursuant to relevant law requiring in-person training to special conservators of the peace on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace prior to January 1, 2026, to complete the training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his appointment and biennially thereafter. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. Support. (25106008D)

SB 1194 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Arrest of certain persons with or without a warrant not required. Provides that no law-enforcement officer with the power to arrest is required to arrest an individual who is currently subject to an emergency custody order, temporary detention order, or involuntary admission; however, such officer may arrest such individual upon the expiration of any such order. The bill further provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, shall (i) provide and require in-person training to all law-enforcement agencies and officers and (ii) provide information to advise attorneys for the Commonwealth on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to January 1, 2026, to complete such training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person employed as a law-enforcement officer after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his date of hire and biennially thereafter. Lastly, the bill directs the Criminal Justice Services Board to promulgate regulations pursuant to relevant law requiring in-person training to special conservators of the peace on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1,



New Bills and Legislation for Discussion Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 31, 2025

2026. The bill requires any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace prior to January 1, 2026, to complete the training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his appointment and biennially thereafter. Support. (25103606D)

SB 825 (Barbara A. Favola)

Seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Permits a law-enforcement officer investigating the financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult to seek a warrant from a judicial officer to seize moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities, including those in deposit accounts, and retain, pending a prosecution or appeal, sufficient amounts of such moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities as is necessary to prove such financial exploitation. The bill allows a court, upon motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth and for good cause shown, to order the release of all moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities. Any remaining moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities may also be released to the owner by the court with the consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth. Support. (25101929D)

HB 2120 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

Seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Establishes a procedure for seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Support. Support with amendment to allow for police discretion on when to pursue seizures. (25101920D)

HB 2527 (Kim A. Taylor)/**SB 1108** (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty. Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2025, shall as part of his sentence be forever prohibited from going, for the purpose of having any contact whatsoever with children who are not in his custody, within 100 feet of the premises of any area of a state park that he knows or has reason to know is a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium. A violation is a Class 6 felony. Amend. Amend to include local parks and park authorities. (25103742D)/(25101485D)

Taxation

HB 1743 (Vivian E. Watts)

License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts. Provides that the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts in which the taxpayer is liable for a net income tax shall also apply to any type of tax on gross receipts or other tax in lieu of an income tax. Oppose. (25105038A)



New Bills and Legislation for Discussion Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee January 31, 2025

Legislation Provided for Discussion

Education

HB 1656 (Dan I. Helmer)

Public secondary schools; interscholastic athletics; certain recruitment policies and practices prohibited. Prohibits any school board employee, including any interscholastic athletics coach or director, from implementing any policy or engaging in any practice whereby the employee (i) designates any secondary school student-athlete as homeless pursuant to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, solely for the purpose of recruiting such student-athlete to transfer to the local school division to participate in interscholastic athletics or (ii) receives money or other things of value from any individual or entity, including any institution of higher education or any intercollegiate athletics program at such an institution, solely for the purpose of recruiting a secondary school student-athlete to participate in intercollegiate athletics. (25103032D)

Elections

HB 2668 (Marcus B. Simon)

Elections; administration; procedures for removal of electoral board members and general registrars. Allows the State Board of Elections to remove any member of an electoral board or general registrar by a recorded two-thirds majority vote of all its members after a public hearing on related matters. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against an electoral board member or general registrar by the State Board shall be based on neglect of a clear, ministerial duty of the office, misuse of the office, or incompetence in the performance of the duties of the office, or the threat of such, when that neglect of duty, misuse of office, or incompetence in the performance of duties has or is likely to have a material adverse effect upon the conduct of the office. Such decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. The bill also allows an electoral board to remove a general registrar by a unanimous vote of all its members after a public hearing on related matters. A registrar who is so removed may file an appeal to the State Board. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against a general registrar by the electoral board shall be based on the same standards as required for removals by the State Board. Support with amendment. (25105223D)

SB 1044 (Danica A. Roem)

Elections; election results; reporting; provisional ballots. Requires the general registrar of each locality to report to the Department of Elections for each precinct in his locality the total number of provisional ballots cast, the number of those provisional ballots determined to be valid by the electoral board, and the results of such valid provisional ballots by voters assigned to such precinct. Results from provisional voting and voting at the precinct on election day must be reported separately. The general registrar must also report to the Department the number and results of provisional ballots cast by persons voting early in person separately from the number and results of provisional ballots cast on election day. The Department shall establish standards for ascertaining and reporting such information. Such standards must direct that all results be posted promptly and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the tenth day after the election day. Oppose. (25105532A)



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Immigration

HB 1651 (Jason S. Ballard) /**SB 772** (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

Department of Social Services; applications for public assistance; immigration status inquiry. Requires the director of a local department of social services or the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, whichever is applicable, to inquire as to the immigration status of all persons applying for public assistance benefits administered by the Department of Social Services. (25100898D)/(25100899D)

HB 1885 (Wren M. Williams)/**SB 1268** (Tara A. Durant)

Department of Juvenile Justice; inquiry and report of immigration status; juvenile or adult adjudicated delinquent or convicted of violent juvenile felony. Requires the Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice or other person in charge of a secure facility where a juvenile or adult has been committed upon an adjudication of delinquency or a finding of guilt for a violent juvenile felony to ascertain whether such juvenile or adult is in the United States illegally and, if such juvenile or adult is found to be in the United States illegally, to communicate such information to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Under current law, such immigration inquiries are required of jail officers or correctional officers in charge of state, local, or regional correctional facilities. (25101915D)/(25104378D)

HB 2188 (Nicholas J. Freitas)

Transfer of prisoners convicted of designated illegal acts. Requires the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, with the consent of the appropriate state authorities, to take physical custody of and responsibility for any alien upon conviction of certain felony offenses. Under current law, such agency has discretion to take physical custody of any such alien. Additionally, the bill adds any felony violation of criminal sexual assault to the list of such authorized felony offenses. (25100582D)

HB 2560 (Alfonso H. Lopez)

Notifying defendant of consequences criminal proceedings can have on immigration. Requires that at the initial court hearing for any misdemeanor or felony, the court shall advise the defendant of the following: The outcome of criminal proceedings may have federal immigration and naturalization consequences. Support (25102656D)

SB 1141 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

Transfer of certain incarcerated persons to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Requires the Director of the Department of Corrections, sheriff, or other official in charge of the facility in which an alien is incarcerated to, upon receipt of a detainer from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, (i) provide U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with prerelease notification of such alien's release and (ii) upon request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, transfer custody of the alien to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement upon such alien's release, which shall occur no more than five days prior to the date that he would otherwise be released from custody. Current law states that the Director, sheriff, or other official in charge of the facility may transfer such incarcerated person upon receipt of a detainer. (25104245D)



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Criminal Justice

HB 1865 (Katrina Callsen)/**SB 1183** (R. Creigh Deeds)

Virginia Access to Justice Act. Establishes a public defender office in each judicial circuit. Currently, public defender offices have been established in certain localities. The bill also establishes an appellate defender office to represent indigent persons in appeals of their convictions to the Court of Appeals of Virginia or Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. Further, the bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and assistant attorney for the Commonwealth to prosecute Class 1, 2, and 3 misdemeanors, or any other violation, the conviction of which carries a penalty of confinement in jail, or a fine of \$500 or more, or both such confinement and fine. Current law allows discretion for prosecuting such misdemeanors and violations. Lastly, the bill expands the definition of "victim" as it relates to compensating victims of crime to include persons awarded restitution pursuant to relevant law. Support with amendment to ensure funding for Commonwealth Attorneys who prosecute misdemeanors. (25100088D)/(25105823A)

HB 2723 (Charniele L. Herring)/**SB 1466** (Scott A. Surovell)

Criminal records; expungement and sealing of records. Amends numerous statutes related to the expungement and sealing of criminal records that are scheduled to become effective on July 1, 2025. In addition, the bill requires (i) the Department of State Police to develop a secure portal for the purpose of allowing government agencies to determine whether a record has been sealed prior to responding to a request pursuant to current law by October 1, 2026; (ii) the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission to (a) create a curriculum to educate both attorneys and others on expungement and sealing, (b) conduct trainings across the Commonwealth throughout the year, (c) provide expungement and sealing support by serving on a help desk and providing consultations, and (d) develop a library of resources on expungement and sealing for use by certified court-appointed counsel; and (iii) the Department of State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and clerk of any circuit court to provide data and information on sealing upon request of the Virginia State Crime Commission for purposes of monitoring and evaluating the implementation and impact of the sealing processes. The bill repeals the Sealing Fee Fund and directs any money in such Fund to be reverted to the general fund. The bill contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, for the provisions related to the sealing of former possession of marijuana offenses without entry of a court order and the sealing of charges and convictions related to automatic sealing and such petitions. Lastly, the bill delays the repeal of the relevant law related to marijuana possession, limits on dissemination of criminal history record information, and prohibited practices by employers, educational institutions, and state and local governments until July 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission. Support with amendment. Support efforts to improve implementation including state funding for local implementation. (25103269D)/(25105620D)



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HB 1968 (Karrie K. Delaney)

Compensating victims of crime. Extends, for the purpose of compensating victims of crime, the time for filing a claim by the claimant to not later than three years after the occurrence of the crime upon which such claim is based, or not later than three years after the death of the victim. Under current law, such time frame is not later than one year after either instance. The bill removes the prohibition on the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission making an award where the police records show that a crime was reported more than 120 hours after the occurrence of the crime unless the Commission, for good cause shown, finds the delay to have been justified. Also, the bill requires the Commission, in determining if a report was timely reported to proper authorities, to consider (i) the victim's physical, emotional, mental, and family situation and (ii) the existence of a permanent protective order, issued pursuant to relevant law, for the victim or other persons eligible for awards from the person responsible for the qualifying crime. The bill also removes the ability of the Commission to deny, reduce, or withdraw any award upon finding that any claimant or award recipient has not fully cooperated with all law-enforcement agencies, unless the law-enforcement agency certifies that the claimant or award recipient was willing but unable to cooperate due to a good faith belief that such cooperation would have endangered such claimant or award recipient and such claimant or award recipient was not provided with any victim or witness protection services when such protection services were requested by a law-enforcement agency.(25104142D)

HB 2043 (Bonita G. Anthony)

Consumer Data Protection Act; user-generated content protected; civil penalty. Requires controllers and processors to provide consumers with a privacy notice that applies to the consumers' user-generated content, defined in the bill, under the Consumer Data Protection Act and requires that any secondary use, defined in the bill, of personal data or user-generated content be consented to by the consumer. The bill requires a controller or processor, upon request by a consumer, to provide such consumer with a report that describes how the consumer's personal data or user-generated content was processed over the prior 12 months. The bill increases from \$7,500 to \$15,000 the maximum civil penalties for violations and allows civil penalties of up to \$22,500 per violation for repeated noncompliance or egregious violations. The bill also allows a consumer who suffers a loss due to a violation to bring a private right of action against a controller or processor.(25102628D)

HB 2250 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)(HTECH)

Consumer Data Protection Act; Artificial Intelligence Training Data Transparency Act. Allows consumers to authorize a third party, acting on the consumer's behalf, to opt out of the processing of the consumer's personal data. Such authorization may be made using technology that indicates the consumer's intent to opt out, including a browser setting, browser extension, global device setting, or other user-selected universal opt-out mechanism. Where a controller has actual knowledge or willfully disregards that a consumer is an adolescent, defined in the bill as at least 13 years of age but younger than 16 years of age, no controller shall process any personal data collected or collect precise geolocation data from such adolescent without obtaining consent from such adolescent. The bill provides that the Attorney General has discretion regarding whether to provide an opportunity to cure a violation to a controller or



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processor beginning January 1, 2026. The bill also revises the definitions of "sale of personal data," "sensitive data," and "biometric data." The bill requires a developer of a generative artificial intelligence system or service, defined in the bill, to disclose on the developer's website information about the generative artificial intelligence data set used to train such system or service. A developer shall keep detailed records of the generative artificial intelligence data set used to train a generative artificial intelligence system or service and provide clearly designated and publicly available mechanisms for submissions of Training Data Verification Requests, defined in the bill, and Training Data Deletion Requests, defined in the bill. The bill also prohibits nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements from concealing noncompliance with the bill. The bill allows the Attorney General to offer developers an opportunity to cure noncompliance that is noticed by the Attorney General and provides that a person or entity claiming to be injured due to a violation of such provisions shall be entitled to initiate an action for monetary damages or equitable relief. The provisions of the bill regarding such developers have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.(25104553D)

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.(25102246D)

SB 1029 (Danica A. Roem)

Virginia Freedom of Information Act; procedure for responding to requests; charges; posting of notice of rights and responsibilities. Limits the fees charged for producing public records to the median hourly rate of pay of employees of the public body or the actual hourly rate of pay of the person performing the work, whichever is less, and provides that a public body may petition a court for relief from this fee limit if there is no one who can process the request at the median hourly rate of pay or less. The bill makes corresponding amendments to the required statement on charges in the notice of rights and responsibilities that must be posted on a public body's website. The bill also amends existing law providing that a public body may petition a court for additional time to respond to a request for public records to allow such petitions to be heard in either general district or circuit court, to give such petitions priority on the court's docket, and to toll the response time while such a petition is pending before a court. The bill makes technical amendments, including moving provisions regarding charges for the production of public records into a separate section of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.(25106238A)

SB 1446 (Luther Cifers, III)(SCT)

Human smuggling; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person who, with the intent to obtain a pecuniary benefit, knowingly and with the intent to evade the immigration laws of the United States uses a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or other means of conveyance to transport another person in or through the Commonwealth and knows or should have known that such person being transported is likely to be exploited for the financial gain of another. The bill provides that any person who commits human smuggling (i) in a manner that creates a substantial likelihood that the individual being smuggled will suffer serious bodily injury or death, (ii) by smuggling a child younger than 18 years of age at the time of the offense, or (iii) while knowingly possessing a firearm during the commission of the offense is guilty of a Class 3 felony. The bill also provides that any person who commits human smuggling and as a direct result of the commission of the offense the individual being smuggled (a) became a victim of



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human trafficking, commercial sex trafficking, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault or (b) suffered serious bodily injury or death is guilty of a Class 2 felony.(25103943D)

SB 1454 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)(SPE)

Voter registration; systematic citizenship verification program. Provides that the Department of Elections is required to implement policies and procedures necessary to ensure that processes are in place to validate voter registrations and prevent noncitizens from registering to vote. Such processes must include (i) cooperation with state agencies to ensure that noncitizen registrations are not included in the registrations forwarded to the Department; (ii) effective utilization of all data available for identifying noncitizens, including data provided by state and federal agencies; (iii) a monthly systematic review of the voter registration system to identify noncitizens; and (iv) display of messages communicating the citizenship requirements for registration and penalties for violation. The bill also requires jury commissioners to collect information obtained from those persons not qualified to serve on a jury as a result of a condition that would also make them unqualified to register to vote. The sheriff, clerk of court, or other official responsible for maintaining such information provided by the commissioners is required to regularly transmit such information to the general registrar for the locality or localities served by such official. The bill requires general registrars to utilize such information to identify voters who are no longer qualified to vote and to initiate list maintenance procedures.(25104789D)

Campaign Finance

HB 1761 (Marcus B. Simon)(HPE)

Public campaign financing; counties and cities may establish for certain offices. Authorizes the governing body of a county or city to establish by ordinance a system of public campaign financing for elected local offices. The bill specifies certain requirements for a system of public campaign financing established by a governing body, including the provision of a public election fund to be administered by the treasurer of the county or city. A system of public campaign financing established by a county or city is permitted to more stringently regulate the campaign finance activity of participating candidates and shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Board of Elections to ensure its conformity with state law and policy to the extent practicable.(25100387D)

Court Fees

SB 999 (Scott A. Surovell)(SFIN)

Appeals; security for appeal and fees; procedure on appeal. Changes the amount of the suspending bond required during the pendency of all appeals of any judgment granting legal, equitable, or any other form of relief from one year's interest calculated from the date of the notice of appeal to the value of the judgment plus two and one-half years' interest calculated from the date of the notice of appeal. The bill also provides an appellate court with discretion in assessing attorney fees, costs, and necessary expenses against an indigent defendant when the conviction of the defendant is upheld on appeal. Under current law, the appellate court



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must assess such fees, costs, and expenses against an indigent defendant when the conviction of the defendant is upheld on appeal. Finally, the bill also provides that a panel of the Court of Appeals may dispense with oral argument if such panel unanimously decides that such oral argument is unnecessary because the facts and legal arguments are adequately presented in the briefs and the record such that the decisional process would not be significantly aided by oral argument and provides that this provision shall expire on June 30, 2027, unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.(25104339D)

Courts

SB 1227 (Lashrecse D. Aird)

Court appearance of a person not free on bail. Makes various changes to provisions regarding bail hearings, including (i) the appointment of counsel for the accused, (ii) the information provided to counsel for the accused, (iii) a requirement that counsel for the accused be provided with adequate time to confer with the accused prior to any bail hearing, and (iv) the compensation of counsel for the accused. Effective in due course, the bill provides that the chief judge in each circuit shall create a plan to be completed by November 1, 2025, that establishes the means by which the jurisdiction will meet these requirements. The remainder of the bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026.(25104427D)

SB 1277 (Russet Perry)

Minor witnesses; appointment of guardian ad litem in circuit court. Authorizes a circuit court to appoint a discreet and competent attorney-at-law as guardian ad litem for a minor witness called to testify in a matter before the circuit court involving certain sex offenses. Under current law, a general district court may appoint a guardian ad litem for a minor witness called to testify in any proceeding and the circuit court may continue the appointment or appoint a new guardian ad litem for such matter on appeal.(25100512D)

SB 1412 (Ryan T. McDougle)

Search warrants; electronic records; commercial enterprise; domestic and foreign corporations. Provides that, for the purposes of search warrants, "any object, thing, or person" includes electronic records stored within or outside the Commonwealth of a commercial enterprise, whether a domestic corporation or a foreign corporation, that is transacting or has transacted any business in the Commonwealth constituting evidence of the commission of crime. The bill requires the affidavit for any search warrant issued for such records of a foreign corporation to contain a statement that the complainant believes such records are actually or constructively possessed by such foreign corporation. Lastly, the bill establishes a procedure for the execution of a search warrant for such records or other information stored outside of the Commonwealth by a commercial enterprise, whether a domestic corporation or a foreign corporation, that is transacting or has transacted any business in the Commonwealth.(25104203D)

Data Centers

HB 1601 (Joshua E. Thomas)



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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)

HB 1821 (David A. Reid)

Electric utilities; accelerated renewable energy buyers; zero-carbon electricity; energy storage resources. Permits an accelerated renewable energy buyer or group of accelerated renewable energy buyers to contract to (i) obtain bundled capacity, energy, and renewable energy certificates from zero-carbon electricity generation resources under certain conditions and (ii) offset all or a portion of their capacity needs through the procurement of energy storage resources under certain conditions.(25104298D)

HB 1822 (David A. Reid)

Electric utilities; construction of electrical transmission lines; advanced conductors. Requires Phase I and Phase II Utilities to use advanced conductors, as defined in the bill, in the construction of any electrical transmission line of 230 kilovolts or more, any electrical transmission line replacing an existing electrical transmission line of 69 kilovolts or more that has reached its scheduled replacement date, and any electrical transmission line of 69 kilovolts or more constructed as a weather-related replacement, as long as the use of such advanced conductors does not delay the prompt restoration of power to consumers. The bill provides that for any application submitted on or after January 1, 2026, the State Corporation Commission shall not approve the construction of any electrical transmission line of 230 kilovolts or more unless such line is constructed using advanced conductors. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026.(25100365D)

HB 2422 (Michael J. Webert)

Public utilities; classification of customers. Requires that a public electric utility or a public utility authorized to furnish water or water and sewer service include a separate classification for data centers, as defined in the bill, when satisfying the existing requirement that any rate, toll, charge, or schedule of a public utility is only considered to be just and reasonable by the State Corporation Commission if the public utility has demonstrated that such rates, tolls, charges, or schedules contain reasonable classifications of customers.(25100737D)

HB 2442 (Michael J. Webert)

Public utilities; certificate of convenience and necessity. Provides that, if a public utility has already received a certificate of convenience and necessity to furnish service within its territory, such utility may construct, enlarge, contract with, or acquire and operate facilities for the generation and distribution of electric energy solely to a specific customer or customers located on the same tract of land as existing facilities without obtaining another certificate of



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convenience and necessity, provided that all costs associated with the new facilities shall be borne by the specific customer or customers.(25102651D)

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.(25106228D)

SB 960 (Russet Perry)

Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent. The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026.(25106260D)

SB 1045 (Danica A. Roem)

Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use. Requires that any local government land use application for the siting of a data center shall only be approved if such application is for a data center located on property classified by local ordinance for industrial use. This section shall only apply to such applications submitted on or after July 1, 2025.(25104569D)

SB 1047 (Danica A. Roem)

Electric utilities; demand response programs for certain customers. Requires each investor-owned utility to implement a demand response program under which any customer whose demand during the most recent calendar year was 25 megawatts or greater or whose anticipated annual demand is 25 megawatts or greater is required to participate. The bill requires each utility to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval of its demand response program by January 1, 2026, and requires that the petition include a reasonable timeline for the implementation of the program and participation by all such customers. Under the bill, any such demand response program must (i) meet the minimum reliability and resource adequacy standards set by the regional transmission entity of which the utility is a member, (ii) reduce customers' energy consumption during the grid's emergency events or when called upon, (iii) not increase local air pollution through the use of fossil fuels generators, and (iv) be cost-effective. The Commission is required issue its final order regarding the petition within six months following the date of the filing.(25106212A)

SB 1196 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Sales and use tax exemption; data centers. Requires data center operators to meet certain energy efficiency standards in order to be eligible for the sales and use tax exemption for data center purchases. Under the bill, a data center operator shall be eligible for the exemption only if such operator demonstrates that (i) its facilities either have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or, for data centers co-located in buildings with other commercial uses,



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achieve an energy efficiency level of no less than the most efficient 15 percent of similar buildings constructed in the previous five years and (ii) by January 1, 2028, it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources.(25103698D)

Education

HB 1958 (Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker)

School breakfasts; availability at no cost to students. Requires each school board to require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student. The bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast per student per school day and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill.(25102182D)

SB 1003 (Danica A. Roem)

School breakfasts; availability at no cost to students. Requires each school board to require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to make breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student. The bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast per student per school day and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill.(25104131D)

Elections

HB 1751 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Elections; general provisions; loudspeakers prohibited at polls and certain other locations; penalty. Extends the prohibition on loudspeakers at the polls on election day to the office of the general registrar, a central absentee voter precinct, or a voter satellite office on election day and during hours when such facilities are open for the purpose of casting absentee ballots.(25101528D)



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HB 1863 (Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.)

Voter registration; time period for closing registration records before elections; five (5) days. Provides that registration records be closed during the five days before any election. Under current law registration records are close during the 21 days before a primary or general election and, if the registration records have not been closed previously for a primary or general election, during the six days before a special election called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate, or pursuant to rule or resolution of either house of the General Assembly and during the 13 days before any other special election.(25103089D)

HB 2057 (W. Chad Green)

Voter registration; automatic registration of hunting, fishing, and milk distributor license and concealed handgun permit applicants; penalty. Provides for automatic voter registration by the clerk of any circuit court of the Commonwealth, the Department of Wildlife Resources, and the Milk Commission upon the application for any hunting, fishing, or milk distributor license or Virginia resident concealed handgun permit.(25101529D)

HB 2276 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Voter registration; list maintenance activities; cancellation procedures; required record matches; required identification information; data standards. Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections for list maintenance purposes and requires the Department, upon receiving any such list, to do an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters and determine the confidence score for any match. Matches with a confidence score of at least 80 are transmitted to the appropriate general registrars. The bill prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to annually review all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source, and to include the results of such review in its annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to cancelling a voter's record regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is canceled, a cancellation record must be created, and that such records are public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the National Voter Registration Act. The bill includes numerous technical amendments for organizational purposes.(25101670D)

HB 2402 (Delores Oates)

Elections; conduct of election; affirmation statement in lieu of identification; additional information required. Requires a person voting absentee in person or at the polls on election day who signs a statement in lieu of providing a valid form of identification to also provide his full name, year of birth, and the last four digits of his social security number, if any. The form containing the statement and voter information is required to be retained as election materials.(25103687D)



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SB 775 (Scott A. Surovell)(SPE)

Elections; election offenses; dissemination of artificial audio or artificial visual media to influence an election; penalty. Provides that any person who knowingly disseminates artificial audio or artificial visual media, as defined in the bill, intended to influence a political campaign shall include a conspicuous statement at the beginning of such media that states "THIS MEDIA DOES NOT REPRESENT A TRUE RECORDING OF THE CANDIDATE." The bill provides that any person who fails to include such statement is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor, but if such person knows or reasonably should have known that such artificial audio or artificial visual media being disseminated is deceptive or misleading and such dissemination (i) takes place within 90 days before an election, (ii) is made without the consent of the depicted candidate, and (iii) is made with the intent to injure a candidate or influence the result of an election, such person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also provides that any (a) depicted individual, (b) candidate for office who has been injured or is likely to be injured by the distribution of artificial audio or artificial visual media, or (c) entity that represents the interests of voters likely to be deceived by the distribution of artificial audio or artificial visual media shall be entitled to institute an action for preventative relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order, against the person who has disseminated the artificial audio or artificial visual media. The bill also provides exceptions for any content that constitutes satire or parody that is substantially dependent on the ability of an individual to impersonate a candidate physically or verbally and not upon technology or artificial intelligence or for any news organization or newsperson engaged in journalism, as those terms are defined in the bill.(25101007D)

SB 1174 (David R. Suetterlein)

Elections; prohibited activities; distribution of referendum materials. Adds "referendum" to the description of materials that are prohibited from being distributed within certain areas while voting and registration activities are being conducted.(25103618D)

SB 1175 (David R. Suetterlein)

Elections; absentee voting in person; uniform availability. Requires absentee voting in person to be available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during early voting and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first Saturday and second Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding all elections. Under current law, local electoral boards have some discretion to decide certain hours and days when absentee voting in person is available.(25103642D)

Elections - Administration

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



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HB 1730 (Karrie K. Delaney)/**SB 894**(Russet Perry)

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)

SB 1299 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Workers' compensation; injury or death caused by employer's gross negligence or willful misconduct; cause of action. Creates an exception to the provision in existing law that the rights and remedies granted to an employee under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act exclude all other rights or remedies of such employee on account of such injury, loss of service, or death. The bill provides that if it is alleged that the injury or death of an employee is caused by an employer's gross negligence or willful misconduct, the employee may either claim compensation under the Act or maintain an action at law for damages against the employer.(25101211D)

Energy

SB 944 (Bill DeSteph)

Natural gas utilities; retail supply choice; work group; report. Allows every person access to distribution service or retail natural gas from a natural gas utility authorized to provide natural gas service to the area where the service will be received. The bill prohibits a public entity from adopting an ordinance, resolution, or any other requirement that limits or prohibits customers from acquiring natural gas service and supply from both utility and non-utility gas companies. The bill prohibits public entities from denying building permits solely based on a proposed utility provider and directs public entities to ensure that all applicable permits and fees are reasonable, as compared to other utility providers, and do not restrict an applicant's ability to use the services of an authorized utility provider. The bill also directs the Department of Energy to convene a work group for the purposes of evaluating the impact of critical infrastructure sectors on natural gas service or natural gas supply choice and the impact of any public entity restricting a critical infrastructure sector from acquiring fuel and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2025.(25102169D)

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)



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Firearms

HB 1583 (Jason S. Ballard)

Threats to discharge a firearm within or at buildings or means of transportation; penalties. Provides that any person (i) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, discharge a firearm within or at, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation or (ii) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, discharging of a firearm within or at, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation is guilty of a Class 5 felony, provided, however, that if such person is under 18 years of age, he is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under current law, any person 15 years of age or older (i) who makes and communicates to another by any means any threat to bomb, burn, destroy, or in any manner damage any place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation or (ii) who communicates to another, by any means, information, knowing the same to be false, as to the existence of any peril of bombing, burning, destruction, or damage to any such place of assembly, building or other structure, or means of transportation is guilty of a Class 5 felony. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference.(25103755D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1612 (Phil M. Hernandez)

Board of Education; Child Care Subsidy Program; maximum reimbursement rate; vendors providing care outside of normal business hours. Directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations relating to the Child Care Subsidy Program to permit payment over the maximum reimbursable rate for any vendor that provides child care outside of normal business hours, provided that such rate may not exceed twice the maximum reimbursable rate for child care provided within normal business hours.(25100791D)

HB 1631 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)(HHHS)

Department of Social Services; foster care; new luggage; report. Directs the Department of Social Services (the Department) to establish and maintain a decentralized supply of new luggage to be used to transport the personal belongings of a child in foster care. The bill requires the Department to provide new luggage to a child who is entering or exiting foster care or moving from one foster care placement to another and prohibits the Department from using disposable bags or trash bags to transport any items for a child in foster care. The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department to report certain information related to new luggage to the General Assembly by no later than December 1 of each year.(25102315D)

HB 1906 (Rodney T. Willett)

Department of Social Services; Department of Health; local departments of social services; local health districts; screening for unmet social needs; service referrals. Directs the Department of Social Services and Virginia Department of Health to require local departments of social services and local health districts to screen clients seeking services for unmet social needs and refer clients to services for such unmet needs.(25104350D)



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HB 2290 (Carrie E. Coyner)/**SB 870**(Barbara A. Favola)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities. Permits the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Social Services, and any local department of social services to access medical and mental health information and records for persons committed to any correctional facility for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. The bill also authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services to access a juvenile's social, medical, psychiatric, and psychological reports and records during pre-release and up to 30 days following such juvenile's release from commitment for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services.(25104100D)

HB 2308 (M. Keith Hodges)(HCT)

Inhaling drugs or other noxious chemical substances or causing, etc., others to do so; distribution of nitrous oxide to persons under 18 prohibited; penalties. Prohibits the sale or distribution of nitrous oxide to persons under 18 years of age with exceptions as defined in the bill. Any person who fails to make diligent inquiry as to whether the person trying to obtain nitrous oxide is 18 years of age or older or sells, distributes, or attempts to sell or distribute nitrous oxide to a person under 18 years of age is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also adds nitrous oxide to the list of noxious chemical substances for which it is unlawful to deliberately smell or inhale with the intent to become intoxicated, inebriated, excited, or stupefied or to dull the brain or nervous system, or to deliberately cause another person to do so.(25100988D)

SB 791 (Christopher T. Head)(SEH)

Certain practical nursing programs; common curriculum; transferability to registered nursing programs. Requires the Virginia Community College System (the System), in consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Board of Nursing, and representatives from both associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and baccalaureate public institutions of higher education that offer nursing programs, to develop a common curriculum for practical nursing programs that shall be implemented at each comprehensive community college in the System that offers a practical nursing program. The bill requires such common curriculum, to the extent possible, to (i) align with the degree requirements for registered nursing programs offered at associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and baccalaureate public institutions of higher education and (ii) be transferable to each registered nursing program offered at an associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education or a baccalaureate public institution of higher education. The bill (a) requires each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education and each baccalaureate public institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to participate in a practical nursing program to registered nursing program transfer agreement with the System that aligns with the practical nursing program common curriculum established pursuant to the bill and (b) permits any private institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to be consulted regarding and participate on a voluntary basis in such a transfer agreement.(25101918D)

SB 846 (Christie New Craig)

Access to minor's records; records contained in or made available through secure website. Specifies that for the purposes of allowing a parent to access the academic or health records of



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such parent's minor child such access includes access to a secure website where such records are contained or made available.(25102899D)

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)

SB 1290 (R. Creigh Deeds)

Health insurance; reimbursement for services rendered by certain practitioners other than physicians. Requires health insurers and health service plan providers whose accident and sickness insurance policies or subscription contracts cover services that may be legally performed by a physician assistant to provide equal coverage for such services when rendered by a licensed athletic trainer when such services are performed in an office setting. Additionally, the bill requires the reimbursement or payment for a service provided by certain licensed practitioners listed in the bill to be in the same amount as the reimbursement or payment paid under such policy or subscription contract to a licensed physician performing such service in the area served.(25100991D)

Housing

HB 1973 (Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker)

Preservation of affordable housing; definitions; civil penalty. Creates a framework for localities to preserve affordable housing by exercising a right of first refusal on publicly supported housing, defined in the bill. The bill authorizes localities to implement an ordinance that requires an owner to accept a right of first refusal offer by the locality or qualified designee, defined in the bill, in order to preserve affordable housing for at least 15 years. The bill requires that any locality adopting such an ordinance to preserve affordable housing submit an annual report to the Department of Housing and Community Development by December 31.(25101114D)

HB 2175 (Nadarius E. Clark)

Local anti-rent gouging authority; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt anti-rent gouging provisions. The bill provides for notice and a public hearing prior to the adoption of such ordinance and specifies that all landlords who are under the ordinance may be required to give at least two months' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, described in the bill as the maximum amount a landlord can increase a tenant's rent during any 12-month period, in effect



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at the time of the increase. The bill sets such allowance as equal to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index or seven percent, whichever is less, states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year, and requires the locality to publish such allowance on its website by June 1 of each year. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from such ordinance. The bill also requires a locality to establish an anti-rent gouging board that will develop and implement rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance. Finally, the bill provides that a locality shall establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in its ordinance.(25104638D)

HB 2218 (Kathy K.L. Tran)

Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; rental payment methods. Requires landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to accept payment of periodic rent and any security deposit by any lawful means, including check, electronic funds transfer, debit or credit card, cash, and money order. The bill also removes the provision requiring the tenant to request a written receipt after paying in the form of cash or money order and requires the landlord to provide such written receipt as a matter of law. Finally, the bill prohibits a landlord from charging a tenant any fee for the collection or processing of any payment of rent, security deposit, or any other fees.(25100872D)

SB 1136 (Jennifer B. Boysko)

Local anti-rent gouging authority; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt anti-rent gouging provisions. The bill provides for notice and a public hearing prior to the adoption of such ordinance and specifies that all landlords who are under the ordinance may be required to give at least two months' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, not to exceed three percent, and states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year. The bill requires the locality to publish such allowance on its website by June 1 of each year. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from such ordinance. The bill also requires a locality to establish an anti-rent gouging board to establish rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance or delegate such duties and functions to an existing local board, department, or agency. Finally, the bill provides that a locality shall establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in its ordinance.(25105681A)

Information Technology

HB 2546 (Sam Rasoul)(HCT)

Obtaining records concerning electronic communication service or remote computing service without a warrant. Provides that when disclosure of real-time location data or subscriber data is not prohibited by federal law, an investigative or law-enforcement officer may obtain real-time location data or subscriber data without a warrant if the investigative or law-enforcement officer reasonably believes that (i) an individual or group of individuals has made a credible threat via electronic communication to commit an act of violence upon the property, including the buildings and grounds thereof, of any (a) child day center, including any preschool program offered by a publicly funded provider; (b) preschool or nursery program certified by the Board of Education; or (c) public, private, or religious elementary or secondary school and (ii) a



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warrant cannot be obtained in time to prevent the identified danger or identify the source of the threat.(25102127D)

SB 1239 (Ryan T. McDougle)

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)

Land Use

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)

HB 1688 (Kelly K. Convors-Fowler)

Short-term rentals; compliance; civil penalty. Authorizes localities to notify an accommodations intermediary that a short-term rental on its platform is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform. The accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform within seven days of receiving notice and shall provide a refund to any customer reserving such listing. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Any such listing required to be removed shall remain unlisted until the accommodations intermediary has been notified by the locality that the short-term rental has been brought into compliance. Once the locality determines that a delisted short-term rental has been brought into compliance, the locality shall have seven days to notify the accommodations intermediary of the change in status.(25101999D)

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.(25105006A)

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-



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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)

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)

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.(25106055D)

Public Safety

HB 1643 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)

Dismissal of certain traffic violations for proof of compliance with law. Provides that a court may, in its discretion, dismiss a violation for driving without a license if such person can prove to the court compliance with the law on or before the court date and payment of court fees. The bill also provides that a court may, in its discretion and where there have been no prior violations or convictions, dismiss a person's violation for driving while his driver's license, learner's permit, or privilege to drive is suspended or revoked if such person can prove to the court compliance with the law on or before the court date and payment of court fees.(25105849A)

HB 1864 (Phil M. Hernandez)

Poor debtor's exemption; depository institution account exemption. Allows a householder to hold exempt from creditor process up to \$5,000 held in an account in any bank or savings institution. The bill provides that when a depository institution in which a householder has an account receives an order of garnishment, attachment, or other levy, such depository institution's answer shall state either that such account does not exceed \$5,000 or the amount of any funds in such account in excess of \$5,000 being held pending further order of the court.(25102122D)

HB 1874 (Rozia A. Henson, Jr.)

Publication of personal information of retired or former law-enforcement officers. Adds retired or former law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, to the definition of "public official" for the purposes of prohibiting the Commonwealth from publishing a public official's personal information on the Internet. The bill provides that the demand in writing required to prohibit the publication of such personal information shall be effective for a period of four years,



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provided that such retired or former law-enforcement officer was retired or ended his service within four years of filing a petition with a circuit court.(25103674D)

HB 2385 (Eric R. Zehr)(HCT)

Motor vehicle accidents; actions brought by uninsured motorists; limited damages. Places limits on the amount of recoverable damages in a motor vehicle accident resulting in personal injury or property damage when the person injured or whose property was damaged is an uninsured motorist. The bill provides that the limits do not apply if (i) the tortfeasor was driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, (ii) the tortfeasor failed to stop and report the injury of damage after such accident, or (iii) the injury or damage was a result of an intentional act taken by the tortfeasor to injure the person or damage such person's property.(25102577D)

HB 2492 (Eric R. Zehr)

Motor vehicle accidents; actions brought by uninsured motorists; limited damages. Places limits on the amount of recoverable damages in a motor vehicle accident resulting in personal injury or property damage when the person injured or whose property was damaged is an uninsured motorist. The bill provides that the limits do not apply if (i) the tortfeasor was driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, (ii) the tortfeasor failed to stop and report the injury or damage after such accident, or (iii) the injury or damage was a result of an intentional act taken by the tortfeasor to injure the person or damage such person's property.(25104151D)

SB 781 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy)/**HB 1874**(Rozia A. Henson, Jr.)

Publication of personal information of retired or former law-enforcement officers. Adds retired or former law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, to the definition of "public official" for the purposes of prohibiting the Commonwealth from publishing a public official's personal information on the Internet. The bill provides that the demand in writing required to prohibit the publication of such personal information shall be effective for a period of four years, provided that such retired or former law-enforcement officer was retired or ended his service within four years of filing a petition with a circuit court.(25101049D)

SB 936 (Christie New Craig)(SCT)

Decreasing probation period; criteria for mandatory reduction. Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing qualifying educational activities, maintaining verifiable employment, complying with or completing any state-certified or state-approved mental health or substance abuse treatment program, securing and maintaining qualifying health insurance or a qualifying health care plan, and obtaining housing and establishing residence. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct and in the interests of justice and may do so without a hearing.(25103378D)

SB 1110 (Angelia Williams Graves)(SFIN)

Weapons; possession prohibited in a hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly possess in the building of any hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, a (i) firearm, (ii) knife with a blade over three and one-half inches, or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including



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explosives and stun weapons. The bill also provides that notice of such prohibitions shall be posted conspicuously at the public entrance of any hospital and no person shall be convicted of the offense if such notice is not posted, unless such person had actual notice of the prohibitions. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies exceptions to the prohibition.(25104369D)

Public Safety/Criminal Justice

HB 1692 (Ellen H. Campbell)(HPS)

Virginia Parole Board; investigation of cases for executive clemency. Requires all public bodies engaged in criminal law-enforcement activities to provide certain specified records upon request by the Virginia Parole Board related to cases in which executive clemency is sought or the Virginia Parole Board believes action on the part of the Governor is proper or in the best interest of the Commonwealth. The bill specifies that records of any general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court, or circuit court and the Department of Forensic Science shall be subject to such provisions and that any records requested shall be provided to the Virginia Parole Board at no cost. The bill requires any requested records be provided within five working days of receiving the request. Additionally, the bill specifies that records obtained pursuant to such request are for the internal use of the Virginia Parole Board, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the Office of the Governor and shall not be further disseminated.(25100761D)

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

HB 2302 (Mark D. Sickles)

Real property tax; exemption for religious buildings; rebuilding structure. Provides that the property tax exemption for property used for religious worship shall include property on which



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a church or other building for religious worship is being replaced or rebuilt. The property owner shall demonstrate the intention to use such structure exclusively for religious worship or for the residence of the minister of any church or religious body, as well as certain other requirements provided in the bill.(25101148D)

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.(25105938D)

SB 900 (Bill DeSteph)

Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Authorizes localities by ordinance to provide a total exemption from real property taxes regardless of assessed value beginning in taxable year 2025. Under current law, a total exemption is only allowed for those dwellings in the locality with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential.(25102345D)

Transportation

HB 1673 (Michael J. Jones)

Pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems and stop sign violation monitoring systems; violation enforcement; civil penalty. Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk intersection segments for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill imposes the same requirements on pedestrian crossing and stop sign violation monitoring systems as currently exist for photo speed monitoring devices and requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of such systems to, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion.(25102447D)

HB 1750 (N. Baxter Ennis)

Department of Transportation; maintenance on components of the Interstate System. Authorizes the Department of Transportation to perform nonemergency work on the Interstate System with its own employees or agents. Current law requires nonemergency maintenance on components of the Interstate System to be carried out by contractors unless the Commissioner of Highways provides good and sufficient reasons for not doing so.(25100436D)



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HB 1926 (Jeion A. Ward)

Traffic control device and traffic light signal violation monitoring systems; issuance of summons. Increases from 10 business days to 30 business days the deadline for a locality to execute a summons for a traffic control device or traffic light signal violation enforced by a violation monitoring system.(25106387A)

HB 2256 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

Report of motor vehicle accident; damage threshold. Increases from \$1,500 to \$5,000 the property damage threshold at which law enforcement is required to forward a written report of a motor vehicle accident to the Department of Motor Vehicles.(25106368A)

HB 2464 (Geary Higgins)

Highway rights-of-way; invasive species. Requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish and implement a policy for identifying, digging up, and destroying any invasive plant on the list of invasive plants created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on any state highway right-of-way.(25106073A)

HB 2550 (Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr.)

Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties. Authorizes counties in Planning District 8 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, for the purpose of recording and enforcing exhaust system violations, also defined in the bill. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$100, but the violation shall not be reported on the driver's operating record or to the driver's insurance agency. Under the bill, the civil penalty will be paid to the locality in which the violation occurred to be used for the cost of administering the noise abatement monitoring system program and for transportation safety initiatives. The bill contains the same data privacy and storage requirements as are in current law for photo speed monitoring devices. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.(25106446D)

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.(25105249D)



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SB 1173 (David R. Suetterlein)

Virginia coordinate systems; federal updates. Updates several references in Code to the Virginia Coordinate System of 2022 and aligns state law with federal changes with respect to measurement standards. The bill replaces the U.S. survey foot with the international foot. The provisions of the bill become effective upon the official release by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Geodetic Survey of the State Plane Coordinate System of 2022 and certification in writing to the Virginia Code Commission that such contingency has been met.(25100657D)

SB 1250 (Lamont Bagby)

Transportation Trust Fund; investments; personal liability. Extends the limitation on personal liability for loss in investments from moneys in the Transportation Trust Fund to an individual's actions taken while serving on or employed by certain entities, even if such individual no longer serves on or is employed by any such entity. The bill also applies such limitation on personal liability for loss in investments to members and employees of the Central Virginia Transportation Authority.(25100598D)

SB 1340 (David W. Marsden)

Commissioner of Highways; prequalification program for self-bonding program; certain reports; repealed. Removes (i) the biennial report requirement for the Commissioner of Highways regarding the use of funds in the Innovation and Technology Transportation Fund; (ii) the requirement for a prequalification program agreed upon by the Commissioner of Highways and the Department of the Treasury for the self-bonding program for transportation-related construction projects; and (iii) reporting requirements for the Department of Transportation regarding certain information related to performance or payment bonds, waivers, and self-bonding program enrollment.(25100652D)

SB 1411 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Lighted vehicle headlights; lawful stop by law-enforcement officer. Repeals provisions that prohibit a law-enforcement officer from stopping a vehicle for failing to display lighted headlights in certain circumstances. The bill also repeals provisions rendering inadmissible at any trial, hearing, or other proceeding any evidence discovered or obtained as the result of such a stop.(25103890D)

SB 1445 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Traffic control device violation or traffic light signal violation monitoring systems; school bus video-monitoring systems; inspection of photograph, video, recording, etc., of certain violations. Provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer, certified special conservator of the peace, or technician employed by a locality authorized to impose penalties for certain traffic violations who has obtained and inspected photographs, microphotographs, video, recorded images, or other recordings from a traffic light signal violation monitoring system, traffic control device violation monitoring system, or video-monitoring system installed and operated on a school bus shall be considered prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.(25106506D)



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SB 1458 (William M. Stanley, Jr.)

Display of single license plate; fee. Authorizes any owner of a passenger car that is otherwise required to display two license plates to display, upon payment of an additional annual fee of \$100 at the time of vehicle registration or renewal of vehicle registration and upon receipt of proof of the payment of such fee from the Department of Motor Vehicles, a single license plate on the rear of such vehicle instead of two. The bill authorizes any law-enforcement officer to require the owner to furnish such proof of the payment of such fee. The bill directs the funds from such fees to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund.(25104592D)

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"



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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)

HB 2289 (Carrie E. Coyner)

Zoning; recovery residences. Provides that zoning ordinances for all purposes shall consider a certified recovery residence in which no more than eight individuals with substance use disorder reside, either with or without one or more resident or nonresident staff persons, as residential occupancy by a single family and that no conditions more restrictive than those imposed on residences occupied by persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption shall be imposed on such certified recovery residence. The bill provides that no clinical treatment shall take place in such recovery residence and that the recovery residence shall submit the individual name and contact information for the person responsible for the residence to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.(25102924D)

HJ 434 (Michael B. Feggans)(HRUL)/**SB 1337**(David W. Marsden)

Study; JLARC; non-federal sponsor contributions by localities to conduct coastal storm risk management studies; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology for determining the monetary contributions by localities or other non-federal sponsors to the total cost of coastal storm risk management studies. The study also directs JLARC to determine whether a separate fund should be established to support and manage cost-share requests from non-federal sponsors for such studies.(25103183D)

SB 813 (Aaron R. Rouse)(SPE)/**HB 1657**(Rozia A. Henson, Jr.)

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.(25102308D)

SB 992 (Angelia Williams Graves)

Civil penalties for certain repeat zoning violations in Planning District 23; appeals. Provides an enhanced level of civil penalties in Planning District 23 (Hampton Roads) for repeat



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violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses, defined in the bill. The bill also clarifies (i) that when a board of zoning appeals hears appeals from the decision of an administrative officer and alters the statutorily required order of evidence, it is a reversible error and (ii) that the required statement of a right to appeal an administrative officer's decision must be sent to the aggrieved person by certified mail with proof of delivery.(25102414D)

SB 1005 (Jennifer B. Boysko)(SRUL)/**HB 1730**(Karrie K. Delaney)

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.(25104422D)

SB 1342 (Lamont Bagby)(SRUL)

Department of Energy; work group; barriers to reducing energy-related costs of living in low-income households; report. Directs the Department of Energy to convene a work group to identify existing barriers to reducing energy-related costs of living in low-income households in the Commonwealth and to submit a report of its findings to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation by November 15, 2025.(25105946D)

Court Fees

HB 1665 (Michael J. Jones)

Fines, restitution, forfeiture, penalties, other costs; criminal and traffic cases; itemized statement. Requires the clerk of the court to provide an itemized statement to any defendant convicted of a traffic infraction or a violation of any criminal law of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision thereof, or found not innocent in the case of a juvenile, who is sentenced to pay a fine, restitution, forfeiture, or penalty or assessed any other costs in the circuit court or appropriate district court of his county or city at the time such fine, restitution, forfeiture, penalty, or other costs are assessed, or within a reasonable time after assessment. The bill requires the clerk to also provide an updated statement of the outstanding balances of any fines, forfeiture, and penalties, restitution and costs, or payment history upon request of the defendant. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026.(25101433D)

Education



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HB 1732 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Health records; disclosure of laboratory test results. Requires health care entities to wait 72 hours before disclosing test results that could indicate malignancy or genetic markers as part of a patient's health records. The bill permits health care entities to disclose health records to an electronic health information exchange to comply with the 21st Century Cures Act.(25103088D)

HB 2287 (Carrie E. Coyner)

Guidelines and policies on school-connected overdose; response and parental notification. Adjusts the contents of the guidelines that the Board of Education is required to establish for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies by requiring such guidelines to include guidance and model language for the development and implementation of a policy requiring each school board to provide within 24 hours of any school-connected overdose notification to the parent of each student within the local school division and criteria for ensuring sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals in issuing such notification. The bill also requires each school board to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose within 24 hours of the overdose occurring in accordance with the guidance and criteria provided by the Board of Education.(25103388D)

HB 2424 (Geary Higgins)

School-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; requirements. Expands current law relating to school-connected overdose parental notification and response policies by, in addition to requiring the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies, requiring (i) each division superintendent or his designee to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any suspected school-connected overdose, with 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 suspected overdose and requiring such notification to include as much information as is known about the circumstances surrounding the suspected overdose, to the extent that the disclosure of any such information is not prohibited by any applicable laws, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information, and (ii) requiring each local school board to adopt, implement, and maintain policies consistent with the provisions of the bill and the guidelines developed by the Board of Education.(25106288D)

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)



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HB 1735 (Joshua G. Cole)/**SB 991**(Angelia Williams Graves)

Voter registration; time period for closing registration records before certain elections. Reduces from 21 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before primary and general elections and from 13 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before special elections that are not called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate.(25101671D)

HB 2056 (Atoosa R. Reaser)

Absentee voting in person; voter satellite offices; days and hours of operation. Authorizes the governing body of any county or city establishing voter satellite offices for absentee voting in person to prescribe, by ordinance, the dates and hours of operation for such offices.(25104174D)

HB 2277 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Elections administration; duties of local electoral board; certification of election; grounds for removal; civil penalty. Provides that the certification of the results of an election is a clear, ministerial duty of the local electoral boards and that a member of the local electoral board who neglects or refuses to perform such duty in accordance with law shall be subject to removal proceedings by the State Board of Elections and assessed a penalty not exceeding \$1,000. The bill also authorizes the State Board of Elections to intervene and carry out the duties related to election certification in the event a local electoral board fails or refuses to do so.(25101672D)

SB 991 (Angelia Williams Graves)/**HB 1735**(Joshua G. Cole)

Voter registration; time period for closing registration records before certain elections. Reduces from 21 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before primary and general elections and from 13 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before special elections that are not called by the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, or President pro tempore of the Senate.(25102477D)

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)

SB 1404 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School boards; method of selection; election required. Requires election as the method of selecting the members of each school board in the Commonwealth and makes several changes to eliminate provisions relating to appointed school boards. Current law requires such members to be appointed but permits their election under certain circumstances.(25100262D)

SJ 253 (Scott A. Surovell)(SFIN)

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



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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.(25106090A)

Elections - Administration

HB 1657 (Roza A. Henson, Jr.)(HPE)/**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)

HB 1794 (Dan I. Helmer)/**SB 1119**(Schuyler T. VanValkenburg)

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.(25106033A)

HB 2216 (Israel D. O'Quinn)(HPE)

State Board of Elections; appointment of Commissioner of Elections. Changes the appointing authority of the Commissioner of Elections from the Governor to the State Board of Elections, with an affirmative vote of four of the five State Board members required for the appointment or removal of the Commissioner, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. The bill also changes the start of the four-year term of the Commissioner from July 1 of the year following a gubernatorial election to the second year following such election. The bill exempts the Department of Elections from provisions allowing the Governor to appoint a chief deputy and a confidential assistant for policy or administration. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the Commissioner, the bill provides that the Director of Operations of the Department will perform the duties of the Commissioner until such vacancy is filled by the State Board. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026.(25100943D)

HJ 443 (Shelly A. Simonds)

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



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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.(25101532D)

SB 1119 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg)

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.(25106034A)

Eminent Domain

SB 1435 (Russet Perry)

Eminent domain powers of public service corporations; compensation to the Commonwealth and localities. Requires a public service corporation, if it takes by condemnation proceedings any land or right-of-way or similar interest therein that is subject to a conservation easement, to compensate (i) the Commonwealth in an amount equal to the value of any tax credit received by the landowner under the provisions of the Virginia Land Conservation Incentives Act of 1999 during the pendency of the conservation easement and (ii) the locality in which the right-of-way is located (a) in an amount of any property tax avoided by the landowner during the pendency of the conservation easement and (b) if the right-of-way is located on property that is registered with the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, in an amount equal to the additional value conferred upon the property during the period that property was registered.(25106361D)

Employment Issues

HB 1620 (Nadarius E. Clark)(HRUL)

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)

SB 917 (Scott A. Surovell)/**HB 2764**(Kathy K.L. Tran)



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Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement.(25106420D)

Environment

HB 1764 (Marty Martinez)

Disposable plastic bag tax; distribution to towns. Provides that any town located within a county that has imposed a disposable plastic bag tax shall receive a distribution of revenues collected by the county based on the local sales tax distribution formula for appropriations to towns. The bill requires that towns use such revenues for the same purposes allowable for a county or city.(25101035D)

SB 1234 (Lashrecse D. Aird)

Water Testing and Treatment Program; Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program Fund; certification; permits. Requires the Board of Health to promulgate regulations for use of drinking water treatment or filtration systems certified as compliant with National Sanitation Foundation and American National Standards Institute standards to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonate, and other contaminants of concern. The bill requires any permit application for private well construction to include (i) an indication as to whether such permit is for new construction of a well, repair of an existing well, or modification of an existing well and (ii) if such permit is for new construction of a well that is intended to replace an existing well, an indication as to the reason such existing well will no longer be used. The bill establishes the Water Testing and Treatment Program and the Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program Fund to assist with the testing and treating of contaminated drinking water through grants for the use of eligible treatment and filtration systems in private residential wells. Such grants are contingent on applicants demonstrating (a) the severity of the drinking water contamination, (b) the lack of available public water alternatives, and (c) the economic need of the private residential well owner.(25105970D)

SB 1254 (Lamont Bagby)

Comprehensive plan; environmental justice strategy. Requires cities with populations greater than 20,000 and counties with populations greater than 100,000 to consider, at the next and all subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan, adopting an environmental justice strategy. The bill provides that the locality's strategy shall be to identify environmental justice and fenceline communities within the jurisdiction of the local planning commission and identify objectives and policies to reduce health risks, to promote civic engagement, and to prioritize



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improvements and programs that address the needs of environmental justice and fenceline communities, as those terms are defined by the bill.(25103447D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1593 (Hillary Pugh Kent)/**SB 846**(Christie New Craig)

Access to minor's records; records contained in or made available through secure website. Specifies that for the purposes of allowing a parent to access the academic or health records of such parent's minor child such access includes access to a secure website where such records are contained or made available.(25105491D)

HB 1617 (Adele Y. McClure)

Homeless youth; fees; certain government documents. Provides that when a homeless youth seeks to receive any (i) copies of vital records; (ii) copies of health records; or (iii) DMV-issued learner's permits, driver's licenses, special identification cards, or identification privilege cards or permits, no fee for issuance shall be assessed against the youth.(25103004D)

HB 1618 (Nadarius E. Clark)(HRUL)

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)

HB 1637 (Patrick A. Hope)/**SB 1035**(Stella G. Pekarsky)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone.(25101183D)

HB 1649 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)

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.(25102272D)



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HB 1675 (C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr.)(HHHS)

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. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.(25102220D)

HB 1733 (Joshua G. Cole)/**SB 1372**(David R. Suetterlein)

Petitions for relief of care and custody of a child; investigation by local department of social services; Office of the Children's Ombudsman work group; report. Requires a local department of social services, as a part of its investigation after the referral of a request for a petition for relief of the care and custody of a child, to (i) refer the parent to the local family assessment and planning team and (ii) create a written report. The bill directs the Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Virginia League of Social Services Executives, to create a template for and provide guidance on what should be included in such written report. The bill also changes the evidentiary standard of whether there is good cause shown for the petitioner's desire to be relieved of the child's care and custody from a finding based on preponderance of the evidence to a finding based on clear and convincing evidence. The bill also directs the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to convene a work group composed of relevant stakeholders to determine the factors a court should consider when determining whether there is good cause shown for a petitioner's desire to be relieved of the care and custody of a child. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Virginia Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth.(25105494D)

HB 1760 (Debra D. Gardner)(HHHS)

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Act; report. Directs the Department of Health (the Department), in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Education, to establish several programs related to mental health for children five years of age or younger. The bill directs the Department to establish a mental health consultation program for early childhood education providers, health care providers, and families. In service of this program, the bill requires the Department to employ or contract with mental health professionals to provide consulting services on mental health. The bill also requires the Department to establish mandatory training programs for early childhood educators, child care providers, and pediatric health care providers, as those terms are defined in the bill, and to require such programs in order to maintain licensure in such professions. The bill directs the Department to establish parent education programs that are available in multiple locations as well as to create an evidence-based home visiting program to provide at-risk families with direct support and education on early childhood development. The bill requires the Department to collect data on the programs and report annually to the General Assembly.(25101729D)

HB 1777 (Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr.)

Office of the Children's Ombudsman; foster youth's right to receive information. Requires the Department of Social Services or a local department of social services, a children's residential facility, or any child-placing agency to provide certain information along with the contact information for the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to a biological parent, prospective



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adoptive parent, or foster parent, as well as to any child in foster care age 12 or older upon the opening of a foster care case for such child. The bill also provides that, in relation to complaints made to the Ombudsman, if such child is the complainant, the Ombudsman need not gain the consent of the Department or local department of social services, the children's residential facility, the child-placing agency, or the foster parent or guardian of the child or other person having custody or care of the child to receive information from or communicate with the child.(25102551D)

HB 1804 (Laura Jane Cohen)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; application for medical assistance; eligibility for Medicaid Works. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary approvals from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to amend its application for medical assistance to gather all necessary information to determine an applicant's eligibility for the Medicaid Works program.(25102557D)

HB 1811 (Ellen H. Campbell)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; income exemption for personal care assistants. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the appropriate approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to create an income exemption for licensed providers of personal care assistance.(25101124D)

HB 1893 (Holly M. Seibold)

State plan for medical assistance services; recovery residences; work group; report. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of care provided at certain recovery residences for individuals diagnosed with a substance use disorder. The bill also directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to (i) convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to (a) establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness and impact of recovery residences on long-term recovery outcomes and (b) study the economic impact of recovery residences on the Commonwealth and (ii) in consultation with such work group, promulgate regulations to ensure recovery residences are operating in compliance with American Society of Addiction Medicine standards. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025.(25103164D)

HB 1895 (Rodney T. Willett)(HHHS)/**SB 1094**(Emily M. Jordan)

Involuntary temporary detention orders; definition of "psychiatric emergency department." Amends the definition of "psychiatric emergency department" as it relates to involuntary temporary detention orders to remove the requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be located adjacent to a facility licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and to add a requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be licensed by either the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or the Department of Health.(25100461D)



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HB 1902 (Rodney T. Willett)(HHHS)

Board of Health; Department of Health Professions; Prescription Monitoring Program; overdose information. Directs the Board of Health to report patient level data on patients who overdose on opioids to the Department of Health Professions for use in the Prescription Monitoring Program. The bill requires practitioners to obtain such data when prescribing opioids.(25101768D)

HB 1929 (Destiny LeVere Bolling)/**SB 1393**(Angelia Williams Graves)

Department of Health; pregnancy mobile application. Directs the Department of Health to contract with a mobile developer to create a mobile application available to prenatal, pregnant, and postpartum individuals who are eligible for Medicaid. The bill requires the Department to submit a request for proposal within 180 days of the bill's effective date and requires such request for proposal to include provisions on deliverables for development of the mobile application.(25103515D)

HB 1937 (Patrick A. Hope)(HHHS)

Acute psychiatric bed registry; Bed Registry Advisory Council; patient privacy and data security; Virginia Freedom of Information Act exemption. Requires the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to include provisions for the protection of patient privacy and data security pursuant to state and federal law and regulations in contracts with private entities for the administration of the acute psychiatric bed registry. The bill requires the Commissioner to create the Bed Registry Advisory Council, consisting of representatives from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, and the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards; two representatives from hospitals or health systems; and two representatives from community services boards, to advise the Commissioner and any such private entity on the administration of such registry and to review and approve requests for access to data from the registry. The bill also creates a Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemption for information submitted to such registry.(25104280D)

HB 2189 (Nicholas J. Freitas)

Immunizations; authority of the Commissioner of Health; religious exception. Exempts a person, including a parent or guardian on behalf of a child, who objects to administration of a vaccine on religious grounds from mandatory immunization requirements issued by the State Health Commissioner during an epidemic. Currently, exemption from mandatory immunization requirements during an epidemic is available only to those persons to whose health the administration of a vaccine would be detrimental, as certified in writing by a licensed physician.(25100793D)

HB 2300 (Ellen H. Campbell)

Drinking water; maximum contaminant levels; water treatment or filtration systems; Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Program Fund established. Directs the State Board of Health to adopt regulations to utilize point-of-use or point-of-entry drinking water treatment or filtration systems to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of contaminants of concern that meet or exceed any maximum contaminant level or health advisory for the same contaminant adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The bill also establishes the Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Program



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Fund to allow the Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water to test and treat contaminated drinking water through grants for the use of eligible treatment or filtration systems in private residential wells.(25101679D)

HB 2309 (M. Keith Hodges)

Department of Health; local health districts and local health departments; guidance for septic and well permits. Directs the Department of Health to develop guidance directing local health districts and local health departments to evaluate and recommend administrative solutions to problems with a valid septic or well permit prior to issuing a revocation for such valid septic or well permit.(25106430D)

HB 2344 (Chris Obenshain)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; program extension. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to take all steps necessary to implement the federal extension option for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities to allow children four years of age or younger to receive services through such program.(25102784D)

HB 2399 (Phillip A. Scott)

Parental access to minor's health records. Requires health care entities that provide access to health records of minors through a secure website to make such health records available to the minor's parent or guardian through the same secure website.(25100009D)

HB 2407 (Phillip A. Scott)/**SB 1408**(Bryce E. Reeves)

Department of Health; waterworks; mandatory reporting of anomalies; negligence. Requires owners of waterworks to report any operational anomaly that could affect water quality, public health, or service continuity to the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water (the Office) within 24 hours of discovery. The bill requires any critical equipment failure, including a pump failure or any other malfunction that poses an immediate risk to public health or disrupts water service to be reported to the Office within six hours of discovery. Under the bill, failure to comply with the reporting requirements constitutes negligence and failure to comply with the critical equipment failure reporting requirements constitutes gross negligence.(25100594D)

HB 2457 (Jackie H. Glass)

State Board of Social Services; regulations; application for and use of foster care benefits. Directs the State Board of Social Services to amend its regulations by January 1, 2026, to (i) require local departments of social services to apply for federal benefits on behalf of children in foster care that they may be eligible for, (ii) prohibit the use of military survivor benefits to pay for the care and support of children in foster care that the Commonwealth is otherwise obligated to pay for, and (iii) require local departments of social services that are representative payees for children in foster care to conserve such military survivor benefits in an appropriate trust instrument or protected account that is exempt from federal asset and resource limits.(25100277D)



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HB 2562 (Kim A. Taylor)

Abortion; treatment of a nonviable pregnancy; emergency. Provides that the criminal penalties applicable to the performance of an abortion do not apply to the treatment of a nonviable pregnancy, as defined in the bill, provided that, pursuant to reasonable standards of care, failure to treat such nonviable pregnancy by terminating the pregnancy or attempting to terminate the pregnancy by performing an abortion or inducing a miscarriage is likely to result in the death of the woman or would substantially and irretrievably impair the physical health of the woman. The bill contains an emergency clause.(25101842D)

HB 2614 (Wren M. Williams)

Department of Health; food service permits; out-of-state caterers. Directs the Department of Health to adopt regulations allowing caterers located outside of the Commonwealth to obtain a permit to provide food services for events located in the Commonwealth.(25106451D)

HB 2754 (JJ Singh)/**SB 870**(Barbara A. Favola)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities.(25105324D)

HB 2774 (JJ Singh)

Board of Education; school-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; requirements.(25106227D)

SB 740 (Mamie E. Locke)(SEH)

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)

SB 743 (Barbara A. Favola)(SEH)

Reproductive health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes. 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, as 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 accused of an alleged offense in the demanding state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state.(25101042D)

SB 758 (Mamie E. Locke)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; remote monitoring services for pregnant and postpartum patients; reimbursement. Expands provision for payment of medical assistance for remote patient monitoring services provided via telemedicine to include



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all pregnant and postpartum persons. Under current law, only high-risk pregnancies are covered. (25101131D)

SB 768 (Barbara A. Favola)

Department of Education; survey of local education agencies on school-based mental and behavioral health services; report. Requires the Department of Education (the Department) to survey each local education agency (LEA) in the Commonwealth to determine (i) how public schools governed by such LEA currently grant access to local departments of social services and community services boards and other community-based providers of mental and behavioral health services and (ii) what school-based mental and behavioral health services are made available by such LEA. The bill requires the Department to utilize the results of and feedback from the survey to inform the continued development and improvement of guidelines for school professionals to support students and families by connecting them with community resources that provide mental and behavioral health services. The bill requires the Department to report to the Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025, any findings and recommendations that result from the survey. (25101253D)

SB 790 (Christopher T. Head)(SEH)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone. (25101902D)

SB 801 (Barbara A. Favola)(SRSS)

Children's Services Act; state pool of funds. Makes a number of changes to the Children's Services Act state pool of funds for the provision of public or private nonresidential or residential services for troubled youth and families, including (i) removing the requirement that the Office of Children's Services consult with private special education services providers in developing the standard reporting template for tuition rates; (ii) removing from the purpose of the state pool of funds the consolidation of categorical agency funding and the institution of community responsibility for the provision of services; (iii) removing language specifying that references to funding sources and current placement authority for the target population served by the state pool of funds are for the purpose of accounting for the funds and should not be intended to categorize children and youth into funding streams in order to access services; (iv) modifying the target population served by the state pool of funds by (a) removing references to the Department of Education's private tuition assistance and the Interagency Assistance Fund for Noneducational Placement for Handicapped Children and (b) adding children and youth who are determined to be a child in need of services, as such term is defined in relevant law; (v) removing the requirement that the financial and legal responsibility for certain special education services remains with the placing jurisdiction, unless the placing jurisdiction has transitioned all appropriate services; (vi) requiring that the uniform assessment instrument used to determine eligibility for funding through the state pool of funds be approved by the State Executive Council for Children's Services; and (vii) modifying the eligibility criteria for



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funding through the state pool of funds by adding language that (a) specifies that the child or youth's emotional or behavioral problems have resulted in the child or youth, or place the child or youth at imminent risk of, entering purchased residential care and (b) includes the determination by a court that the child or youth is a child in need of services, as such term is defined in relevant law. The bill also includes technical changes. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth.(25104681A)

SB 817 (Aaron R. Rouse)

Public elementary and secondary schools; cardiac emergency response or emergency action plans required; CERP/EAP Grant Program established. Requires each public elementary or secondary school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) or an athletic emergency action plan (EAP), as that term is defined by the bill, that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual who is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds and, in the event that such school has an athletic department or organized athletic program, while attending or participating in an athletic practice or event. The bill requires each such CERP or athletic EAP to integrate nationally recognized evidence-based core elements and nationally recognized evidence-based guidelines and to integrate certain provisions and guidelines, including those relating to establishing a cardiac emergency response team, activating such team in response to a sudden cardiac event, and integrating the CERP or athletic EAP into the local community's emergency medical services response protocols. The bill also requires, with such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, the Department of Education to establish and administer the CERP /EAP Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants, on a competitive basis, to any public elementary or secondary school to assist such school in the development or implementation of its CERP or athletic EAP or in the purchase or funding of activities or equipment that further promotes CERP or athletic EAP preparedness, giving priority to certain high-need schools, as defined in the bill.(25101340D)

SB 818 (Barbara A. Favola)

Department of Social Services; children in foster care; federal benefits; notice of eligibility. Directs the Department of Social Services to provide written notice of a child in foster care's eligibility to receive certain federal benefits, specified in the bill, to (i) the child, if the child is 13 years of age or older; (ii) the child's parent, parents or guardians, or other person responsible for the child; (iii) the guardian ad litem; (iv) the counsel appointed for the child; and (v) the local department of social services or child-placing agency.(25104462D)

SB 819 (Barbara A. Favola)

Referrals to community-based outpatient stabilization programs for voluntary treatment. Requires health care professionals and evaluators to consider whether a referral to a community-based outpatient stabilization program for voluntary treatment is appropriate prior to a patient's release from an emergency custody order or a temporary detention order.(25100803D)

SB 826 (Mamie E. Locke)

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Department of Health Professions; predetermination for licensing eligibility; prior convictions. Prohibits the use of vague or



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arbitrary terms by a regulatory board or department within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or Department of Health when refusing a person a license, certificate, or registration to practice, pursue, or engage in any regulated occupation or profession. The bill requires such regulatory board or department denying a registration, license, or certificate based on information in the applicant's criminal history record to notify the applicant in writing of (i) the specific offense or offenses that contributed to such denial; (ii) how the criminal history directly relates to the occupation for which the registration, license, or certificate applies; and (iii) how the regulatory board or department weighed rehabilitation factors when making its decision. The bill further allows an applicant to request a written predetermination from a regulatory board or department within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation concerning whether his criminal record would disqualify him from obtaining a license, certificate, registration, or other authority to engage in a particular occupation, trade, or profession in the Commonwealth.(25105935D)

SB 838 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; recovery residences; certification required; penalty; work group. Changes the existing civil penalty for a violation of law related to the operation of recovery residences to a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to (i) make recommendations related to oversight and transparency for recovery residences and (ii) develop credentialing guidelines for recovery residences. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2025.(25106352A)

SB 859 (Bryce E. Reeves)

School boards; policies relating to volunteer student life counseling and support services; guidelines and requirements. Permits any school board to adopt a policy permitting certain individuals or groups to provide, on a volunteer basis, student life counseling or support services, as defined by the bill, on school property after regular school hours, in accordance with the requirements in the bill. The bill (i) requires a school board to hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed policy prior to adopting such policy, to ensure that each student is free from pressure from the Commonwealth to engage in or refrain from religious observation on school property, and to ensure that the constitutional principles of freedom of religion and separation of church and state are observed at all times and (ii) requires such policy (a) to include background and criminal records check requirements for individuals volunteering to provide such support services; (b) to require written parental consent before any minor student participates in or receives such support services; (c) to require any approved individual or group to include on materials provided to students and parents information a parent or student may need in order to provide full and informed consent; (d) to be neutral with regard to religious preference, affiliation, or belief, or lack thereof, in the approval of an individual or group to provide such services and in the administration, oversight, or supervision of such services; and (e) to ensure that no such services are provided during regular school hours or in any manner that could cause conflict with instructional time.(25100180D)

SB 870 (Barbara A. Favola)/**HB 2754**(JJ Singh)

Behavioral health services; exchange of medical and mental health information and records; correctional facilities. Permits the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department



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of Social Services, and any local department of social services to access medical and mental health information and records for persons committed to any correctional facility for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services. The bill also authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services to access a juvenile's social, medical, psychiatric, and psychological reports and records during pre-release and up to 30 days following such juvenile's release from commitment for the purposes of providing pre-release services, reentry planning, and post-incarceration placement and services.(25104025D)

SB 953 (Barbara A. Favola)

Certain practical nursing programs; common curriculum; transferability to registered nursing programs; pathway of stackable credentials. Requires the Virginia Community College System, in consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Board of Nursing, and representatives from associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education that offer nursing programs, to develop a common curriculum for practical nursing programs that shall be implemented at each comprehensive community college in the System that offers a practical nursing program. The bill requires such common curriculum, to the extent possible, to (i) align with the degree requirements for registered nursing programs offered at associate-degree-granting public institutions of higher education and (ii) be transferable to each registered nursing program offered at an associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education. The bill (a) requires each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to participate in a practical nursing program to registered nursing program transfer agreement with the System that aligns with the practical nursing program common curriculum established pursuant to the bill and (b) permits any private institution of higher education that offers a registered nursing degree program to be consulted regarding and participate on a voluntary basis in such a transfer agreement. The bill also requires the System to establish a pathway of stackable nursing credentials that consists of a practical nursing to associate registered nursing to bachelor of science in nursing program pathway.(25106416A)

SB 980 (Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; work group; state plan amendment; reimbursement for services by certified community health workers. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group to (i) design a state plan amendment to provide reimbursement for services provided by certified community health workers, (ii) identify opportunities to expand the use of community health workers by Medicaid managed care organizations, and (iii) determine the feasibility of developing flexible training and certification standards that allow community health workers to use their education and experience to satisfy some of the requirements for qualification as a doula or registered peer recovery specialist. The bill requires the Department to report the work group findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.(25102196D)

SB 1035 (Stella G. Pekarsky)/**HB 1637**(Patrick A. Hope)

Opioid antagonists; dispensing and administration by person acting on behalf of an organization. Permits persons acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to dispense other opioid antagonists. The bill also allows



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persons to whom other opioid antagonists are dispensed to possess and administer such opioid antagonists. Under current law, persons acting on behalf of such organizations may only dispense naloxone.(25102390D)

SB 1036 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

Seizure rescue medications; administration by certain school employees; possession by certain students. Permits a prescriber to authorize an employee of (i) a school board, (ii) a school for students with disabilities, (iii) an accredited private school, (iv) a local governing body, or (v) a local health department who is trained in the administration of intranasal seizure rescue medications for the treatment of seizures resulting from a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters to administer such medications to a student diagnosed with a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters when the student is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a seizure pursuant to a written order or standing protocol issued within the course of the prescriber's professional practice and with the consent of the student's parents. The bill provides that any such authorized employee who administers or assists in the administration of such medications to a student diagnosed with a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters when the student is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a seizure in accordance with the prescriber's instructions shall not be liable for any civil damages for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions resulting from the rendering of such treatment. The bill also permits any local school board to adopt and implement policies (a) permitting any student enrolled in any elementary or secondary school in the local school division who has a diagnosis of a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters to possess intranasal seizure rescue medications during the school day, at school-sponsored activities, or while on a school bus or other school property if the student's parent has submitted a seizure management and action plan that includes written consent of the parent and written approval of the student's primary care provider for such self-possession or (b) for the administration of intranasal seizure rescue medications to any student enrolled in any elementary or secondary school in the local school division who has a diagnosis of a condition causing acute repetitive seizures or clusters, consistent with the provisions of the bill relating to prescriber authorization.(25103037D)

SB 1037 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School boards; student access to telehealth services; policies. Directs each school board to consider, for the purpose of increasing access to health care services for students, developing and implementing policies for permitting any public school student in the school division to schedule and participate in telehealth services on school property during regular school hours with parental consent. The bill requires any such policies developed and implemented by a school board to (i) require each public elementary and secondary school to designate a location in the school for student use for such telehealth appointments and implement measures to ensure the safety and privacy of any student participating in a telehealth appointment, (ii) prohibit any student from being subject to any disciplinary measure or consequence for participating in a telehealth appointment during regular school hours if such student would not be subject to any disciplinary measure or consequence for an absence for the purpose of receiving any health care services in person during regular school hours, and (iii) include such other requirements as the school board deems necessary and appropriate. Finally, the bill requires any school board that develops and implements any policies for permitting students to schedule and participate in telehealth services pursuant to the bill to provide and post in a publicly accessible location on its website at the beginning of each school year guidance



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relating to the implementation of such policies for administrative and instructional personnel. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.(25105458D)

SB 1038 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; best practice training; telehealth visits for patients with disabilities. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop and disseminate best practice educational training for health care providers on how to conduct telehealth visits for patients with disabilities. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.(25102205D)

SB 1048 (Stella G. Pekarsky)

School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of prescription drugs and firearms in the household. Requires each local school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the local school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message within 30 calendar days succeeding the first day of each school year, of (i) the importance of securely storing any prescription drug, as defined in relevant law, present in the household and (ii) the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household. The bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website.(25103031D)

SB 1084 (Christie New Craig)

Board of Education; out-of-school time programs; exemptions from licensure. Exempts from licensure any out-of-school time program that (i) serves only school-age children; (ii) operates primarily before or after regular school hours, during the summer, or at times when school is not normally in session; and (iii) is offered for the purpose of promoting expanded childhood learning and enrichment, child and youth development, or educational, recreational, or character-building activities.(25106099D)

SB 1094 (Emily M. Jordan)(SEH)/**HB 1895**(Rodney T. Willett)

Involuntary temporary detention orders; definition of "psychiatric emergency department." Amends the definition of "psychiatric emergency department" as it relates to involuntary temporary detention orders to remove the requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be located adjacent to a facility licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and to add a requirement that a psychiatric emergency department be licensed by either the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or the Department of Health.(25105531A)

SB 1098 (Ghazala F. Hashmi)

Virginia Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act established; prohibition on extradition for certain crimes; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth that all persons are entitled to provide, receive, and help others to provide or receive protected health care activity, defined in the bill as reproductive and gender-affirming health care services, not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth, and that such provision, receipt, and assistance is not diminished, chilled, or infringed by public or private actors. The bill provides that no law-enforcement officer acting in the Commonwealth or employed by the Commonwealth or any of its localities or political subdivisions may



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investigate, arrest, or detain any person, seek the issuance of a warrant, or otherwise assist in or provide support for any investigation involving protected health care activity not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill creates a private right of action for any person who is aggrieved by such unlawful investigation to obtain an injunction or other equitable relief against such law-enforcement officer. The bill creates a private right of action for any person who sustains any injury, damages, or other harm resulting from another person who, under the laws of a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, engages or attempts to engage in abusive litigation, as defined in the bill. The bill also 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 protected health care activity within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill provides that any subpoena under the Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act or any summons for a witness for another state in a criminal case shall include an attestation, made under penalty of perjury, stating whether the subpoena or summons seeks documents, information, or testimony related to protected health care activity.(25105570D)

SB 1240 (Glen H. Sturtevant, Jr.)

School-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; requirements. Expands current law relating to school-connected overdose parental notification and response policies by, in addition to requiring the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies, requiring (i) each division superintendent or his designee to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any suspected school-connected overdose, with 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 suspected overdose and requiring such notification to include as much information as is known about the circumstances surrounding the suspected overdose, to the extent that the disclosure of any such information is not prohibited by any applicable laws, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information, and (ii) requiring each local school board to adopt, implement, and maintain policies consistent with the provisions of the bill and the guidelines developed by the Board of Education.(25105815D)

SB 1324 (Scott A. Surovell)

Obstructing health care facility access; penalties. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly obstructs, detains, hinders, impedes, blocks, or delays another person's entry to or exit from a health care facility, as defined in the bill. The bill also creates a Class 3 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly approaches another person within eight feet of such person in the public way or sidewalk area within a radius of 40 feet from any entrance door to a health care facility, unless such other person consents to the approach, for the purpose of giving, tendering, or exhibiting any material to, displaying a sign to, or engaging in oral protest, education, or counseling with such other person.(25100270D)

SB 1326 (Russet Perry)/**HB 1831**(Shelly A. Simonds)

Department of Emergency Management; work groups related to the Commonwealth's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; report. Directs the Department of Emergency Management to convene work groups to (i) study the reliance of the Commonwealth and its



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localities on federal grants for core emergency management functions, (ii) study and develop a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework to take effect during a disaster for which a state of emergency has been declared, and (iii) study and develop solutions to address breaks in technology continuity among communities across the Commonwealth during emergencies. The bill directs each work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth.(25105814D)

SB 1372 (David R. Suetterlein)/**HB 1733**(Joshua G. Cole)

Petitions for relief of care and custody of a child; investigation by local department of social services; Office of the Children's Ombudsman work group; report. Requires a local department of social services, as a part of its investigation after the referral of a request for a petition for relief of the care and custody of a child, to (i) refer the parent to the local family assessment and planning team and (ii) create a written report. The bill directs the Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Virginia League of Social Services Executives, to create a template for and provide guidance on what should be included in such written report. The bill also changes the evidentiary standard of whether there is good cause shown for the petitioner's desire to be relieved of the child's care and custody from a finding based on preponderance of the evidence to a finding based on clear and convincing evidence. The bill also directs the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to convene a work group composed of relevant stakeholders to determine the factors a court should consider when determining whether there is good cause shown for a petitioner's desire to be relieved of the care and custody of a child. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Virginia Commission on Youth by November 1, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth.(25103978D)

SB 1393 (Angelia Williams Graves)/**HB 1929**(Destiny LeVere Bolling)

Department of Health; pregnancy mobile application. Directs the Department of Health to contract with a mobile developer to create a mobile application available to prenatal, pregnant, and postpartum individuals who are eligible for Medicaid. The bill requires the Department to submit a request for proposal within 180 days of the bill's effective date and requires such request for proposal to include provisions on deliverables for development of the mobile application.(25104407D)

Information Technology

HB 2591 (Nicholas J. Freitas)(HTECH)

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,



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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 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)

HB 1690 (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Eminent domain; documents provided to landowner. Clarifies that the documents to be provided by the condemnor to a landowner in a condemnation action are those listed in the required title report.(25102002D)

HB 1718 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)

Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; enforcement by localities. Provides that if a condition exists in a rental dwelling unit that constitutes a material noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not promptly corrected, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of tenants or occupants of the premises, a locality may institute an action for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the rental dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the property where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the property, either directly or through the managing agent, of the nature of the violation and the landlord has failed to remedy the violation to the satisfaction of the locality within a reasonable time after receiving such notice.(25101994D)

HB 2137 (Marcus B. Simon)/**SB 1011**(Saddam Azlan Salim)

Affordable dwelling unit program; City of Falls Church. Adds the City of Falls Church to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable dwelling unit program.(25100822D)



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HB 2293 (Carrie E. Coyner)/**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.(25104575D)

SB 995 (Angelia Williams Graves)(SRUL)

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.(25105754D)

SB 1011 (Saddam Azlan Salim)/**HB 2137**(Marcus B. Simon)

Affordable dwelling unit program; City of Falls Church. Adds the City of Falls Church to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable dwelling unit program.(25101125D)

SB 1313 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority; comprehensive plan. Authorizes any locality in the Commonwealth to provide for an affordable housing dwelling unit program by amending the zoning ordinance of such locality. Current law restricts such authorization to counties with an urban county executive form of government or county manager plan of government and certain other localities. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.(25102498D)

Procurement

HB 2024 (Holly M. Seibold)

Virginia Public Procurement Act; environmental protection and product safety standards. Provides that no public body in any procurement policy, bid, request for proposal, public contract, or other document shall prohibit or otherwise exclude from use any materials contained in or products associated with solar photovoltaic equipment and facilities that meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels.(25104278D)

Public Safety

HB 1731 (Karrie K. Delaney)(HHHS)/**SB 1005**(Jennifer B. Boysko)



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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)

Solar

HB 2037 (David L. Bulova)

Land development; solar canopies in parking areas. Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential parking areas with 100 parking spaces or more and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the parking area. Localities are authorized to provide development density bonuses for properties that are subject to such provisions.(25104573D)

Studies

HB 1831 (Shelly A. Simonds)/**SB 1236**(Lashrecse D. Aird)

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bill also requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill.(25101156D)

SB 1374 (David R. Suetterlein)

Study; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; feasibility of establishing a centralized Continuity of Operations framework across all state agencies; work group; report. Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to convene a work group to study the feasibility of establishing a centralized Continuity of Operations framework across all state agencies mandating the creation and regular updating of agency-specific continuity



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plans. In conducting its study, the work group shall include consideration of standardized guidelines for digital infrastructure upgrades, remote work capabilities, and staff training on emergency procedures. The bill directs the work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth.(25102601D)

SB 1442 (David W. Marsden)

Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and Secretary of Health and Human Resources; combat the sale of illicit cannabis products; work group; report.(25105349D)

Taxation

HJ 457 (Chris Obenshain)

Constitutional amendment (first reference); personal property tax; exemption for motor vehicles owned for personal, noncommercial use. Requires the General Assembly to exempt from personal property taxes motor vehicles owned by an individual for personal, noncommercial use, provided that for the first year following the effective date of such law, the exemption shall be equal to 20 percent of the tax rate imposed by a locality on tangible personal property, and shall increase by an additional 20 percent of such rate for each year thereafter until such time that the exemption is equal to 100 percent. For purposes of the exemption, "motor vehicle" includes only automobiles, pickup trucks, and motorcycles. The amendment provides that the exemption is applicable on the date the motor vehicle is acquired or the effective date of the amendment, whichever is later, but is not applicable for any period of time prior to the effective date.(25101128D)

SB 895 (Aaron R. Rouse)

Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Authorizes localities by ordinance to provide a total exemption from real property taxes regardless of assessed value beginning in tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2025, for surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Under law effective January 1, 2025, a total exemption is only allowed for such surviving spouses for those dwellings in the locality with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential.(25101300D)

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)



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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 2080 (Terry L. Austin)

Registration decals; discontinued. Discontinues the requirement for and issuance of decals displaying the expiration month and year of motor vehicle registration to be displayed on license plates. The bill also removes the requirement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue appropriately designated license plates for motor vehicles held for rental. The bill does not eliminate existing requirements that vehicles are to be registered.(25100643D)

HB 2466 (Jackie H. Glass)

Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program and Fund; Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program and Fund; sales and use tax; Planning District 23. Creates (i) the Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and otherwise making infrastructure and safety improvements to new or existing highway corridors connected to, surrounding, or paralleling interstate highways in Planning District 23 (Hampton Roads) and (ii) the Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and maintaining infrastructure to address transportation infrastructure that is at risk due to recurrent and coastal flooding in Planning District 23. The bill creates a 0.30 percent retail sales and use tax to be levied and imposed in each county and city located in Planning District 23 and provides that, less the applicable portion of any refunds to taxpayers, two-thirds of the moneys generated shall be deposited in the Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Fund, created by the bill, and one-third of moneys generated shall be deposited in the Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Fund, created by the bill.(25106178D)

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.(25106457A)

SB 1302 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards; expiration. Extends the validity of limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards, other than REAL ID credentials, as defined in the bill, and commercial driver's licenses and permits, to a period of time consistent with the validity of (i) driver's licenses, which under current law is a period not to exceed eight years or for a person age 75 or older, a period not to exceed five years; (ii) permits, which under



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current law is the period of time until a driver's license is issued or the person is no longer eligible for such permit, a period of 12 months for motorcycle permits, or a period of the 60 days prior to the person's first behind-the-wheel exam for persons 25 years of age or older; and (iii) special identification cards, which under current law is a period between three and eight years, with exceptions, or for a person younger than the age of 15, until such person's sixteenth birthday, unless extended under certain circumstances for a period no longer than 90 days. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for such documents upon reissuance.(25101215D)

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)

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 Safety

HB 2159 (Betsy B. Carr)

School crossing zones; institutions of higher education. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. The existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets such expanded definition.(25101680D)

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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 Virginias'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



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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)

HB 2438 (Candi Mundon King)(HCE)

Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions. Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be permitted pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities.(25102097D)

HB 2671 (Eric Phillips)(SCL)

Septic system inspectors; minimum requirements. Adds a definition of "inspection" for the purposes of septic system inspections in connection with real estate transactions. The bill also adds minimum requirements for septic system inspectors in conducting such inspections.(25105481D)

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)

HJ 9 (Mark D. Sickles)/**SJ 249**(Adam P. Ebbin)

Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two individuals; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of persons and prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two parties and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The amendment provides that religious organizations and clergy acting in their religious capacity have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.(24101382D)



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SB 1050 (Danica A. Roem)

Campaign finance; contributions from corporations prohibited; civil penalty. Prohibits any corporation from making any contribution to any committee organized under the provisions of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006 and prohibits any such committee from soliciting or accepting any contribution from any corporation. Any committee that knowingly accepts, or any person who knowingly makes to such committee, contributions in violation of the prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of up to two times the amount of the contribution, as assessed by the State Board of Elections.(25102736D)

SB 1185 (Jennifer D. Carroll Foy)

Campaign finance; coordination and required independent expenditure committee disclosure; civil penalties. Provides a more detailed definition of the term "coordinated" or "coordination" in the context of campaign finance than current law. The bill also requires all persons making independent expenditures to file statements of organization and to file campaign finance reports thus making such persons subject to existing civil penalties for violations of filing laws.(25104175D)

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)

SJ 249 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two adult persons; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.(25100123D)

SJ 254 (Russet Perry)

Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Month. Designates May, in 2025 and in each succeeding year, as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes Awareness Month in Virginia.(25100296D)



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Campaign Finance

HB 1744 (Vivian E. Watts)

Candidates for office; persons entitled to have name printed on ballot; required campaign finance reports. 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.(25102676D)

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)

HB 2165 (Joshua G. Cole)

Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee for personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's dependent care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections.(25104173D)

HB 2173 (Nadarius E. Clark)(HPE)

Campaign finance; coordination and required independent expenditure committee disclosure; civil penalties. Provides a more detailed definition of the term "coordinated" or "coordination" in the context of campaign finance than current law. The bill also requires all persons making independent expenditures to file statements of organization and to file campaign finance



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reports thus making such persons subject to existing civil penalties for violations of filing laws.(25104570D)

HB 2607 (R. Lee Ware)(HPE)

Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates; Phase I Utility and Phase II Utility. Prohibits candidates, campaign committees, and political committees from soliciting or accepting contributions from any public utility, as defined in the bill, and prohibits any public utility or any political committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution.(25103884D)

HB 2670 (Mark D. Sickles)(HPE)

Campaign finance; campaign required tax-exempt organization disclosure; work group; report; civil penalties. Establishes campaign finance reporting requirements for tax-exempt organizations making contributions or independent expenditures for the purpose of advocating for the election or defeat of a clearly identified Virginia candidate. Committees are prohibited from accepting contributions from tax-exempt organizations that do not file required campaign finance disclosure reports. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill may equal up to four times the excess contribution amounts. The bill also requires electronically filed independent expenditure reports to be made publicly available within 48 hours of being filed and to be entered into a publicly available campaign finance database accessible through the Internet. Finally, the bill requires that the Chair of the House Privileges and Elections Committee and the Chair of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee convene a work group to evaluate campaign finance contribution limits and disclosure requirements among the various states and at the federal level and to report their findings by November 30, 2025.(25104764D)

HB 2701 (David L. Bulova)

Campaign finance; campaign contribution limits; civil penalty. Prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$20,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$10,000 to any one candidate for the House of Delegates in any one election cycle. The bill does not place any limits on in-kind contributions to such candidates from political party committees. The bill establishes thresholds for any candidates making contributions to their own campaign in excess of \$400,000 in a race for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$200,000 in a race for House of Delegates. The bill also prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$10,000 to any one political committee in any calendar year. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts.(25102841D)

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



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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)

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)

SB 1002 (Jennifer B. Boysko)/HB 1686(Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee for personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's dependent care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections.(25104176D)

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)



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HB 1576 (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.(25101596D)

HB 1862 (Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.)

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to primary election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person for primary elections to beginning 14 days prior to such election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election.(25104124D)

SB 1009 (Saddam Azlan Salim)

Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report. Allows elections for any local office to be conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards for and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting and to produce generalized voter education materials on ranked choice voting. The bill permits the State Board to create and modify recount procedures to the extent necessary to accommodate a recount of an election conducted by ranked choice voting. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Elections 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 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly.(25104511D)

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)

HB 1753 (Vivian E. Watts)

Department of Health; regulations; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule; Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities. Directs the Department of Health to develop regulations to implement the requirements of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule for Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting. The bill also repeals Chapters



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482 and 483 the Acts of Assembly of 2023, which are made obsolete by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' final rule.(25100118D)

HB 2102 (Michael B. Feggans)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals; qualified entities; performance standards for qualified entities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek federal authority to implement presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals, in addition to the existing hospital presumptive eligibility program and, if the Department receives such authority, allows the Department to authorize qualified entities to make determinations of presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals. The bill directs qualified entities to provide pregnant individuals applying for presumptive eligibility with (i) the necessary applications for medical assistance and (ii) assistance with completing and submitting such applications. Under the bill, qualified entities are authorized to make determinations of presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals who meet eligibility criteria for certain medical assistance programs and have not had a presumptive eligibility period during the current pregnancy. The bill also sets forth certain performance standards that qualified entities must meet to remain a qualified entity, described in the bill.(25103409D)

HB 2742 (Irene Shin)

Malcolm's Law; hospitals; urine drug screening; fentanyl. Requires hospitals, when conducting a urine drug screening, as defined in the bill, to assist in diagnosing a patient's condition, to include testing for fentanyl in such urine drug screening.(25106243A)

SB 831 (Mamie E. Locke)

Department of Medical Assistance Services; presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals; qualified entities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek federal authority to implement presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals, in addition to the existing hospital presumptive eligibility program and, if the Department receives such authority, allows the Department to authorize qualified entities to make determinations of presumptive eligibility for pregnant individuals.(25104815D)

SB 1019 (Danica A. Roem)

Department of Health; WIC applications; information. Directs the Department of Health to provide information, resources, and education to food banks regarding providing assistance to individuals completing a Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) application.(25101952D)

SB 1273 (Emily M. Jordan)(SRSS)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Virginia Initiative for Education and Work; Subsidized Work Experience Program established. Establishes the Subsidized Work Experience Program (SWEP) for persons who are otherwise eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. The bill directs the Department of Social Services to conduct SWEP and assign SWEP participants as volunteers to agencies, community organizations, and educational institutions. The bill also directs the Department to promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of SWEP.(25100662D)



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Information Technology

HB 2046 (Bonita G. Anthony)/SB 1214(Lashrecse D. Aird)

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use by public bodies; work group; report. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, as defined in the bill, by public bodies. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO) to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, implementation, utilization, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ high-risk artificial intelligence systems that are consistent with the requirements created by the bill. The bill also requires the CIO to compile into a publicly available registry certain required monthly reports on initial and ongoing high-risk artificial intelligence system assessments and inventories of such systems used by public bodies. Under the bill, the Joint Commission on Technology and Science is required to establish an Artificial Intelligence Oversight Task Force to oversee the implementation of and compliance with the requirements for development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by public bodies. Finally, bill directs the CIO to convene a work group to examine the impact on and the ability of local governments to comply with the requirements of the bill. The substantive requirements of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.(25102638D)

HB 2094 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado)

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use; civil penalties. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, and civil penalties for noncompliance, to be enforced by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.(25104439D)

Studies

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)

SJ 259 (Scott A. Surovell)

Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology used to determine judicial allocations to state courts within the Commonwealth. JLARC is directed to submit its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly.(25105951A)



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Taxation

HB 1755 (Vivian E. Watts)

Sales and use tax on services and digital personal property. Levies the retail sales and use tax on the following services: admissions; charges for recreation, fitness, or sports facilities; nonmedical personal services or counseling; dry cleaning and laundry services; companion animal care; residential home repair or maintenance, landscaping, or cleaning services when paid for directly by a resident or homeowner; vehicle and engine repair; repairs or alterations to tangible personal property; storage of tangible personal property; delivery or shipping services; travel, event, and aesthetic planning services; and digital services. Digital services are defined in the bill as the following: software application services, computer-related services, website hosting and design, data storage, and digital subscription services. The services taxed under the bill includes any transaction for digital services where the purchaser or consumer of the service is a business but does not include any service otherwise exempt under law. The bill also imposes the retail sales and use tax on digital personal property, defined in the bill as a digital product delivered electronically that the purchaser owns or has the ability to continually access without having to pay an additional subscription or usage fee to the seller after paying the initial purchase price. Revenues generated by the taxes levied on services and digital personal property shall be allocated in the same manner as other sales and use taxes; however, revenues from the state portion of the sales and use tax that would be allocated to the general fund shall instead be allocated to school divisions as follows: (i) 60 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of school-age population and (ii) 40 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of the high-need student population in the locality. The bill clarifies that a high-need student population includes students who are (a) automatically certified for free school meals because of participation in social services programs, (b) participants in a program of special education, or (c) English language learners. The bill provides certain exemptions to the sales and use tax on services, including health care services that must be performed by a person licensed or certified by the Department of Health Professions, veterinary services, professional services, Internet access services, and services provided by a person who does not receive more than \$2,500 per year in gross receipts for performance of such services. The bill exempts services purchased by a nonprofit organization and services purchased by a homeowners' association or by a landlord for the benefit of his tenant. The bill also repeals the service exemptions currently provided for the sale of custom programs and modification of prewritten programs. Finally, the bill exempts food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products from all state, local, and regional sales taxes on and after July 1, 2025. Under current law, food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products are subject only to the one percent local option sales tax. (25102779D)

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



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members of the armed services following their return to Virginia from active duty.(25100150D)

HB 2096 (Patrick A. Hope)

Intelligent Speed Assistance Program established; penalty. Establishes the Intelligent Speed Assistance Program to be administered by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program. The bill authorizes enrollment in such Program as an alternative to suspending a person's driver's license upon such person's conviction of certain speed-related offenses and requires a court to order enrollment in such Program for a person convicted of reckless driving and who was found to have been driving in excess of 100 miles per hour. The bill requires any participant in the Program to install an intelligent speed assistance system, defined in the bill, in any motor vehicle owned by or registered to the participant and prohibits the participant from driving any motor vehicle that does not have such a system installed. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for tampering with or attempting to bypass or circumvent such a system.(25102621D)

HB 2116 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)

Driver's licenses, identification cards, and learner's permits; indication of non-apparent disability; indication of a disability that can impair communication. Adds non-apparent disabilities, defined in the bill, to the list of conditions that the Department of Motor Vehicles, when requested by an applicant and upon presentation of a signed statement by a licensed physician confirming the applicant's condition, is required to indicate on such applicant's driver's license. Such requirement is also extended to identification cards. Such an indication on a person's driver's license allows for the voluntary indication of a disability that can impair communication on a motor vehicle registration. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, when requested by an applicant and upon presentation of a signed statement by a licensed physician confirming the applicant's condition, to indicate on a learner's permit that the applicant has any condition on such list of conditions that may be indicated on driver's licenses or that the applicant is blind or vision impaired. The bill also authorizes any such indication on a learner's permit to allow for the voluntary indication of a disability that can impair communication on a motor vehicle registration.(25104519D)

HB 2324 (Ian T. Lovejoy)

Transportation district commissions; contracts or agreements. Expands the localities and entities with which transportation district commissions may enter into contracts or agreements to provide transit facilities and services and other modes of transportation.(25101559D)

HB 2334 (Amanda E. Batten)

Vehicle safety inspections; new motor vehicles. Extends from 12 months to 24 months the period for which a vehicle safety inspection is valid for new motor vehicles. The bill requires the fee for a 24-month inspection approval sticker to be double the price of a 12-month inspection approval sticker. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.(25105392D)

HB 2475 (Karen Keys-Gamarra)

Use of safety belt systems. Requires all adult passengers in a motor vehicle equipped with a safety belt system to wear such safety belt system when the motor vehicle is in motion on a



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public highway. Current law requires adult passengers to wear such safety belts when occupying the front seat.(25104235D)

HB 2501 (Sam Rasoul)

Department of Motor Vehicles; driver communication improvement program. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a program for the promotion, printing, and distribution of envelopes for use by drivers with a disability that can impair communication, as that term is defined in relevant law, provide to a law-enforcement officer for the purpose of easing communication during a traffic stop or upon such law-enforcement officer's arrival at the scene of a traffic accident.(25100550D)

HB 2600 (Ian T. Lovejoy)

Department of State Police; work group; reporting threshold for motor vehicle accidents; report. Directs the Department of State Police to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to review the property damage threshold for submitting a motor vehicle accident report to the Department of Motor Vehicles.(25100542D)

HB 2609 (Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler)

Transportation network companies; minimum compensation. Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms.(25102773D)

HB 2627 (Jackie H. Glass)

Automated driving systems and remotely operated vehicles. Provides requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles and motor vehicles operated with an automated driving system engaged. The bill requires fully autonomous vehicles and automated driving systems operated in the Commonwealth to receive autonomous operation licenses prior to being operated in the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that all requirements for a human driver physically present in a motor vehicle also apply to a human driver who operates a motor vehicle through remote means and requires such human driver to be physically present in the Commonwealth when operating such motor vehicle.(25106407D)

HB 2702 (Mike A. Cherry)

State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act; contracts; nonexclusive towing service programs. Provides that a contract, for purposes of the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, does not include a contract for nonexclusive towing service programs regulated pursuant to an ordinance adopted by the governing body of a locality to regulate towing services rendered pursuant to police towing requests by any business engaged in the towing or storage of unattended, abandoned, or immobile vehicles.(25104323D)

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



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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)

SB 887 (Russet Perry)

Dulles Greenway; toll rates. Requires that (i) the toll rates for the Dulles Greenway set by the State Corporation Commission do not materially discourage the public's use of the toll road; (ii) the cost of operating the toll road is reasonably apportioned across all toll road users based on the relative distance each class of user travels on the toll road, such that the toll rates are established in a reasonable and nondiscriminatory manner in relation to the benefit obtained; and (iii) such toll rates provide the operator with no more than a reasonable return, which is defined in the bill.(25103369D)

SB 1024 (Danica A. Roem)

Voluntary contributions during electronic Department of Motor Vehicles transactions. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a method by which an individual conducting an electronic Department transaction may make a voluntary contribution to the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program. Under current law, the Department is only required to provide a method by which voluntary contributions may be made to the Virginia Donor Registry and Public Awareness Fund.(25102519D)

SB 1061 (J.D. "Danny" Diggs)

Registration decals; discontinued. Discontinues the requirement for and issuance of decals displaying the expiration month and year of motor vehicle registration to be displayed on license plates. The bill also removes the requirement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue appropriately designated license plates for motor vehicles held for rental. The bill does not eliminate existing requirements that vehicles are to be registered.(25100644D)

SB 1082 (Ryan T. McDougle)

Transportation; Commonwealth Transportation Special Structures Program Revenue Bond Act of 2025. Authorizes the Commonwealth Transportation Board to issue revenue bonds to be known and designated as "Commonwealth of Virginia Special Structures Program Revenue Bonds." The bill provides that such bonds shall be payable solely (i) first from revenues received from the Special Structure Fund; (ii) second and to the extent required, from revenues legally available from the Transportation Trust Fund; and (iii) then to the extent required, from any other legally available funds.(25104273D)

SB 1131 (Russet Perry)

Abandonment of highways and roads; consideration of alternative use. Provides that in Planning District 8, consideration shall be given to the discontinuance, rather than the abandonment, of a highway in the primary or secondary state highway system and its potential uses for (i) hiking or bicycle trails, (ii) greenway corridors, or (iii) access to historic, cultural, and educational sites. The bill also requires the governing body of a county in Planning District 8, prior to the abandonment of a road not in the primary or secondary state highway system, in determining whether public necessity exists for the continuance of a section of road as a



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public road, to consider such potential uses of such road as described in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii).(25104236D)

SB 1144 (Mark D. Obenshain)

Commonwealth Rail Fund; Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund. Removes the \$4 million cap on those Commonwealth Rail Fund (Fund) moneys distributed to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation that may be applied to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund. The bill retains the current provisions granting 93 percent of Fund moneys to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and seven percent to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation.(25102452D)

SB 1167 (Saddam Azlan Salim)

Transportation network companies; minimum compensation. Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms.(25102018D)

SB 1265 (Bill DeSteph)

Department of Motor Vehicles; driver communication improvement program. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a program for the promotion, printing, and distribution of envelopes for use by drivers with a disability that can impair communication, as that term is defined in relevant law, provide to a law-enforcement officer for the purpose of easing communication during a traffic stop or upon such law-enforcement officer's arrival at the scene of a traffic accident.(25103530D)

SB 1317 (Jeremy S. McPike)

Transportation district commissions; contracts or agreements. Expands the localities and entities with which transportation district commissions may enter into contracts or agreements to provide transit facilities and services and other modes of transportation.(25102023D)

SB 1416 (Adam P. Ebbin)

Careless driving and infliction of injury or death on vulnerable road users; definition. Defines "careless or distracted manner" for the purposes of the Class 1 misdemeanor of operating a motor vehicle in a careless or distracted manner such that such operation is the proximate cause of serious bodily injury or death of a vulnerable road user lawfully present on the highway at the time of injury or death.(25100411D)

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



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emergency incident and (ii) patrolling HOT lanes pursuant to an agreement by a state agency with the HOT lanes operator. The bill does not change certain other authorized uses in current law.(25104241D)

Attachments: Supplementary documents

cc: Christina Jackson, Chief Financial Officer
Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive
Thomas Arnold, Deputy County Executive
Ellicia Seard-McCormick, Deputy County Executive
Elizabeth Teare, County Attorney
Jill G. Cooper, Clerk to the Board
Richmond Team
Gregg Steverson, Director, Department of Transportation

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HB 2666 - Attorney General; distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities w/ high crime & poverty rate.

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SB 1209 - Photo speed monitoring devices; private vendors compensated for calibration, civil penalty.

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HB 1608 - Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability.

HB 1622 - Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.

HB 1706 - Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise.

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HB 2214 - Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish, etc.

HB 2353 - Public elementary & secondary schools; copies of minor's discharge plan sent to schools and parents.

SB 839 - Zoning; by-right multifamily development in areas zoned for commercial use.

SB 975 - Statewide housing targets for localities.

SB 1045 - Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use.

SB 1046 - Data centers; noise abatement.

SB 1070 - Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required.

SB 1072 - Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election.

SB 1073 - Voter registration; verification of social security numbers, provisional registration status.

SB 1351 - Affordable housing; religious organizations and other tax-exempt properties.

SB 1432 - Juvenile secure detention facilities; closure or consolidation; funding contributions; education programs.

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Initiatives

HB 2036 - Reckless driving; street takeover and exhibition driving; penalties.

Reckless driving; street takeover and exhibition driving; penalties. Expands reckless driving to include street takeovers and exhibition driving, defined in the bill. The bill prohibits (i) slowing or stopping traffic for a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; (ii) riding as a passenger on or in an area of a motor vehicle that is not designed or intended for passenger transportation during a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; or (iii) participating in any such event as a spectator or aiding or abetting a street takeover or exhibition driving. The bill establishes penalties for violations and establishes a process for impounding or immobilizing motor vehicles driven by persons arrested for street takeovers or exhibition driving.

Bill Patron: David L. Bulova

25105154A (1/16/2025)

County Position: Initiate

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/14/2025	Assigned Trans sub: Highway Safety and Policy
1/15/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) and referred to Courts of Justice (8-Y 0-N)
1/16/2025	Reported from Transportation with amendment(s) and referred to Courts of Justice (20-Y 1-N)
1/28/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/31/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (7-Y 1-N) Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute (17-Y 3-N)

HB 2550 - Noise abatement monitoring systems; counties in Planning District of (No. Va.) to place, etc.

Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties. Authorizes counties in Planning District 8 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, for the purpose of recording and enforcing exhaust system violations, also defined in the bill. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$100, but the violation shall not be reported on the driver's operating record or to the driver's insurance agency. Under the bill, the civil penalty will be paid to the locality in which the violation occurred to be used for the cost of administering the noise abatement monitoring system program and for transportation safety initiatives. The bill contains the same data privacy and storage requirements as are in current law for photo speed monitoring devices. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Bill Patron: Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr.

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25103227D (1/10/2025)

County Position: Initiate

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/10/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/23/2025	Assigned Trans sub: Innovations (Ad Hoc)
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 3-N)
1/30/2025	Reported from Transportation with substitute (12-Y 10-N)

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Oppose or Amend

HB 1560 - Sales and use tax; accommodations for transients.

Sales and use tax; accommodations for transients. Provides that the term "retail sale" shall include the sale of accommodations to transients for less than 30 days. Under current law, "retail sale" includes such sales to transients for less than 90 days.

Bill Patron: Joseph P. McNamara

25101530D (12/14/2024)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/14/2024	Referred to Committee on Finance
1/17/2025	Assigned Finance sub: Subcommittee #1
1/20/2025	Subcommittee failed to recommend reporting (3-Y 5-N)

HB 1570 - Virginia Public Procurement Act; project labor agreements.

Virginia Public Procurement Act; project labor agreements. Repeals the provision of the Virginia Public Procurement Act that authorizes any public body, including any state or local government, when engaged in procuring products or services or letting contracts for construction, manufacture, maintenance, or operation of public works, to require bidders to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements on the public works projects.

Bill Patron: Bill Wiley

25101701D (12/23/2024)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/23/2024	Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce
1/29/2025	Assigned L & C sub: Subcommittee #4
1/30/2025	Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (3-Y 2-N)

HB 1601 - Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility.

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

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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.

Bill Patron: Joshua E. Thomas

25102219D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
1/13/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #2
1/16/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (5-Y 3-N)
1/17/2025	Reported from Counties, Cities and Towns with amendment(s) (13-Y 9-N)
1/22/2025	Counties, Cities and Towns Amendments agreed to
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed House (57-Y 40-N)
1/24/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government

HB 1721 - Uniform Easement Relocation Act.

Uniform Easement Relocation Act. Creates the Uniform Easement Relocation Act, which allows the owner of real estate burdened by an easement to obtain a court order to relocate the easement if the relocation does not materially impair, among other impairments, (i) the utility of the easement holder or (ii) the physical condition, use, or value of the benefited property. The Act requires that the burdened property owner file a civil action, give notice to other potentially affected real property interest owners, and bear the costs of relocation. Under current law, the owner of land that is subject to an easement may seek relocation of the easement on the servient estate upon petition to the circuit court and notice to all parties in interest, and the petition will be granted if, after a hearing held, the court finds that (a) the relocation will not result in economic damage to the parties in interest, (b) there will be no undue hardship created by the relocation, and (c) the easement has been in existence for not less than 10 years. The bill applies to easements created on or after July 1, 2025.

Bill Patron: Vivian E. Watts

25100287D (1/4/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/10/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Civil
1/15/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 0-N)
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute (22-Y 0-N)
1/22/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute agreed to
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed House (97-Y 0-N)

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HB 1743 - License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts.

License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts. Provides that the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts in which the taxpayer is liable for a net income tax shall also apply to any type of tax on gross receipts or other tax in lieu of an income tax.

Bill Patron: Vivian E. Watts

25105038A (1/14/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee on Finance
1/13/2025	Assigned Finance sub: Subcommittee #2
1/14/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (8-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance with substitute (21-Y 0-N)

HB 1748 - Wrongful death action; who may bring.

Wrongful death action; who may bring. Allows an immediate family member of a deceased person, as defined in the bill, to bring a wrongful death action on behalf of the deceased. Under current law, such action may only be brought by the deceased person's personal representative.

Bill Patron: N. Baxter Ennis

25100167D (1/4/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to clarify that a single case can be brought for each circumstance.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

HB 2002 - Voter registration; cancellation of registration, sources of data.

Voter registration; cancellation of registration; sources of data. Requires that, except for a written request from the voter to have his registration cancelled, the general registrar may not cancel the registration of any voter based on data or reports provided to him by any source other than the Department of Elections or a state agency approved to provide such data or reports by the State Board of Elections. The bill also reinstates a provision prohibiting the general registrar from cancelling the registration of (i) certain members of the uniformed service of the United States who are on active duty; (ii) certain persons who reside temporarily outside of the United States; or (iii) any spouse or dependent residing with such persons.

Bill Patron: Amy J. Laufer

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25101668D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to ensure cancellation standards are the same for all voters.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/26/2025	Assigned PE sub: Election Administration
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (5-Y 3-N)
1/31/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections (12-Y 9-N)

HB 2004 - Local meals and prepared food and beverage taxes; maximum rate.

Local meals and prepared food and beverage taxes; maximum rate. Provides a cap on the maximum allowable tax rate that localities may impose on meals and prepared food and beverages. The bill sets the maximum rate at no more than four percent, unless a higher rate of no more than six percent is authorized via a referendum in the locality. The new limitation applies to localities beginning January 1, 2028. In the case of a town, the maximum rate is limited by the amount of any food and beverage tax imposed by the county in which the town is located. The bill requires that no town shall impose any rate if, when added to the county food and beverage tax rate, such tax rate exceeds the four or six percent limit, as applicable.

Bill Patron: Joseph P. McNamara

25100561D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Finance
1/24/2025	Assigned Finance sub: Subcommittee #1

HB 2006 - RS and UT; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products.

Sales and use tax; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Eliminates, beginning July 1, 2025, the remaining one percent local sales and use tax that is imposed on food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Under current law, no other sales and use tax is currently applied to such products. The bill requires an equivalent amount of revenue to be distributed to cities and counties on a monthly basis in compensation for the lost tax revenue.

Bill Patron: Joseph P. McNamara

25101491D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Finance
1/24/2025	Assigned Finance sub: Subcommittee #1

HB 2041 - Speed safety cameras; placement and operation.

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.

Bill Patron: Holly M. Seibold

25105733D (1/22/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to ensure funding utilized for projects in jurisdiction where penalties were collected.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/15/2025	Assigned Trans sub: Innovations (Ad Hoc)
1/22/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 3-N)
1/30/2025	Reported from Transportation with substitute (12-Y 10-N)

HB 2050 - Occoquan Reservoir PFAS Reduction Program; established.

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

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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.

Bill Patron: David L. Bulova

25106088D (1/27/2025)

County Position: Amend Support

Notes: Bill was amended to exclude Fairfax County’s solid waste facilities, resolving the County’s concerns.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources
1/14/2025	Assigned ACNR sub: Chesapeake
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (10-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources with substitute (22-Y 0-N)

HB 2434 - Voter identification; identification containing a photograph required.

Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot.

Bill Patron: Timothy P. Griffin

25102502D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/26/2025	Assigned PE sub: Election Administration
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends passing by indefinitely (5-Y 3-N)

Bill Patron: Candi Mundon King

25102097D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: See also SB 1114 (Van Valkenburg).

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce
1/21/2025	Referred from Labor and Commerce and referred to Counties, Cities and Towns (Voice Vote)
1/22/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #2
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (7-Y 1-N)
1/24/2025	Reported from Counties, Cities and Towns (12-Y 8-N)
1/29/2025	Substitute from Delegate Mundon King agreed to
1/30/2025	Read third time and passed House (48-Y 46-N 0-A)

HB 2445 - Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election, hours of operation.

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election; hours of operation. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. During these two weeks, the bill requires that absentee voting in person be available Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available during regular business hours of the office of the general registrar beginning 45 days prior to any election with a requirement to be open a minimum of eight hours between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first and second Saturdays immediately preceding the election.

Bill Patron: Phillip A. Scott

25101428D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/26/2025	Assigned PE sub: Election Administration
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends passing by indefinitely (5-Y 3-N)

HB 2527 - Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks, penalty.

Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty. Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2025, shall as part of his sentence be forever prohibited from going, for the purpose of having any contact whatsoever with children who are not in his custody, within 100 feet of the premises of any area of a state park that he knows or has reason to know is a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium. A violation is a Class 6 felony.

Bill Patron: Kim A. Taylor

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25103742D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to include local parks and park authorities. Also see SB 1108 (Diggs).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

HB 2541 - Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility.

Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility. Makes numerous organizational changes to the Information Technology Access Act. The bill defines "information and communications technology" as it relates to digital accessibility, defined in the bill, for all persons with disabilities. The bill permits the head of each covered entity, defined in the bill, to designate an employee to serve as such covered entity's digital accessibility coordinator and provides that such digital accessibility coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing such covered entity's digital accessibility policy. The bill has delayed effective dates of April 24, 2026, and April 26, 2027, for specific covered entities according to population size.

Bill Patron: Kathy K.L. Tran

25104578D (1/9/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Board has historically recommended amendment.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Communications, Technology and Innovation
1/20/2025	Assigned CT & I sub: Technology and Innovation
1/22/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (9-Y 0-N)
1/27/2025	Assigned Approps sub: General Government and Capital Outlay Reported from Communications, Technology and Innovation with substitute and referred to Appropriations (19-Y 3-N)
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations with substitute (22-Y 0-N)

HB 2641 - Statewide housing targets; requires localities to increase their total housing stock.

Statewide housing targets for localities. Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2026. The bill provides that, in order to meet the 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality and may include any of various listed housing growth strategies. The bill further provides that, after January 1, 2031, an applicant who seeks local government approval for a residential development that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the Housing Approval Board, which shall be

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established by the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill authorizes the Housing Approval Board to overturn local decisions and approve applications under certain circumstances. However, if the Housing Approval Board determines that a locality has in good faith implemented at least three of the housing growth strategies listed in the bill and has not rejected more than 25 percent of new housing development proposals over the previous five years, the Housing Approval Board shall allow the local decision to stand. Finally, the bill provides that the Housing Approval Board shall give extra weight for increases in affordable housing and for the rehabilitation of current, underutilized housing stock.

Bill Patron: Dan I. Helmer

Notes: See also SB 975 (Van Valkenburg).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/14/2025	Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
1/20/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #3
1/21/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #2
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (5-Y 3-N)
1/24/2025	Reported from Counties, Cities and Towns and referred to Appropriations (11-Y 9-N)
1/25/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Commerce Agriculture & Natural Resources
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) (5-Y 3-N)
	Reported from Appropriations with amendment(s) (12-Y 9-N)

HB 2666 - Attorney General; distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities w/ high crime & poverty rate.

Attorney General; distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates; advisory work group. Directs the Attorney General to convene a work group for the purpose of advising on the distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates. The work group shall include legislators and local elected officials who represent distressed localities, and other persons with relevant experience and expertise.

Bill Patron: Kim A. Taylor

25104710D (1/15/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/15/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules

HB 2764 - Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives.

Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations

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Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement.

Bill Patron: Kathy K.L. Tran
25104837D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce
1/23/2025	Assigned L & C sub: Subcommittee #2
1/30/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (5-Y 3-N)
	Reported from Labor and Commerce (12-Y 10-N)

SB 764 - Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required.

Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot.

Bill Patron: Ryan T. McDougle
25101753D (12/14/2024)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/14/2024	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Incorporated by Privileges and Elections (SB1070-Peake) (15-Y 0-N)

SB 856 - Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election.

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election.

Bill Patron: Timmy F. French

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25102326D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Incorporated by Privileges and Elections (SB1072-Peake) (15-Y 0-N)

SB 876 - Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required.

Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required. Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at its meeting. The bill allows for amendments to be made to any such proposed agenda but provides that the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin

25105052D (1/15/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Oppose additional FOIA requirements for localities; any additional requirements should apply to both state and local public bodies.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology
1/15/2025	Reported from General Laws and Technology with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	General Laws and Technology Substitute agreed to Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 917 - Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives.

Collective bargaining by public employees; exclusive bargaining representatives. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement

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Bill Patron: Scott A. Surovell

25102162D (1/5/2025)

County Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Notes: Oppose unless amended to eliminate applicability to Fairfax County.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/5/2025	Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor
1/24/2025	Reported from Commerce and Labor with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N) Incorporates SB964(Carroll Foy) Incorporates SB1401 (Lucas)
1/29/2025	Incorporates SB1033(Pekarsky) Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (10-Y 4-N)

SB 1017 - School boards; powers and duties, school meal policies, payment of school meal debt.

School boards; powers and duties; school meal policies; payment of school meal debt. Requires each school board, at the end of each school year, to pay for the total unpaid school meal balance, resulting from uncollected school meal debts on any student account, on the nonprofit school food service account for each public elementary or secondary school in the school division using any appropriated nonfederal funds, except that each school board is prohibited from requiring any public elementary or secondary school in the school division from paying for or providing any funds to pay for such school's unpaid school meal balance. The bill requires each school board to adopt policies in accordance with the provisions of the bill in order to pay these unpaid balances at the end of each school year.

Bill Patron: Danica A. Roem

25101833D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Oppose unless amended to provide state funding.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/16/2025	Assigned Education sub: Public Education
1/23/2025	Reported from Education and Health (13-Y 2-N)
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (35-Y 4-N)

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SB 1044 - Elections; election results; reporting; provisional ballots.

Elections; election results; reporting; provisional ballots. Requires the general registrar of each locality to report to the Department of Elections for each precinct in his locality the total number of provisional ballots cast, the number of those provisional ballots determined to be valid by the electoral board, and the results of such valid provisional ballots by voters assigned to such precinct. Results from provisional voting and voting at the precinct on election day must be reported separately. The general registrar must also report to the Department the number and results of provisional ballots cast by persons voting early in person separately from the number and results of provisional ballots cast on election day. The Department shall establish standards for ascertaining and reporting such information. Such standards must direct that all results be posted promptly and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the tenth day after the election day.

Bill Patron: Danica A. Roem

25105532A (1/21/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections with amendment and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Privileges and Elections Amendment agreed to Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 1097 - Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; allocations, Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission.

Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission. Creates a new allocation from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund for the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, adjusts the amounts of certain other allocations from such Fund, and removes the light rail system operated by the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads from eligibility for funds from such other allocations from such Fund. The bill requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to withhold 20 percent of the funds from such new allocation unless the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads submits to it certain information annually. The bill directs the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, for fiscal year 2027, to reserve and utilize certain funds in amounts necessary to provide certain supplemental operating assistance to certain transit providers that would experience a reduction in allocable funds due to the reallocations in this bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Aaron R. Rouse

25104237D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Amend

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Notes: Amend to reduce set aside to less than 1%, which is the amount the fiscal impact statement says the light rail has historically received.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation

SB 1108 - Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty.

Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty. Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2025, shall as part of his sentence be forever prohibited from going, for the purpose of having any contact whatsoever with children who are not in his custody, within 100 feet of the premises of any area of a state park that he knows or has reason to know is a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium. A violation is a Class 6 felony.

Bill Patron: J.D. "Danny" Diggs
25101485D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to include local parks and park authorities. Also see HB 2527 (Taylor).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/27/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 1114 - Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions.

Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions. Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be permitted pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities.

Bill Patron: Schuyler T. VanValkenburg
25104663D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: See also HB 2438 (Mundon King).

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/20/2025	Rereferred from Local Government and Rereferred to Commerce and Labor (13-Y 1-N)
1/24/2025	Incorporated by Commerce and Labor (SB1190-Deeds) (15-Y 0-N)

SB 1158 - Eminent domain; condemnation proceedings.

Eminent domain; condemnation proceedings. Makes various changes to provisions governing eminent domain, primarily relating to procedures in condemnation proceedings and the transfer of a defeasible title by certificate. The bill sets forth reasonable costs of discovery in condemnation proceedings and provides that when a condemnor initiates discovery in a condemnation proceeding, such condemnor shall pay all reasonable costs of such discovery. The bill also specifies that, in a condemnation proceeding initiated by an authorized condemnor or the Commissioner of Highways, a certificate transferring a defeasible title shall include certain information describing the property and any rights to the property being taken or damaged. Finally, the bill repeals the requirement that the court refer a matter initiating a condemnation proceeding to a dispute resolution orientation.

Bill Patron: Mark D. Obenshain

25105772D (1/22/2025)

County Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Notes: Amend to remove costly and overly burdensome certificate requirements.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/22/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/30/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute agreed to Read third time and passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 1209 - Photo speed monitoring devices; private vendors compensated for calibration, civil penalty.

Photo speed monitoring devices; private vendors; calibration; civil penalty. Requires any private vendor that has entered into an agreement with a law-enforcement agency to provide a photo speed monitoring device and is also compensated for the calibration of such device to calibrate such device in the same manner and to the same specifications as all other devices determining speed, to the extent that such devices utilize the same method of speed detection as such photo speed monitoring device, used by such law-enforcement agency. The bill also (i) requires such a private vendor to provide, within 10 days of a request by a person receiving a summons by mail for a vehicle speed violation recorded by a photo speed monitoring device provided by such private vendor, for proof of calibration for such photo speed monitoring device; (ii) requires such a summons to provide notice of such right to request such proof of

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calibration; and (iii) imposes a civil penalty on any private vendor who fails to provides such proof of calibration within such time.

Bill Patron: Mark D. Obenshain

25102448D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/23/2025	Reported from Transportation with substitute and rereferred to Courts of Justice (13-Y 0-N 1-A)

SB 1296 - Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund; established.

Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund; established. Establishes the Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund (the Fund), to be managed by the Virginia Resources Authority, for the purpose of making loans and awarding grants to local governments for the purpose of assisting with improvement projects relating to public safety radio and communications infrastructure.

Bill Patron: Mark D. Obenshain

25102483D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Amend

Notes: Amend to include all counties.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/22/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)

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Support

HB 1597 - Secure storage of firearms; penalties.

Secure storage of firearms; penalties. Creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm on any premises where such person knows, or reasonably should know, that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is, or is likely to be, present. The bill increases the penalty to a Class 1 misdemeanor if a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm obtains such firearm and to a Class 5 felony if such possession of the firearm results in a crime or injury. The bill includes certain exceptions and requires firearms dealers to post a notice stating firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. The bill also creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm in an unattended vehicle, a Class 1 misdemeanor if another person obtains such firearm, and a Class 5 felony if such possession results in injury to the person obtaining the firearm or to another. Finally, the bill requires the Superintendent of State Police, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Health, to create a public awareness campaign on the importance of the secure storage of firearms by January 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Michael B. Feggans

25105219D (1/16/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/13/2025	Referred from Courts of Justice and referred to Public Safety (Voice Vote)
1/14/2025	Assigned PS sub: Firearms
1/31/2025	Reported from Public Safety with substitute (12-Y 9-N)

HB 1607 - Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalties.

Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalties. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, 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, 2025. 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, barter, 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,

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purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm.

Bill Patron: Dan I. Helmer

25100326D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Public Safety
1/31/2025	Reported from Public Safety (12-Y 9-N)

HB 1608 - Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability.

Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability. Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages.

Bill Patron: Dan I. Helmer

25100327D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. Also see SB 1450 (Ebbin).

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Public Safety
1/17/2025	Reported from Public Safety (12-Y 10-N)
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed House (49-Y 47-N)
1/24/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

HB 1622 - Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.

Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such unattended motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 and that such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping.

Bill Patron: Amy J. Laufer
25101585D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Public Safety
1/24/2025	Reported from Public Safety (13-Y 9-N)
1/30/2025	Read third time and passed House (51-Y 45-N 0-A)

HB 1706 - Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise.

Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purchaser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and purchasers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purchaser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Bill Patron: David L. Bulova

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25105102D (1/16/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws
1/13/2025	Assigned GL sub: Housing/Consumer Protection
1/16/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 0-N)
1/21/2025	Reported from General Laws with substitute (21-Y 0-N)
1/24/2025	General Laws Substitute agreed to
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed House (97-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

HB 1712 - Arrest of certain persons with or without a warrant not required.

Arrest of certain persons with or without a warrant not required. Provides that no law-enforcement officer with the power to arrest is required to arrest an individual who is currently subject to an emergency custody order, temporary detention order, or involuntary admission; however, such officer may arrest such individual upon the expiration of any such order. The bill further provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, shall (i) provide and require in-person training to all law-enforcement agencies and officers and (ii) provide information to advise attorneys for the Commonwealth on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to January 1, 2026, to complete such training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person employed as a law-enforcement officer after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his date of hire and biennially thereafter. Lastly, the bill directs the Criminal Justice Services Board to promulgate regulations pursuant to relevant law requiring in-person training to special conservators of the peace on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace prior to January 1, 2026, to complete the training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his appointment and biennially thereafter. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission.

Bill Patron: Vivian E. Watts

25106008D (1/24/2025)

County Position: Support

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/21/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (7-Y 1-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and referred to Appropriations (16-Y 6-N)
1/30/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Transportation & Public Safety
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations (14-Y 8-N)

HB 1713 - Jurisdiction of district courts in felony cases; specialty dockets; Behavioral Health Docket Act.

Jurisdiction of district courts in felony cases; specialty dockets; Behavioral Health Docket Act. Authorizes a general district court and a juvenile and domestic relations district court to retain jurisdiction over a felony offense for the purpose of allowing the accused to complete a specialty docket or behavioral health docket established pursuant to relevant law. Current law only explicitly provides such courts with the ability to certify felony charges to the circuit court or dismiss such charges after a preliminary hearing to determine if probable cause exists for such charges.

Bill Patron: Vivian E. Watts

25102619D (1/4/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/21/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (7-Y 1-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice (17-Y 5-N)
	Reconsidered and Reported from Courts of Justice (16-Y 6-N)

HB 1716 - Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement.

Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right.

Bill Patron: Marcia S. "Cia" Price

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25101990D (1/4/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. See also SB 1105 (Hashmi).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/16/2025	Reported from Health and Human Services (15-Y 7-N)
1/21/2025	Delegate Price Substitute agreed to
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed House (53-Y 44-N)
1/24/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health

HB 1831 - Public schools; certain calculations in Standards of Quality, support services.

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bill also requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill.

Bill Patron: Shelly A. Simonds

25101156D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: See also SB 1236 (Aird.)

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Education
1/11/2025	Assigned Educ sub: K-12 Subcommittee
1/14/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referred to Appropriations (5-Y 3-N)
1/15/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Elementary & Secondary Education Reported from Education and referred to Appropriations (11-Y 10-N)
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends incorporating into HB1954-Rasoul (Voice Vote)
1/27/2025	Incorporated by Appropriations (HB1954-Rasoul) (Voice Vote)

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HB 1833 - Small Family Day Home Provider Incentive Pilot Program; established, sunset.

Small Family Day Home Provider Incentive Pilot Program established. Establishes the four-year Small Family Day Home Provider Incentive Pilot Program whereby funds are provided to the Ready Region Chesapeake Bay lead to work in conjunction with public and private partners to (i) cover the cost of hiring a Navigator focused on providing training and support to small family day homes in the region, including weekend training sessions to provide information on first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification, medication administration, safe sleep practices, emergency planning, recordkeeping, insurance, and compliance with relevant local ordinances, and (ii) provide incentive payments of \$500 to any small family day home in the region (a) that is not licensed or voluntarily registered when such home achieves voluntary registration, (b) that is voluntarily registered or otherwise unlicensed when such home achieves licensure, and (c) when such home first participates in the Virginia Quality Birth to Five (VQB5) system. The bill requires the Ready Region Chesapeake Bay lead to annually collect and make publicly available data on the number of small family day homes in the region that (1) participated in the weekend trainings provided by the Navigator and (2) received incentive payments for first achieving voluntary registration or licensure or participating in VQB5.

Bill Patron: Shelly A. Simonds

25103202D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: See also SB 1236 (Aird).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Appropriations
1/11/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Elementary & Secondary Education
1/20/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (8-Y 0-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Appropriations (22-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed House (78-Y 21-N 0-A)
1/29/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health

HB 1865 - Virginia Access to Justice Act.

Virginia Access to Justice Act. Establishes a public defender office in each judicial circuit. Currently, public defender offices have been established in certain localities. The bill also establishes an appellate defender office to represent indigent persons in appeals of their convictions to the Court of Appeals of Virginia or Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. Further, the bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and assistant attorney for the Commonwealth to prosecute Class 1, 2, and 3 misdemeanors, or any other violation, the conviction of which carries a penalty of confinement in jail, or a fine of \$500 or more, or both such confinement and fine. Current law allows discretion for prosecuting such misdemeanors and violations. Lastly, the bill expands the definition of "victim" as it relates to compensating victims of crime to include persons awarded restitution pursuant to relevant law.

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Bill Patron: Katrina Callsen

25100088D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to ensure funding for Commonwealth Attorneys who prosecute misdemeanors. See also SB 1183 (Deeds).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/23/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with amendment(s) and referring to Appropriations (7-Y 1-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with amendment(s) and referred to Appropriations (14-Y 8-N)

HB 1941 - Invasive plant species; retail sales.

Invasive plant species; retail sales. Requires, for the retail sale of certain invasive plant species for outdoor use, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2025, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted.

Bill Patron: Holly M. Seibold

25103898D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources
1/14/2025	Assigned ACNR sub: Agriculture
1/15/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (9-Y 1-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources with substitute (21-Y 1-N)
1/27/2025	Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Substitute agreed to
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed House (66-Y 33-N)
1/29/2025	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

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HB 1954 - Public school funding and staffing; special education students; support services positions.

Equity in public school funding and staffing; special education students; at-risk students; English language learner students; support services positions; report. Requires state-funded add-ons to be provided to support special education students that are calculated by multiplying weights set forth in the general appropriation act by the relevant basic aid per-pupil amount for each such student. The bill establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training. The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. The bill requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits support services positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled the local school division. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a data collection process related to English language learner expenditures and student English proficiency levels and identify other options to support English language learners and provide a status report to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding on its implementation and data collection efforts by September 1, 2025. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or any other relevant stakeholders with expertise in special education as the Department of Education deems appropriate, to develop a plan for revised special education staffing requirements that addresses the staffing needs of each special education program in each school division as determined by the specific educational and behavioral support needs of students who receive special education and aims to improve special education teacher recruitment and retention and to report its findings to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding by November 1, 2025. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

Bill Patron: Sam Rasoul

25104053D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Appropriations
1/13/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Elementary & Secondary Education
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 3-N)
1/27/2025	Reported from Appropriations with substitute (13-Y 9-N) Incorporates HB1831(Simonds)
1/30/2025	Appropriations Substitute agreed to
1/31/2025	Read third time and passed House (61-Y 34-N)

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HB 1964 - Bright Futures program; established.

Bright Futures program. Establishes the Bright Futures program to provide services and support to individuals age 21 through 23 who were in foster care as a minor and are transitioning to full adulthood and self-sufficiency.

Bill Patron: Anne Ferrell Tata

25104904D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to ensure adequate state funding for implementation.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/14/2025	Assigned sub: Social Services
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (8-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Health & Human Resources Reported from Health and Human Services with substitute and referred to Appropriations (21-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (6-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations (22-Y 0-N)

HB 2054 - Affordable housing; application for special use permit for assisted living facilities.

Affordable housing; assisted living facilities. Allows localities that have adopted an affordable housing program to negotiate that in an application for a special exception or special use permit affordable rental units be included for any proposed development of an assisted living facility. Such ordinance shall apply to applications approved on or after January 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Atoosa R. Reaser

25104244D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
1/17/2025	Reported from Counties, Cities and Towns (20-Y 2-N)
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed House (75-Y 21-N)
1/24/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

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HB 2109 - Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures, Task Force on; State Health Commissioner to reestablish.

Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. The bill directs the Task Force to conclude its work by December 1, 2026. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023.

Bill Patron: Charniele L. Herring

25102833D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/14/2025	Assigned sub: Health
1/28/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referring to Appropriations (7-Y 1-N)
1/30/2025	Reported from Health and Human Services (20-Y 1-N)

HB 2120 - Vulnerable adults; seizure of property used in connection with financial exploitation, etc.

Seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Establishes a procedure for seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults.

Bill Patron: Michelle Lopes Maldonado

25101920D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to allow for police discretion on when to pursue seizures.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/25/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute (20-Y 0-N)

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HB 2124 - Synthetic digital content; penalty; work group.

Synthetic digital content; penalty; work group. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic digital content, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to use any synthetic digital content for the purpose of committing any criminal offense involving fraud, constituting a separate and distinct offense with punishment separate and apart from any punishment received for the commission of the primary criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the synthetic digital content to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of synthetic digital content, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts.

Bill Patron: Michelle Lopes Maldonado

25101882D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Also see SB 1053 (Ebbin).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Communications, Technology and Innovation
1/16/2025	Assigned CT & I sub: Technology and Innovation
1/22/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (9-Y 1-N)
1/27/2025	Reported from Communications, Technology and Innovation (20-Y 2-N)
1/31/2025	Read third time and passed House (87-Y 9-N)

HB 2485 - Cannabis control; establishes framework for creating retail market.

Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2025, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Paul E. Krizek

25101954D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Board has historically supported with amendment. Support strong local governmental land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legislation. See also SB 970 (Rouse).

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws
1/22/2025	Assigned GL sub: Subcommittee #5
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (5-Y 1-N)
1/28/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Transportation & Public Safety Reported from General Laws with substitute and referred to Appropriations (14-Y 8-N)
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (5-Y 3-N) Reported from Appropriations (13-Y 8-N)

HB 2534 - Crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; state plan for med. assistance serv.

Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; emergency. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to remove the prohibition that crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals cannot be provided in institutions for mental disease. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Bill Patron: Briana D. Sewell

25105285D (1/23/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/21/2025	Assigned sub: Social Services
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Reported from Health and Human Services with substitute (21-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Health and Human Services Substitute agreed to

HB 2538 - Public education; early childhood care and education; funding formula calculations.

Public education; early childhood care and education; funding formula calculations; Early Childhood Care and Education Fund established; report. Requires the Department of Education to (i) establish and maintain a funding formula for the provision of early childhood care and education services that establishes the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium for such providers based on a cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, unserved waitlists, and a multiplier based on enrollment and parent demand growth in prior biennia; (ii) make disbursements from the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund, established in the bill, to support the provision of early childhood care and education services in accordance with the funding formula set forth in the bill; and (iii) submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education a report on the status of the Fund, including the data used to calculate the

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minimum funding and number of slots per biennium established pursuant to the funding formula. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the General Assembly by November 1 of each year a report on Fund revenues, distributions, and balances.

Bill Patron: David L. Bulova

25104342D (1/9/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to ensure state childcare funding is increased and provided equitably to localities throughout the Commonwealth (the bill currently includes language related to prioritizing childcare deserts. See also SB 756 (Locke).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Education
1/21/2025	Assigned Educ sub: Early Childhood
1/22/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referred to Appropriations (6-Y 2-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Education with amendment(s) (15-Y 7-N)

HB 2560 - Defendant; notifying consequences criminal proceedings can have on immigration.

Notifying defendant of consequences criminal proceedings can have on immigration. Requires that at the initial court hearing for any misdemeanor or felony, the court shall advise the defendant of the following: The outcome of criminal proceedings may have federal immigration and naturalization consequences.

Bill Patron: Alfonso H. Lopez

25102656D (1/12/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/12/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/21/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting (8-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice (22-Y 0-N)

HB 2668 - Elections; procedures for removal of electoral board members and general registrars.

Elections; administration; procedures for removal of electoral board members and general registrars. Allows the State Board of Elections to remove any member of an electoral board or general registrar by a recorded two-thirds majority vote of all its members after a public hearing on related matters. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against an electoral board member or general registrar by the State Board shall be based on neglect of a clear, ministerial duty of the office, misuse of the office, or incompetence in the performance of the duties of the office, or the threat of such,

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when that neglect of duty, misuse of office, or incompetence in the performance of duties has or is likely to have a material adverse effect upon the conduct of the office. Such decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. The bill also allows an electoral board to remove a general registrar by a unanimous vote of all its members after a public hearing on related matters. A registrar who is so removed may file an appeal to the State Board. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against a general registrar by the electoral board shall be based on the same standards as required for removals by the State Board.

Bill Patron: Marcus B. Simon

25105223D (1/26/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Amend to improve implementation issues.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/15/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/26/2025	Assigned PE sub: Election Administration
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 2-N 1-A)
1/31/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections with substitute (18-Y 3-N)

HB 2723 - Criminal records; expungement and sealing of records, repeals Sealing Fee Fund.

Criminal records; expungement and sealing of records. Amends numerous statutes related to the expungement and sealing of criminal records that are scheduled to become effective on July 1, 2025. In addition, the bill requires (i) the Department of State Police to develop a secure portal for the purpose of allowing government agencies to determine whether a record has been sealed prior to responding to a request pursuant to current law by October 1, 2026; (ii) the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission to (a) create a curriculum to educate both attorneys and others on expungement and sealing, (b) conduct trainings across the Commonwealth throughout the year, (c) provide expungement and sealing support by serving on a help desk and providing consultations, and (d) develop a library of resources on expungement and sealing for use by certified court-appointed counsel; and (iii) the Department of State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and clerk of any circuit court to provide data and information on sealing upon request of the Virginia State Crime Commission for purposes of monitoring and evaluating the implementation and impact of the sealing processes. The bill repeals the Sealing Fee Fund and directs any money in such Fund to be reverted to the general fund. The bill contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, for the provisions related to the sealing of former possession of marijuana offenses without entry of a court order and the sealing of charges and convictions related to automatic sealing and such petitions. Lastly, the bill delays the repeal of the relevant law related to marijuana possession, limits on dissemination of criminal history record information, and prohibited practices by employers, educational institutions, and state and local governments until July 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.

Bill Patron: Charniele L. Herring

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25103269D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support efforts to improve implementation including state funding for local implementation. See also SB 1466 (Surovell).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/25/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (7-Y 1-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and referred to Appropriations (14-Y 8-N)
1/30/2025	Assigned Approps sub: General Government and Capital Outlay
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations (15-Y 7-N)

HB 2746 - Incapacitated persons; finding of mental incompetence.

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.

Bill Patron: Kathy K.L. Tran

25104774D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Also see SB 765 (Favola).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/28/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Civil
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 2-N)
1/31/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute (14-Y 6-N)

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HJ 2 - Constitutional amendment; qualifications of voters, right to vote, persons not entitled to vote.

Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. The amendment provides that a person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished.

Bill Patron: Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker

H251956 (1/14/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. See also SJ 248 (Locke).

Date of Action	Action Notes
11/20/2023	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
2/9/2024	Continued to 2025 in Privileges and Elections (Voice Vote)
11/13/2024	Reported from Privileges and Elections (12-Y 9-N)
1/14/2025	Motion to pass by Delegate Cherry Amendment #1 agreed to (52-Y 47-N) Motion to pass by Delegate Cherry Amendments #2, #3 agreed to (51-Y 48-N) Agreed to by House (55-Y 44-N)
1/28/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections (8-Y 7-N)
1/31/2025	Agreed to by Senate (21-Y 18-N)

HJ 434 - Study; JLARC; non-federal sponsor contributions by localities to conduct coastal storm risk management studies; report.

Study; JLARC; non-federal sponsor contributions by localities to conduct coastal storm risk management studies; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology for determining the monetary contributions by localities or other non-federal sponsors to the total cost of coastal storm risk management studies. The study also directs JLARC to determine whether a separate fund should be established to support and manage cost-share requests from non-federal sponsors for such studies.

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Bill Patron: Michael B. Feggans

25106377A (1/29/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: See also SB 1337 (Marsden).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules
1/29/2025	Reported from Rules with amendment(s) (13-Y 0-N)

SB 744 - Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person.

Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person. Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member may transfer a firearm owned by such prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that such person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm is 21 years of age or older and does not reside with the person who is subject to the protective order. Under current law, there is no requirement that such transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with such prohibited person. The bill also provides that such prohibited person who transfers, sells, or surrenders a firearm pursuant to the provisions of the bill shall inform the clerk of the court of the name and address of the transferee, the federally licensed firearms dealer, or the law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of such form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member shall be advised that a law-enforcement officer may obtain a search warrant to search for any firearms from such person if such law-enforcement officer has reason to believe that such person has not relinquished all firearms in his possession.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola

25100612D (11/13/2024)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
11/13/2024	Referred to Committee on the Courts of Justice Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/13/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice (8-Y 5-N)
1/17/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 19-N)

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SB 756 - Public education; early childhood care and education, funding formula calculations, etc.

Public education; early childhood care and education; funding formula calculations; Early Childhood Care and Education Fund established; report. Requires the Department of Education to (i) establish and maintain a funding formula for the provision of early childhood care and education services that establishes the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium for such providers based on a cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, unserved waitlists, and a multiplier based on enrollment and parent demand growth in prior biennia; (ii) make disbursements from the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund (the Fund), established in the bill, to support the provision of early childhood care and education services in accordance with the funding formula set forth in the bill; (iii) make certain funding calculations, in consultation with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, to be included in the funding formula, for the purpose of determining the number of slots to be added to support local or regional economic development efforts; and (iv) submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education a report on the status of the Fund, including the data used to calculate the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium established pursuant to the funding formula. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the Generally Assembly by November 1 of each year a report on Fund revenues, distributions, and balances.

Bill Patron: Mamie E. Locke

25101269D (12/10/2024)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to ensure state childcare funding is increased and provided equitably to localities throughout the Commonwealth (the bill currently includes language related to prioritizing childcare deserts. See also HB 2538 (Bulova).

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/10/2024	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/16/2025	Assigned Education sub: Public Education
1/23/2025	Reported from Education and Health with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)

SB 760 - Elections; deadline for receipt of absentee ballots and certain other information, etc.

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.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola

25100615D (12/11/2024)

County Position: Support

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Date of Action	Action Notes
12/11/2024	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections (11-Y 4-N)
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (23-Y 15-N)

SB 825 - Vulnerable adults; seizure of property used in connection with/derived from financial exploitation.

Seizure of property used in connection with or derived from financial exploitation of vulnerable adults. Permits a law-enforcement officer investigating the financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult to seek a warrant from a judicial officer to seize moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities, including those in deposit accounts, and retain, pending a prosecution or appeal, sufficient amounts of such moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities as is necessary to prove such financial exploitation. The bill allows a court, upon motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth and for good cause shown, to order the release of all moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities. Any remaining moneys, cash, or negotiable or nonnegotiable instruments or securities may also be released to the owner by the court with the consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola

25101929D (12/31/2024)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/31/2024	Referred to Committee on the Courts of Justice
1/13/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute (13-Y 0-N)
1/15/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute agreed to
1/17/2025	Committee substitute rejected
	Senator Favola, Barbara A. Substitute agreed to
	Reconsideration of (40-Y 0-N)
	Passed Senate

SB 841 - Opioid treatment programs; dispensing, medications from mobile units.

Board of Pharmacy; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; opioid treatment programs; mobile units; report. Directs the Board of Pharmacy, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, to develop and implement a process by which opioid treatment programs can apply for and receive the necessary permissions and waivers to dispense opioid use disorder treatment medications from mobile units. The bill directs the Board to report to the Joint

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Commission on Health Care by November 1, 2025, on the status of and any barriers to the development and implementation of such process. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola

25102177D (1/2/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/2/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/14/2025	Assigned Education sub: Health
1/16/2025	Reported from Education and Health (14-Y 0-N)
1/21/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 848 - Firearms, certain; age requirement for purchase, penalty.

Purchase of certain firearms; age requirement; penalty. Prohibits any person under 21 years of age from purchasing an assault firearm, with exceptions for the purchase of an assault firearm by a law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, jail officer, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Virginia National Guard, or the National Guard of any other state. Accordingly, the bill prohibits a licensed dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory an assault firearm to any person under 21 years of age. A violation of either prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The bill also expands the definition of assault firearm as the term applies to criminal history record information checks.

Bill Patron: Saddam Azlan Salim

25101315D (1/2/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/2/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (19-Y 18-N)
	Reconsideration of (37-Y 0-N)
	Read third time and passed Senate (20-Y 18-N)

SB 852 - Photo speed monitoring devices; proof of violation; retired law-enforcement officials.

Photo speed monitoring devices; proof of violation; retired law-enforcement officials. Allows a retired

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sworn law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, to swear to or affirm a certificate for a vehicle speed violation enforced by a photo speed monitoring device.

Bill Patron: Christie New Craig

25102952D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/16/2025	Reported from Transportation (13-Y 2-N)
1/22/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (30-Y 10-N)

SB 880 - Assault firearms; carrying in public areas prohibited, penalty.

Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range of firearms, only in certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin

25105354D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/24/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute agreed to
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 18-N)

SB 881 - Plastic firearms or receivers, unserialized firearms, etc.; transfer, etc., prohibited, penalties.

Manufacture, importation, sale, transfer, or possession of plastic firearms and unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms prohibited; penalties. Creates a Class 5 felony for any person who knowingly manufactures or assembles, imports, purchases, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening.

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The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to knowingly import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any completed or unfinished frame or receiver, unless the completed or unfinished frame or receiver (i) is deemed to be a firearm pursuant to federal law and (ii) is imprinted with a valid serial number. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin
25100407D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (20-Y 18-N)

SB 883 - Firearms; purchase, etc., assault and battery of family member or intimate partner, penalties.

Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2025, for the offense of assault and battery against an intimate partner or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Bill Patron: Russet Perry

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25100381D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (8-Y 6-N 1-A)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/27/2025	Senator Perry, Russett Substitute agreed to
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 17-N)
	Reconsideration of passage agreed to by Senate (39-Y 0-N)
	Passed Senate (23-Y 16-N)

SB 886 - Trigger activator; definition, penalty.

Trigger activator definition; penalty. Defines "trigger activator" as a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device designed to alter the rate of fire of a semi-automatic firearm to mimic automatic weapon fire or used to increase the rate of fire to a rate faster than that possible for a person to fire such semi-automatic firearm unassisted by a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device.

Bill Patron: Russet Perry

25101931D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/27/2025	Courts of Justice substitute rejected
	Senator Perry, Russett Substitute agreed to
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 18-N)

SB 891 - Firearms; five day waiting period, penalty.

Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least five days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law.

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Bill Patron: Saddam Azlan Salim

25101316D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/3/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (20-Y 18-N)

SB 940 - Elections; candidates for office, challenges to candidate qualifications.

Elections; candidates for office; challenges to candidate qualifications. Requires any legal action relating 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 filed in a circuit court and served on all parties at least 60 days before the date of the election. The bill specifies that any such legal action will be given precedence on the docket and be decided by the court no later than 30 days from service on all parties. The bill also specifies that 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.

Bill Patron: Scott A. Surovell

25104113D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to allow sufficient time to prepare ballots.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/28/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections with substitute (15-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Privileges and Elections Substitute agreed to Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 960 - Electric utilities; data center cost allocation.

Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of

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customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent. The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Russet Perry

25103266D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/6/2025

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

1/27/2025

Incorporates SB1243(Stuart)

Reported from Commerce and Labor with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)

1/30/2025

Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (11-Y 4-N)

SB 962 - Virginia Public Procurement Act; additional public works contract requirements.

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.

Bill Patron: Jennifer D. Carroll Foy

25105779D (1/22/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Support the concept, ensure flexibility in implementation.

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/6/2025

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

1/22/2025

Reported from General Laws and Technology with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)

1/28/2025

Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)

1/30/2025

Committee substitute agreed to

1/31/2025

Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 19-N)

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SB 970 - Cannabis control; retail market; penalties.

Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2025, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Aaron R. Rouse

25102567D (1/6/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Board has historically supported with amendment. Support strong local governmental land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legislation. See also HB 2485 (Krizek).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services
1/17/2025	Reported from Rehabilitation and Social Services with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (8-Y 7-N)
1/28/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)
1/30/2025	Committee substitute agreed to
1/31/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 19-N)

SB 977 - Standards of Quality; certain calculations, support services.

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education (the Department) (i) in calculating nonpersonal costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include the costs associated with work-related employee travel and leased facilities; (ii) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service; (iii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions; (iv) in calculating the cost of salaries under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions; and (v) in estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for instruction and support positions under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff. The bill also prohibits the Department from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of re-benchmarking the aid to the public education budget. The bill (a) requires a per-pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on to be provided for each special education student; (b) requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill; and (c) establishes

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the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at-risk, including programs and services of prevention, intervention, or remediation.

Bill Patron: Ghazala F. Hashmi

25104477D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/16/2025	Reported from Education and Health and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (11-Y 3-N)

SB 1007 - Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program; created.

Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund and Program; parking facility tax. Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual \$0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund.

Bill Patron: Scott A. Surovell

25105905D (1/23/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/23/2025	Reported from Transportation with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N 1-A)
1/30/2025	Committee substitute agreed to
1/31/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (37-Y 2-N 1-A)

SB 1053 - Synthetic digital content; definition, penalty, report.

Synthetic digital content; penalty; work group. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic digital content, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to use any synthetic digital content for the purpose of committing any criminal offense involving fraud, constituting a separate and distinct offense with punishment separate and apart from any punishment received for the commission of the primary criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the synthetic digital content to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as

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the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of synthetic digital content, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin

25105900A (1/23/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Also see HB 2124 (Maldonado)

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/20/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with amendment (15-Y 0-N)
1/22/2025	Courts of Justice Amendment agreed to
1/23/2025	Passed Senate
	Amendment by Senator Ebbin, Adam P. agreed to.
	Reconsideration of (39-Y 0-N)
	Passed Senate (39-Y 0-N)

SB 1093 - Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program authority; right of entry.

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.

Bill Patron: Russet Perry

25102392D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources
1/28/2025	Reported from Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources (10-Y 0-N 4-A)

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SB 1105 - Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement.

Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right.

Bill Patron: Ghazala F. Hashmi

25100261D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. See also HB 1716 (Price).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/21/2025	Assigned Education sub: Health
1/23/2025	Reported from Education and Health (9-Y 6-N)
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (19-Y 19-N) Reconsideration of (39-Y 0-N) Passed Senate (21-Y 18-N)

SB 1134 - Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present; penalty.

Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present; penalty. Requires any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present to store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. The bill provides that a violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill exempts (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm who carries such firearm on or about his person and (ii) the storage of antique firearms and provides that the lawful authorization of a minor to access a firearm is not a violation of the bill's provisions. The bill also requires firearm dealers to post a notice stating such firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms.

Bill Patron: Jennifer B. Boysko

25103145D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 4-N)
1/28/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (21-Y 18-N)

SB 1181 - Assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices; purchase, etc., prohibited, penalty.

Purchase, possession, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalty. 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, 2025. 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, barter, 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.

Bill Patron: R. Creigh Deeds

25100426D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/17/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 6-N)
1/22/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 4-N)
1/24/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute agreed to
1/27/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (20-Y 18-N)

SB 1183 - Virginia Access to Justice Act.

Virginia Access to Justice Act. Establishes a public defender office in each judicial circuit. Currently, public defender offices have been established in certain localities. The bill also establishes an appellate

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defender office to represent indigent persons in appeals of their convictions to the Court of Appeals of Virginia or Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. Further, the bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and assistant attorney for the Commonwealth to prosecute Class 1, 2, and 3 misdemeanors, or any other violation, the conviction of which carries a penalty of confinement in jail, or a fine of \$500 or more, or both such confinement and fine. Current law allows discretion for prosecuting such misdemeanors and violations. Lastly, the bill expands the definition of "victim" as it relates to compensating victims of crime to include persons awarded restitution pursuant to relevant law.

Bill Patron: R. Creigh Deeds

25105823A (1/23/2025)

County Position: Support with Amendment

Notes: Support with amendment to ensure funding for Commonwealth Attorneys who prosecute misdemeanors. See also HB 1865 (Callsen).

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/8/2025

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

1/22/2025

Reported from Courts of Justice with amendments and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 5-N)

SB 1194 - Persons, certain; arrest with or without a warrant not required.

Arrest of certain persons with or without a warrant not required. Provides that no law-enforcement officer with the power to arrest is required to arrest an individual who is currently subject to an emergency custody order, temporary detention order, or involuntary admission; however, such officer may arrest such individual upon the expiration of any such order. The bill further provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, shall (i) provide and require in-person training to all law-enforcement agencies and officers and (ii) provide information to advise attorneys for the Commonwealth on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to January 1, 2026, to complete such training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person employed as a law-enforcement officer after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his date of hire and biennially thereafter. Lastly, the bill directs the Criminal Justice Services Board to promulgate regulations pursuant to relevant law requiring in-person training to special conservators of the peace on the provisions of the bill and other existing statutes related to the arrest and prosecution of persons with mental or behavioral health disorders by January 1, 2026. The bill requires any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace prior to January 1, 2026, to complete the training by July 1, 2026 and biennially thereafter, and any person appointed as a special conservator of the peace after January 1, 2026 to complete the training within one year of his appointment and biennially thereafter. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission.

Bill Patron: R. Creigh Deeds

25103606D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Support

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

SB 1210 - Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise.

Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purchaser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and purchasers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purchaser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Bill Patron: Stella G. Pekarsky
25104889D (1/16/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology
1/15/2025	Reported from General Laws and Technology with substitute (15-Y 0-N)
1/20/2025	General Laws and Technology Substitute agreed to
1/21/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

SB 1236 - Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services.

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bill also requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill.

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Bill Patron: Lashrecse D. Aird

25101268D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: See also HB 1831 (Simonds).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/20/2025	Assigned Education sub: Public Education
1/23/2025	Reported from Education and Health and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)

SB 1271 - Threats of death or bodily injury; penalty.

Threats of death or bodily injury; penalty. Clarifies that for crimes involving communicating orally or in writing a threat to kill or do bodily injury, an electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message includes an email, a text message, or a message or post on any social media platform.

Bill Patron: Russet Perry

25104285D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/27/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (13-Y 1-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (13-Y 0-N 2-A)
1/31/2025	Courts of Justice Substitute rejected Senator Perry, Russet Substitute agreed to

SB 1304 - Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; emergency.

Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals; emergency. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to remove the prohibition that crisis stabilization services for nonhospitalized individuals cannot be provided in institutions for mental disease. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Bill Patron: Jeremy S. McPike

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25102036D (1/9/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/28/2025	Assigned Education sub: Health
1/30/2025	Reported from Education and Health with substitute (15-Y 0-N)

SB 1319 - Department of Environmental Quality; industrial wastewater; publicly owned treatment works; PFAS monitoring.

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.

Bill Patron: Jeremy S. McPike

25106622D (1/31/2025)

County Position: ~~Amend~~ Support

Notes: Bill was amended to list the industries most likely to generate PFAS, which correspond to industries listed in the Federal EPA guidelines.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources
1/28/2025	Reported from Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources with substitute (14-Y 0-N)
1/31/2025	Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources Substitute rejected Senator McPike, Jeremy S. Substitute agreed to Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N)

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SB 1337 - Coastal storm risk management; Office of Commonwealth Resilience to study costs of feasibility studies; report.

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.

Bill Patron: David W. Marsden
25103765D (1/13/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Also see HJ 434 (Feggans).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/13/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules
1/24/2025	Reported from Rules (12-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (38-Y 0-N)

SB 1385 - Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health to study the makeup and composition of the emergency management regions, state health regions, and local health districts; report.

Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health to study the makeup and composition of the emergency management regions, state health regions, and local health districts; report. Directs the Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Health to study the makeup and composition of the seven emergency management regions, the five Virginia health regions, and the 35 local health districts to determine the feasibility of mutually beneficial alignment of such regions and districts. The bill directs the Departments to complete their work and report findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola
25102789D (1/13/2025)
County Position: Support

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/13/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules
1/24/2025	Reported from Rules (11-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (38-Y 0-N)

SB 1450 - Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability.

Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability. Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin

25101021D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. Also see HB 1608 (Helmer).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/27/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (8-Y 6-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (10-Y 4-N)

SB 1466 - Criminal records; expungement and sealing of records.

Criminal records; expungement and sealing of records. Amends numerous statutes related to the expungement and sealing of criminal records that are scheduled to become effective on July 1, 2025. In

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addition, the bill requires (i) the Department of State Police to develop a secure portal for the purpose of allowing government agencies to determine whether a record has been sealed prior to responding to a request pursuant to current law by October 1, 2026; (ii) the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission to (a) create a curriculum to educate both attorneys and others on expungement and sealing, (b) conduct trainings across the Commonwealth throughout the year, (c) provide expungement and sealing support by serving on a help desk and providing consultations, and (d) develop a library of resources on expungement and sealing for use by certified court-appointed counsel; and (iii) the Department of State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles, Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and clerk of any circuit court to provide data and information on sealing upon request of the Virginia State Crime Commission for purposes of monitoring and evaluating the implementation and impact of the sealing processes. The bill repeals the Sealing Fee Fund and directs any money in such Fund to be reverted to the general fund. The bill contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, for the provisions related to the sealing of former possession of marijuana offenses without entry of a court order and the sealing of charges and convictions related to automatic sealing and such petitions. Lastly, the bill delays the repeal of the relevant law related to marijuana possession, limits on dissemination of criminal history record information, and prohibited practices by employers, educational institutions, and state and local governments until July 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.

Bill Patron: Scott A. Surovell

25105620D (1/26/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Support efforts to improve implementation including state funding for local implementation. See also HB 2723 (Herring).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/27/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 3-N 2-A)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (10-Y 4-N)

SJ 248 - Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote.

Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. The amendment provides that a person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court

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of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished.

Bill Patron: Mamie E. Locke
25101531D (11/25/2024)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported. See also HJ 2 (Bennett-Parker).

Date of Action	Action Notes
11/25/2024	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/14/2025	Reported from Privileges and Elections (8-Y 6-N)
1/20/2025	Senator McDougle Amendments rejected
1/21/2025	Read third time and agreed to by Senate (21-Y 18-N)

SJ 259 - Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report.

Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology used to determine judicial allocations to state courts within the Commonwealth. JLARC is directed to submit its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Bill Patron: Scott A. Surovell
25104574D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules
1/24/2025	Reported from Rules with amendments (Voice Vote)
1/28/2025	Rules Amendments agreed to
1/29/2025	Agreed to by Senate by voice vote

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Monitor

HB 1832 - Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units.

Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units. Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinances for single-family residential zoning districts accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, as defined in the bill, as a permitted accessory use. The bill requires a person to seek a permit for an ADU from the locality, requires the locality to issue such permit if the person meets certain requirements enumerated in the bill, and restricts the fee for such permit to \$500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) dedicated parking for the ADU except in densely developed neighborhoods; (ii) setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling; and (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Shelly A. Simonds

25102648D (1/6/2025)

County Position: ~~Oppose~~ Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to allow localities to continue to consider ADUs in their Comprehensive Plans. See also SB 932 (Salim).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
1/13/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #2
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends incorporating into HB2533-Sewell (Voice Vote)

HB 2046 - High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use by public bodies, report.

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use by public bodies; work group; report. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, as defined in the bill, by public bodies. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO) to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, implementation, utilization, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ high-risk artificial intelligence systems that are consistent with the requirements created by the bill. The bill also requires the CIO to compile into a publicly available registry certain required monthly reports on initial and ongoing high-risk artificial intelligence system assessments and inventories of such systems used by public bodies. Under the bill, the Joint Commission on Technology and Science is required to establish an Artificial Intelligence Oversight Task Force to oversee the implementation of and compliance with the requirements for development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by public bodies. Finally, bill directs the CIO to convene a work group to examine the impact on and the ability of local governments to comply with the requirements of the bill. The substantive requirements of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Bonita G. Anthony

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25102638D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: See also SB 1214 (Aird).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Communications, Technology and Innovation
1/23/2025	Assigned CT & I sub: Communications
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (5-Y 4-N 1-A)
	Reported from Communications, Technology and Innovation with substitute and referred to Appropriations (12-Y 10-N)
	Assigned Approps sub: General Government and Capital Outlay
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations (12-Y 10-N)

HB 2094 - High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use; civil penalties.

High-risk artificial intelligence; development, deployment, and use; civil penalties. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, and civil penalties for noncompliance, to be enforced by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Michelle Lopes Maldonado

25104439D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Communications, Technology and Innovation
1/23/2025	Assigned CT & I sub: Communications
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (6-Y 4-N)
	Reported from Communications, Technology and Innovation with substitute and referred to Appropriations (12-Y 10-N)
	Assigned Approps sub: General Government and Capital Outlay
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations with substitute (12-Y 10-N)

HB 2153 - Faith and housing; comprehensive plan; zoning; Department of Housing and Community Development.

Faith and housing; comprehensive plan; zoning; Department of Housing and Community Development. Grants authority to localities to adopt a variety of strategies intended to encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing on property owned by religious organizations or tax-exempt nonprofit

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organizations. The bill allows localities to request administrative support from the Department of Housing and Community Development in the preparation of a faith and housing ordinance.

Bill Patron: Betsy B. Carr

25101682D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: See also SB 1178 (Hashmi).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws
1/27/2025	Assigned GL sub: Housing/Consumer Protection
1/30/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (6-Y 2-N)
	Reported from General Laws with substitute (14-Y 7-N)

HB 2293 - Subdivision ordinance; plan review by designated agent.

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.

Bill Patron: Carrie E. Coyner

25104575D (1/8/2025)

County Position: ~~Oppose Unless Amended~~ Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended. See also SB 974 (Van Valkenburg).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
1/20/2025	Assigned CCT sub: Subcommittee #3
1/31/2025	Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (5-Y 3-N)

HB 2368 - Toll relief; maximum charges.

Toll relief; maximum charges. Limits to \$200 per month the tolls charged to residents of the Commonwealth via electronic toll collection devices for the use of toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels, or toll roads in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits misusing, sharing, or transferring an electronic toll collection device for the purpose of (i) generating tolls to reach the toll charges limit or (ii) obtaining toll-free use of toll facilities in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes the free use of all toll bridges, toll roads, and other toll facilities in the Commonwealth for drivers who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits.

Bill Patron: Candi Mundon King

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25103422D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/23/2025	Assigned Trans sub: Transportation Infrastructure and Funding
1/28/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referring to Appropriations (6-Y 2-N)
1/30/2025	Reported from Transportation and referred to Appropriations (12-Y 10-N)

HB 2724 - Automatic license plate recognition systems; use, reports, penalty.

Use of automatic license plate recognition systems; reports; penalty. Requires the Division of Purchases and Supply of the Department of General Services (the Division) to determine and approve the automatic license plate recognition systems, defined in the bill, for use in the Commonwealth and provides requirements for use of such systems by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems by law-enforcement agencies to the following purposes: (i) as part of an active criminal investigation; (ii) as part of an active investigation related to a missing or endangered person, including whether to issue an alert for such person, or a person associated with human trafficking; or (iii) to receive notifications related to a missing or endangered person, a person with an outstanding warrant, a person associated with human trafficking, a stolen vehicle, or a stolen license plate. The bill provides that a law-enforcement agency must obtain a permit from the Department of Transportation in accordance with regulations of the Commonwealth Transportation Board before installing an automatic license plate recognition system on a state right-of-way. The bill requires annual reports from law-enforcement agencies using such systems that provide de-identified information concerning the use of the systems and by the State Police aggregating such information statewide. The bill also requires a law-enforcement officer or State Police officer to collect data on whether a stop of a driver of a motor vehicle or stop or temporary detention of a person was based on a notification from an automatic license plate recognition system. Except for the provisions requiring the Division to determine and approve automatic license plate recognition systems for use in the Commonwealth, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 31, 2026. The bill requires the Division, in consultation with the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, to determine such systems for use in the Commonwealth and publicly post a list of such systems by January 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia State Crime Commission.

Bill Patron: Charniele L. Herring

25103292D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: Board has historically monitored.

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/17/2025	Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice
1/25/2025	Assigned Courts sub: Criminal
1/27/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (5-Y 3-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Courts of Justice with substitute and referred to Appropriations (18-Y 4-N)
1/30/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Transportation & Public Safety
1/31/2025	Reported from Appropriations (17-Y 5-N)

HJ 497 - Retail cannabis market; joint commission established to oversee transition of the Commonwealth.

Joint commission to oversee transition of the Commonwealth into a retail cannabis market established; report. Establishes a joint commission to oversee the transition of the Commonwealth into a retail cannabis market. The joint commission shall expire on July 1, 2028.

Bill Patron: Paul E. Krizek

25104831D (1/16/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: Support strong local governmental land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legislation.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/16/2025	Referred to Committee on Rules
1/29/2025	Reported from Rules (10-Y 3-N)

SB 773 - Foster care; housing services, housing plan, report.

Foster care; housing services; housing plan; report. Requires local departments of social services to develop housing plans for individuals leaving foster care due to age that includes a description of housing options being pursued. The bill requires the Commissioner of Social Services to provide reports to the Governor and General Assembly on housing services for individuals aging out of foster care on or before October 1 of each year. The bill also directs the Virginia Department of Social Services to enter into a memorandum of understanding with local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to secure federal Family Unification Program Housing Choice Vouchers for individuals leaving foster care within 90 days and certain individuals who have left foster care within the past five years. The bill also directs local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to take any action required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to administer the Foster Youth to Independence Initiative.

Bill Patron: Barbara A. Favola

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25105806A(1/23/2025)

County Position: ~~Amend~~ Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to provide localities with flexibility to continue existing arrangements to administer Family Unification Program and Foster Youth to Independence vouchers.

Date of Action	Action Notes
12/23/2024	Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services
1/17/2025	Reported from Rehabilitation and Social Services with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/23/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations with amendments (12-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Committee substitute agreed to Rehabilitation and Social Services Substitute Finance and Appropriations Amendments agreed to
1/29/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (38-Y 0-N)

SB 932 - Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units.

Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units. Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinances for single-family residential zoning districts accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, as defined in the bill, as a permitted accessory use. The bill requires a person to seek a permit for an ADU from the locality, requires the locality to issue such permit if the person meets certain requirements enumerated in the bill, and restricts the fee for such permit to \$500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) dedicated parking for the ADU except in densely developed neighborhoods; (ii) setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling; and (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Bill Patron: Saddam Azlan Salim

25106232D (1/28/2025)

County Position: ~~Oppose~~ Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to allow localities to continue to consider ADUs in their Comprehensive Plans. See also HB 1832 (Simonds).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/6/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/13/2025	Reported from Local Government with amendments (6-Y 5-N 2-A)
1/15/2025	Motion to recommit to committee agreed to (Voice Vote)
1/27/2025	Incorporates SB1256(Stanley) Reported from Local Government with substitute (11-Y 4-N)
1/29/2025	Local Government amendments rejected Local Government substitute agreed to
1/30/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (30-Y 10-N)

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SB 974 - Subdivision ordinance; plan review by designated agent.

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.

Bill Patron: Schuyler T. VanValkenburg
25106055D (1/27/2025)

County Position: ~~Oppose Unless Amended~~ Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to extend the time frame for submitting documents to state agencies, addressing the County’s concerns. Also see HB 2293 (Coyner).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/27/2025	Reported from Local Government with substitute (12-Y 2-N)
1/29/2025	Local Government substitute agreed to
1/30/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (35-Y 5-N)

SB 1054 - Virginia Cannabis Control Authority; draft regulations governing cannabis; report.

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.

Bill Patron: Adam P. Ebbin
25101513D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: Support strong local government land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legislation.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services
1/31/2025	Passed by indefinitely in Rehabilitation and Social Services (15-Y 0-N)

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SB 1143 - Discharge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools.

Discharge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools. Provides that, prior to the discharge of any minor admitted to inpatient treatment (i) who is a student at a public elementary or secondary school and (ii) for whom the facility deems (a) such discharge poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self and others or (b) additional educational services are needed, such facility is required to provide to the school's mental health professional or school counselor the portions of such discharge plan relevant to the threat of violence or harm or the necessary additional educational services. The bill requires such facility to, prior to providing any such portions of any minor's discharge plan, provide to the parent of such minor student reasonable notice of the types of information that would be included in any portions of the discharge plan being provided and of the parent's right to, upon written request, refuse the provision of any such information.

Bill Patron: Mark D. Obenshain

25102442D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: Board has historically recommended monitor. See also HB 2353 (Wilt).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Education and Health
1/23/2025	Assigned Education sub: Public Education
1/30/2025	Reported from Education and Health (15-Y 0-N)

SB 1178 - Faith and housing; affordable housing on property owned by religious or tax-exempt organizations

Faith and housing; comprehensive plan; zoning; Department of Housing and Community Development. Grants authority to localities to adopt a variety of strategies intended to encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing on property owned by religious organizations or tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The bill allows localities to request administrative support from the Department of Housing and Community Development in preparation of a faith and housing ordinance.

Bill Patron: Ghazala F. Hashmi

25101400D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: See also HB 2154 (Carr).

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology
1/15/2025	Rereferred from General Laws and Technology to Local Government (15-Y 0-N)
1/20/2025	Incorporates SB1351(Srinivasan) Reported from Local Government with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (12-Y 3-N)

SB 1256 - Counties, cities, and towns; comprehensive plan; accessory dwelling units.

Counties, cities, and towns; comprehensive plan; accessory dwelling units. Clarifies that the comprehensive plan prepared by a local planning commission and adopted by a local governing body may include the use of accessory dwelling units, defined in the bill, as part of any residential development and use designated within such plan. The bill contains technical amendments.

Bill Patron: William M. Stanley, Jr.

25101140D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/27/2025	Incorporated by Local Government (SB932-Salim) (14-Y 1-N)

SB 1305 - Local taxes; zoning; assessments; injunctions; ordinances.

Local taxes; zoning; assessments; injunctions; ordinances. Provides that for purposes of real estate subject to a special tax assessment for land preservation by local ordinance, a change to the zoning ordinance shall only be effective following (i) the approval of the relevant modification in the zoning classification of real estate; (ii) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period; and (iii) if pending, the final determination of any challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also provides that for purposes of subdivided or rezoned lots, the assessment or reassessment required by law shall only be effective following (a) the approval of a modification in the zoning classification of the subject real estate, an exception to zoning or classification of the subject real estate, or a reclassification of the subject real estate; (b) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period for such approvals; or (c) if pending, the final determination of any such challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also authorizes the circuit court to issue an injunction to stay the collection of taxes during the pendency of any application to the circuit court for an assessment correction upon a showing of (1) a bona fide hardship caused by such assessment and (2) a bona fide financial inability to satisfy such assessed tax obligation. Any injunction so issued shall not remain in effect later than when a final determination is made on the merits of an assessment correction application. Under current law, no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of any local tax shall be maintained in any court of the Commonwealth, except when the party has no adequate remedy at law. Finally, the bill provides that any zoning ordinance enacted after December 1, 2023, shall not become effective until the later of either (A) the exhaustion of the period within which a decision of the local

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governing body may be contested or (B) if pending, the date of final determination for all actions related to a contested decision of the local governing body.

Bill Patron: Jeremy S. McPike

25105511D (1/22/2025)

County Position: Oppose Monitor

Notes: Bill was amended to address the County's concerns.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/9/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/20/2025	Reported from Local Government with substitute (13-Y 2-N)
1/22/2025	Committee substitute agreed to Local Government Substitute
1/23/2025	Read third time and passed Senate (35-Y 3-N)

SB 1332 - Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish, etc.

Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish; report. Repeals the authority for localities to establish trespass towing fees, with exceptions, and requires the State Corporation Commission to establish such fees and adjust such fees annually based on the Transportation Consumer Price Index. The bill permits localities to, by ordinance, allow for and establish reasonable limits on storage fees, administration fees, and additional fees for towing vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds. The bill requires the Commission, beginning November 30, 2030, and every five year thereafter, to submit a report to the General Assembly reviewing the process for adjusting towing rates, provided that funds are appropriated for such review.

Bill Patron: David W. Marsden

25106022D (1/24/2025)

County Position: Oppose Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to retain some local flexibility in setting initial towing rates. See also HB 2214 (McQuinn).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/13/2025	Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor
1/24/2025	Reported from Commerce and Labor with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Reported from Finance and Appropriations (11-Y 3-N)
1/31/2025	Commerce and Labor Substitute rejected Senator Marsden, David W. Substitute agreed to

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Failed Legislation

HB 1557 - Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty.

Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Taxation to establish a registry of short-term rental properties and require accommodations providers and intermediaries to register. Under the bill, an accommodations provider shall provide to the Department its name and the address of each property it offers for short-term rental. The bill states that the Department shall issue each such accommodations provider a unique numerical identifier for each such property. An accommodations intermediary shall provide the Department its name and the contact information for the individual responsible for liaising with state and local officials regarding noncompliant short-term rental listings. The bill states that as a condition of listing a short-term rental on its platform, an accommodations intermediary shall require each accommodations provider to provide such provider's name and the unique numerical identifier and specific address for each short term-rental offered. Under

Bill Patron: R. Lee Ware

25100268D (11/21/2024)

County Position: Support

Date of Action

Action Notes

11/21/2024

Referred to Committee on Finance

1/17/2025

Assigned Finance sub: Subcommittee #1

1/20/2025

Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (5-Y 3-N)

HB 1596 - Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; telemedicine services.

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.

Bill Patron: Nadarius E. Clark

25102681D (1/3/2025)

County Position: Support

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/3/2025

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

1/13/2025

Assigned sub: Social Services

1/23/2025

Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute and referring to Appropriations (8-Y 0-N)

1/28/2025

Assigned Approps sub: Health & Human Resources

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Reported from Health and Human Services with substitute and referred to Appropriations (21-Y 0-N)

1/29/2025

Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (6-Y 0-N)

HB 1710 - Department of Medical Assistance Services; reimbursement rates for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; work group; report.

Department of Medical Assistance Services; reimbursement rates for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to assess and make recommendations related to reimbursement rates for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers With Disabilities. The bill requires the work group to report its recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025.

Bill Patron: Debra D. Gardner

25102530D (1/4/2025)

County Position: Support

Notes: Board has historically supported.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/4/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/13/2025	Assigned sub: Social Services
1/16/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referred to Appropriations (8-Y 0-N)
1/21/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Health & Human Resources Reported from Health and Human Services and referred to Appropriations (21-Y 0-N)
1/24/2025	Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (7-Y 0-N)

HB 1762 - Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid; Social Security Disability Insurance.

Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid; Social Security Disability Insurance. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek federal authorization to provide Medicaid coverage, regardless of income or assets, to individuals who receive Social Security Disability Insurance but are not yet eligible for Medicare coverage.

Bill Patron: James W. Morefield

25103510D (1/5/2025)

County Position: Support

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/5/2025	Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services
1/13/2025	Assigned sub: Social Services
1/23/2025	Subcommittee recommends reporting and referring to Appropriations (8-Y 0-N)
1/28/2025	Assigned Approps sub: Health & Human Resources Reported from Health and Human Services and referred to Appropriations (21-Y 0-N)
1/29/2025	Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (6-Y 0-N)

HB 2214 - Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish, etc.

Trespass towing fees; State Corporation Commission to establish; report. Repeals the authority for localities to establish trespass towing fees, with exceptions, and requires the State Corporation Commission to establish such fees and adjust such fees annually based on the Transportation Consumer Price Index. The bill permits localities to, by ordinance, allow for and establish reasonable limits on storage fees, administration fees, and additional fees for towing vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds. The bill requires the Commission, beginning November 30, 2030, and every five year thereafter, to submit a report to the General Assembly reviewing the process for adjusting towing rates, provided that funds are appropriated for such review.

Bill Patron: Delores L. McQuinn

25102255D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose Monitor

Notes: Bill has been amended to retain some local flexibility in setting initial towing rates. Also see SB 1332 (Marsden).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Transportation
1/23/2025	Assigned Trans sub: Innovations (Ad Hoc)
1/29/2025	Subcommittee failed to recommend reporting (3-Y 4-N)

HB 2353 - Public elementary & secondary schools; copies of minor's discharge plan sent to schools and parents.

Discharge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools. Provides that, prior to the discharge of any minor admitted to inpatient treatment (i) who is a student at a public elementary or secondary school and (ii) for whom the facility deems (a) such discharge poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self and others or (b) additional educational services are needed, such facility is required to provide to the school's mental health professional or school counselor the portions of such discharge plan relevant to the threat of violence or harm or the necessary additional educational services. The bill requires such facility to, prior to providing any such portions of any minor's discharge plan, provide to the parent of such minor

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student reasonable notice of the types of information that would be included in any portions of the discharge plan being provided and of the parent's right to, upon written request, refuse the provision of any such information.

Bill Patron: Tony O. Wilt

25104127D (1/8/2025)

County Position: Monitor

Notes: Board has historically recommended monitor. See also SB 1143 (Obenshain).

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/8/2025	Referred to Committee on Education
1/20/2025	Assigned Educ sub: K-12 Subcommittee
1/21/2025	Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (5-Y 3-N)

SB 839 - Zoning; by-right multifamily development in areas zoned for commercial use.

Zoning; by-right multifamily development in areas zoned for commercial use. Requires a locality to provide in its zoning ordinance provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications. The bill provides that the review and approval of such development shall be done administratively by the locality's staff and that any residential development that dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to households with a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income shall be granted an accelerated plan review and permit approval process by the locality's staff.

Bill Patron: Schuyler T. VanValkenburg

25104855A (1/15/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/2/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/20/2025	Failed to report (defeated) in Local Government (5-Y 7-N 3-A)

SB 975 - Statewide housing targets for localities.

Statewide housing targets for localities. Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2026. The bill provides that, in order to meet the 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality and may include any of various listed housing growth strategies. The bill further provides that, after January 1, 2031, an applicant who seeks local government approval for a residential development that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the Housing Approval Board, which shall be established by the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill authorizes the Housing Approval Board to overturn local decisions and approve applications under certain circumstances.

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However, if the Housing Approval Board determines that a locality has in good faith implemented at least three of the housing growth strategies listed in the bill and has not rejected more than 25 percent of new housing development proposals over the previous five years, the Housing Approval Board shall allow the local decision to stand. Finally, the bill provides that the Housing Approval Board shall give extra weight for increases in affordable housing and for the rehabilitation of current, underutilized housing stock.

Bill Patron: Schuyler T. VanValkenburg

25104261D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/7/2025

Referred to Committee on Local Government

1/20/2025

Failed to report (defeated) in Local Government (4-Y 8-N 3-A)

SB 1045 - Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use.

Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use. Requires that any local government land use application for the siting of a data center shall only be approved if such application is for a data center located on property classified by local ordinance for industrial use. This section shall only apply to such applications submitted on or after July 1, 2025.

Bill Patron: Danica A. Roem

25104569D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/7/2025

Referred to Committee on Local Government

1/27/2025

Failed to report (defeated) in Local Government (5-Y 10-N)

SB 1046 - Data centers; noise abatement.

Data centers; noise abatement. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall be approved only in accordance with certain notice and noise abatement requirements. The bill provides that residents within a half-mile radius of the parcel shall receive notice of the proposed data center and that the data center operator shall hold two neighborhood meetings. The bill requires a data center operator to design and build the data center to incorporate sound mitigation methods sufficient to prevent the sound levels emanating from the data center from exceeding the ambient noise levels that were observed in a baseline study, as determined by a third-party acoustic engineer. The bill also provides that upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy, and for five years thereafter, the data center operator shall conduct a noise study performed by a third-party acoustical engineer to document noise levels emanating from the data center measured at the property line of the nearest property to the data center property that is planned or zoned for residential land uses, or other noise-sensitive use as reasonably determined by the locality, during peak operation of the data center mechanical equipment. The bill also provides that if the data center operator intends to use backup power generators on the parcel, the operator

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shall maintain a public website announcing the times when the generators will be in operation. Finally, the bill provides that any noise ordinance adopted by a locality shall set maximum allowable sound levels for data centers, including by (i) using alternative low frequency noise metrics and (ii) setting noise rules and enforcement mechanisms in its zoning ordinance, separate from existing noise ordinances.

Bill Patron: Danica A. Roem

25104257D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/27/2025	Failed to report from Local Government with substitute (5-Y 6-N 4-A)

SB 1070 - Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required.

Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot.

Bill Patron: Mark J. Peake

25102275D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Incorporates SB764(McDougle)
	Passed by indefinitely in Privileges and Elections (8-Y 7-N)

SB 1072 - Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election.

Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election.

Bill Patron: Mark J. Peake

25102274D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

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Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Incorporates SB856(French)
	Passed by indefinitely in Privileges and Elections (8-Y 7-N)

SB 1073 - Voter registration; verification of social security numbers, provisional registration status.

Voter registration; verification of social security numbers; provisional registration status. Requires the general registrar to verify that the name, date of birth, and social security number provided by an applicant on the voter registration application match the information on file in the Social Security Administration database or any other database approved by the State Board of Elections before registering such applicant. The bill specifies that if the information provided by the applicant does not match the information on file in such database, the applicant (i) is provisionally registered to vote and notified as to what steps are needed to be fully registered to vote and (ii) is permitted to vote by provisional ballot but such ballot shall not be counted until the voter presents certain information. The bill also requires the general registrar to verify annually no later than August 1 that the name, date of birth, and social security number in the registration record of each registered voter in the registrar's jurisdiction match the information on file with the Social Security Administration or any other database approved by the State Board and, in accordance with current law, to initiate the cancellation of the registration of any voter whose registration record information does not match such database information. The State Board is authorized by the bill to approve the use of any government database to the extent required to enable each general registrar to carry out the provisions of the bill and to promulgate rules for the use of such database. The bill requires the Department of Elections to provide each general registrar access to the Social Security Administration database and any other database approved by the State Board and to enter into any agreement with any federal or state agency to facilitate such access. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Bill Patron: Mark J. Peake

25102276D (1/7/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Notes: Board has historically opposed.

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/7/2025	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
1/21/2025	Passed by indefinitely in Privileges and Elections (8-Y 7-N)

SB 1351 - Affordable housing; religious organizations and other tax-exempt properties.

Affordable housing; religious organizations and other tax-exempt properties. Provides that no local ordinance shall require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, or additional fee to be obtained for the development and construction of affordable housing on real property owned by a religious organization or certain nonprofit organizations that is connected to a public sewage system. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 50 years.

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Bill Patron: Kannan Srinivasan

25102124D (1/13/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action	Action Notes
1/13/2025	Referred to Committee on Local Government
1/20/2025	Incorporated by Local Government (SB1178-Hashmi) (14-Y 0-N)

SB 1432 - Juvenile secure detention facilities; closure or consolidation; funding contributions; education programs.

Juvenile secure detention facilities; closure or consolidation; funding contributions; education programs. Provides that upon the closure or consolidation of a juvenile secure detention facility, any locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility in which juveniles will be placed who previously would have been placed in the closed or consolidated juvenile secure detention facility shall negotiate in good faith with the locality from which a potential juvenile may be placed to arrive at mutually agreeable funding contributions for the operation of such receiving juvenile secure detention facility. The bill requires such agreements to include certain provisions related to equal access to post-dispositional programming and medical and hospitalization costs and provides that such agreements may include provisions related to transportation of juveniles and transportation options for parents or guardians. The bill further states that if the localities or commissions are unable to reach such an agreement, then the Department of Juvenile Justice shall determine the funding contributions and that failure of any locality or commission to comply with such determination may result in the loss or reduction of state funding. Under the bill, any locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility that refuses to accept placement of children who previously would have been placed in a closed or consolidated juvenile secure detention facility shall not be eligible for state funding. The bill changes the required staffing ratio for education programs in regional and local detention homes to one full-time equivalent program employee for every six students based on a rolling average daily population at the facility as calculated by the Department of Education from the previous three fiscal years. Under current law, the ratio for such programs is one teacher for every 12 beds based on the capacity of the facility. The bill also provides that the Board of Education shall require all such education programs to have either a principal or a lead teacher on site and requires contracts for the hiring and supervision of teachers to allow a teacher employed by a local school board to continue teaching in his local school division and be hired as a part-time teacher for such an education program. The bill requires each part-time teacher for an education program be provided an annual \$3,000 bonus. Lastly, the bill directs the closure of seven juvenile secure detention facilities across the Commonwealth and specifies the facilities to be closed and the facilities into which they may be consolidated. The bill requires the facilities to be closed and consolidated by January 1, 2026, and states that any such facility that fails to comply with the requirements for closure and consolidation, in addition to any other remedy available at law, shall not be eligible for state funding.

Bill Patron: David W. Marsden

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25104396D (1/17/2025)

County Position: Oppose

Date of Action

Action Notes

1/17/2025

Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

1/24/2025

Passed by indefinitely in Rehabilitation and Social Services (13-Y 2-N)

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General

Source	Amendment	Fairfax County Impact
Compensation/Compensation Board		
Governor Item 469	No changes in compensation. The adopted budget included a 3% salary increase each year for state-supported local employees.	
Governor Item 60	Provides \$1.4 million in FY 2026 for a 9.3% salary increase for sheriffs' dispatchers and dispatcher supervisors effective July 1, 2025.	No impact. Currently, Fairfax County does not have any communications positions compensated through the Compensation Board.
Governor Item 62	No additional funding is included to address staffing standards, or the restoration of prior salary reductions to unfunded or underfunded positions at the Local Director of Finance offices.	
Judiciary/Public Safety		
Governor Item 31	Provides an additional \$3 million to meet sealing legislation requirements passed by the General Assembly (GA).	TBD. Appears that this funding is for Virginia's Supreme Court.
Governor Item 40	Increases Non-General Fund (NGF) appropriation by \$1.3 million in each year for supplemental pay provided by localities for public defenders.	Positive. Fairfax County currently provides salary supplements to 40 positions at the Office of the Public Defender at a cost of \$600,000.
Governor Item 377	Would withhold state funding from any locality implementing sanctuary city-style practices (if the official in charge of the jail does not comply with lawful U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainers and does not provide at least 48-hour pre-release notification to ICE). Funds could also be withheld if the official in charge of the jail, local law enforcement agency, or sheriff's office prohibits or impedes communication or cooperation with ICE pursuant to adoption of a local ordinance, procedure, policy, or custom.	TBD. County staff continue to analyze the potential implications of this proposed language. At a minimum it is important to clarify that the Sheriff, who oversees the County's Adult Detention Center (ADC), is an elected Constitutional officer independent of Fairfax County, so withholding County funds for actions by an elected Constitutional officer could create significant challenges.
Governor Item 396	Does not provide additional funding in FY 2026 for the State Aid to Localities with Police Departments (HB 599) Program. The adopted budget provided the same level of funding in both FY 2025 and FY 2026.	The County's legislative program supports full restoration of HB 599 law enforcement funding.

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Governor Item 394	Provides an additional \$6.8 million in FY 2025 for School Resource Officers (SRO) Incentive Grants Fund.	TBD. Could be positive if the County is able to apply for additional SROs as well as funding to assist with training and equipment.
Governor Item 394	Provides \$2.5 million in FY 2025 for public safety communications infrastructure grants to assist localities with purchasing public safety radio and communications infrastructure equipment. Priority shall be given to localities that (i) score both above average or high on the DHCD fiscal stress index and double-distressed according to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's (VEDP) Commonwealth Opportunity Funds Distress Localities Assessment and (ii) demonstrate the need for such equipment.	TBD. Most likely will have no impact as Fairfax County does not score average or high on the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) fiscal stress index.
Governor Item 394	Provides \$3.5 million in FY 2026 to reimburse local law enforcement agencies for time spent transporting individuals under Temporary Detention Order (TDO) and Emergency Custody Order (ECO) transportation. Priority is given to Virginia State Police (VSP) Regions II, IV, and VI, and localities whose agencies must travel far distances to transport an individual to a state facility.	TBD. Most likely will have no impact as Fairfax County is within VSP Division VII. The Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) spends over \$500,000 annually on this function.
Governor Item 394	Provides an additional \$200,000 in each year for the Victim Witness Grant Program.	TBD. Direct impact on County to be determined. Additional funding is needed to offset declines in federal Victims Of Crime Act (VOCA) funding to restore services and support growing demand.
Governor Item 406	Provides \$5 million in FY 2026 to assist localities with purchasing protective equipment for firefighters. Priority shall be given to localities that (i) score both above average or high on the DHCD fiscal stress index and double-distressed according to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's (VEDP) Commonwealth Opportunity Funds Distress Localities Assessment and (ii) demonstrate the need for such equipment.	TBD. Most likely will have no impact as Fairfax County does not score average or high on the DHCD fiscal stress index. Protective equipment is essential to protect from fire, smoke, hazardous materials, and other dangers encountered by firefighters.
Economic Development/Workforce/Housing		
Governor Item 101	Includes an increase of \$50 million General Funds (GF) in FY 2026, for a total of \$70 million for the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund (grants require recipients to provide matching funds).	TBD.

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Governor Item 102	Provides \$25 million in FY 2025 to establish the Disaster Assistance Fund to address life, safety, and housing disaster-related costs not covered by federal assistance, private donations, or insurance.	TBD.
Governor Item 102	Removes the authorization to utilize \$5 million from unobligated balances of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) for DHCD to launch a new program assisting non-profits and associations of tenants residing in manufactured home parks to acquire the land on which such homes reside.	
Governor Item 102	Removes the authorization to utilize \$5 million from the unobligated balances of RGGI for DHCD to create a new grant program providing second forgivable mortgages to home buyers.	
Governor Item 102 E	No additional funding is included for the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. The adopted budget includes \$87.5 million GF each year.	Support for increased funding for the Virginia Housing Trust Fund funding is included in the County's legislative program. This Fund plays an important role in Fairfax County's affordable housing development and preservation activities.
Governor Item 114	Provides \$5 million in FY 2025 for the Virginia Tourism Authority to establish and support the Virginia Sports Incentive Grant Program.	TBD.
Governor Item 130 G.1.	Provides an additional \$3.5 million GF in FY 2026 for the Workforce Credential Grant Program, for a total of \$22.5 million in FY 2025 and \$27.3 million in FY 2026.	Positive. Support for workforce initiatives is included in the County's legislative program.
Natural and Historic Resources		
Governor Item 359	Deposits \$26.3 million in FY 2025 into the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF). Of this amount, \$8.9 million is designated for deposit to the reserve within WQIF. This meets the mandatory deposit requirement in the Constitution associated with the FY 2024 excess GF revenue collections and discretionary year-end GF balances.	Positive. Support for WQIF funding is included in the County's legislative program.
Governor Item 365	No additional funding is included to fund the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF).	Support for SLAF funding is included in the County's legislative program.
Governor Item 365	Deposits \$17.4 million of FY 2024 surplus revenues into WQIF to support the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty Program.	Positive.
Tax Changes		

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Governor Item 4-14 Item 255	Proposes a new car tax credit (a refundable income tax credit for taxable years beginning January 1, 2025), funded by \$1.1 billion from the FY 2025 projected surplus. The credit would be available to individuals with federal adjusted gross income under \$50,000, and to married couples filing a joint return with federal adjusted gross income under \$100,000 (capped at \$150 and \$300, respectively, or the amount actually paid in personal property tax on qualifying vehicles, whichever is less). If a locality increases its personal property tax rate on qualifying vehicles by more than 2.5% above the rate it imposed the prior year, taxpayers in that locality would not qualify for the credit. The \$1.1 billion would fund credits for taxable years beginning January 1, 2025, and ending by January 1, 2028. The projected state revenue reduction after that time would be \$360 million annually.	No direct impact on County revenues. However, it will impact overall state revenues, potentially exacerbating state underfunding for core services.
Governor Item 4-14	Proposes the elimination of state income tax on tipped wages (both cash and electronic). The estimated partial year impact in FY 2026 would be a reduction in state revenue of \$35 million, with a projected annual reduction of \$70 million beginning in FY 2027.	No direct impact on County revenues. However, it will impact overall state revenues, potentially exacerbating state underfunding for core services.
Governor Item 4-14	Makes permanent the standard deduction amounts for income taxes (\$8,500 for single individuals and \$17,000 for married persons). The increases enacted in recent years are scheduled to expire on January 1, 2026. Allowing the reductions to go into effect would increase state revenues by \$57 million in FY 2026 and \$1.2 billion in FY 2027.	No direct impact on County revenues.
Governor Item 4-14	Proposes allowing market-based sourcing in the attribution of income for purposes of corporate income taxes for service sector companies operating in multiple states. Businesses would pay the tax where the intangible goods or services are delivered (as is currently done for tangible goods) rather than where the business or majority of employees are located.	TBD.

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Public Education

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) Study		
Governor	Does not provide additional funding to address the JLARC study recommendations.	The watershed JLARC study released in 2023 highlights the dramatic state underfunding of K-12, providing a critical opportunity to spur a substantial and ongoing increase in state funding for public education. The JLARC report included both short-term and long-term recommendations - it is essential that the state begin implementing the short-term recommendations as quickly as possible (including the full elimination of the cap on funding for support positions).
Compensation – Salary Increases		
Governor Item 125	No changes in compensation. The adopted budget includes funding for the state's share of two 3% salary increases (effective July 1, 2024, for FY 2025, and July 1, 2025, for FY 2026).	For FY 2026, the cost to FCPS to provide a 3% salary increase totals \$91 million. After accounting for the state share of \$18.2 million, the net cost to FCPS is \$72.9 million. FCPS' FY 2026 Fiscal Forecast included funding beyond this amount. While the County supports increased salaries for K-12 staff, it is essential to note that when the state provides such funding, it only pays for approximately 20% of the cost of salary increases to Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) staff, while approximately 80% must be provided with local funding.
Updated Projections		
Governor Item 125	Updates funding provided to local school divisions based on the latest sales tax forecast and school age population estimates. Provides an additional \$44.9 million in FY 2025 and \$41.4 million in FY 2026. Sales tax distributions reduce the state's share of basic aid funding, resulting in a net increase of \$20 million in FY 2025 and \$16.8 million in FY 2026.	This results in a net increase of \$4.2 million in FY 2025 and \$800,000 in FY 2026 compared to the current 2024-2026 biennium budget.

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Governor Item 125	Provides an additional \$13.3 million GF in FY 2025 and \$20.5 million GF in FY 2026 in Direct Aid, based on actual fall membership data.	This results in a decrease of \$4.4 million in FY 2025 and a decrease of \$4.8 million FY 2026 compared to the current 2024-2026 biennium budget.
Governor Item 125	Updates cost of the English Learner Teacher Standards of Quality (SOQ) program to reflect updated data for verified English learners, including proficiency level data, providing an additional \$48.8 million in FY 2025 and \$61.9 million in FY 2026.	This results in \$5.7 million in additional revenue for FCPS in FY 2025 and \$6.1 million in FY 2026 compared to the current 2024-2026 biennium budget.
Governor Item 125	Technical updates to non-SOQ programs result in reduced funding of \$13.2 million in FY 2025 and \$3.2 million in FY 2026.	The impact to FCPS is a reduction of \$3.7 million in FY 2025 and \$2.9 million in FY 2026 compared the current 2024-2026 biennium budget. In particular, a change in the Early Reading Intervention Program would result in a decrease of \$2.9 million in FY 2026.
Virginia Opportunity Scholarships		
Governor Item 125	Provides \$50 million GF in FY 2026 to establish the Virginia Opportunity Scholarship Program, to provide grants to qualified students of \$5,000 per academic year for qualified expenses for attending an accredited private school in the Commonwealth (including tuition, fees, textbooks, transportation, uniforms, and other specialized education programs).	Diverts funding from local public schools and toward alternative options.
Other Items of Interest		
Governor Item 124	Provides an additional \$200,000 GF in FY 2026 for school divisions to pay a portion of the vision screening of students in kindergarten, grades two or three, and grades seven and ten.	TBD. The impact to FCPS cannot be determined at this time.
Governor Item 119	Provides \$61 million in FY 2025 and \$5 million in FY 2026 for the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) to implement a new statewide assessment contract, including funds for one-time transition costs and new ongoing costs.	It appears this funding is only for VDOE and not local school divisions.
Governor Item 123	Provides \$1.9 million GF in FY 2025 and \$3.1 million in FY 2026 to support Virginia's Visualization and Analytics Solution, a data tool used by local school divisions originally implemented with pandemic relief funds.	It appears this funding is only for VDOE and not local school divisions.

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Governor Item 120	Provides \$50.3 million GF in FY 2025 and \$1 million in FY 2026 to establish the School Performance and Support Framework Resource Hub, including ongoing funding for regional support specialists in math, literacy, and science, and one-time funding to support infrastructure, technical training, and evidence-based supports needed for schools identified as “Off Track” or “Needs Intensive Support”.	TBD. The impact to FCPS cannot be determined at this time.
Governor Item 125	Provides an additional \$270 million in FY 2025 and \$20 million in FY 2026 NGF for the School Construction Fund.	TBD. As these are grant funds, there may be opportunities to apply and receive funds, depending on program requirements.
Governor Item 125	Provides \$25 million GF in FY 2025 for the College Partnership Laboratory School Fund for the design, launch, and operation of college partnership laboratory schools established by a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in Virginia.	Though Fairfax County prioritizes racial and social equity through the One Fairfax policy, this proposal potentially diverts funding from local public schools and toward alternative options.
Impact on the FCPS’s FY 2025 and FY 2026 Operating Fund Budget:		
<p>Governor’s Introduced Budget: FCPS’ FY 2026 Fiscal Forecast included \$23.7 million in additional state revenue compared to the FY 2025 Approved Budget. The Governor’s budget includes an increase of \$11.7 million in sales tax and an increase of \$11.5 million in state aid, for a net increase in state revenue of \$23.2 million as compared to the FY 2025 Approved Budget. Compared to the Fiscal Forecast, the Governor’s budget is a decrease of \$600,000 million in FY 2026.</p> <p>Compared to the FY 2025 Approved Budget the Governor’s introduced budget is an increase of \$2 million for FY 2025.</p> <p><i>Not delineated above is the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) cap removal in FY 2026, resulting in a loss of approximately \$5.1 million. See VPI details in Early Childhood section (p. 11).</i></p>		

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Health and Human Services

Source	Amendment	Fairfax County Impact
Behavioral Health		
Governor Items 285.C, 293.C	Adds emergency regulatory language for the Board of Counseling to regulate peer recovery specialist-trainees. Also allows the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to reimburse individuals who are not yet certified (but are completing their required supervision) in order to become certified as a peer recovery specialist. Also includes language allowing the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to promulgate emergency regulations related to peer recovery specialist-trainees.	Positive. Increases revenue for peer recovery services.
Governor Item 288.UU	Increases graduate medical education supplemental payments for all qualifying psychiatric residencies to \$150,000 annually, effective July 1, 2026.	Positive. Positive impact on psychiatrist education as well as access to care.
Governor Item 288.XX.3	Authorizes coverage for services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries (ages 21-64) during short-term stays (not to exceed 60 days) for acute care in psychiatric hospitals or residential treatment settings that qualify as Institutes of Mental Disease through an 1115 serious mental illness (SMI) waiver. Resources are also provided to support the cost of implementing and overseeing services provided through the SMI waiver. Authority to reappropriate first year balances is also provided should program implementation costs run into 2026.	Positive. Support for state application and approval of an 1115 mental health community waiver is included in the County's Legislative Program. Positive to expand crisis services and reimbursement for community-based crisis stabilization services.
Governor Item 288.LLLLL	Enables children served in psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTF) to maintain enrollment in managed care during treatment. The payment for PRTF per diem payments and PRTF required services will be separated from the managed care contract and paid as a fee-for-service benefit. No service eligible for reimbursement through the Children's Services Act (CSA) will be included in managed care.	<p>This policy is an important step to ensure children in PRTF can continue in managed care while receiving appropriate services. Separating PRTF services allows increased flexibility, ensuring essential services are covered. Additionally, excluding services eligible for reimbursement through CSA from managed care will prevent unnecessary overlap/duplication and confusion.</p> <p>However, this will likely require the creation of multiple billing and</p>

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		reimbursement processes, which could become a substantial administrative burden, potentially leading to inconsistencies in coverage and reimbursement as well as delayed care. This would be a barrier to access, impacting youth in need of services.
Governor Item 288.MMMMM	Requires the payment of medical assistance, separate from the hospital daily rate, for long-acting injectable or extended-release medications administered for SMI in a hospital emergency department or hospital inpatient setting.	Positive. Positive impact, but payment for long-acting injectables and extended-release medication should be unbundled from all treatment settings, not just hospitals.
Governor Item 295.FF	Allows funds provided for school-based mental health services to be used for grants to school divisions (in addition to the current language directing the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to contract with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to establish school-based clinics for mental health and primary health care).	Support for additional state funding for youth behavioral health services is included in the County's Legislative Program. This policy provides schools additional flexibility to use funds for school-based mental health services, intended to reduce barriers to mental health and primary care for students.
Governor Item 295.SS	Provides \$1 million GF in FY 2025 to create outreach and educational campaigns related to the impacts of mental health, substance use, and social media on youth and adolescents.	Positive. Support for additional state funding for youth behavioral health services is included in the County's Legislative Program. Positive to increase prevention efforts.
Governor Item 296.E.2	Provides authorization and \$35.2 million in FY 2026 to allow DBHDS to provide funding to private hospitals for special conservators of the peace (potentially relieving law enforcement from maintaining custody during a period of emergency custody or temporary detention).	Positive. Positive impact on law enforcement.
Governor Item 296.L	Amends current language to allow DBHDS to make grants to any certified recovery residence.	Positive. Positive in expanding potential recovery housing.
Governor Item 296.Y	Provides \$1.5 million GF in FY 2026 to sustain two regional pilot hubs through the Medical Society of Virginia for the Adult Psychiatric Access Line.	Positive for improving access to care, allowing primary care providers to obtain expert consultation.
Governor Item 297.LL	Provides \$1.2 million GF in FY 2026 to support two additional local crisis co-response teams in 2026.	While expanding community-based crisis services is positive, Fairfax County received funding for such teams in recent years, so it is likely this funding would be directed to other Community Services Boards

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		(CSBs) for the establishment of new teams.
Governor Item 297.UU	Provides \$777,000 GF in FY 2026 for 10 youth peer support specialists and associated training costs.	Positive. Positive to expand youth peer services.
Children's Services Act (CSA)		
Governor Item 268.B	Funds the projected revised forecast for CSA services.	Positive.
Governor Item 268.C	Simplifies the current funding model for reimbursement for services provided through the CSA by consolidating the separate base and supplemental allocations into a single pool available to reimburse localities for eligible expenses. This change does not impact local match rates.	Positive. The streamlined process will ease the County's administrative burden.
Governor Item 268.L	Provides that for services provided on or after July 1, 2025, the reimbursement rate to localities for private day educational services shall not increase more than 2.5% over the rates for such services provided the previous year.	TBD. While costs for special education private day services rise annually and cost containment efforts could be helpful, the cap only applies to the state's match on expenditures without limiting local liability. Providers may continue to charge higher rates beyond the 2.5% cap, leaving localities to fund the overage with local dollars.
Early Childhood		
Governor Item 103.U	Provides \$14 million GF in FY 2025 to establish an early learning capital supply-building fund, a competitive grant fund designed to increase the supply of quality early learning spaces in child care and early learning deserts.	TBD. Funding for early childhood programs is a priority in the County's Legislative Program. It is unclear if Fairfax County has been established as a child care desert.
Governor Item 125.10.A	Adds slots in FY 2025 and 2026 for the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP), and in FY 2026 for the Mixed Delivery Program, by making changes to CCSP, Mixed Delivery Program, and the VPI.	TBD. While increasing child care slots is positive, some of the changes proposed to fund this increase may increase barriers for families to access these critical programs (such as family copayment rates, job search, attendance requirements).
Governor Item 125.10.B.4	Provides that family copayment rates for FY 2025 shall not exceed those in effect at the beginning of FY 2024. Additionally, family copayment rates for FY 2026 shall be \$5 per month for households whose income is below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and up to 7% of annual income for all	TBD. Families with income below 100% FPL do not currently make copayments, so it will be important to determine if this could affect families accessing services.

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	other households (with no household exceeding 7% of their income).	
Governor Item 125.10.B.5	Provides that parental work and job search requirements for FY 2025 shall not exceed those in effect at the beginning of FY 2024. Additionally, parental work and job search requirements for FY 2026 will include a time limit of 90 days for job search (households would be eligible for one extension for extraordinary circumstances, as defined and tracked by VDOE).	TBD. It is unclear if those unable to find a job within 90 days will lose child care subsidies (if so that could create critical disruptions for families).
Governor Item 125.10.B.6	Limits new CCSP enrollment (as of July 1, 2025) to birth-to-five year old children, unless they qualify as hard-to-serve. VDOE must define "hard-to-serve" by July 1, 2025.	TBD. While serving birth-to-five children is critical, families with school-age children are also in need of child care. Limiting enrollment may pose a risk of school-age children being left unattended or decrease work participation for families no longer being able to access child care.
Governor Item 125.10.I	Establishes a workgroup to review options for school-age children, including a review of all publicly funded out-of-school time learning and extracurricular programs. The workgroup will also make recommendations on whether to resume enrollment of school-age children in CCSP. A report from the workgroup is due September 1, 2025.	The workgroup will need to be monitored to ensure school-age children are able to participate in CCSP or another viable option for families.
Governor Items 125.10.B.7, 125.10.C.4, and 125.10.D.1.d.	Requires VDOE to revise attendance requirements for CCSP, Mixed Delivery Initiative, and VPI to ensure participating children fully benefit as well as maximizing of available resources.	TBD. While tracking attendance is positive to ensure participation, it is unclear how the requirements will be revised, and whether those changes could create barriers for families accessing the programs.
Governor Item 125.10.D.1.e.iii	Removes the cap on the composite index of local ability-to-pay (LCI) for VPI starting in FY 2026. The cap is currently set at 0.5 for the purpose of determining the state and local shares of funding for VPI.	Negative. Removing the LCI cap for VPI would increase the local share of funding for localities with LCIs above 0.5 (like Fairfax County), potentially affecting the County's ability to continue to serve children currently in the program as well as expand the program to serve more children.
Governor Item 297.H	Provides approximately \$1.5 million GF in FY 2026 to account for an anticipated 5% increase in caseload and costs for Part C early intervention services from 2025 to 2026.	TBD. Positive to increase funding for Part C; however, overall more state funding for this program is essential for serving additional children.

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Health Departments		
Governor Item 275	Provides \$1 million GF in FY 2026 for the Division of Disease Prevention to continue sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention efforts, resulting from an unanticipated loss of grant funding.	TBD. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is losing federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant STI funding, which supports two County Health Department positions through May 2025. It is critical that the state use this funding to ensure the County positions are maintained.
Governor Item 278.J	Provides an additional \$1 million GF in FY 2026 for community health workers and doulas at local health districts, prioritizing those serving localities with the highest rates of maternal mortality.	No County budget impact, as Fairfax County has among the lowest rates of maternal mortality in the Commonwealth.
Governor Item 280.H	Provides approximately \$1.8 million GF in FY 2026 to ensure compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, Virginia Public Water Supplies Law, Virginia Waterworks Regulations, and to support Office of Drinking Water programs. Requires the Office of Drinking Water to report to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees by October 1, 2025.	Additional funding to support drinking water protection is positive for County residents; however, funding levels are significantly lower than those required to meet the actual need. For example, the Fairfax Water Authority's initial capital cost to address PFAS treatment is \$300 million.
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)		
Governor	Provides \$715,000 GF and approximately \$2 million NGF in FY 2025 for eligibility and enrollment systems changes as part of implementing new federal rules. Final rules recently issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services make a number of changes to the Commonwealth's application, eligibility determination, enrollment, and renewal processes. This funding is necessary to comply with these federal requirements.	Positive. Will streamline process to comply with new federal rules, ensuring clients receive appropriate determination. Also, will ease administrative burden for both customers and staff in implementing new federal rules.
Governor Item 288.AAAA	Clarifies that current Appropriation Act language prohibiting cost sharing in Medicaid applies to co-insurance and deductibles.	Positive. Removing these financial barriers will improve access to healthcare services for enrollees, particularly those in vulnerable populations by eliminating all cost sharing requirements; enhancing overall health equity within the community.
Governor Item 288.GGGG.2	Authorizes the provision of covered services, including screenings, diagnostic services, and targeted case management, in the 30 days pre-	Positive. Expands covered care for eligible youth.

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	release and immediately post-release to eligible incarcerated youth and young adults in accordance with Section 5121 of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.	
Governor Item 288.HHHHH	Provides authority for DMAS to change the reimbursement methodology for adult day health care from a daily rate to an hourly rate (reimbursement rate adjustments must be budget neutral for the state.)	Negative. While this may be budget neutral for DMAS, it will create an increased administrative burden for the County. It will also require more administrative staff time to bill hourly while yielding the same amount of revenue.
Governor Item 288.KKKKK	Directs DMAS to require that liable third-party payers are barred from refusing payment for an item or service solely because it did not receive prior authorization under the third-party payer's rules.	Positive. Rules aim to ensure patients and providers are not penalized for administrative oversights (and that these oversights do not result in the denial of claims for services delivered), reducing barriers to care and ensuring providers receive timely payment for services.
Governor Item 288.NNNNN	Ensures sufficient GF appropriations in future budgets by creating a funding reserve mechanism for the Medicaid program (to account for projected but unbudgeted costs of new initiatives). Provides approximately \$973,000 GF in FY 2026.	Positive. No direct County budget impact; however, state funding reserves for projected new Medicaid initiatives may ease administrative burden of implementation at the local level (system enhancements, form revision, etc.).
Medicaid Waivers		
Governor	Provides \$150,000 GF and \$850,000 NGF in FY 2025 and \$239,000 GF and \$239,000 NGF and four positions in FY 2026 to ensure the department can comply with state and federal developmental disability (DD) waiver requirements associated with contract monitoring, quality reviews and rules changes. Authority to reappropriate first year balances is also provided should implementation costs extend into 2026.	While funding to ensure DBHDS is in compliance is important, increased funding is also needed for support coordination and provider services.
Governor	Provides approximately \$212,000 GF and \$212,000 NGF in FY 2025 and \$956,000 GF and \$1.5 million NGF and 12 positions in FY 2026 for the administrative costs of services provided to individuals on DD waivers, including supports intensity scale evaluations and service authorization staff.	TBD. More timely Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) evaluations and service authorizations could be positive.

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Department of Social Services		
Governor	Provides \$440,000 NGF in FY 2026 to expand the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Full Employment Program to agencies and community organizations that offer volunteer work with the goal of improving employability.	TBD.
Governor Item 326.J	Provides approximately \$7.3 million GF and \$6.5 million NGF in FY 2026 to supplement existing support for employment and income verification services. In addition, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) is required to investigate alternatives to its current employment and income verification services contract that may offer more affordable contract opportunities.	Positive. No direct County budget impact; however, additional support for income and employment verifications services may ease administrative burdens on County and customers, potentially expediting the eligibility determination process.
Governor Item 328.A	Effective January 1, 2025, increases auxiliary grant rate from \$2,079 to \$2,103.	Positive to increase auxiliary grant rate, but it is still wholly insufficient to cover the actual cost of care/housing in an assisted living facility.
Governor Item 329	Adjusts funding for the cost of providing foster care and adoption subsidy payments based on recent expenditure trends and the impact of child welfare policy changes (reduces funding by approximately \$14.3 million GF and \$9.8 million NGF in FY 2025 and \$13 million GF and \$9.2 million NGF in FY 2026).	TBD. Impact of funding reduction to both the County and state is of concern. Fairfax County currently has 249 children in foster care, which is significantly more (approximately 50) than the average in previous fiscal years.
Governor	Provides approximately \$1.5 million GF and \$1.4 million NGF in FY 2026 to raise the maximum payments for foster care families and adoption assistance by 3%. Appropriation Act language requires rate increases in the year following a salary increase provided to state employees.	Positive. Virginia's payments for foster care and adoptive families are typically some of the lowest of all states.
Governor	Provides approximately \$7.5 million and five positions in FY 2026 to implement recommendations from the Office of the State Inspector General to improve child protective services.	Positive. Will fund positions for the state hotline, which currently has long wait times. Though Fairfax County has its own hotline, it uses the state's after hours to collect information (not for screening purposes).
Governor Item 329.M	Provides \$500,000 GF in FY 2025 to enhance the existing interactive voice response system used by the state child protective services hotline.	Positive to enhance the system.

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Governor Item 334.H	Provides \$805,000 GF and \$805,000 NGF in FY 2026 for enhanced electronic identity validation services, which utilize a digital platform to verify applicant identities online. Through this effort, the agency aims to decrease improperly provided benefits and services.	TBD. More information is needed on the intended use of the new identity validation platform. If solely used as an additional method to verify identity, it could have a positive impact to customers, easing their administrative burden and potentially expediting eligibility determinations. However, if required as a secondary level of identity verification, this could have a negative impact by requiring an additional step in the process.
Other Items of Interest		
Governor Item 267.F	Provides \$100,000 GF in FY 2025 to develop a plan to enhance the collegiate experience for individuals with DD.	Positive impact for individuals with DD.
Governor Item 267.G	Provides \$500,000 GF in FY 2025 for a media campaign to raise awareness of potentially life-threatening warning signs during and after a woman's pregnancy.	No County budget impact. The County could choose to participate in the campaign once it is developed.
Governor Item 277.H	Provides \$2.5 million GF in FY 2026 to support a perinatal health hub pilot program in Virginia to reduce maternal and infant mortality. VDH will provide two-year grant awards for community-based providers.	No County budget impact. Community-based providers could benefit if awarded funds.
Governor Item 270.F	Directs the Department for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (DDHH) to report on the anticipated statewide transition to Real-Time Text (RTT) and associated forms of digital telecommunication technology as related to relay services.	TBD. Could allow more accurate and timely communication experiences for people with disabilities.
Governor Item 277.I	Provides \$100,000 in FY 2026 in Commonwealth Opioid Abatement and Remediation funding for one-time costs associated with the development of the Opioid Impact Reduction Registry.	TDB. Positive to measure outcomes, but unclear what data localities would need to collect/report for the registry.
Governor Item 4-5.04.1	Prevents expenditures from GF or NGF sources to be used for providing abortion services, except as otherwise required by federal law.	No County budget impact. However, the proposal could create inequities by limiting reproductive health care access to those who have insurance coverage or can afford services out-of-pocket.

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Transportation

REGIONAL PROGRAMS		
Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) Funding		
Governor Item 446	Includes approximately \$865.9 million for distribution of NVTA fund revenues over the biennium, an increase of approximately \$18.6 million.	<p>The amount received by the County is dependent on actual collections from revenue sources. Through its Six Year Program, NVTA allocates 70% (approximately \$606.1 million from FY 2024 to FY 2026) to regional projects, which has already been approved through adoption of NVTA's FY 2020-2025 and FY 2022-2027 Six Year Programs.</p> <p>Fairfax County should receive approximately \$116 million over the biennium to allocate for local projects approved by the Board of Supervisors (30% funding returned to localities), minus the respective shares provided to the Towns of Vienna and Herndon. Each year, approximately \$14 million of this "30% funding" will likely be transferred to the Commonwealth's Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Capital Fund for the County's share of local funding for State of Good Repair, as required by HB 1539/SB 856 (2018).</p>
Regional Gas Tax		
Governor Item 430	Provides approximately \$207.4 million over the 2024-2026 biennium for regional gas taxes (for the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC), and other regional gas taxes). Estimates approximately \$101.6 million for NVTC over the FY 2024-2026 biennium (no change), and an additional \$22.2 million annually that is transferred to the WMATA Capital Fund per HB 1539/SB 856 (2018). Also, \$15 million of NVTC and PRTC revenues are transferred annually to the Commuter Rail Operating and Capital Fund.	The amount received by NVTC and the County is dependent on actual collections from the revenue sources.

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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Funding		
Governor Item 433	Retains language temporarily suspending, for FY 2025 and FY 2026, provisions in the Code of Virginia limiting the state's annual operating assistance for WMATA to no more than 3% over the prior year's approved budget. It also provides an additional \$133.57 million, total, in FY 2025 and FY 2026 to address WMATA's funding needs (\$11.13 million decrease from the adopted budget). Additionally, retains language requiring WMATA to complete a comparison of its total costs and overhead costs to those of similar transit systems, submitting this comparison to the Joint Subcommittee on Northern Virginia Public Transit.	Provides funding to help address WMATA's operational funding needs, as well as language suspending the 3% cap, to ensure that a portion of annual state aid to WMATA will not be withheld. The Youngkin Administration has indicated the reduction in additional funding support is due to updated subsidy figures.
STATEWIDE PROGRAMS		
Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)		
Governor Item 433	<p>Provides approximately \$1.5 billion for Public Transportation Programs (no change except for the \$11.13 million reduction for additional WMATA assistance), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$226.1 million for Operating Assistance; • Approximately \$156.9 million for Capital Assistance; • Approximately \$429.1 million for WMATA operating and capital costs; • Approximately \$55.4 million for the Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP); • Approximately \$32.3 million for Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Assistance; • Approximately \$23.1 million for Special Programs; • \$4 million for federally mandated state safety oversight of fixed rail guideway transit agencies, i.e. the Metrorail Safety Commission (MSC); and, • \$100 million as the state match for the federal Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA). <p>Includes approximately \$318.8 million for the WMATA Capital Fund, which is comprised of</p>	<p>Statewide Operating and Capital funding is subject to the transit prioritization process required by legislation passed in the 2018 GA, entitled MERIT, and programs created in HB 1414/SB 890 (2020), so the impact to Fairfax Connector is unclear.</p> <p>TRIP funding is allocated through a separate application process.</p> <p>Per HB 1496/SB 1079 (2023), VRE now receives up to 3.5% of the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund for operations and capital (similar to WMATA's set-aside), rather than receiving funding through the MERIT process.</p>

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	state funding and the local and regional funding redirected as part of HB 1539/SB 856 (2018) (no change).	
Virginia Passenger Rail Authority/Rail Programs		
Governor Item 431	Includes approximately \$687.1 million for passenger rail development and operation programs (no change).	TBD. Will help fund rail projects, including those located in Northern Virginia (such as improvements in the I-95 Corridor).
Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)		
<u>Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation</u>		
Governor Item 436	Includes approximately \$55.3 million for Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation (approximately \$1.1 million increase). This includes approximately \$33.3 million for Environmental Monitoring and Compliance for Highway Projects (approximately \$9.1 million increase) and \$12.7 million for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Compliance Activities (approximately \$8.6 million decrease).	TBD.
<u>Highway Construction</u>		
Governor Item 438	<p>Provides approximately \$7.2 billion for Highway Construction Programs, an approximately \$431 million decrease due to updated revenue projections, and the adjustment of appropriation amounts to conform to the final program amounts in the 2024-2026 Transportation Six-Year Financial Plan, as approved by the CTB in June 2024. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$198.6 million for the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (approximately \$57.9 million decrease); • Approximately \$785.3 million for the Interstate Operations and Enhancement Program (approximately \$124.8 million decrease); • Approximately \$684 million for State of Good Repair (approximately \$156 million decrease); • Approximately \$442.1 million for the High Priority Projects Program (approximately \$156 million decrease); • Approximately \$716.1 million for the Construction District Grant Program 	<p>Many of these funds are subject to Smart Scale or other prioritization processes, so the impact to Fairfax County is unclear.</p> <p>The decrease in CMAQ should decrease the amount of funding from this program that is provided to Northern Virginia.</p> <p>The increases in RSTP and Transportation Alternative funds could benefit the County and region.</p> <p>The County has not utilized TPOF funds in several years, so the impact of the TPOF language has not been determined.</p> <p>The provision providing additional funds to I-81 improvements could impact funding to other programs that affect Fairfax County (it should be noted that other regions of the state (Northern Virginia and Hampton</p>

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	<p>(approximately \$149.1 million decrease), which includes approximately \$243.8 million from the regional fuel tax collected in transportation districts that do not have a regional authority;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$3.99 billion for Specialized State and Federal Programs (approximately \$203 million increase); and, • \$214 million for Legacy Construction Formula Programs (no change). <p>Of the Specialized State and Federal Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$261.2 million for the federal Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) (approximately \$15.7 million decrease); • Approximately \$75 million in federal funds for a new federal resiliency program (approximately \$3.6 million decrease); • Approximately \$160.4 million for the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) (approximately \$7.4 million decrease); • \$200 million for Revenue Sharing (no change); • Approximately \$64.7 million for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Set-Aside (approximately \$60,000 increase); and, • Approximately \$65.9 million federal and state matching funds for the federal Carbon Reduction Program (approximately \$3.2 million decrease). <p>Included in the amounts for Specialized State and Federal Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$1.58 billion represents estimated project participation costs from localities and regional entities; and, • Reappropriation of approximately \$773 million in bond proceeds from various bond programs. 	<p>Roads) have received GF transfers for transportation projects).</p>
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	<p>Retains language limiting the amount of Commonwealth Transportation Fund (CTF) revenues that can be transferred to the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund (TPOF) to up to \$90 million, with no more than \$15 million in any individual year.</p> <p>Also retains language specifying that proposed direction of TPOF funds in excess of \$20 million for any one project, and cumulative direction of funds in excess of \$50 million in a biennium, shall be subject to approval by the Major Employment and Investment (MEI) Project Approval Commission. The Commission has 21 days to review submissions – if a negative recommendation is made, or if no recommendation is made, the funding will proceed.</p> <p>As specified in the biennium budget adopted May 2024, provides an additional \$175 million GF (for a total of \$245 million) for the advancement of projects in the I-81 Corridor Improvement program.</p>	
<u>Highway Maintenance</u>		
Governor Items 439; C-33	<p>Provides approximately \$5.3 billion for Highway System Maintenance and Operations (approximately \$543.7 million increase). This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately \$1.2 billion for interstates (approximately \$211.8 million increase); • Approximately \$1.5 billion for primaries (approximately \$202.1 million decrease); • Approximately \$1.56 billion for secondaries (approximately \$91.8 million increase); and, • Approximately \$801 million for Transportation Operations Services (approximately \$45.7 million increase). <p>Capital Budget provides \$15.5 million from the CTF to add to the existing maintenance reserve.</p>	Using historical estimates, approximately \$70 million more may be available for maintenance and operations within Northern Virginia.
<u>Special Structures</u>		
Governor Item 440	Provides \$177.6 million for this program (approximately \$5.9 million increase).	TBD

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<u>Toll Facilities</u>		
<i>Governor</i> Item 441	<p>Provides approximately \$335.4 million for toll facilities (approximately \$38.7 million increase), including approximately \$120.2 million for Maintenance and Operations (approximately \$92.9 million decrease); and approximately \$215.2 million for the Revolving Fund (\$131.7 million decrease).</p> <p>Included is \$101 million GF over the biennium to provide additional toll relief through 2036 to eligible drivers of the Elizabeth River Crossings (in Hampton Roads) who earn less than \$50,000 per year. Amends the language to clarify driver eligibility and expand use of funds.</p> <p>Eliminates the collection of tolls for use of the George P. Coleman Bridge and eliminates the requirement to reimburse the Toll Facility Revolving Account if sufficient funds are not available.</p>	<p>TBD.</p> <p>Though toll relief for Elizabeth River Crossings does not directly impact Fairfax County, similar relief is not provided to Northern Virginia drivers who pay substantially higher tolls (when combined with the existing toll relief program for Elizabeth River Crossings, this proposal would provide a 100% toll rebate on up to 14 trips per week for eligible drivers through 2036).</p>
Virginia Port Authority		
<i>Governor</i> Item 449	Provides \$33.9 million for Economic Development Services (no change), with \$16 million provided from the CTF.	The CTF has not historically provided funding for this purpose.
Department of Motor Vehicles		
<i>Governor</i> Items 426; C-34	<p>Authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to charge a 1.5% convenience fee for credit card transactions \$10,000 and above. DMV would still be prohibited from charging customers for the use of credit cards for internet or other transactions under \$10,000.</p> <p>Provides \$25 million from the CTF to support modernizing the DMVs mainframe system and \$16 million for the next phase of the previously approved project to renovate the DMV headquarters.</p>	TBD

Senate Member Budget Amendments 2025 General Assembly

K-12 Funding Amendments

Support Position Ratio

Item 125 #13s (Boysko): Provides \$222.9 million GF the second year to implement the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) recommendation to lift the cap on K-12 education support staff funding that was left over from the Great Recession. Since FY 2010, funded support positions have been calculated as a linear weighted average of support positions to funded Standards of Quality (SOQ) instructional positions, as reported by divisions.

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) Recommendations

Item 125 #7s (Hashmi): Provides \$1.2 billion GF the second year to support the provisions of **SB 977** to fully fund the recommendations from the 2023 JLARC report, “Virginia's K-12 Funding Formula.” The legislation also provides add-on funding for students with disabilities that, together with the existing support for students with disabilities, provides funding similar in scale to what is recommended by JLARC Policy Option 5. This estimate is based on data previously provided by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), but the legislation's fiscal impact has not yet been determined.

Commonwealth’s Attorneys

Item 64 #2s (Perry): Provides \$25.7 million GF the second year to allocate 206 additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney positions, 115 paralegal support positions, and 132 administrative support positions for Commonwealth’s Attorneys’ offices statewide in FY 2026, in accordance with the staffing standards adopted by the Compensation Board in fall 2023.

Item 64 #5s (McDougle): Provides \$28.8 million GF the second year for Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices. The amount includes \$25.7 million to provide 206 additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys, 115 additional paralegals, and 132 administrative assistants in order to fully staff these offices for felony caseloads, based on the Compensation Board staffing standards. It also includes \$3.1 million to provide a 5% state salary increase for Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys, applied after the 3% salary increase included for all state and state-supported local employees in the FY 2024-2026 Biennium Budget adopted in May 2024.

Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project in Fairfax County

Item 433 #3 (Surovell): Provides \$125 million GF the first year to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to provide a grant to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Fairfax County to complete the construction of roadway improvements and the BRT system along the Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1) Corridor in Fairfax County. In June 2024, the Federal Transit Administration approved the project to enter the Engineering Phase of the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program and specified that the project was able to receive up to \$346.7 million in CIG funds. They County had requested \$459.2 million, which has resulted in a projected gap of approximately \$113 million

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Funding

Item 125 #13s (Boysko): Provides \$3.3 million GF the first year in updated operating assistance for WMATA. The Governor’s introduced budget provided \$133.57 million in FY 2025 and FY 2026 to address WMATA funding needs, which was an \$11.13 million decrease from the adopted budget due to updates in the projected subsidy amounts. The amendment updates the amount needed to address the subsidy needs based on further analysis of WMATA’s proposed budget.

K-12 JLARC-Related Legislation 2025 General Assembly

HB1594 (Clark) Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average.

Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average. Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions of the General Assembly to propose funding for, and state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act enacted during any regular or special session of the General Assembly during 2026 or 2027 to fund, the Commonwealth's share of compensation supplement incentives for Standards of Quality-funded instructional and support positions sufficient to increase the average teacher salary in the Commonwealth to at least the national average teacher salary by the end of the 2026-2028 biennium and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement.

HB1831 (Simonds)/SB 1236 (Aird) Public schools; certain calculations in Standards of Quality, support services.

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bill also requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill. Recommend Support.

HB1954 (Rasoul) Public school funding and staffing; special education students; support services positions.

Equity in public school funding and staffing; special education students; at-risk students; English language learner students; support services positions; report. Requires state-funded add-ons to be provided to support special education students that are calculated by multiplying weights set forth in the general appropriation act by the relevant basic aid per-pupil amount for each such student. The bill establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training. The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. The bill requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits support services positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled the local school division. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a data collection process related to English language learner expenditures and student English proficiency levels and identify other options to support English language learners and provide a status report to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding on its implementation and data collection efforts by September 1, 2025. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or any other relevant stakeholders with expertise in special education as the Department of Education deems appropriate, to develop a plan for revised special education staffing requirements

that addresses the staffing needs of each special education program in each school division as determined by the specific educational and behavioral support needs of students who receive special education and aims to improve special education teacher recruitment and retention and to report its findings to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding by November 1, 2025. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission. Recommend Support.

HB2032 (Reaser) English language learner students; per-student funding add-on, report.

English language learner students; per-student funding add-on; report. Requires state-funded add-ons to be provided to support English language learner students and requires such add-ons to be calculated by multiplying (i) a weight set forth in the general appropriation act for each English language learner student by (ii) the basic aid per-pupil funding for each such student. The bill requires local funding obligations for such add-ons to be determined by the composite index of local ability-to-pay. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a data collection process related to English language learner expenditures and student English proficiency levels and identify other options to support English language learners and provide a status report to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding on its implementation and data collection efforts by September 1, 2025.

SB977 (Hashmi) Standards of Quality; certain calculations, support services.

Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; support services. Requires the Department of Education (the Department) (i) in calculating nonpersonal costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include the costs associated with work-related employee travel and leased facilities; (ii) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service; (iii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions; (iv) in calculating the cost of salaries under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions; and (v) in estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for instruction and support positions under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff. The bill also prohibits the Department from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of re-benchmarking the aid to the public education budget. The bill (a) requires a per-pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on to be provided for each special education student; (b) requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill; and (c) establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at-risk, including programs and services of prevention, intervention, or remediation. Recommend Support.



JEFFREY C. MCKAY
CHAIRMAN

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January 26, 2024

Del. Don Scott, Speaker
Del. Charniele Herring, House Majority Leader
Del. Todd Gilbert, House Minority Leader
Sen. Scott Surovell, Senate Majority Leader
Sen. Ryan McDougle, Senate Minority Leader

Dear General Assembly Leaders,

Thank you for your service to our Commonwealth. I am writing to share with you some perspective on our Board's legislative principles and the relationship of those principles to Senate Bill 675. This bill was discussed at length at our Legislative Committee today, and this letter is a summation of that discussion. As you know, Senate Bill 675 would add Fairfax County to the list of localities eligible to hold a referendum to host a casino and provide that any proposed site for a casino gaming establishment considered by Fairfax County shall be (i) located within one-quarter of a mile of an existing station on the Metro Silver Line, (ii) part of a coordinated mixed-use project development, (iii) within two miles of a regional enclosed mall containing not less than 1.5 million square feet of gross building area, and (iv) outside of the Interstate 495 Beltway.

Each year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopts a robust Legislative Program based on the Ten Community Outcome Areas included in our Strategic Plan. This year's 23-page program outlines our overarching priorities, initiatives/budget priorities, and position statements on key issues such as education, health and wellness, human services, and more. A long-standing and fundamental overarching priority and principle for Fairfax County is local authority. Our 2023 program states the following:

Existing local government authority must be preserved and expanded, particularly in such key areas as taxation, land use, and the protection of public health, safety, and welfare. Further, local authority should be enhanced to provide localities additional flexibility in the administration of local government. Finally, local government representatives should be included on all commissions or bodies established by the state for the purpose of changing or reviewing local revenue authority or governance.

Each level of government has unique strengths. However, because Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, local governments are significantly restricted in their authority, which impedes their ability to react quickly and efficiently to emerging problems. In many instances, an overemphasis on statewide uniformity does not adequately consider the particular issues

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experienced in growing and urbanizing localities in Northern Virginia, limiting the ability of local governments to respond to community standards and priorities.

As such, Fairfax County has not historically opposed legislation that provides local governments with a new option or authority, even if we do not intend to exercise that new option or authority. Similarly, we do not seek or ask the General Assembly to provide a new authority unless we intend to seriously consider implementing such authority.

Unlike other jurisdictions that received the authority to hold a referendum to host a casino, Fairfax County did not seek such authority and has not been substantively involved in the development of the casino concept envisioned by stakeholders and the patron of the legislation. It likely comes as no surprise to you that the location and concept included in the legislation and reported in the media has generated significant community concern and opposition. Furthermore, since a community engagement process was not conducted prior to the bill being introduced as it was in other jurisdictions, we believe the bill in its current form is likely to result in strong community opposition to the future referendum.

While we understand the Commonwealth's desire to collect additional state tax revenue from residents of Northern Virginia, we do not believe our residents would accept the revenue share prescribed in current statute and in the pending legislation. As the law stands today, the Commonwealth would receive over 70 percent of the gaming tax revenue generated by a Fairfax County casino. This is especially relevant given the fact that the location outlined in the bill has the potential to generate significant local tax revenue without a casino.

A stated rationale for the legislation is the need to revitalize Tysons. While the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent shift to remote/hybrid work has, of course, impacted Fairfax County's commercial office market, we feel the need to emphasize that Tysons and especially the Class A office space in close proximity to Tysons' four Silver Line Metro stations continue to thrive. Tysons continues to attract new corporations and create new jobs. Tysons has a blossoming entertainment district, anchored by Capital One Hall, a premier performing arts venue, and a state-of-the-art baseball stadium.

The Tysons Community Alliance, a community improvement organization supported by the Board of Supervisors and local businesses is engaged in innovative work to enhance placemaking, livability, and economic growth while our investments in transportation improvements are transforming a maze of asphalt and interchanges into walkable and bikeable communities that continue to attract new businesses and new residents. In short, we are confident that Tysons is poised for continued success and will be the economic engine of the Commonwealth for decades to come.

Thank you again for your service to our Commonwealth and for the opportunity to share our perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey C. McKay

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Virginia Gaming Commission Operating Model



January 15, 2025

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Agenda

Topic

1 Introduction

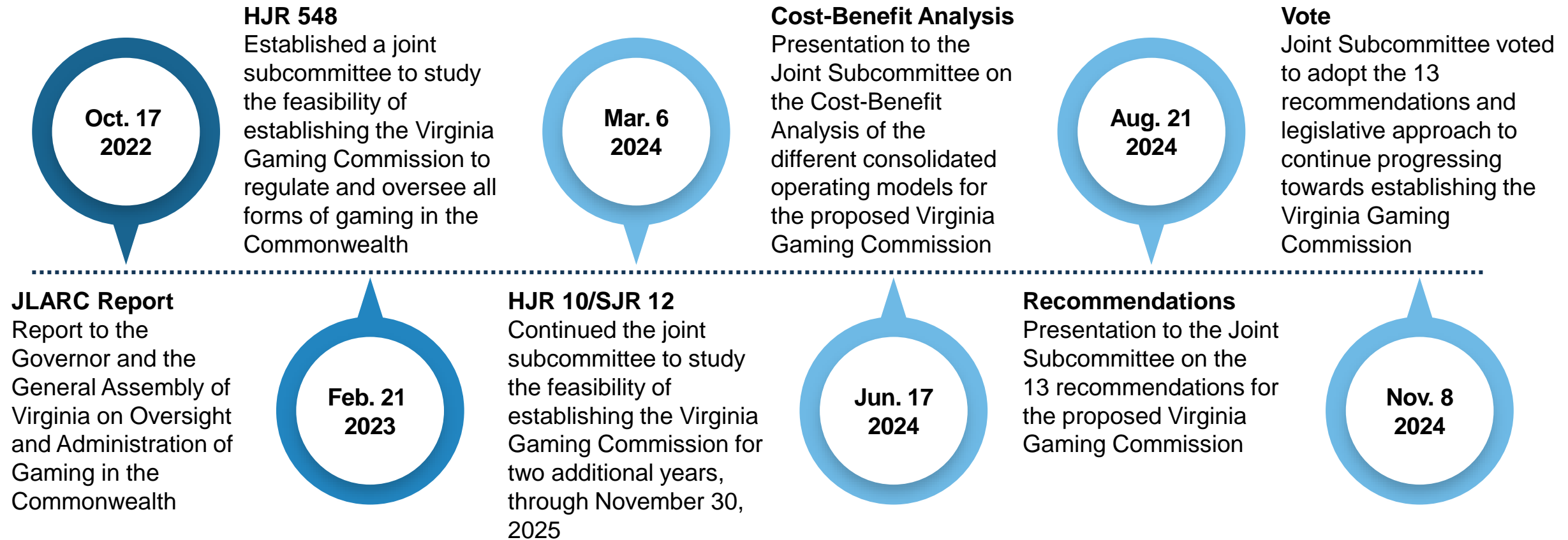
2 Overview of Recommendations

3 Appendix



History of the Virginia Gaming Commission Study

Below is a timeline of the key milestones from the Virginia Gaming Commission study.



Current Gaming Landscape in Virginia

Lottery, VDACS, and VRC regulate and oversee legal forms of gaming in the Commonwealth.

Note: Virginia ABC formerly regulated skill games.

Gaming Regulation & Oversight in Virginia			
Agency	Gaming Operations	Total Handle in Millions (\$)	Time Period
Lottery	Lottery	2,550	7/1/22 – 6/30/23
	iLottery	2,060	
	Sports betting	5,130	
	Casinos (Note: limited operations) ¹	2,870	
VDACS	Charitable gaming ²	1,410	1/1/23 – 12/31/23
	Fantasy contests ³	Not reported	
VRC	Historical horse racing (HHR)	4,160	1/1/23 – 12/31/23
	Live horse racing ⁴	5	
	Simulcast racing	30	
	Advance-deposit wagering (ADW)	120	

¹ Bristol was operational for the 12-month period, Portsmouth opened in Jan. 2023, and Danville opened in May 2023

² Includes bingo, electronic and paper pull-tabs, and raffles. *Note: poker was not live in 2023*

³ Although fantasy contests are not considered gambling in the Code of Virginia, it is a common practice for gaming commissions to regulate and oversee fantasy contests

⁴ Includes live Thoroughbred racing, live Harness racing, and live Steeplechase wagering

Gaming in Virginia by the Numbers

\$1.1 Billion

Gaming revenue generated in 2024⁵

\$761 Million in

sports bets placed in November 2024

4,452

HHR terminals⁷

413 Charitable gaming licenses issued in FY 2024

BINGO

3

Operating casinos⁶ in Danville, Bristol, and Portsmouth

44 Live Thoroughbred racing days (2025)

⁵ As of October 2024, Source: American Gaming Association

⁶ Casinos have been authorized but not yet operational in Norfolk and Petersburg

⁷ As of November 30, 2024, Source: Virginia HHR Commission Report, November 2024

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DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

Data current as of January 13, 2025

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Review of Recommended Operating Model

The recommended operating model would establish a new Virginia Gaming Commission that oversees and regulates all forms of legalized gaming in the Commonwealth other than the state lottery and iLottery, which would continue to fall under the purview of the Virginia Lottery. This new Virginia Gaming Commission would be an independent agency.

Recommended Operating Model	VA Lottery	Virginia Gaming Commission (Independent Agency)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lottery• iLottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports wagering• Casinos• Charitable gaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fantasy contests• HHR• New gaming types¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live horse racing• Simulcast racing• ADW

The target operating model for the VGC is an **efficient, cost-effective, and strong regulator**, designed to:

- Respond to new regulatory and oversight needs from emerging gaming types
- Maintain the Commonwealth's commitment to the horse racing and charitable gaming industries
- Capture long-term forecasted economies of scale and operational efficiencies in staffing and technology as the gaming industry continues its rapid growth
- Increase transparency through centralized annual reporting to the public and the Virginia government and increase accountability for gaming regulation and oversight
- Facilitate a consistent state-wide problem gambling strategy across gaming types
- Clarify the points of contact for key stakeholders (e.g., Virginia State Police [VSP] and local law enforcement, legislators, players, industry) by:
 - Creating a centralized source of specialized information and resources for gaming
 - Encouraging effective collaboration with VSP Office of Gaming Enforcement to combat gaming-related criminal activity across all gaming types

¹ New gaming types that may be authorized in the future

Executive Summary: Recommendations (1/2)

The General Assembly may wish to consider the following recommendations:

- 1 Consolidating all gaming regulatory and oversight operations in the Commonwealth (except VA Lottery) into an independent, centralized Virginia Gaming Commission
- 2 Structuring the Virginia Gaming Commission to maximize forecasted economies of scale, facilitate cross-training, and leverage best practices within similar functions across different gaming types
- 3 Creating the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board) and assigning it regulatory and oversight responsibilities over all gaming types except the lottery (*this does not include non-gaming matters related to horse racing*)
- 4 Maintaining the Virginia Racing Commission (Board) and transferring HHR, ADW, and simulcast racing regulatory and oversight responsibilities to the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board)
- 5 Directing the Charitable Gaming Board to advise the Virginia Gaming Commission on all aspects of the conduct of charitable gaming in Virginia
- 6 Establishing a Problem Gambling Division in the VGC that could coordinate with local, state (e.g., DBHDS, VCPG), and national stakeholders to manage problem gambling research, prevention, recovery, and treatment efforts
- 7 Establishing an External Affairs & Policy Division in the VGC to recommend gaming policy decisions to legislators and communicate with relevant stakeholders in Virginia

Executive Summary: Recommendations (2/2)

The General Assembly may wish to consider the following recommendations:

8	Establish the Executive Leadership team in the VGC and define roles and responsibilities with clear division of duties, including elevating the role of the Executive Secretary of Racing
9	Maintaining existing beneficiaries of revenue streams from each gaming type (e.g., HHR revenue continuing to support the live horse racing industry)
10	Directing the Virginia Gaming Commission to review consolidating technology systems to increase efficiency of core functions (e.g., licensing, auditing)
11	Directing the Virginia Gaming Commission to develop a standardized approach for reporting to the General Assembly on a regular basis across all gaming types
12	Following implementation of the consolidated gaming commission, consider how to further invest in gaming enforcement
13	Following the successful launch of the Virginia Gaming Commission, reconsider Virginia Lottery operations consolidation

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Engagement Background

Study Mandate¹

Analyze and make recommendations with respect to:

1. **The feasibility of establishing a new agency** in the executive branch of state government, to be known as the Virginia Gaming Commission (the Commission), under which all legal forms of gaming in the Commonwealth, except for the state lottery established and operated pursuant to the Virginia Lottery Law (§ 58.1-4000 et seq.), shall be consolidated for the purposes of regulation and oversight.
2. **The timely and orderly transition of the regulatory authority** over casino gaming and sports betting, charitable gaming, and pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing from the Virginia Lottery, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), and the Virginia Racing Commission (VRC), respectively, to the Commission.
3. **Ways to effectively prioritize problem gambling prevention and treatment efforts.**
4. **All potential options to consolidate gaming regulation and oversight** and provide a **detailed transition plan** in support of recommendations.

Our Role

1. Providing project management support.
2. Conducting independent research and review.
3. Reporting on gaming oversight and regulatory models implemented by other states.
4. Determining the feasibility and conducting a cost-benefit analysis consistent with the establishment of the Virginia Gaming Commission or any other gaming regulation and oversight consolidation options.
5. Developing a transition plan in support of any gaming regulation and oversight recommendations.

¹ Language from HJR 548 (2023) and the Appropriations Act (2023 Special Session I). HJR10 and SJR12 (2024) continue the study and Joint Subcommittee.

Review of Cost Benefit Analysis Key Takeaways

- Following a review of costs and benefits, the team deemed **options for a consolidated Virginia Gaming Commission feasible and consolidation could be pursued**
- Although there are additional temporary costs to consolidation, a **Virginia Gaming Commission would be more beneficial to the Commonwealth** than the current fragmented structure
- **Separating lottery operations** from a centralized commission **would best mitigate the risk of a conflict of interest**, while still capturing most synergies

		Relative Benefits	Relative Costs and Risks
<div>Centralized</div>	Option A Consolidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved mission delivery – streamlined, standardized approach to regulation and oversight (e.g., licensing, investigations, auditing, enforcement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New staff• Operational update and transition costs• Potential for short-term competition among agency objectives and cultures during transition• New governance to mitigate conflicts of interests and protect the existing policy autonomy and revenue streams of gaming types (e.g., live horse racing)• New technology systems in the long-term (if pursued)
	Option B Consolidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved ability to forecast gaming revenues• Easier to facilitate a state-wide problem gambling strategy	
	Option C Consolidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single source of specialized information and resources for gaming (policy, enforcement, industry partners)• Increased transparency and accountability	
	Option D Consolidation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased scalability (e.g., workforce, technology)• Best position to respond to emerging gaming types	

Recommendation 1: Consolidating all gaming regulatory and oversight operations in the Commonwealth (except VA Lottery) into an independent, centralized Virginia Gaming Commission

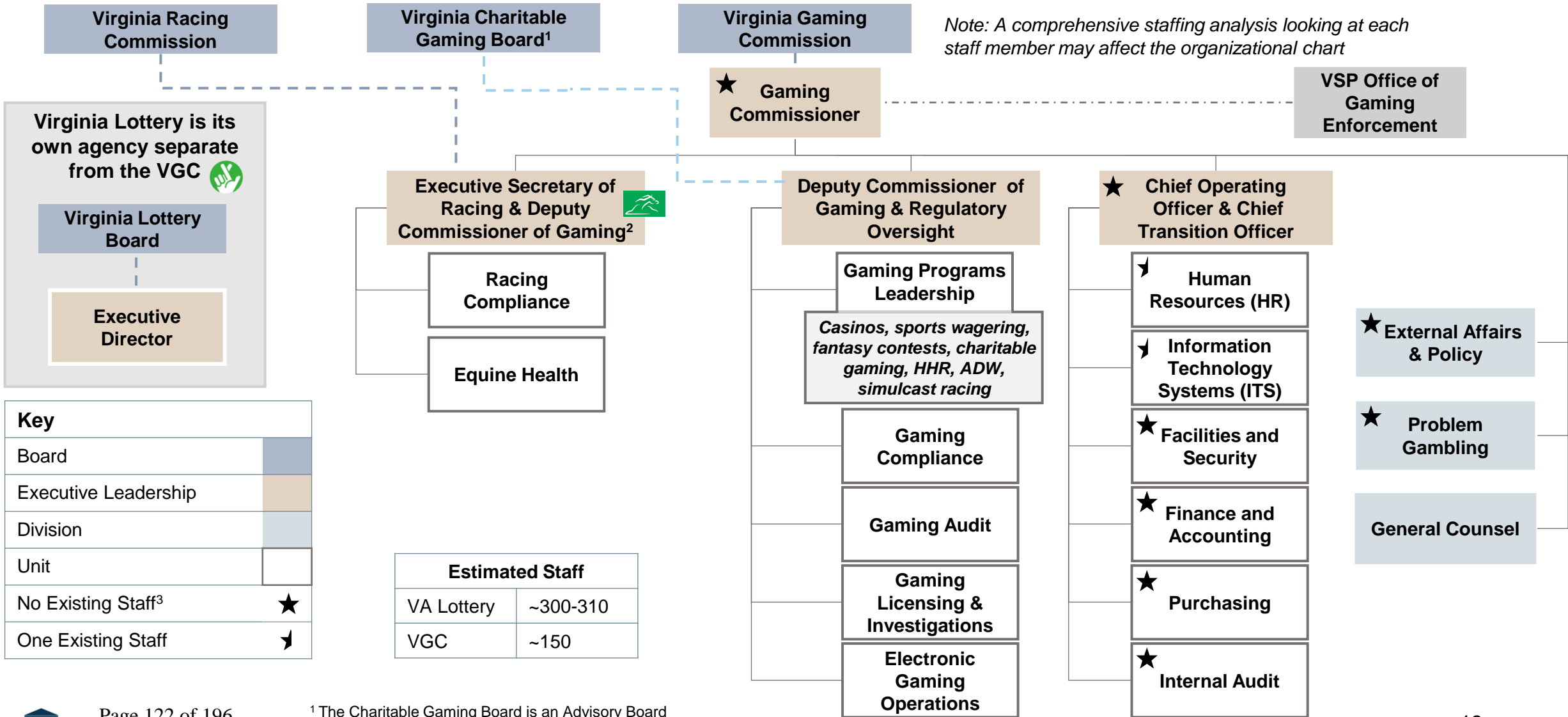
Option B Consolidation	VA Lottery	VGC (Independent Agency)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lottery• iLottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports wagering• Casinos• Charitable gaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fantasy contests• HHR• <i>New gaming types</i>¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live horse racing• Simulcast racing• ADW

The target operating model for the Virginia Gaming Commission is an **efficient, cost-effective, and strong regulator**. This is achieved through consolidation Option B, which is designed to:

- Respond to new regulatory and oversight needs from emerging gaming types
- Maintain the Commonwealth's commitment to the horse racing and charitable gaming industries
- Capture long-term forecasted economies of scale and operational efficiencies in staffing and technology as the gaming industry continues its rapid growth
- Increase transparency through centralized annual reporting to the public and the Virginia government and increase accountability for gaming regulation and oversight
- Facilitate a consistent state-wide problem gambling strategy across gaming types
- Clarify the points of contact for key stakeholders (e.g., Virginia State Police [VSP] and local law enforcement, legislators, players, industry) by:
 - Creating a centralized source of specialized information and resources for gaming
 - Encouraging effective collaboration with VSP Office of Gaming Enforcement to combat gaming-related criminal activity across all gaming types

¹ New gaming types that may be authorized in the future

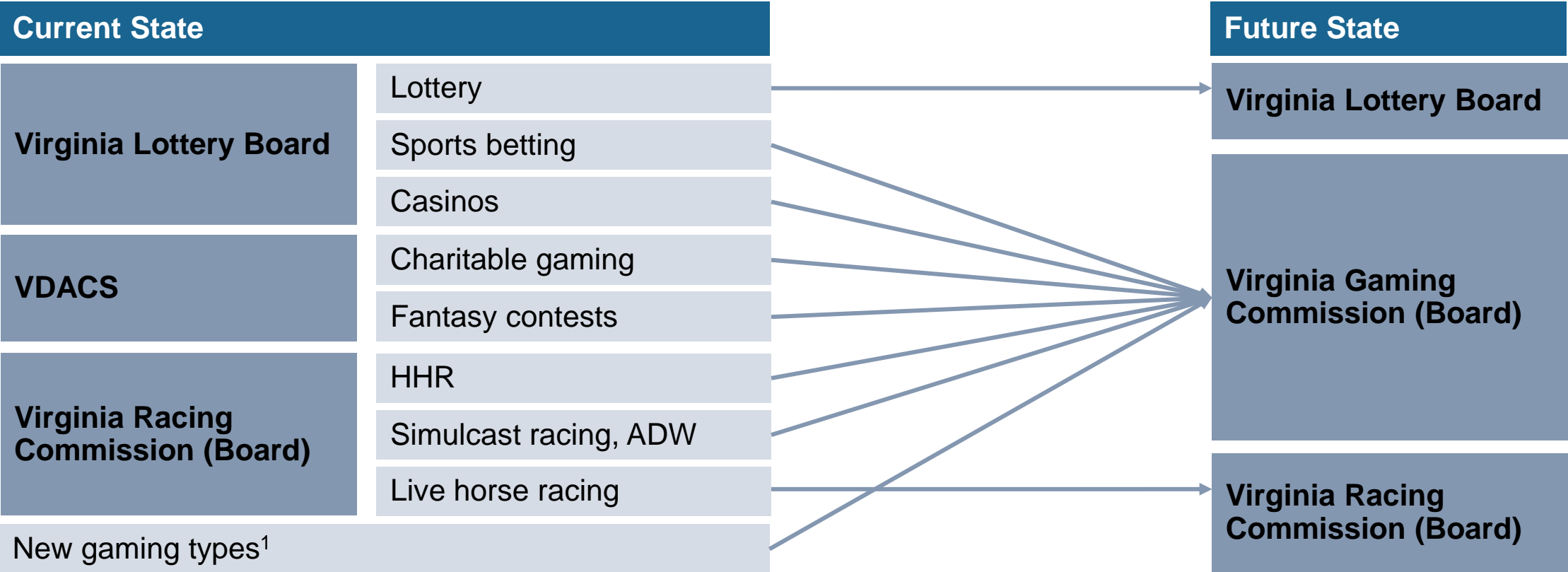
Recommendation 2: Structuring the Virginia Gaming Commission to maximize forecasted economies of scale, facilitate cross-training, and leverage best practices within similar functions across different gaming types *(illustrative organizational structure below)*



¹ The Charitable Gaming Board is an Advisory Board
² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 3: Creating the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board) and assigning it regulatory and oversight responsibilities over all gaming types except the lottery (*this does not include non-gaming matters related to horse racing*)

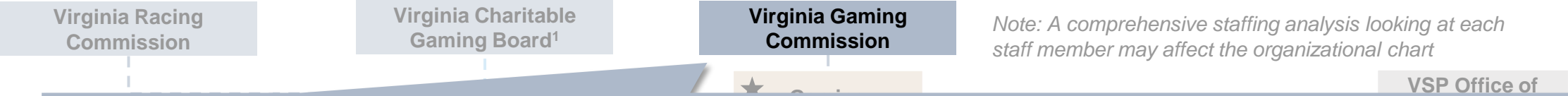
Recommendation 4: Maintaining the Virginia Racing Commission (Board) and transferring HHR, ADW, and simulcast racing regulatory and oversight responsibilities to the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board)



Note: In the current state, the Virginia Charitable Gaming Board advises VDACS on charitable gaming. In the future state, they would advise the Virginia Gaming Commission.

¹ New gaming types that may be authorized in the future

Recommendation 3: Creating the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board) and assigning it regulatory and oversight responsibilities over all gaming types except the lottery (*this does not include non-gaming matters related to horse racing*)



Note: A comprehensive staffing analysis looking at each staff member may affect the organizational chart

Virginia Gaming Commission (Board)

The Virginia Gaming Commission (Board) could regulate and oversee all gaming types in the Commonwealth, except for the Virginia Lottery. The regulation and oversight of casinos, and sports wagering, which currently reside in the Virginia Lottery Board would transfer to the VGC (Board).

Overview of New Role

- Adopting regulations governing sports wagering, casinos, charitable gaming, fantasy contests, HHR, ADW, simulcast racing, and any new gaming types in the Commonwealth
- Providing recommendations to the Gaming Commissioner and studying the future direction of gaming in the Commonwealth

Conflict of Interest

- VGC board members shall have no direct or indirect ownership, financial interests, or management interests in any gaming activities or services in connection with any gaming establishment or gaming activity

Consideration

- Other stakeholders (e.g., VSP, member of VRC, member of Charitable Gaming Board, Executive Secretary of Racing) could serve in an ex-officio capacity

Note: The Virginia Lottery Board would continue to promulgate and adopt regulations governing the establishment and operation of the lottery

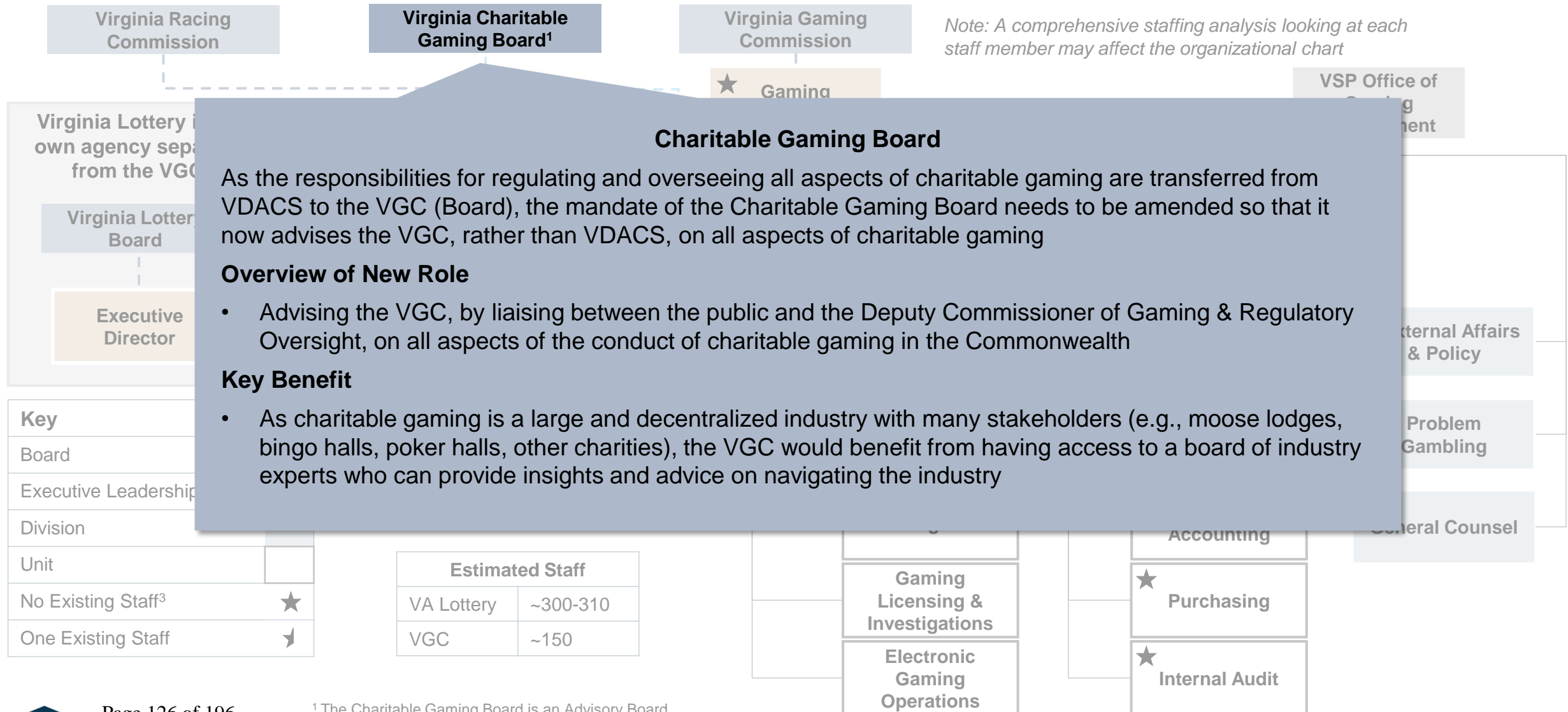
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Recommendation 4: Maintaining the Virginia Racing Commission (Board) and transferring HHR, ADW, and simulcast racing regulatory and oversight responsibilities to the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board)



¹ The Charitable Gaming Board is an Advisory Board
² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 5: Directing the Charitable Gaming Board to advise the Virginia Gaming Commission on all aspects of the conduct of charitable gaming in Virginia

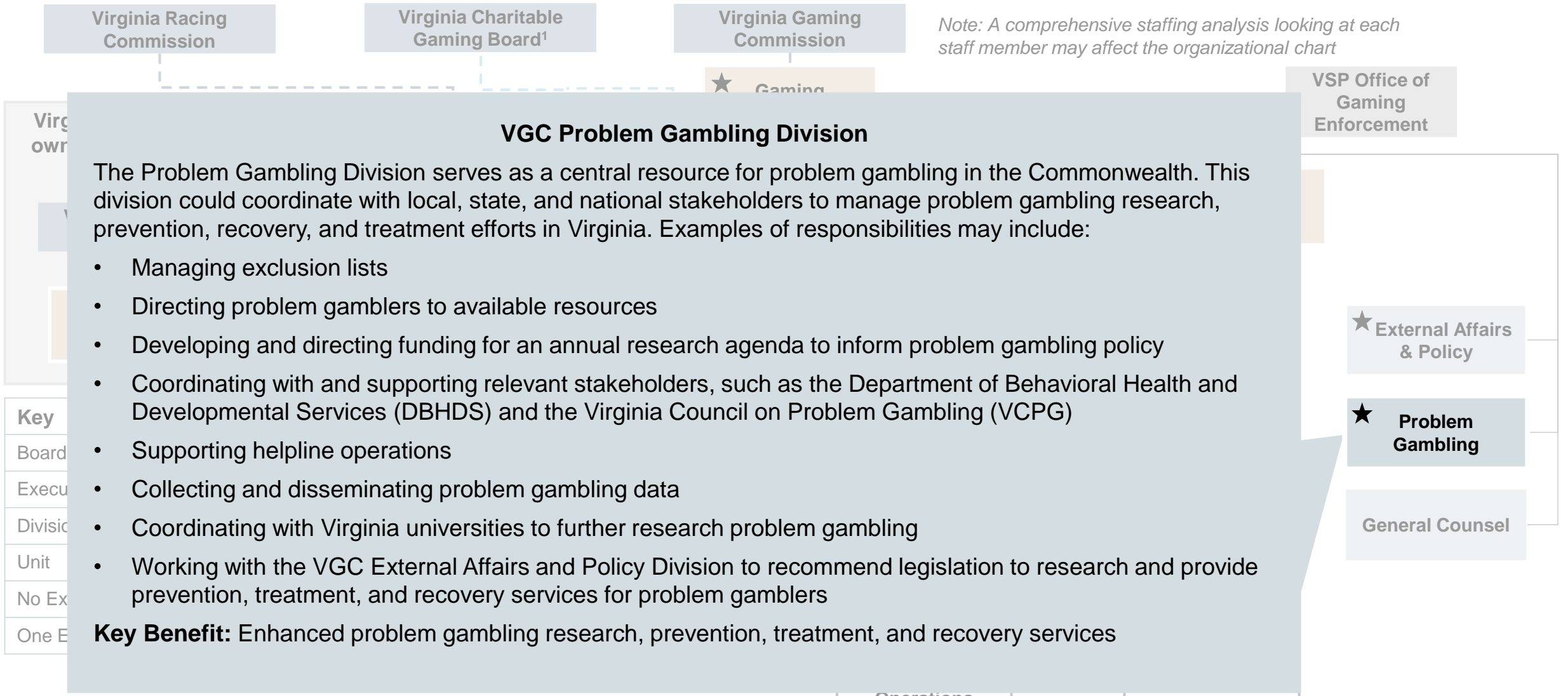


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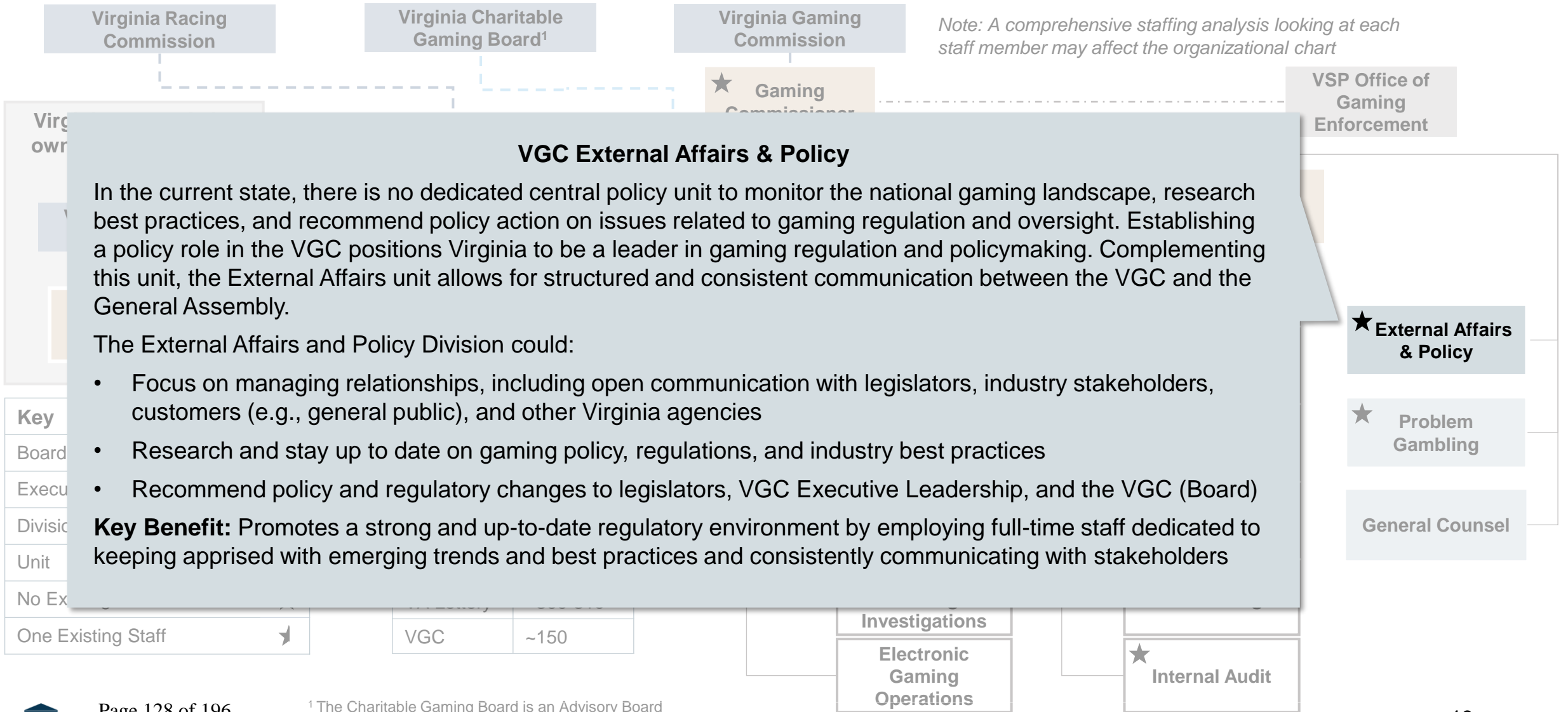
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 6: Establishing a Problem Gambling Division in the VGC that could coordinate with local, state (e.g., DBHDS, VCPG), and national stakeholders to manage problem gambling research, prevention, recovery, and treatment efforts



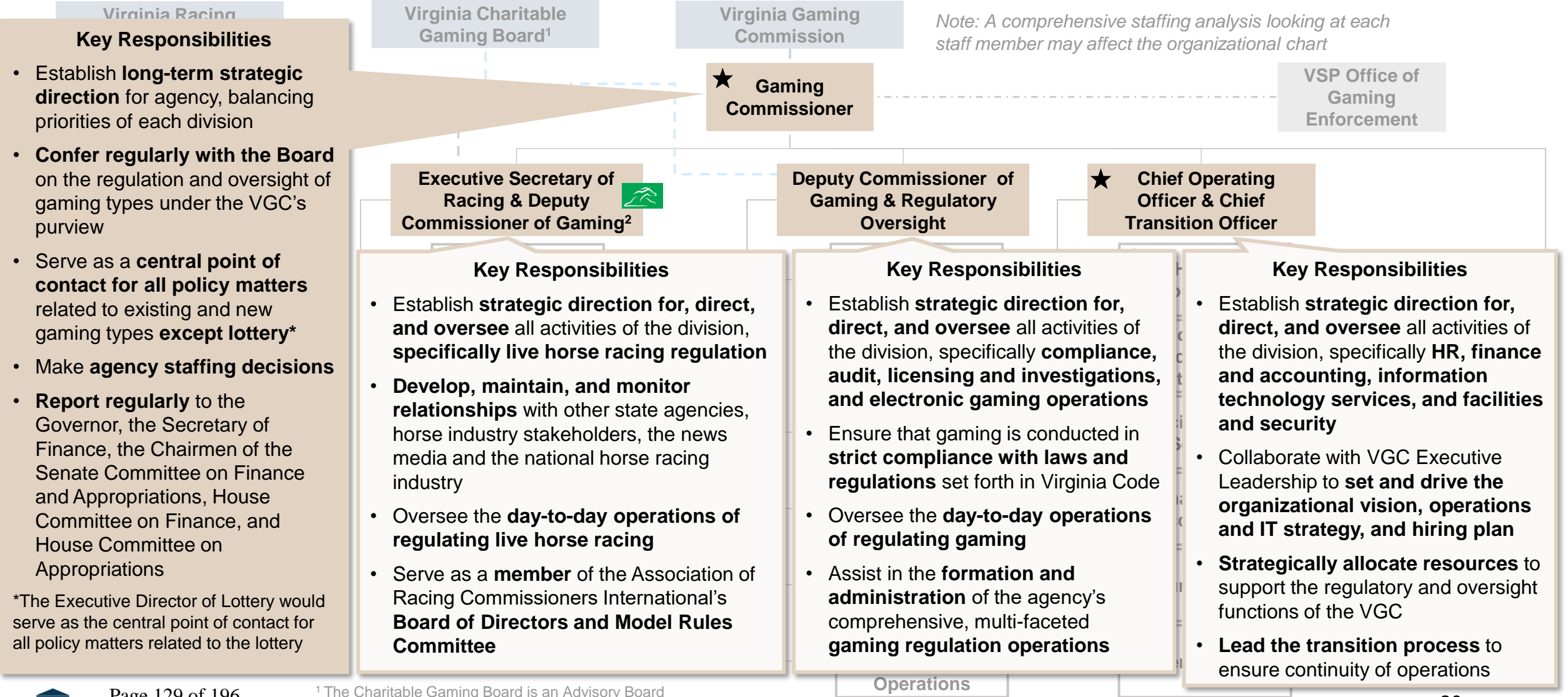
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² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 7: Establishing an External Affairs & Policy Division in the VGC to recommend gaming policy decisions to legislators and communicate with relevant stakeholders in Virginia



¹ The Charitable Gaming Board is an Advisory Board
² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 8: Establishing the Executive Leadership team in the VGC and defining roles and responsibilities with clear division of duties, including elevating the role of the Executive Secretary of Racing



¹ The Charitable Gaming Board is an Advisory Board
² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 9: Maintaining existing beneficiaries of revenue streams from each gaming type through transition (e.g., HHR revenue continuing to support the live horse racing industry)

Currently, the proceeds (e.g., tax revenue, licensing fees) from each gaming type in Virginia have specific beneficiaries and funds:

Gaming Type	Funding Recipients
Lottery	Lottery Proceeds Fund (for public education in the Commonwealth), Literary Fund
Sports Wagering	Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund
Casinos	Localities hosting casinos, Virginia Indigenous People's Trust Fund, Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, Family and Children's Trust Fund, School Construction Fund
Charitable Gaming	General Fund, lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes for which the organization is specifically chartered or organized
Fantasy Contests	None
HHR	Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, Virginia Breeder's Fund, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Horse Center Foundation, Virginia Horse Industry Board, Racing Benevolence Fund
Live Horse Racing/ADW/Simulcast	Locality in which racetrack/satellite facility is located, Virginia Breeder's Fund, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Horse Center Foundation, Virginia Horse Industry Board, Virginia Thoroughbred Association for the promotion of breeding in the Commonwealth, Racing Benevolence Fund

While the regulation and oversight of certain gaming types would transfer to the VGC (Board) (e.g., charitable gaming, HHR), maintaining existing beneficiaries minimizes disruption and maintains current goals of existing policy.

- As an example, while HHR would be regulated by the Virginia Gaming Commission (Board) rather than the Virginia Racing Commission (Board), proceeds from HHR could continue to support the Virginia horseracing industry, as originally intended when HHR was legalized.

Key Consideration: Funding for the oversight of each gaming type also comes from a small portion of the money generated by each gaming type (e.g., a portion of the fees collected from charitable gaming fund VDACS OCRP oversight operations for charitable gaming). These **funding sources may have to be reexamined**, as appropriate.

Recommendation 10: Directing the Virginia Gaming Commission to review consolidating technology systems to increase efficiency of core functions (e.g., licensing, auditing)

Benefits of Consolidation

- Increased efficiency of core functions through reduction of manual processes (e.g., using spreadsheets/paper-based processes)
- Standardization of similar processes across different gaming types (e.g., case management, auditing, licensing)

Sample System Consolidation: Case Management



Recommendation 11: Directing the Virginia Gaming Commission to develop a standardized approach for reporting to the General Assembly on a regular basis across all gaming types

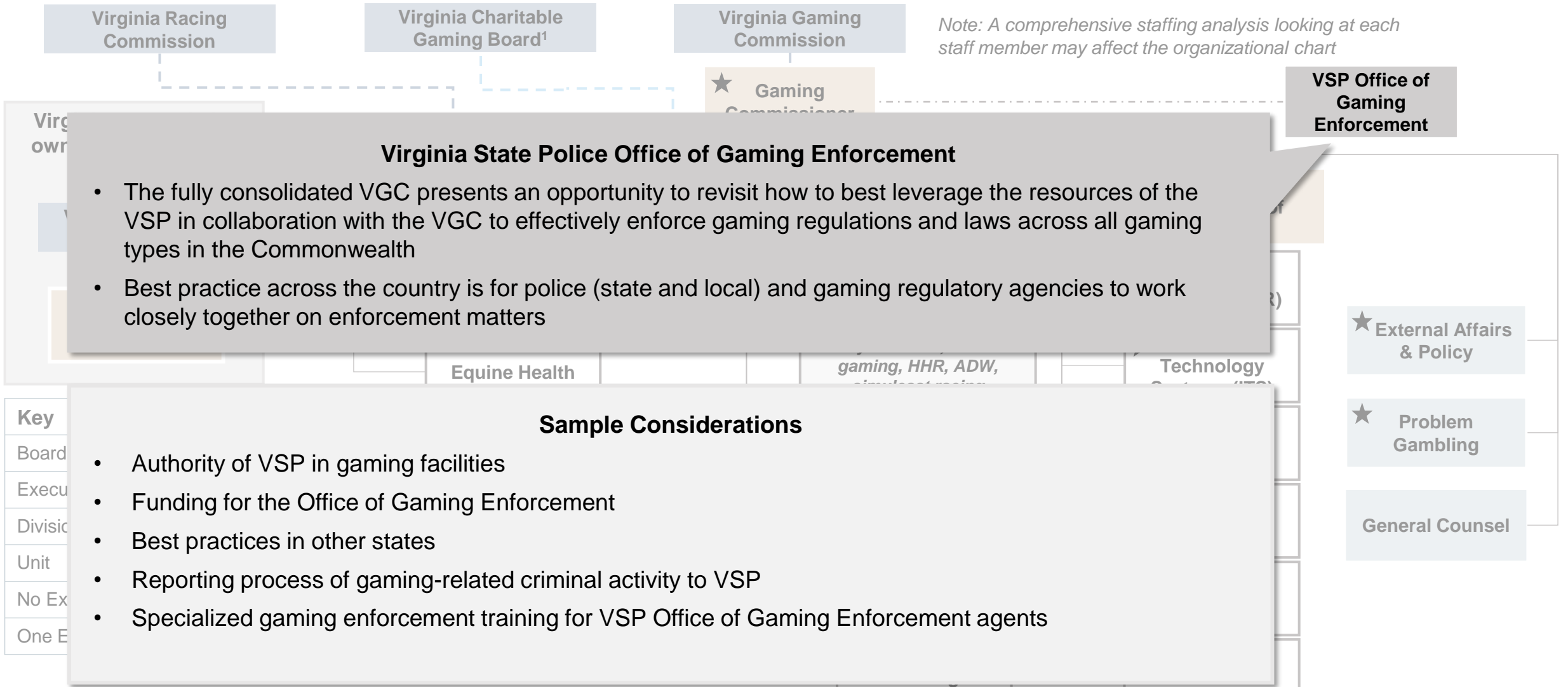
Benefits of Centralized Reporting Requirements

- Transparency to the Virginia government and the public
- Sharing of best practices for reporting among staff working on different gaming types
- Improved forecasting capabilities across gaming types

Sample of Consistent Reporting Standards

- Operators could be required to report the same data across gaming types (e.g., Fantasy contests operators and sportsbook operators could both report on total handle wagered)
- Standardized reporting periods (i.e., calendar year, fiscal year) for gaming types
- Same frequency of reports (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually)


Recommendation 12: Following implementation of the consolidated gaming commission, consider how to further invest in gaming enforcement



¹ The Charitable Gaming Board is an Advisory Board
² Oversees non-gaming responsibilities associated with live horse racing such as equine health and drug testing of horses and jockeys
³ Requires all new hires

Recommendation 13: Following the successful launch of the Virginia Gaming Commission, reconsider consolidation of Virginia Lottery operations

- The level of consolidation could be a phased decision; the Virginia General Assembly may choose to increase level of consolidation in the future
- The Generally Assembly could consolidate with Option B now, and move to Option D in the future, if it becomes apparent that full consolidation efficiencies in Option D outweigh other considerations in Option B

Near-term recommendation	Option B Consolidation	VA Lottery	VGC			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lottery• iLottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports wagering• Casinos• Charitable gaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fantasy contests• HHR• <i>New gaming types¹</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live horse racing• Simulcast racing• ADW	
						
Long-term option	Option D Consolidation	VGC				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lottery• iLottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports wagering• Casinos• Charitable gaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fantasy contests• HHR• <i>New gaming types</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live horse racing• Simulcast racing• ADW	

**PRIORITY BUDGET ITEMS FOR FAIRFAX COUNTY
HOUSE AND SENATE MEMBER BUDGET AMENDMENTS
2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

SUPPORT

Elections Administration

Item C-53.80 #2h (Krizek), which was requested by VACo, authorizes \$18 million in state bond proceeds to be used as matching funds to localities to assist with the replacement of voting equipment.

Item 77 #1h (Krizek) provides resources to the Department of Elections to administer the program and direct the department to convene a workgroup of stakeholders representing general registrars, electoral boards, and local governments to develop criteria and guidelines for allocation of funds.

Item 78 #1s (Roem) provides \$8.2 million in FY 2026 for additional staffing in general registrars' offices.

Environment

Item 365 #1s (Stuart)/Item C-53.80 #1h (Bulova) provide \$50 million GF in FY 2026 for deposit to the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund to assist the Commonwealth in meeting Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan.

Item 365 #1h (Bulova) provides for a total of \$48.6 million GF in FY 2026 to support wastewater treatment upgrades identified by the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty program. The amendment is for \$31.2 million in FY 2026. The additional funding would represent the most recent available cash flow estimate for projects in the current biennium. (The Governor's introduced budget includes \$17.4 million from the GF for FY 2025.)

Item 96 #2s (Perry)/Item 96 #2h (Bloxom)/Item 96 #3h (Lopez) provide \$2.5 million GF in FY 2026 for deposit in the Forest Sustainability Fund. The fund is used by localities with forest use value assessments to enhance recreation, environmental education, and local forest management.

Item 96 #3s (Marsden) provides an additional \$5 million GF in FY 2025 and \$5 million GF in FY 2026 to be deposited to the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund.

Compensation

Item 60 #4h (Delaney)/Item 60 #2s (Diggs)/Item 60 #3s (Carroll Foy) provide \$15.2 million in FY 2026 to fund sheriffs' deputies in accordance with the statutory staffing standard of one deputy per 1500 people in localities where the sheriff has primary responsibility for law enforcement.

Item 62 #2h (Bulova) provides \$1.5 million in FY 2026 to restore funding for 98 unfunded positions in offices of Directors of Finance.

Item 64 #3h (Ward)/Item 64 #2s (Perry) provide \$25.7 million in FY 2026 for staffing for Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices consistent with new staffing standards developed by the Compensation Board.

Item 64 #5s (McDougle) provides \$28.8 million GF in FY 2026 for Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices. The amount includes \$25.7 million to provide 206 additional Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys, 115 additional paralegals, and 132 administrative assistants in order to fully staff these offices for felony caseloads, based on the Compensation Board staffing standards. It also includes \$3.1 million to provide a five percent state salary increase

for Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys, applied after the three percent salary increase included for all state and state-supported local employees in the FY 2024-2026 Biennium Budget adopted in May 2024.

Early Childhood

Item 125.10 #1h (Bulova)/125.10 #2h (Austin) provide \$160 million in FY 2026 to address several early childhood care and education priorities: \$120 million is provided to meet current and projected parent demand for Child Care Subsidy Program slots, \$10 million is provided to expand public-private cost-sharing pilots through the Mixed Delivery program; and \$30 million is provided for a pilot program to increase the supply of early childhood care and education services through site expansion and capacity building incentive grants.

Health and Human Services

Item 268 #1h (Carr)/Item 268 #2h (Coyner)/Item 268 #3h (Hodges)/Item 268 #1s (Favola)/Item 268 #2s (Deeds) strike the language in the Governor's introduced budget that would cap the state's contribution to the Children's Services Act by stipulating that the rate of state reimbursement to localities for private day educational services for services provided on or after July 1, 2025, may not increase more than 2.5 percent over the rates for such services provided the previous year.

Item 297 #5h (Sickles)/Item 297 #3s (Deeds) provide \$8.7 million in FY 2026 for Community Services Boards (CSBs) to cover the onboarding costs for the additional support coordinators needed for the 3,440 new Developmental Disability waiver slots that have been funded over the biennium. This funding is intended to cover the expenses incurred until a new support coordinator can carry a full caseload and begin billing Medicaid.

Item 297 #2h (Willett)/Item 297 #6s (McPike) provide \$18 million in FY 2026 to fund additional Marcus Alert programs in order to keep implementation on pace for the 2028 statutory deadline, as well as increase support for all Marcus Alert programs from \$600,000 to \$972,000 per year.

Item 315 #3h (Sickles)/Item 315 #1s (Favola) provide \$4.4 million in FY 2026 to cover increased costs for providing current services for the Area Agencies on Aging and the increased demand for home care services and transportation.

Item 297 #4h (Willett)/Item 297 #1s (Deeds) provide \$5.7 and \$5.8 million, respectively, in FY 2026 to address program growth in Virginia's Part C/Early Intervention program, which serves infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Item 271 #1s (Deeds) provides \$4 million in FY 2026 to establish the Earn to Learn Behavioral Health Education Acceleration Program to provide opportunities for students seeking a behavioral health professional career to complete their clinical education while gaining employment experience.

Item 272 #2h (Sewell) adds \$10 million GF in FY 2026 for grants to local governments to update or establish prescription drug box programs. These updates ensure compliance with new standards for secure drug disposal to prevent misuse and environmental harm, in accordance with the latest federal and state regulatory changes to prescription drug box programs.

Item 289 #2h (Tran)/Item 289 #1s (Hashmi) provide \$7.3 million in FY 2025 and 10 positions to fund a state-funded comprehensive health care coverage program for individuals in Virginia who are under 19 years of age, are not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, and but for their immigration status, would be eligible for Medicaid.

Item 334 #2s (Favola) provides \$2.1 million GF in FY 2025 and \$2 million GF in FY 2026, and \$2.1 million NGF in FY 2025 and \$2 million NGF in FY 2026 to transition electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards to chip-enabled cards.

Transportation

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Funding

Item 433 #1h (Sickles)/Item 433 #2s (Boysko) restore \$3.3 million GF in updated operating assistance for WMATA. The Governor's introduced budget provided \$133.57 million in FY 2025 and FY 2026 to address WMATA funding needs, which was an \$11.13 million decrease from the adopted budget, due to updates in the projected subsidy amounts. The amendment updates the amount needed to address the subsidy needs based on further analysis of WMATA's proposed budget.

State Program Funding

Item 433 #3h (Askew)/Item 433 #1s (Locke) provide \$50 million GF in FY 2026 to address a projected shortfall in state mass transit funding.

Item 437 #3h (Cohen) provides \$1 million GF in FY 2026 for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program to incentivize pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, with a particular emphasis on creating pathways to school.

Other

Item 433 #3s (Surovell) provides \$125 million GF in FY 2025 to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) to provide a grant to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Fairfax County to complete the construction of roadway improvements and the BRT system along the Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1) Corridor in Fairfax County. In June 2024, the Federal Transit Administration approved the project to enter the Engineering Phase of the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program and specified that the project was able to receive up to \$346.7 million in CIG funds. The County had requested \$459.2 million, which has resulted in a projected gap of approximately \$113 million.

Miscellaneous

Item 227 #1h (Carr)/Item 227 #2h (Morefield)/Item 227 #1s (Locke) provide \$2.3 million in FY 2026 to increase state aid to local public libraries. This funding represents the fourth and final installment of a four-year plan to fully fund the state library aid formula by FY 2026.

Item 251 #1s (Aird), requested by VACo and VML, provides one-time funding of \$103 million in FY 2026 to reimburse local governments for the amount of lost revenue attributable to property tax exemptions for disabled veterans or their surviving spouses and the surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who are killed in the line of duty, if more than one percent of such locality's taxable real estate was exempt from taxation. The amendment also includes language that requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to convene a stakeholder group which would be charged with conducting a review of current exemptions, recent trends and an analysis of future growth and developing options to address the ongoing cost to localities.

Item 255.10 #1s (McPike) provides \$42 million in FY 2026 to support **SB 1312** to require the Commonwealth to reimburse 50 percent of lost revenue associated with the property tax exemptions for disabled veterans or their surviving spouses and the surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who are killed in the line of duty in any locality in which at least one percent of real property was exempt from real property taxes in tax year 2022.

Item 394 #3h (Krizek)/Item 394 #8s (Perry) provide \$7.5 million GF in FY 2025 to establish the Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replace Program, intended to provide grants of up to \$25,000 to replace drones operated by

state and local law enforcement and local first responder agencies that are manufactured by entities domiciled in a country defined as a foreign adversary of the United States.

OPPOSE

Item 125 #5s (Marsden) includes savings of \$100,000 in FY 2026 as a placeholder for the fiscal impact of **SB 1432**, which designates six local juvenile detention centers for closure.

PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

Eminent Domain

Item 444 #1s (Obenshain) provides \$50,000 GF in FY 2026 for the potential fiscal impact of Senate Bill 1158 which makes various changes to provisions governing eminent domain, primarily relating to procedures in condemnation proceedings and the transfer of a defeasible title by certificate. The bill sets forth reasonable costs of discovery in condemnation proceedings and provides that when a condemnor initiates discovery in a condemnation proceeding, such condemnor shall pay all reasonable costs of such discovery. The bill also specifies that, in a condemnation proceeding initiated by an authorized condemnor or the Commissioner of Highways, a certificate transferring a defeasible title shall include certain information describing the property and any rights to the property being taken or damaged. Finally, the bill repeals the requirement that the court refer a matter initiating a condemnation proceeding to a dispute resolution orientation.

Toll Operations

Item 441 #1h (Mundon King) provides \$2.0 million GF in FY 2026 to provide toll relief pursuant to the provisions of House Bill 2368, which caps monthly toll charges for Virginia residents at \$200 per month and exempts TANF recipients from any toll charges.

PROGRAMS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

Health and Human Resources

Item 315 #5h (Hodges)/Item 315 #11h (Krizek)/Item 315 #2s (Surovell) provides \$500,000 in FY 2025 and \$2 million in FY 2026 to Fairfax County to support the Washington Area Villages Exchange in creating a pilot program to reduce the public health risk of social isolation among older Virginians by expanding the availability of Villages statewide.

Item 331 #12h (Henson) provides \$400,000 in each year to Fairfax County for Lorton Community Action Center, which provides basic needs and self-sufficiency programs to individuals, including older adults, and families with low income.

Item 331 #3h (Keys-Gamarra) provides \$500,000 in each year to Fairfax County for Cornerstones, an organization that helps individuals build more stable lives by connecting them with vital resources that solve their needs for housing, child care, food, or financial assistance.

Item 331 #5s (McPike) provides \$4 million in FY 2026 to Fairfax and Prince William counties to enhance workforce development programs, support ongoing renovations and operations, and accessibility features, and create new training spaces for members of the immigrant community.

Transportation

Item 151 #5s (Surovell) provides \$350,000 GF in FY 2025 to the Schar School of Public Policy at George Mason University to conduct a study on potential revenue from placing a fee on all parking spaces on privately owned/commercial property, including surface lots and parking structures within the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission Districts and potential revenue from the districts surrounding Metro stations and to help determine methods for establishing a permanent revenue source for WMATA by creating a tax overlay district around every Metro station.

Item 433 #2h (Shin) provides \$1.4 million GF in FY 2026 to establish a 4 square mile microtransit zone in the center of the town of Herndon Virginia.

Item 437 #1h (Henson)/Item 438 #18s (Roem) provides \$750,000 GF in FY 2026 to VDOT to study the needs and capacity for expanded tractor-trailer parking near and along the I-66 and I-95 corridors.

Item 438 #9h (Sullivan) provides \$1.0 million GF FY 2026 to support the building of a noise barrier wall as part of the I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project near Linganore Drive.

K-12 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC)-Related Legislation and Budget Amendments 2025 General Assembly

A watershed report by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) in 2023 outlined both the inadequacy of state funding for public education and the substantial flaws in current state funding formulas. The findings of the report are striking:

- Virginia school divisions receive less K-12 funding per pupil than the 50-state average and the regional average, which equates to approximately \$1,900 per pupil in state underfunding of the Commonwealth's students (Virginia schools receive less state funding than most neighboring states including West Virginia and Kentucky). In FY 2025, Fairfax County provided \$14,223 per pupil, while the state only provided \$5,484 (federal funding per pupil not included).
- The state Standards of Quality (SOQ) formula dramatically underestimates the actual costs of public education, as evidenced by the fact that the SOQ formula provided \$6.6 billion less than what was spent by local school divisions in FY 2021. In FY 2023, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) spent \$1.2 billion above the SOQ formula's calculated required local effort.
- The SOQ formula systematically underestimates school division costs and continues to use cost reduction measures implemented during the Great Recession (including the support positions ratio cap), artificially lowering the state's funding contributions by hundreds of millions of dollars annually since its adoption in 2009.
- The formula does not adequately account for higher needs students, using a methodology for at-risk students that underestimates the impact of large numbers of students in poverty and schools with a high concentration of poverty.
- The formula fails to account for local labor costs, including competitive salaries required in high cost-of-living regions to attract and retain high-quality personnel.

The 2025 General Assembly (GA) is considering a variety of bills that seek to address the JLARC report's recommendation and policy options – some of the bills a fairly comprehensive while others target specific items highlighted in the JLARC report. Changes are essential to providing the education Virginia's students need to be successful in a global community and economy. The JLARC study provides an opportunity for generational change in state funding for public education. There can simply be no higher priority for the Commonwealth.

OMNIBUS JLARC LEGISLATION

HB 1954 (Rasoul) – Public school funding and staffing; special education students; support services positions.

SUPPORT. Requires state-funded add-ons to be provided to support special education students that are calculated by multiplying weights set forth in the general appropriation act by the relevant basic aid per-pupil amount for each such student. The bill establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training.

The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. The bill requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits support services positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled the local school division. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a data collection process related to English language learner expenditures and student English proficiency levels and identify other options to support English language learners and provide a status report to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding on its implementation and data collection efforts by September 1, 2025. Finally, the bill requires the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) or any other relevant stakeholders with expertise in special education as VDOE deems appropriate, to develop a plan for revised special education staffing requirements that addresses the staffing needs of each special education program in each school division as determined by the specific educational and behavioral support needs of students who receive special education and aims to improve special education teacher recruitment and retention and to report its findings to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding by November 1, 2025. The bill is a recommendation of JLARC. *Referred to House Appropriations Committee.*

Item 125 #3h (Rasoul) provides \$277.5 million General Funds (GF) the second year to (i) eliminate the existing "support cap and (ii) establish a special education add-on.

Item 125 #1h (Rasoul) directs the Department of Education, for the purpose of determining state and local shares of public education funding, to begin calculating the local composite index (LCI) using a three-year average of available data, in lieu of the current calculation that is based on a single year of data.

SB 977 (Hashmi) – Standards of Quality; certain calculations, support services.

SUPPORT. Requires VDOE (i) in calculating nonpersonal costs in the SOQ funding formula, to include the costs associated with work-related employee travel and leased facilities; (ii) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the SOQ funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service; (iii) in calculating the costs in the SOQ funding formula beginning with FY 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions; (iv) in calculating the cost of salaries under the SOQ funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions; and (v) in estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for instruction and support positions under the SOQ funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff. The bill also prohibits VDOE from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of re-benchmarking aid to the public education budget. The bill (a) requires a per-pupil SOQ funding add-on to be provided for each special education student; (b) requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services

positions enumerated in the bill; and (c) establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at-risk, including programs and services of prevention, intervention, or remediation. *Recommendation 1 (all technical changes), Recommendation 4 (support cap, federal funds deduction), Recommendation 6 (unweighted averages), Recommendation 8 (codify at risk), Policy Option 5 (special education funding add on).* *Passed the Senate Education and Health Committee and was referred to the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee.*

Item 125 #7s (Hashmi) provides \$1.2 billion GF the second year to support the provisions of SB 977, fully funding the recommendations of the 2023 JLARC report.

Item 125 #6s (Hashmi) provides language to specify that beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and for subsequent rebenchmarking, VDOE shall utilize a three-year average of the most recent available data to calculate the composite index of local ability-to-pay for each school division.

CAP ON STATE FUNDING FOR K-12 SUPPORT POSITIONS

HB 1831 (Simonds)/**SB 1236** (Aird) **Public schools; certain calculations in Standards of Quality, support services.**

SUPPORT. Requires VDOE, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the SOQ funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the SOQ funding formula beginning with FY 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bill also requires support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, with the exception of certain support services positions enumerated in the bill. *Recommendation 1 (benefit costs), Recommendation 4 (support cap, federal revenue deduction).* *HB 1831 passed the House Education Committee and was referred to the House Appropriations Committee. SB 1236 was referred to the Senate Education and Health Committee.*

Item 125 #9h (Simonds) includes \$222.9 million GF the second year to implement *JLARC*.

Item 125 #18s (Aird) provides \$222.9 million GF the second year to implement *JLARC*.

Item 125 #13s (Boysko) to eliminate the existing support cap that calculates the number of funded support positions based on 24 positions per 1,000 students and revert to the methodology used prior to 2009, based on prevailing staffing ratios.

Item 125 #2h (Bulova) to eliminate the existing support cap that calculates the number of funded support positions based on 24 positions per 1,000 students and revert to the methodology used prior to 2009, based on prevailing staffing ratios.

LINEAR WEIGHTED AVERAGE (LWA)

Item 125 #12h (Keys-Gamarra) provides \$205 million GF the second year to use a simple average instead of a linear weighted average when computing state recognized costs in the SOQ formula. The estimated cost reflects JLARC's original estimate, adjusted for inflation.

FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS SUPPORT

HB 2032 (Reaser) **English language learner students; per-student funding add-on, report.**

Requires state-funded add-ons to be provided to support English language learner students and requires such add-ons to be calculated by multiplying (i) a weight set forth in the general appropriation act for each English language learner student by (ii) the basic aid per-pupil funding for each such student. The bill requires local funding obligations for such add-ons to be determined by the composite index of local ability-to-pay. The bill also requires VDOE to develop and implement a data collection process related to English language learner expenditures and student English proficiency levels and identify other options to support English language learners and provide a status report to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding on its implementation and data collection efforts by September 1, 2025. *Amended by the House Appropriations Committee to require data collection only, with no related funding included. On the House Floor.*

Item 125 #14h (Reaser) provides \$55.6 million GF the second year for the state's share of an English Language Learner Add-On payment equal to 8.5 percent of basic aid, based on the estimated number of English Learner students.

Item 125 #9s (Boysko) provides \$55.6 million GF the second year to cover the estimated state share of costs for a new flexible add-on for school divisions serving English language learners within the SOQ. When combined with the adjustments in the introduced budget based on updated data, this flexible add-on is intended to advance overall funding for English language learners.

Item 125 #13h (Jones) provides \$55.6 million GF the second year for the state's share of an English Language Learner Add-On payment equal to 8.5 percent of basic aid, based on the estimated number of English Learner students.

STATE FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

Item 125 #11s (Favola) provides \$74.6 million GF the second year to support the estimated state share of costs for the Flexible Special Education Improvement Incentive, which will be calculated by multiplying six percent by the relevant basic aid per-pupil amount for each special education student in each school division, with higher amounts for students with greater needs. The state share and local match of the total six percent add-on shall be determined by the composite index of local ability-to-pay.)

Item 125 #5h (Coyner) provides \$73.9 million GF the second year to establish a supplemental payment to provide support in addition to existing funding for special education positions, calculated based on the state's share of a six percent add on to basic aid for students receiving Level I services and a 12 percent add on to basic aid for students receiving Level II services.

COMPENSATION FOR TEACHERS

HB 1594 (Clark) **Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average.** Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2026 and 2027 regular sessions of the GA to propose increased funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act enacted during any regular or special session of the GA during 2026 or 2027 to fund the Commonwealth's share of compensation supplement incentives for SOQ-funded instructional and support positions sufficient to increase the average teacher salary in the Commonwealth to at least the national average teacher salary by the end of the 2026-2028 biennium and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement. *Referred to the House Appropriations Committee.*

Item 125 #10h (Clark) requires the introduced budgets for the 2026 and 2027 GA sessions to include sufficient funding to support salary increases as required to increase the Virginia teacher salary average to the projected national average by the end of the 2026-2028 biennium.

Data Center Legislation 2025 General Assembly

ZONING

SB 1046 (Roem) Data centers; noise abatement.

RECOMMEND: OPPOSE. Data centers; noise abatement. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall be approved only in accordance with certain notice and noise abatement requirements. The bill provides that residents within a half-mile radius of the parcel shall receive notice of the proposed data center and that the data center operator shall hold two neighborhood meetings. The bill requires a data center operator to design and build the data center to incorporate sound mitigation methods sufficient to prevent the sound levels emanating from the data center from exceeding the ambient noise levels that were observed in a baseline study, as determined by a third-party acoustic engineer. The bill also provides that upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy, and for five years thereafter, the data center operator shall conduct a noise study performed by a third-party acoustical engineer to document noise levels emanating from the data center measured at the property line of the nearest property to the data center property that is planned or zoned for residential land uses, or other noise-sensitive use as reasonably determined by the locality, during peak operation of the data center mechanical equipment. The bill also provides that if the data center operator intends to use backup power generators on the parcel, the operator shall maintain a public website announcing the times when the generators will be in operation. Finally, the bill provides that any noise ordinance adopted by a locality shall set maximum allowable sound levels for data centers, including by (i) using alternative low frequency noise metrics and (ii) setting noise rules and enforcement mechanisms in its zoning ordinance, separate from existing noise ordinances. *Referred to Committee on Local Government.*

SB 1045 (Roem) Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use.

RECOMMEND: OPPOSE. Siting of data centers; property classified for industrial use. Requires that any local government land use application for the siting of a data center shall only be approved if such application is for a data center located on property classified by local ordinance for industrial use. This section shall only apply to such applications submitted on or after July 1, 2025. *Referred to Committee on Local Government.*

HB 1601 (Thomas) Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility.

RECOMMEND: AMEND. 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. *Passed House (57-Y 40-N).*

HB 2026 (Thomas) Data centers; industrial zoning.

Data centers; industrial zoning. Requires a locality to review and amend its zoning ordinance to (i) designate data centers as industrial uses for zoning purposes; (ii) review the locations of zones allowing data centers by right, and adjust the zoning map, if needed, considering proximity to residential areas; (iii) review the minimum

requirements in the zoning ordinance, such as setbacks and building heights, for the purpose of mitigating negative impacts on residential or other sensitive areas and consider adding requirements specific to data centers as needed; (iv) identify optimal areas for data center development in the locality, including locations that are suitable from the locality's perspective as well as the industry's perspective; (v) consider zoning ordinance changes to reduce the likelihood of noisy data centers, including through limiting allowable locations and requiring sound modeling, and prohibit the constant low-frequency noise of data centers from reaching residential areas; and (vi) require commitments from data centers making zoning requests to sufficiently mitigate negative impacts on any nearby residential areas. The provisions of the bill shall only apply to localities where data centers are already addressed in the locality's zoning ordinance and where a locality is revising its zoning ordinance to include data centers. *CC&T Subcommittee #2 recommended laying on table (8-Y 0-N).*

HB 2068 (Garrett) Local land use; authority for decision belongs solely to locality.

Local land use decision authority. Provides that the authority for a locality's planning and land use decisions belong solely to the locality and shall not be ceded to any state agency or state-sanctioned body. *CC&T Subcommittee #3 recommends laying on table (5-Y 3-N).*

TAX/COSTS

HB 2101 (Maldonado) Electric utilities; data center cost allocation.

Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent. The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026. *Assigned to Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3.*

SB 1196 (Deeds) Retail Sales and Use Tax; exemption data centers.

Sales and use tax exemption; data centers. Requires data center operators to meet certain energy efficiency standards in order to be eligible for the sales and use tax exemption for data center purchases. Under the bill, a data center operator shall be eligible for the exemption only if such operator demonstrates that (i) its facilities either have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or, for data centers co-located in buildings with other commercial uses, achieve an energy efficiency level of no less than the most efficient 15 percent of similar buildings constructed in the previous five years and (ii) by January 1, 2028, it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources. *Referred to Committee on Finance and Appropriations.*

SB 960 (Perry) Electric utilities; data center cost allocation.

Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent.

The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026. *Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor.*

SB 1305 (McPike) Local taxes; change to zoning ordinances, etc.

RECOMMEND: MONITOR. *Patron worked with County on substitute to remove reasons for Board's Opposition.* Local taxes; zoning; assessments; injunctions; ordinances. Provides that for purposes of real estate subject to a special tax assessment for land preservation by local ordinance, a change to the zoning ordinance shall only be effective following (i) the approval of the relevant modification in the zoning classification of real estate; (ii) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period; and (iii) if pending, the final determination of any challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also provides that for purposes of subdivided or rezoned lots, the assessment or reassessment required by law shall only be effective following (a) the approval of a modification in the zoning classification of the subject real estate, an exception to zoning or classification of the subject real estate, or a reclassification of the subject real estate; (b) the exhaustion of the challenge or appeal period for such approvals; or (c) if pending, the final determination of any such challenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also authorizes the circuit court to issue an injunction to stay the collection of taxes during the pendency of any application to the circuit court for an assessment correction upon a showing of (1) a bona fide hardship caused by such assessment and (2) a bona fide financial inability to satisfy such assessed tax obligation. Any injunction so issued shall not remain in effect later than when a final determination is made on the merits of an assessment correction application. Under current law, no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of any local tax shall be maintained in any court of the Commonwealth, except when the party has no adequate remedy at law. Finally, the bill provides that any zoning ordinance enacted after December 1, 2023, shall not become effective until the later of either (A) the exhaustion of the period within which a decision of the local governing body may be contested or (B) if pending, the date of final determination for all actions related to a contested decision of the local governing body. *Committee Substitute passed Senate (35-Y 3-N).*

HB 2027 (Thomas) State Corporation Commission; certificate of operation for high load facilities.

State Corporation Commission; certificate of operation for high load facilities. Prohibits any person from operating a high load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 25 megawatts that was not operating before July 1, 2026, without first having obtained a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission. The bill requires the Commission to permit the operation of a high load facility upon a finding that such facility and associated facilities (i) will have no material adverse effect upon the rates paid by customers of any regulated public utility in the Commonwealth, taking into account any likely generation, transmission, or distribution needs attributable to the operation of the high load facility; (ii) will have no material adverse effect upon reliability of electric service provided by any regulated public utility; (iii) would be consistent with the Commonwealth Clean Energy Policy; and (iv) are not otherwise contrary to the public interest. The bill requires the Commission to consider certain factors in a review of a petition for a certificate to operate a high load facility, including whether there is sufficient energy, capacity, and grid infrastructure to support the operation of the high load facility and whether the operation of the high load facility would create an unreasonable cross-subsidy across customers served by the incumbent electric utility. Finally, the bill requires the Commission to conduct a proceeding to establish minimum criteria for the issuance of a certificate of operation for a high load facility and requirements for public notice and an opportunity for hearing. *CC&T Subcommittee #3 recommended laying on table (10-Y 0-N).*

HB 2028 (Thomas) School boards; entitlement to one-time fee from certain data centers.

School boards; entitlement to one-time fee from certain data centers. Provides that any school board that governs a school division that contains a public school located within three miles of a data center, as such term is defined

in relevant law, that received its certificate of occupancy from the relevant locality after July 1, 2025, is entitled to a one-time fee of \$250,000 to be paid by the owner of such data center no later than 90 days after the issuance of such data center's certificate of occupancy by the locality. *Education K-12 Subcommittee recommends striking from docket (8-Y 0-N).*

HB 1561 (McNamara) Classification of land and improvements for tax purposes; localities.

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. *Finance Subcommittee #1 recommends laying on table (5-Y 3-N).*

ENERGY USAGE

HB 1821 (Reid) Electric utilities; accelerated renewable energy buyers, zero-carbon electricity.

Electric utilities; accelerated renewable energy buyers; zero-carbon electricity; energy storage resources. Permits an accelerated renewable energy buyer or group of accelerated renewable energy buyers to contract to (i) obtain bundled capacity, energy, and renewable energy certificates from zero-carbon electricity generation resources under certain conditions and (ii) offset all or a portion of their capacity needs through the procurement of energy storage resources under certain conditions. *Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3 recommends reporting with substitute (6-Y 4-N).*

HB 1822 (Reid) Electric utilities; construction of electrical transmission lines, advanced conductors.

Electric utilities; construction of electrical transmission lines; advanced conductors. Requires Phase I and Phase II Utilities to use advanced conductors, as defined in the bill, in the construction of any electrical transmission line of 230 kilovolts or more, any electrical transmission line replacing an existing electrical transmission line of 69 kilovolts or more that has reached its scheduled replacement date, and any electrical transmission line of 69 kilovolts or more constructed as a weather-related replacement, as long as the use of such advanced conductors does not delay the prompt restoration of power to consumers. The bill provides that for any application submitted on or after January 1, 2026, the State Corporation Commission shall not approve the construction of any electrical transmission line of 230 kilovolts or more unless such line is constructed using advanced conductors. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. *Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3 recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 2-N).*

HB 2035 (Simonds) High-energy facilities; water and energy usage info. reports statewide clearinghouse established.

High-energy facilities; water and energy usage information reports; statewide clearinghouse established. Requires any owner or operator of a high-energy facility, as defined in the bill, to submit to the Department of Environmental Quality no later than May 1, 2026, and on a quarterly basis thereafter, a report that contains certain information relating to water and energy usage for each such facility. The bill requires the Department, no later than July 1, 2026, to design, implement, and maintain a publicly accessible website to serve as a statewide

clearinghouse for information relating to water and energy usage of all high-energy facilities operating in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that, in order to fully cover the costs of designing, implementing, and maintaining the statewide clearinghouse, the Department shall assess an initial fee to each owner or operator of a high-energy facility and may assess an annual fee thereafter for each year that such high-energy facility is in active use. The bill requires any owner or operator of a high-energy facility to notify the Department of any substantial change in operations or technologies that would require an update to the information required by the bill at least 60 days prior to making such change. The bill also requires the Department to convene a work group of stakeholders for the purpose of identifying additional information required to be published to the statewide clearinghouse. Such work group is required to convene at least three times by July 1, 2026, in a manner that is open to the public, and each such meeting is required to include a public comment period of no less than 60 days following such meeting. *Assigned to Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3.*

SB 1243 (Stuart) Electric utilities; electric distribution infrastructure serving data centers.

Electric utilities; electric distribution infrastructure serving data centers. Prohibits the costs associated with the construction or extension of any electric distribution infrastructure that primarily serves the load of a data center from being recovered from any other customer. *Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor.*

SB 899 (Stuart) Data centers; water use.

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. *Referred to Committee on Local Government.*

HB 2377 (Hodges) Comprehensive plan; data centers; water usage.

Comprehensive plan; data centers; water usage. Requires every locality to incorporate into its comprehensive plan provisions that prioritize and evaluate alternative methods of cooling, such as air cooling, geothermal cooling, or other innovative technologies that minimize water usage, particularly in the context of approving or siting data centers or similar land uses. The bill provides that the comprehensive plan shall include methods of assessing the environmental impact of water-based cooling methods and requires that alternative methods to minimize water usage are thoroughly considered before local approval of data centers or similar land uses that are reliant on significant water resources for cooling purposes. *Assigned to CC&T Subcommittee #3.*

HB 2386 (Higgins) Public utilities; certificate of convenience and necessity for certain new transmission lines.

Public utilities; certificate of convenience and necessity for certain new transmission lines. Provides that for construction of any overhead transmission line of 230 kilovolts and associated facilities, a public utility shall demonstrate that either the construction of such line remains within an existing right-of-way or that no alternatives are feasible within the existing right-of-way. *Assigned to Labor and Commerce Subcommittee #3.*

SB 1047 (Roem) Electric utilities; demand response programs for certain customers.

Electric utilities; demand response programs for certain customers. Requires each investor-owned utility to implement a demand response program under which any customer whose demand during the most recent calendar year was 25 megawatts or greater or whose anticipated annual demand is 25 megawatts or greater is required to participate. The bill requires each utility to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval of its demand response program by January 1, 2026, and requires that the petition include a reasonable timeline for the implementation of the program and participation by all such customers. Under the bill, any such demand response

program must (i) meet the minimum reliability and resource adequacy standards set by the regional transmission entity of which the utility is a member, (ii) reduce customers' energy consumption during the grid's emergency events or when called upon, (iii) not increase local air pollution through the use of fossil fuels generators, and (iv) be cost-effective. The Commission is required issue its final order regarding the petition within six months following the date of the filing. *Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor.*

SB 1049 (Roem) Electric utilities; approval required for construction of certain electrical transmission lines.

Electric utilities; approval required for construction of certain electrical transmission lines. Prohibits the construction of a new transmission line overhead unless the State Corporation Commission first determines that the construction of such transmission line in whole or in part underground is not in the public interest. *Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor.*

HB 2422 (Webert) Public utilities; classification of customers.

Public utilities; classification of customers. Requires that a public electric utility or a public utility authorized to furnish water or water and sewer service include a separate classification for data centers, as defined in the bill, when satisfying the existing requirement that any rate, toll, charge, or schedule of a public utility is only considered to be just and reasonable by the State Corporation Commission if the public utility has demonstrated that such rates, tolls, charges, or schedules contain reasonable classifications of customers. *Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce.*

HB 2442 (Webert) Public utilities; certificate of convenience and necessity.

Public utilities; certificate of convenience and necessity. Provides that, if a public utility has already received a certificate of convenience and necessity to furnish service within its territory, such utility may construct, enlarge, contract with, or acquire and operate facilities for the generation and distribution of electric energy solely to a specific customer or customers located on the same tract of land as existing facilities without obtaining another certificate of convenience and necessity, provided that all costs associated with the new facilities shall be borne by the specific customer or customers. *Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce.*

Analyzing the Governor's Introduced Budget

Virginia Association of Counties

Fiscal Analytics, Ltd.

January 23, 2025

Where Do State Finances Stand Today?

- Fourth year in a row of a large GF revenue surplus above the adopted budget (\$1.2 bil. in FY 2024).
- Positive wage and salary growth currently expected in Virginia for the 2024-26 biennium.
- Still \$4.2 billion in mandatory and voluntary GF reserves (15% of the GF) even after \$1 billion transferred to the GF during the 2024-26 biennium.
- Virginia Retirement System finances have improved – Teacher funded status currently 84% with rate at 14.2%
- Significant unused debt capacity available (\$1.31 bil. new debt capacity available each year of biennium).
- Structural budget balance between expected revenues and current level of ongoing appropriations.

The Introduced Budget has \$4.73 Bil. in Additional GF Resources for the 2024-26 Biennium Budget

- \$1.46 bil. in *additional* balances forward (FY 24 revenue surplus and unspent appropriations)
 - Contingent appropriations from surplus for I-81 (\$175 mil.) and WQIF included in introduced budget – although \$400 mil. in WQIF funding used to replace existing bond financing.
- Revenue forecast plus transfers, increased by \$3.27 billion due to higher FY 2024 revenue base and higher growth in FY 25. **Even still, this is a conservative revenue forecast.**
 - Assumes GF revenues grow by 4.1% in FY 25 and 2.5% in FY 26.
- New revenue forecast assumes continued economic growth – albeit slowing. FY 2024 Virginia wage and salary growth was 6.8 percent. Budget conservatively forecasts wage and salary growth of 4.7 percent in FY 2025 and 3.5 percent in FY 2026.
- Forecasting the economy is fraught with uncertainty, but the forecast for income tax *non*-withholding continues to be very conservative.

Conservative Economic Growth Is Assumed in the Introduced Budget

				<u>December Forecast</u>	
	Long-Run Average	FY 24 Actual	FY 25 to Date	FY 25	FY 26
GSP	2.2%	3.1%	3.0%	1.5%	1.7%
VA Average Wage	3.8%	5.0%	4.8%	3.5%	2.5%
VA Employment	1.2%	1.8%	1.4%	1.2%	1.0%

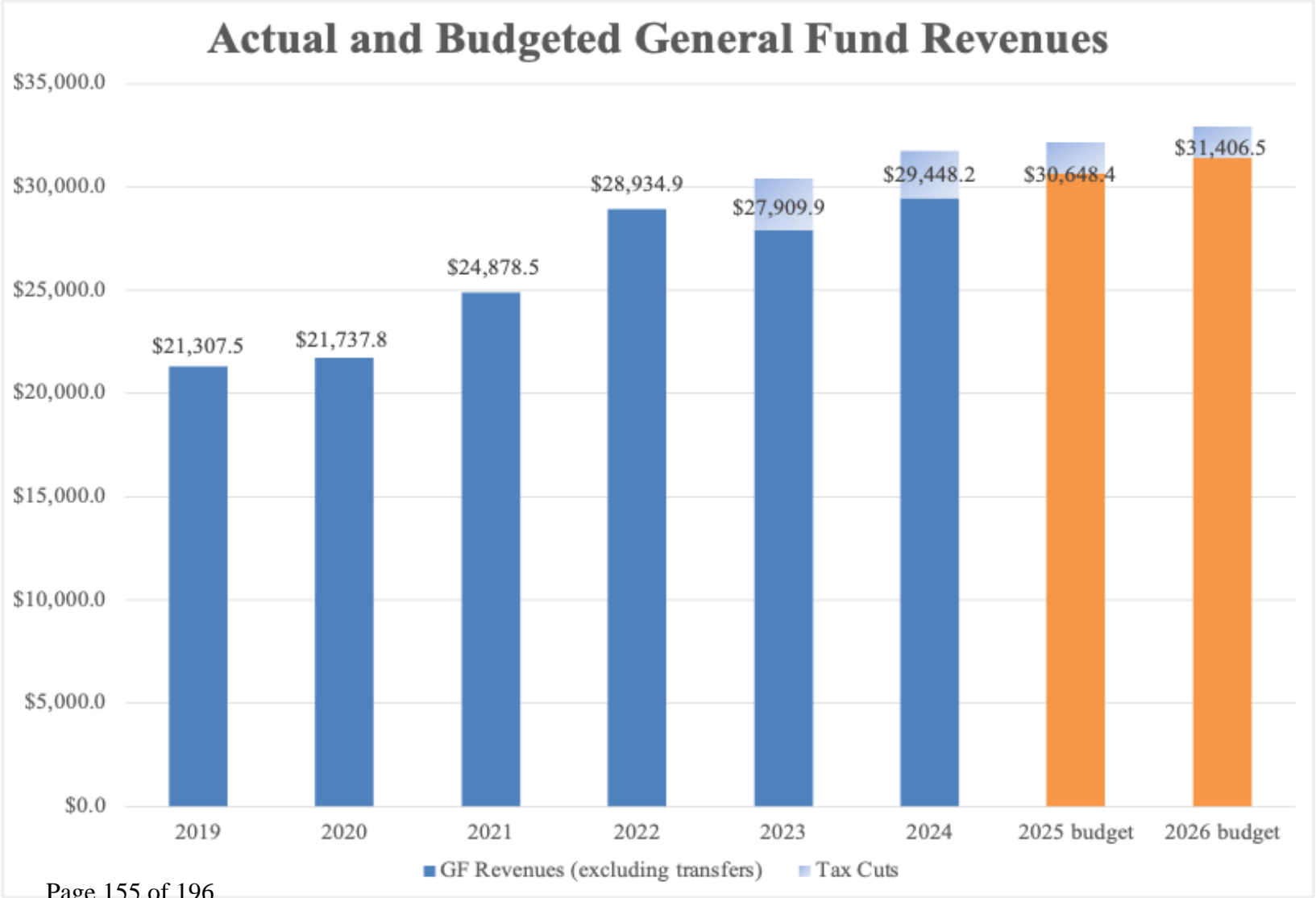
Source: Secretary Cummings presentation to Joint Committee, December 18, 2024.

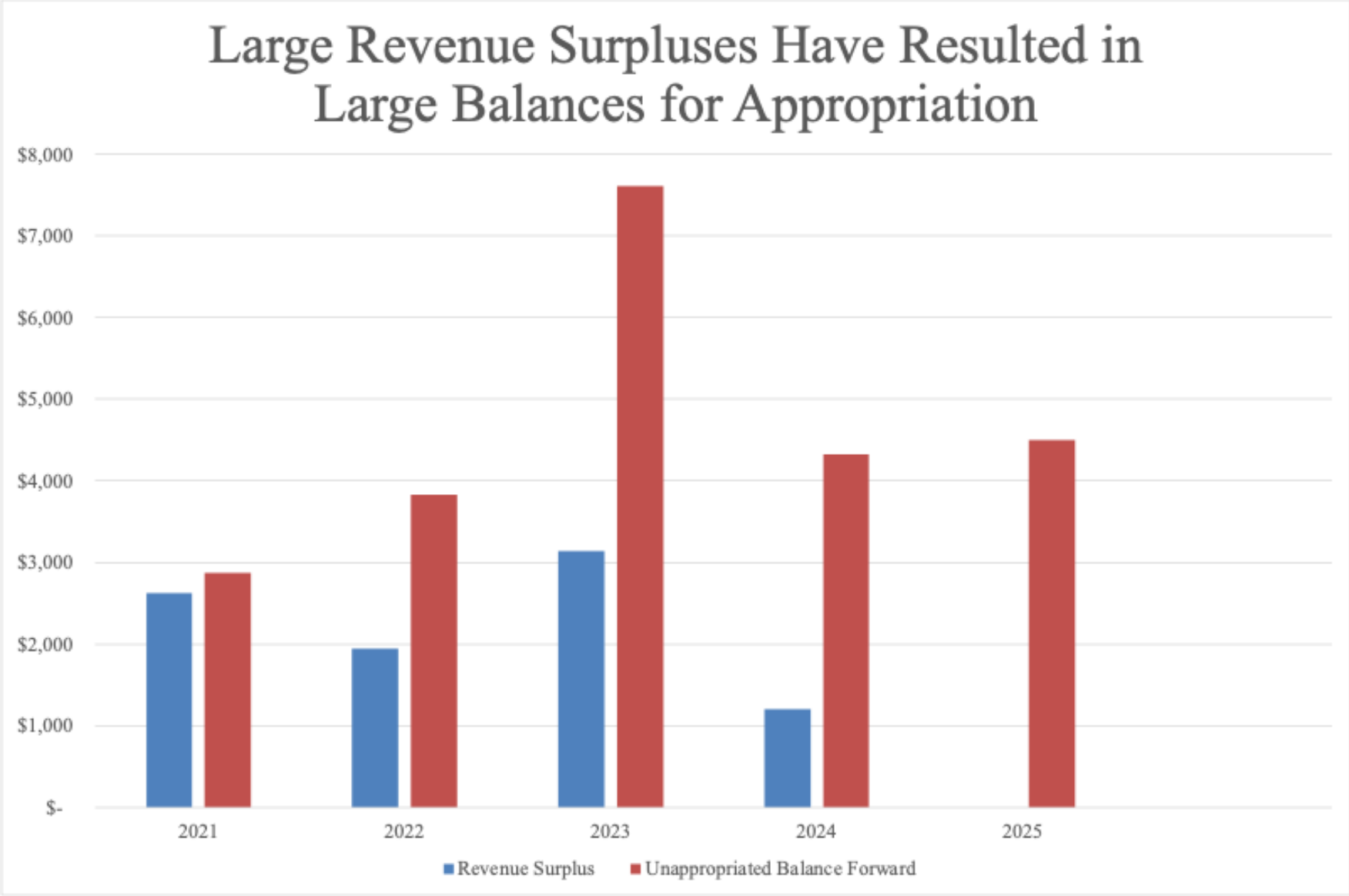
YTD GF Revenue Growth Points to Continued Strong Revenues (\$ Mil.)

	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>YTD Dec.</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>YTD Dec.</u>	<u>YTD %</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Forecast</u> <u>Growth</u>
<i>Withholding</i>	\$8,522	\$7,995	6.6%	5.2%
<i>Estimated Pay/Tax Dues</i>	\$2,337	\$2,033	15.0%	3.3%
<i>Refunds</i>	<u>-\$1,101</u>	<u>-\$1,125</u>	<u>-2.1%</u>	<u>-5.4%</u>
Net Individual Income	\$9,758	\$8,903	9.6%	6.1%
Sales Taxes	\$2,412	\$2,373	1.6%	1.9%
Corporate Income	\$821	\$980	-16.2%	-6.1%
Recordation	\$238	\$198	20.2%	12.6%
Interest	\$514	\$495	3.8%	-11.8%
All Other	<u>\$517</u>	<u>\$419</u>	<u>23.4%</u>	<u>0.5%</u>
Total GF Revenue	\$14,260	\$13,368	6.7%	4.1%

Note: January thru June revenues need to grow only 1.9% to meet the introduced budget forecast.

Growth in GF Revenues Has Been Significant





Proposed GF Spending Increased by \$4.7 Billion in the Introduced Budget

	<i>Ch. 2</i>	<i>Ch. 2</i>	<i>Introduced</i>	<i>Introduced</i>	BIENNIUM
	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
Legislative and Executive	\$216.6	\$196.3	\$216.6	\$196.9	\$0.6
Judicial Dept.	\$653.1	\$660.0	\$653.8	\$666.8	\$7.5
Administration/Comp Bd	\$996.5	\$986.4	\$1,001.8	\$990.4	\$9.3
Treasury Board Debt Service	\$1,019.0	\$1,053.9	\$1,006.9	\$1,056.2	-\$9.8
Other Finance /VRS Deposit	\$189.2	\$183.4	\$322.7	\$194.6	\$144.7
Rainy Day/Revenue Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$294.5	\$0.0	\$294.5
Car Tax Reimbursement/Tax Credit	\$950.0	\$950.0	\$2,053.0	\$950.0	\$1,103.0
Commerce and Trade/Labor	\$519.8	\$519.8	\$689.1	\$487.8	\$137.3
Agriculture / Nat. Resources	\$701.8	\$292.9	\$803.7	\$296.6	\$105.6
K-12 DIRECT AID/DOE	\$9,764.0	\$9,913.6	\$9,923.2	\$10,041.0	\$286.6
Higher & Other Education	\$3,723.9	\$3,726.1	\$3,786.9	\$3,812.0	\$148.9
DMAS Medicaid	\$6,569.6	\$6,938.7	\$6,857.7	\$7,252.0	\$601.4
Other Health & HS	\$3,251.8	\$3,243.0	\$3,320.7	\$3,430.6	\$256.5
Public Safety & Veterans/HS	\$2,724.7	\$2,680.6	\$2,744.5	\$2,704.8	\$44.0
Transportation	\$215.5	\$110.0	\$464.9	\$25.3	\$164.7
Central Appropriations	\$253.1	\$431.1	\$260.7	\$496.0	\$72.5
Independent Agencies/Capital	\$727.9	\$338.2	\$2,095.1	\$338.2	\$1,367.2
Total GF Appropriations	\$32,476.5	\$32,224.0	\$36,495.8	\$32,939.2	\$4,734.5

GF State Aid to Localities (\$ Mil.)				Ch.1	Ch.1	Intro	Intro
	FY 2009	FY 2014	FY 2018	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Direct Aid to K-12	\$5,607.6	\$5,240.3	\$5,963.0	\$9,144.0	\$8,928.1	\$9,717.0	\$9,941.0
K-12 % of Total GF Appropriations	35.2%	29.6%	29.2%	28.8%	28.8%	26.6%	30.2%
Health and Human Services	888.4	791.7	951.0	1,217.5	1,363.2	1,545.3	1,596.2
<i>CSA</i>	<i>299.7</i>	<i>217.2</i>	<i>279.9</i>	<i>330.7</i>	<i>367.0</i>	<i>\$417.7</i>	<i>449.0</i>
<i>Community MH/SA Services</i>	<i>249.4</i>	<i>269.3</i>	<i>350.4</i>	<i>497.2</i>	<i>604.6</i>	<i>682.9</i>	<i>690.4</i>
<i>Local Social Services Staff</i>	<i>117.4</i>	<i>115.3</i>	<i>122.1</i>	<i>148.5</i>	<i>151.3</i>	<i>172.4</i>	<i>186.3</i>
<i>Community Health Programs</i>	<i>117.6</i>	<i>107.2</i>	<i>117.9</i>	<i>149.4</i>	<i>152.6</i>	<i>182.6</i>	<i>182.6</i>
<i>Welfare Services and Programs</i>	<i>104.3</i>	<i>82.7</i>	<i>80.7</i>	<i>91.7</i>	<i>87.7</i>	<i>89.7</i>	<i>87.9</i>
Public Safety	734.3	687.9	738.8	877.8	895.4	965.5	958.8
<i>Local Sheriffs Offices</i>	<i>406.1</i>	<i>411.3</i>	<i>452.4</i>	<i>565.7</i>	<i>583.3</i>	<i>641.6</i>	<i>634.9</i>
<i>Local Police Depts HB 599</i>	<i>197.3</i>	<i>172.4</i>	<i>178.0</i>	<i>210.8</i>	<i>221.7</i>	<i>229.7</i>	<i>229.7</i>
<i>Local Jail Per diem</i>	<i>80.1</i>	<i>59.4</i>	<i>61.3</i>	<i>50.8</i>	<i>39.9</i>	<i>43.7</i>	<i>43.7</i>
<i>Assistance for Juvenile Justice</i>	<i>50.8</i>	<i>44.8</i>	<i>47.1</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>50.5</i>	<i>50.5</i>
Econ. Dev/Housing/Libraries/Envir.	54.7	56.0	89.2	274.8	250.0	225.9	225.9
Constitutional Officers	155.3	145.8	158.0	188.5	196.5	231.2	230.2
Dept. of Accounts Transfers	49.3	49.3	49.6	30.4	30.4	30.4	30.4
Car Tax	950.0	950.0	950.0	950.0	950.0	950.0	950.0
Aid-to-Locality Reduction	(50.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Local GF Aid	\$8,389.6	\$7,921.0	\$8,899.6	\$12,683.0	\$12,613.6	\$13,665.3	\$13,932.5
Total GF Appropriations	\$15,943.0	\$17,705.2	\$20,449.9	\$31,742.3	\$31,041.5	\$36,495.8	\$32,939.2
Local Aid % of Total GF	52.6%	44.7%	43.5%	40.0%	40.6%	37.4%	42.3%

Introduced Budget Assumes Long-Term Structural Balance (\$ Mil.)

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Total GF Resources Available for Appropriation	\$ 36,503	\$ 32,947	\$ 33,827	\$ 34,818	\$ 36,226	\$ 37,916
Growth Rate		-9.7%	2.7%	2.9%	4.0%	4.7%
Operating Spending	\$ 34,437	\$ 32,679	\$ 33,613	\$ 34,465	\$ 35,326	\$ 36,222
Capital Spending	\$ 2,059	\$ 260	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Introduced Budget	\$ 36,496	\$ 32,939	\$ 33,813	\$ 34,665	\$ 35,526	\$ 36,422
Net GF Available	\$ 7	\$ 8	\$ 14	\$ 154	\$ 700	\$ 1,494

Note: Car tax credit proposal assumed as income tax refunds after fiscal year 2028.

Chapter 2 K-12 Spending Items Expanded in the Adopted 2024-26 Biennium Budget

- 3% salary increase each year *for state share* of SOQ instructional and support positions (localities must provide at least 1.5% for prorated share): \$546 mil.
- Expand at-risk add-on and combine with the PIR per JLARC recommendation: \$371 mil.*
- Improve English learner staffing standards: \$72 mil.
- Expand reading specialist staffing standard: \$61 mil.
- \$80 mil. each year into school construction fund from casino revenues
- Authorizes \$200.0 million in FY 2025 and \$50.0 million in FY 2026 in literary fund school construction loans. Language also requires interest rates for these loans to be discounted yet responsive to market rates.

Child Care:

- Use GF support for child care subsidy program after federal funding expires: \$436 mil.
Use GF to support mixed delivery services after federal funding expires: \$58 mil.

* These payments shall be distributed based on the estimated number of At-Risk students, based on (1) the most recent three-year average Identified Student Percentage, applying a 1.25 multiplier factor, and (2) including one quarter of students identified as English language learners. The At-Risk Program shall provide each school division the state share of an 11.0 percent basic-aid add-on per estimated At-Risk student. In addition, the program shall provide each school division the state share of a payment equal to a 0.0 to 37.0 percent basic-aid add-on per estimated At-Risk student, with each school division's add-on percentage determined based upon the school division's concentration of At-Risk students relative to all other school divisions.

...But Not Much K-12 GF Change (\$286 m) in the Revised Budget, Despite \$4.7 Bil. in Additional Funding

Increases:

- Update English Language Learner data - \$110.7 mil.
- Update sales tax revenue for public education - \$38.4 mil.
- Update ADM projections based on actual Fall Membership - \$33.8 mil.
- Implement new state assessment contract - \$66.0
- Establish School Performance and Support Framework Resource Hub - \$51.3
- Provide Virginia Opportunity Scholarships - \$50.0
- Establish new Lab Schools in partnership with Historically Black Colleges and Universities - \$25.0
- Support Virginia's Visualization and Analytics Solution - \$5.0
- \$290 mil. (NGF) in additional casino and Literary fund revenues for local school construction

Decreases:

- Update Lottery proceeds for public education – (\$63.3)
- Update the cost of Lottery-funded programs – (\$22.2)
- Update costs of Incentive programs – (\$4.9)
- Update program participation for Remedial Summer School – (\$2.9)
- Update sales tax distribution for school age population – (\$1.6)

Other Major Spending Priorities Proposed in the Introduced Budget

- \$1.37 bil. in capital outlay/maintenance spending, including \$400 mil. for wastewater bond supplanting.
- \$1.1 bil. to seed a car tax income tax credit for 3 years (\$370 mil. per year) that is expected to be funded through regular revenue growth thereafter.
- \$599 mil. for Medicaid utilization and inflation net of increased Virginia Health Care Funds
- \$295 mil. to appropriate the required Revenue Reserve Fund deposit – *GA may reappropriate for other uses*
- \$175 mil. contingent appropriation for Interstate 81 improvements
- \$131 mil. for Dept. of Taxation replacement of revenue management system
- \$105 mil. for Children Services Act estimated *sum sufficient* increases for at-risk youth
- \$90 mil. for higher education military family tuition waivers
- \$55 mil. for improvements to the behavioral/mental health system
- \$50 mil to expand the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program
- \$50 mil. to Richmond Combined Sewer Overflow project
- \$48 mil. for DMAS medical assistance services for low-income children utilization and inflation
- \$44 mil. for Water Quality Improvement Fund deposits from surplus revenues
- \$41 mil. for DMAS Fund Family Access to Medical Insurance Security utilization and inflation
- \$35 mil. to support life sciences in the Commonwealth
- \$25 mil. to capitalize the Disaster Assistance Fund
- \$15 mil. to community colleges to sustain and expand high school student access to community college dual enrollment and workforce credential programs

Other *Unfunded* Spending Priorities Identified by the Money Committees

- \$222 mil. - address K-12 support cap
- \$140 mil. - Increase K-12 special education supports
- \$120 mil. - Address Childcare Subsidy Waitlist
- \$10-50 mil. - Support Investments in Affordable Housing
- \$15 mil. - Healthcare Initiatives (Rural and Maternal)
- \$28 mil. Personal Care Attendants – Add'l 3% Increase
- \$70 mil. - Implement Paid Family and Medical Leave
- \$54 mil. - Increase Minimum Wage to \$15.00 (6-month impact)
- \$60 mil. - Collective Bargaining
- \$10-25 mil. - Operating needs within existing natural resources programs
- \$100 - 200 mil. - Transportation Investments (One-Time)
- \$116 mil. - 1% bonus for teachers and state employees
- \$122 mil. - 1% salary increase for teachers and state employees

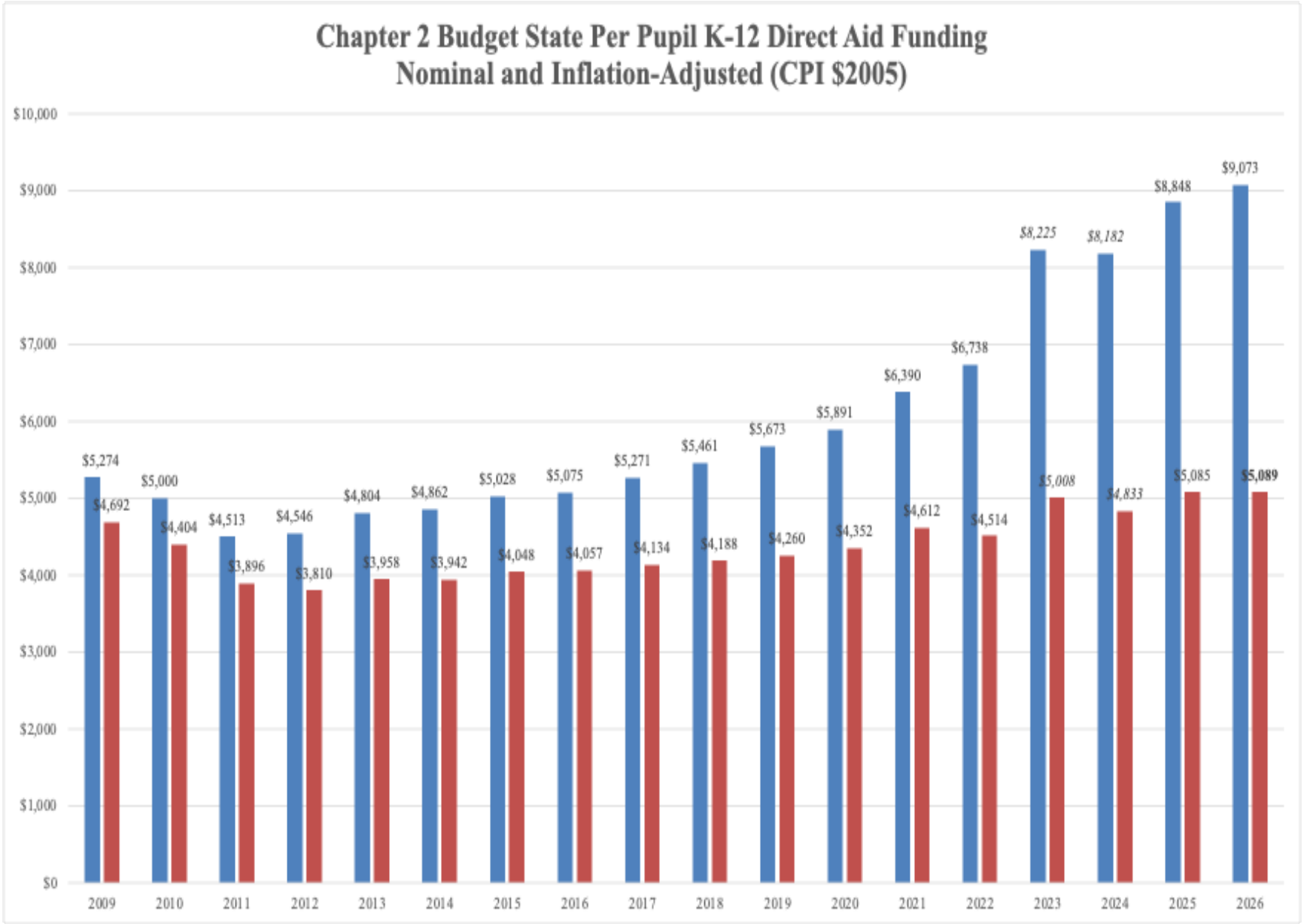
Recent Tax Reductions in Virginia

Recent Adopted Major Tax Policy <u>Reductions</u> Impacting Revenue Estimates**				
	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
Standard Deduction Increases	\$1,015.8	\$755.5	\$821.1	\$833.4
Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit	\$159.0	\$156.0	\$159.6	\$155.0
Income Tax Subtraction on Military Benefits	\$145.0	\$193.8	\$215.4	\$229.1
Eliminate Sales Tax on Groceries and Personal Hygiene	\$115.0	\$267.2	\$272.5	\$273.6
All Other Changes	\$15.3	\$21.2	\$33.9	\$35.3
Tax Rebate	\$1,048.6	\$906.8		
Total	\$2,498.7	\$2,300.5	\$1,502.5	\$1,526.4
** August 14, 2024 Joint Money Committee Presentation				

Introduced Budget Tax Policy Changes

	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
Car Tax Income Tax Credit - \$150/\$300 (Pre-funded 3 years)	(\$1,103.0)	
Eliminate Tax on Tips	\$0.0	(\$35.0)
Full Utilization of Educ. Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit	(\$4.0)	(\$4.0)
Increase Threshold to \$1,000 for Estimated Tax Payments	(\$10.4)	(\$1.1)
Make Tax Due/Refund Interest Rate Equal to Federal	\$0.0	(\$10.0)
Reduction of Interest Payments Due to Refund Acceleration	\$0.0	\$4.3
Total	(\$1,117.4)	(\$45.8)

Note: If adopted, the proposal to implement Market Based Sourcing would not impact GF revenues in the 2024-26 biennium.





VACo

LEGISLATIVE DAY CAPITOL CONTACT

PRESENTED ON
January 23, 2025

PREPARED BY
VACo Legislative Team



www.vaco.org



EDUCATION

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JLARC Recommendation Bills.

Following the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) study on how to improve the Standards of Quality (SOQ) in the Commonwealth and the 2024 recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education, several legislators have introduced legislation and budget amendments meant to help localities with K-12 funding.

VACo supports the JLARC and Joint Subcommittee recommendations and the subsequent legislation as VACo's 2025 top Funding Priority.

[HB 1831 \(Simonds\)](#) and [SB 1236 \(Aird\)](#) effectively end the support cap and require the Department of Education, (i) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service, and (ii) in calculating the costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula beginning with fiscal year 2029, to include all employee benefit costs incurred by a majority of school divisions, including costs related to retirement, health care, life insurance, and payout of earned but unused leave. The bills also require support services positions to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the school division, except for certain support services positions enumerated in the bills.

[HB 1954 \(Rasoul\)](#) and [SB 977 \(Hashmi\)](#) also effectively end the support cap and codify additional recommendations related to the cost of K-12 salaries, additional funding for special education, at-risk students, and English learners, among other provisions.

KEY POINTS

- For far too long localities have been trying to emphasize how out-of-date and inadequate the current SOQs are.
- Per code, the State should be funding 55% of the costs of education and localities should be funding 45% of the costs of education. However, over time localities have been forced to pay far more than the allotted 45%.
- These recommendations change the standards for the better and finally provide the changes localities desperately need to help support our schools.
- Local governments solely fund over 57,000 K-12 staff positions.

- The state funding formula recognizes only 8% of actual instructional aides employed.
- In FY 2021, local governments invested \$6.6 billion more than the state funding formula indicated was needed.

School Construction Legislation.

VACo supports legislation that once again seeks to grant additional revenue raising authority if approved by local referendum for school capital needs. Funding for school construction and renovation is one of the biggest concerns and responsibilities of local governments in the Commonwealth and has been almost solely a local responsibility for decades. The condition of the facilities in which children are educated has a direct impact on their ability to learn.

Many localities face significant challenges in raising sufficient funds to undertake these projects. These challenges include over-reliance on real property taxes to generate revenue, which can have vastly different yields depending on the locality and disproportionately burden a subset of taxpayers within a jurisdiction. This raises concerns over equity and diversity of revenues.

SB 1307 (McPike) would permit any county or city to impose an additional local sales and use tax of up to 1 percent, if initiated by a resolution of the local governing body and approved by voters at a local referendum. The revenues of such a local tax would be used solely for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools. Any tax imposed shall expire when the costs for capital projects are to be repaid and shall not be more than 20 years after the date of the resolution passed.

Currently, this authority is limited to the qualifying localities of Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville. SB 1307 also has a maintenance of effort provision.

KEY POINTS

- According to the **Commission on School Construction and Modernization**, more than half of K-12 school buildings in Virginia are more than 50 years old. The amount of funding needed to replace these buildings is estimated to cost \$24.8 billion.
- This legislation was a unanimous recommendation by the Commission on School Construction and Modernization.
- This bill is about parity for local governments, giving all counties the same authority currently given to nine localities.
- This bill is **NOT** a tax increase. It would merely create a local option and another tool in the toolbox of local government, which would only be enacted by local referendum.

Budget Amendments to Support.

Item 125 #3h (Rasoul) provides \$277.5 million in FY 26 to (i) eliminate the existing “support cap” that calculates the number of funded support positions based on 24 positions per 1,000 students and revert to the methodology used prior to 2009, based on prevailing staffing ratios, and (ii) establish a special education add-on to provide support in addition to existing funding for special education positions, calculated based on the state's share of a 4 percent add on to basic aid for students receiving Level I services and an 10 percent add-on to basic aid for students receiving Level II services. This amendment is derived from recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Elementary and Secondary Education Funding.

Item 125 #2h (Bulova), Item 125 #9h (Simonds), Item 125 #18s (Aird) and Item 125 #13s (Boysko) provide \$222.9 million in FY 26 to implement the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) recommendation to lift the cap on K-12 education support staff funding that was left over from the Great Recession. Since fiscal year 2010, funded support positions have been calculated as a linear weighted average of support positions to funded SOQ instructional positions as reported by divisions.

Item 125 #7s (Hashmi) provides \$1.2 billion GF in FY 26 to support the provisions of Senate Bill 977 to fully fund the recommendations from the 2023 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) report, 'Virginia's K-12 Funding Formula.' The legislation also provides add-on funding for students with disabilities that, together with the existing support for students with disabilities, provides funding similar in scale to what is recommended by JLARC Policy Option 5. This estimate is based on data previously provided by the Department of Education, but the legislation's fiscal impact is to be determined.

Item 125 #7h (Cousins) increases support for the School Construction Assistance Program by \$290.0 million from the general fund in FY 25, in addition to the \$290.0 million increase included in the introduced budget. This would increase support for the program to \$740.0 million over the biennium.

KEY POINTS

- Virginia desperately needs to increase funding in all schools regardless of location. Teachers and other support and instructional staff deserve to be paid more and proportionately.
- These amendments are meant to provide additional state support for school divisions for positions that are currently funded with local dollars.
- Schools also must be clean, safe, and inviting places to learn in. If the roof is leaking, the ceiling is cracked, or the HVAC is old, learning cannot properly take place.
- Please support additional funding for school buildings and the providers that work within.

ELECTIONS

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Support resources for election administration.

[Item C-53.80 #2h \(Krizek\)](#), which was requested by VACo, would authorize \$18 million in state bond proceeds to be used as matching funds to localities to assist with the replacement of voting equipment. A companion amendment ([Item 77 #1h](#)) would provide resources to the Department of Elections to administer the program and direct the department to convene a workgroup of stakeholders representing general registrars, electoral boards, and local governments to develop criteria and guidelines for allocation of funds.

[Item 78 #1s \(Roem\)](#) would provide \$8.2 million in FY 2026 for additional staffing in general registrars' offices.

KEY POINTS

- Many counties will soon be replacing ballot scanners and accessible equipment that are reaching the end of their usable lives, or have recently done so; one-time state assistance with these costs would be an avenue for the state to support election administration at the local level.
- Staffing needs were cited as a top concern in a survey of general registrars conducted by the Department of Elections after the 2023 elections. Currently, the state provides ongoing funding for a portion of general registrars' salaries and electoral board members' compensation, but not for additional personnel in registrars' offices.

Ranked choice voting legislation returns.

[SB 1009 \(Salim\)](#) would allow elections for any local office to be conducted by ranked-choice voting, with the decision to conduct an election in this manner to be made by a majority vote of the local governing body, in consultation with the local electoral board and general registrar. The bill includes language requested by VACo last year providing that if a town council votes to conduct an election for town council or mayor by ranked choice voting, the board of supervisors may require the town to reimburse the county for costs associated with conducting the election that would not have been incurred absent the town council's decision to conduct the election by ranked choice voting. VACo has no position on ranked choice voting as a concept but has maintained that the decision to conduct an election via ranked-choice voting should continue to rest with the locality, since the financial responsibility would be borne locally.

Changes to election calendar potentially under consideration.

[**SJ 253 \(Surovell\)**](#) would establish a joint subcommittee of legislators and citizen members to study the consolidation and scheduling of general elections in Virginia, to include potential effects of moving some or all of Virginia's state or local elections to even-numbered years to coincide with the federal election cycle. [**HB 1794 \(Helmer\)/SB 1119 \(VanValkenburg\)**](#) would require primaries for offices to be filled at the November election in Presidential election years to be held on the date of the presidential primary.

ENERGY AND LAND USE

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Oppose bills to preempt local decisions on siting of solar facilities.

[HB 2126 \(Sullivan\)](#) and [SB 1190 \(Deeds\)](#) establish a process to override decisions by any county that denies certain applications for a utility-scale solar or battery storage project of at least 20 megawatts (MW) in generation/storage capacity. The legislation also mandates (1) that by July 1, 2028, every locality shall include in its comprehensive plan provisions making it consistent with state's [Commonwealth Clean Energy Policy](#); and (2) that by July 1, 2026, every locality shall adopt an ordinance for the permitting of solar and battery storage facilities, and that such ordinance be consistent with a model ordinance developed by the state.

The specifics for preemption of local decisions include the following:

- Creation of the Virginia Energy Facility Review Board to establish a “model local ordinance” for the siting, permitting, and zoning review of any “critical interconnection project,” which is defined as a solar or battery storage project of at least 20 MW in capacity and within 3 miles to an interconnection point (substation) to the electric grid.
- Every critical interconnection project must be submitted to the Review Board, and within 90 days of receipt of an application, the review board must determine whether the application meets the criteria of the model ordinance and should be approved by the locality where it is located.
- For any zoning request to approve a critical interconnection project, a locality is required to approve or deny the application within 180 days of receipt of an application. If the locality fails to render a decision within 180 days, it is automatically granted approval.
- An applicant may appeal a denial to the Circuit Court and the legislation establishes there is a rebuttable presumption that the opinion of the Review Board is correct. Such presumption may only be overcome by a preponderance of evidence that the locality's decision to deny the project was consistent with provisions of the model ordinance and does not include any unreasonable restrictions.

It is important to note that the definition of an “unreasonable restriction” includes:

1. any prohibition on solar energy facilities or energy storage facilities;
2. any provision or condition that has the effect of limiting the amount of land available for solar energy facilities or energy storage facilities to less than 5 percent of any zoning district;

3. any provision or condition that is more stringent than or in addition to those listed in a model local ordinance adopted by the Review Board; or
4. any provision or condition on solar energy facilities or energy storage facilities that limits the total amount, density, or size of such facilities in a manner that would prevent the locality from achieving its meaningful contribution to clean energy.

VACo opposes both bills. HB 2126 will be heard in the [House Labor and Commerce Committee](#) SB 1190 will be heard in the [Senate Commerce and Labor Committee](#).

KEY POINTS

- Utility-scale solar projects are in effect largescale power plants, many of which may have oversized footprints. For example, a solar facility with a generating capacity of 100 MW can occupy 1,000 acres or more of land.
- Local review and approval of utility-scale solar and battery storage projects are necessary to determine if the use and location are consistent with a locality's land use goals and objectives. The state should not usurp local authority to determine how such facilities fit within local landscapes.

Oppose bills limiting local authority for the approval and siting of data centers.

In response to rapid growth in data centers across the Commonwealth, and their impacts on energy use, water demand, noise and proximity to residential areas, there are numerous bills addressing how the state and localities should review and permit them. VACo has identified the following bills that place limits on County decisions regarding approval of data centers:

[HB 1984 \(Lovejoy\)](#) requires that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center be approved only for areas that are one-quarter mile or more from federal, state, or local parks, schools, and property zoned or used for residential use.

[HB 2026 \(Thomas\)](#) requires a locality to review and amend its zoning ordinance to (i) designate data centers as industrial uses for zoning purposes; (ii) review the locations of zones allowing data centers by right, and adjust the zoning map, if needed, considering proximity to residential areas; (iii) review the minimum requirements in the zoning ordinance, such as setbacks and building heights, for the purpose of mitigating negative impacts on residential or other sensitive areas and consider adding requirements specific to data centers as needed; (iv) identify optimal areas for data center development in the locality, including locations that are suitable from the locality's perspective as well as the industry's perspective; (v) consider zoning ordinance changes to reduce the likelihood of noisy data centers, including through limiting allowable locations and requiring sound modeling, and prohibit the constant low-frequency noise

of data centers from reaching residential areas; and (vi) require commitments from data centers making zoning requests to sufficiently mitigate negative impacts on any nearby residential areas. The provisions of the bill shall only apply to localities where data centers are already addressed in the locality's zoning ordinance and where a locality is revising its zoning ordinance to include data centers.

SB 1045 (Roem) requires that any local government land use application for the siting of a data center shall only be approved if such application is for a data center located on property classified by local ordinance for industrial use.

VACo opposes these bills. HB 1984 and HB 2026 will be heard in the **House Counties, Cities and Towns Subcommittee #2**. SB 1045 will be heard in **Senate Local Government Committee**.

KEY POINTS

- Virginia Counties are responding to the growth and expected demand for data centers by amending local ordinances to address their potential impacts.
- VACo supports maintaining local authority to address the siting and impacts of any proposed land use, including data centers.

ENVIRONMENT AND

AGRICULTURE

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Interbasin Water Transfers – Drinking Water Impacts.

[SB 923 \(Stuart\)](#) would prohibit the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) from issuing a Virginia Water Protection Permit for any surface water withdrawal in Virginia if more than 5 percent of the nonconsumptive volume of water withdrawn will be returned to a different major river basin. **VACo opposes the bill.**

KEY POINTS

- The bill would impose limitations on the ability of water utilities to provide drinking water to citizens now and in the future.
- Efforts to supply water needs are not necessarily confined by the boundaries of river basins and inter-basin transfers of water have proven to be beneficial in using surplus water to meet drinking needs in Virginia.
- The bill would ban all inter-basin water transfers and harm counties that engage in regional water planning now and in the future and by doing so, limit the development and growth goals of counties.

Budget Amendments to Support.

Stormwater Local Assistance Fund: [365 #1s \(Stuart\)](#) and [Item C-53.80#1h \(Bulova\)](#) would provide \$50 million general fund in FY 26 for deposit to the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund to assist the Commonwealth in meeting Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan.

Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty (WQIF): [Item 365 #1h \(Bulova\)](#) would provide for a total of \$48.6 million from the general fund in fiscal year 2026 to support wastewater treatment upgrades identified by the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty program. The amendment is for \$31.2 million in FY 26. The Governor's introduced budget includes \$17.4 million from the GF for FY 25. The additional funding would represent the most recent available cash flow estimate for projects in the current biennium.

Forest Sustainability Fund: [Item 96 #2s \(Perry\)](#), [Item 96 #2h \(Bloxom\)](#) and [Item 96 #3h \(Lopez\)](#) would provide \$2.5 million from the general fund in fiscal year

2026 for deposit in the Forest Sustainability Fund. The fund is used by localities with forest use value assessments to enhance recreation, environmental education, and local forest management

Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund: [Item 96#3s \(Marsden\)](#) provides an additional \$5 million GF the first year and \$5 million GF the second year to be deposited to the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund.

FINANCE

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Oppose legislation placing restrictions on local meals tax.

[HB 2004 \(McNamara\)](#) would cap rates for local meals taxes at 4 percent, after January 1, 2028; rates of up to 6 percent would be allowed after approval in a referendum initiated by resolution of the local governing body or on the filing of a petition signed by 10 percent of the registered voters in a locality. These provisions would apply to counties, cities, and towns. Currently, counties may impose meals taxes at rates of up to 6 percent without seeking voter approval via referendum; cities and towns are not subject to caps on meals tax rates. **VACo is opposed to this legislation.**

KEY POINTS

- This bill would retreat from progress made in 2020 to provide counties with the ability to raise revenues similar to authority previously provided to cities and towns. (Prior to 2020, most counties could impose a meals tax only via referendum, and rates were capped at 4 percent.)
- Members of local boards of supervisors are elected by county residents and are accountable to them for all the decisions they make, including decisions involving local revenues.
- Meals taxes can be an important option for revenue diversification for localities.

Grocery tax elimination bills return.

[HB 2006 \(McNamara\)](#) and [SB 1172 \(Suetterlein\)](#) would eliminate the 1 percent local option sales and use tax on groceries and replace the lost revenue with a state appropriation based on each city and county's monthly pro rata share of total sales and use tax collections. HB 2006 would make this change effective July 1, 2025; SB 1172 would take effect on January 1, 2026. **VACo continues to oppose eliminating this local revenue source.** While the bills would provide for replacement revenue, localities would be relying on the state to honor this commitment in the future.

Support legislation and budget amendments to ensure sustainability of tax exemptions for veterans and surviving spouses.

[Item 251 #1s \(Aird\)](#), which was introduced at the request of VACo and VML, would provide one-time funding of \$103 million in FY 2026 to reimburse local governments

for the amount of lost revenue attributable to property tax exemptions for disabled veterans or their surviving spouses and the surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who are killed in the line of duty, if more than 1 percent of such locality's taxable real estate was exempt from taxation. These provisions are modeled on legislation supported by VACo in previous years. The amendment also includes language that requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to convene a stakeholder group which would be charged with conducting a review of current exemptions and recent trends and an analysis of future growth and developing options to address the ongoing cost to localities.

SB 1312 (McPike) would require the Commonwealth to reimburse 50 percent of lost revenue associated with the property tax exemptions for disabled veterans or their surviving spouses and the surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who are killed in the line of duty in any locality in which at least 1 percent of real property was exempt from real property taxes in tax year 2022. **Item 255.10 #1s (McPike)** provides \$42 million in FY 2026 for this purpose.

KEY POINTS

- Counties appreciate the many sacrifices of veterans and their families and their contributions to their communities. Real property tax revenues are the mainstay of local government budgets, and state actions that reduce these revenues place pressure on other local government budget priorities, including services that benefit veterans and their families.
- The cost to implement this program has grown substantially since its inception, with lost revenues estimated at \$240 million in FY 2024.
- These proposals to provide state assistance to localities with substantial concentrations of exempt property would help to ensure that the cost of providing these mandatory property tax exemptions is shared by all taxpayers in the Commonwealth.

VACo working to ensure BPOL legislation receives thorough review.

HB 1743 (Watts) deals with the ability of businesses to deduct gross receipts attributable to business conducted in another state or foreign country from taxation under the BPOL tax. Under current law, receipts attributable to business conducted in another state or foreign country in which the taxpayer is liable for an income tax or other tax based on income are deductible. HB 1743 would expand this provision to cover receipts from other states or foreign countries with a net income tax or other tax based upon income or gross receipts. This legislation is anticipated to affect local revenues, with a potentially significant impact in some jurisdictions, although the full scope is difficult to quantify. Allowing the deductibility of gross receipts generated in states with other types of taxes also adds complexity to tax administration, since states have different rules and thresholds for filing. Given the unknown revenue impact and

administrative complexity involved in the bill, and the compressed timeline of the short session, VACo has encouraged a more thorough review of its implications and is continuing to discuss the bill with the patron and proponents of the legislation.

Competing approaches to short-term rental tax collections under consideration.

[SB 1330 \(Marsden\)](#) requires the Department of Taxation to establish a statewide short-term rental registry and requires all accommodations providers and accommodations intermediaries (companies like Airbnb) to register with the Department and provide information on individual properties offered for short-term rental, to include amounts of taxes collected for specific properties. Local Commissioners of the Revenue or other assessing officials would have access to the information on the registry and would be authorized to share certain information with local zoning officials. The Commissioner of the Revenue would be required to notify an accommodations intermediary upon discovering that a short-term rental on its platform was not lawful, and the intermediary would be required to remove the non-compliant listing from its platform within seven days. **VACo supports this legislation.** A companion bill, **[HB 1557 \(Ware\)](#)**, failed in subcommittee earlier this week. **[HB 2383 \(Mundon King\)](#)** and **[SB 1402 \(Surovell\)](#)** reflect a compromise between Airbnb and Commissioners of the Revenue. Airbnb has agreed to comply with current law requiring monthly reporting of property addresses and gross receipts for all accommodations facilitated by in each locality. This information will allow transient occupancy tax collections to be properly attributed and audited, a long-sought goal of local tax administrators. Other provisions in the bills stipulate that this information may only be used for tax collection purposes and may not be shared with other departments or officials within the locality.

Budget amendments to support.

Staffing in sheriffs' offices: **[Item 60 #4h \(Delaney\)](#)**, **[Item 60 #2s \(Diggs\)](#)** and **[Item 60 #3s \(Carroll Foy\)](#)** would provide \$15.2 million in FY 2026 to fund sheriffs' deputies in accordance with the statutory staffing standard of one deputy per 1500 people in localities where the sheriff has primary responsibility for law enforcement.

Staffing in Director of Finance offices: **[Item 62 #2h \(Bulova\)](#)** provides \$1.5 million in FY 2026 to restore funding for 98 unfunded positions in offices of Directors of Finance.

Staffing for Commonwealth's Attorneys: **[Item 64 #3h \(Ward\)](#)** and **[Item 64 #2s \(Perry\)](#)** provide \$25.7 million in FY 2026 for staffing for Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices consistent with new staffing standards developed by the Compensation Board.

FOIA AND PUBLIC

NOTICE

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Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required.

VACo opposed [SB 876 \(Ebbin\)](#), as introduced, because it did not provide for the addition of, and action on, agenda issues that were emerging or required swift attention. The bill expands current notice information required of Public Bodies providing that the notice shall include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at the meeting and that agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. What is particularly problematic about the bill is added language that provides that amendments to the proposed agenda may be made prior to the meeting, but the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items. This provision would essentially prevent modifying the agenda at a meeting and would prohibit a local public body from responding promptly to issues.

Operation of local government requires action on issues that come with the day-to-day complexities of safely and efficiently operating of local government functions. Requiring public bodies to wait until the next meeting, which may be a month away, to take action, is unreasonable at best and a public safety concern at worst.

The patron considered concerns raised by VACo and other public bodies and introduced a substitute to the bill which provides in part *that the agenda and any subsequent revisions shall be posted on the public body's official public government website, if any, and made available to the public prior to the meeting.* It also provides that *any items added to the agenda after the meeting commences may be considered and discussed at the meeting, but final action shall not be taken on such an item unless the matter is time sensitive.* This new language would allow action on matters added to the agenda that are time sensitive, but all other matters added cannot be acted on until a subsequent meeting.

To express concerns about your county policies as they relate to this bill contact the Patron Senator Ebbin or your legislators.

FOIA Requests to Public Bodies.

[SB 1029 \(Roem\)](#) is a revised version of past bills introduced by the patron and opposed by VACo to provide free or reduced requester fees for FOIA requests to public bodies. The introduced version of this bill is based on a work group of stakeholders that held several meetings over the past year under the umbrella of the Freedom of Information Act Advisory Council. The council did not take a position on the bill as it lacked a quorum at its last meeting before the session. The bill limits the fees that can be charged for producing public records to the median hourly rate of pay of employees of the public body, or the actual hourly rate of pay of the person performing the work, whichever is less. It also provides that a public body may petition a court for relief from this fee limit, if there is no one who can process the request at the median hourly rate of pay or less.

The bill also amends existing law providing that a public body may petition a court for additional time to respond to a request for public records to allow such petitions to be heard in either general district or circuit court, to give such petitions priority on the court's docket, and to toll the response time while such a petition is pending before a court. As part of the **[workgroup](#)**, the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory (FOIA) Council staff has published best practices guides pertaining to access to public records under FOIA, FOIA charges, and making requests for public records.

VACo does not endorse the workgroup product as reflected in this bill. Contact your **[Senators](#)** to express concerns about your county policies as they relate to this bill.

Public Notice Legislation.

VACo supports **[HB 1996 \(Bennett Parker\)](#)**, which allows the second public hearing notice that a planning commission publishes for certain planning and zoning actions to be published no less than five days before the date of the meeting. Current law requires such notice to be published no less than seven days before the date of the meeting and this time frame was problematic for several localities due to the deadlines of the local newspaper.

KEY POINT

- The slightly shorter notice period will allow more timely action on these matters by the Public Body.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

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Support budget amendments to maintain state-local partnership in Children's Services Act.

Language in the Governor's introduced budget would cap the state's contribution to the Children's Services Act by stipulating that the rate of state reimbursement to localities for private day educational services for services provided on or after July 1, 2025, may not increase more than 2.5 percent over the rates for such services provided the previous year. VACo worked with advocacy partners to submit amendments to remove this provision, and to suggest instead that the state take a focused look at ways to assist public schools to serve children with high support needs.

[Item 268 #1h \(Carr\)](#), [Item 268 #2h \(Coyner\)](#), [Item 268 #3h \(Hodges\)](#), [Item 268 #1s \(Favola\)](#), and [Item 268 #2s \(Deeds\)](#) would all strike the language regarding the cap. [Item 1 #4s \(Favola\)](#), which was also submitted at the request of VACo and its advocacy partners, would direct the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding to review a recommendation from a previous workgroup to create a defined pool of funds within the Department of Education reserved for students with highest support needs in public schools, to include consideration of whether this goal could be met by expanding or restructuring the existing Students with Intensive Support Needs Application funding mechanism.

KEY POINTS

- Under the language in the introduced budget imposing the cap, if a provider's rate increased beyond 2.5 percent over the previous year's rate, and no alternative placement was available or suitable, the locality would be left to cover both the state and local shares of costs in excess of that cap. The state limiting its financial exposure to cost increases runs contrary to the structure of CSA, which is a state-local partnership.
- Providing additional support to local public schools was an area of consensus in a 2021-2022 workgroup on CSA, but further work needed to be done to determine the best mechanism to provide that support.
- The Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding held a robust discussion about the need to improve state support for special education at its last meeting in 2024, with a plan for further work in the 2025 interim. The

proposed budget language would ensure that the issue of private placements funded through CSA is part of that discussion.

Oppose legislation to require closure of juvenile detention centers.

[SB 1432 \(Marsden\)](#) requires the closure and consolidation of seven juvenile detention centers by January 1, 2026. VACo is opposed to this legislation. Throughout several workgroups reviewing this issue, VACo has maintained its position that any decisions regarding consolidation should be made by the affected local governments so that the full spectrum of community needs can be considered, to include opportunities for the reinvestment of savings into the provision of additional services, as well as potential drawbacks, such as housing youth farther from their families and communities.

The bill would require a series of closures and consolidations, as follows:

- Loudoun County Juvenile Detention Center, Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center, and Prince William County Juvenile Detention Center would be closed and consolidated into the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center or other detention center as negotiated by the localities or commissions;
- Henrico Juvenile Detention Center would be closed and consolidated into the James River Juvenile Detention Center, Chesterfield Juvenile Detention Home, or other detention center as negotiated by the localities or commissions;
- Richmond Juvenile Detention Center would be closed and consolidated into the Chesterfield Juvenile Detention Home or other detention center as negotiated by the localities or commissions;
- Norfolk Juvenile Detention Center would be closed and consolidated into the Virginia Beach Juvenile Detention Center, Chesapeake Juvenile Services, or other detention center as negotiated by the localities or commissions;
- Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention Center would be closed and consolidated into the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center or other detention center as negotiated by the localities or commissions.

The bill requires a locality or commission operating a facility that would receive youth from a facility that would be closed under the provisions of the bill to negotiate with the locality from which the youth would be placed regarding “mutually agreeable funding contributions for the operation of such receiving juvenile secure detention facility.”

These agreements must include certain provisions regarding access to post-dispositional programming, medical and hospitalization costs, and transportation costs. If the localities are unable to reach an agreement, the Department of Juvenile Justice would determine the contributions, and failure to comply with this determination could result in the loss of state funding. Under the bill, a locality or commission operating a detention facility that refuses to accept youth who would otherwise have been placed in a facility that is closed would not be eligible for state funding for its facility.

The bill also proposes changes to staffing requirements for education professionals at detention centers. Rather than a ratio of one teacher for every 12 beds, the ratio would be changed to one full-time equivalent program employee (which may include teachers, lead teachers, principals, and program administrative support staff) for every six students based on a rolling average daily population at the facility from the previous three fiscal years. Contracts between the Board of Education and local school divisions must allow a teacher employed by a local school board to continue serving in the local school division and also work part-time at a regional or local detention center; these teachers would be eligible for a \$3000 annual bonus.

KEY POINTS

- Juvenile detention centers are owned and operated locally, with some state support. Decisions regarding consolidation should be made by the affected local governments so that the benefits and drawbacks can be fully considered.
- The most recent study of this issue concluded that several facilities could be closed and consolidated, provided that an extensive list of barriers could be overcome, including the potential negative effects of placing youth farther from home on family engagement, youth access to legal counsel, and youth engagement in services in their home communities. This legislation does not address these barriers.

Support Medicaid coverage of behavioral health treatment for incarcerated individuals in local/regional jails.

VACo worked with advocacy partners to introduce budget language directing the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to apply for a waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to allow coverage of behavioral health services, addiction and recovery treatment, and prescription medications for behavioral health-related conditions of incarcerated individuals in state facilities and local and regional jails ([Item 288 #16s \(Favola\)](#)). Several other amendments ([Item 292 #2h \(Coyner\)](#) and [Item 292 #4s \(Locke\)](#)) have been introduced to provide coverage for prenatal and postpartum care for incarcerated pregnant and postpartum women up to 90 days prior to release.

KEY POINTS

- In 2023, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued guidance on a new Medicaid Reentry Section 1115 Demonstration Opportunity that would allow federal funding to cover certain medical and behavioral health services for state prisoners and local and regional jail inmates while they are in a correctional facility. Currently, Virginia Medicaid may cover costs incurred during a hospital admission for these individuals, but not services provided within a prison or jail. As of July 2024, nine states had received approval for reentry waivers using this new flexibility and 14 states were awaiting approval.

- Jails continue to serve large numbers of individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders, despite commendable efforts to develop a comprehensive continuum of community-based services, including crisis services. The State Compensation Board’s most recent report indicates that approximately 26 percent of the jail population that was able to be assessed during the period covered by the report was known or suspected to have a mental illness; of those with a mental illness, approximately 52 percent had a co-occurring substance use disorder.
- Studies have shown that access to treatment pre- and post-release can improve outcomes.

Helpful legislation allows more flexibility for crisis stabilization services.

[**HB 2534 \(Sewell\)**](#) and [**SB 1304 \(McPike\)**](#) would allow more flexibility to provide crisis stabilization services in facilities with more than 16 beds by directing DMAS to amend its regulations to remove the prohibition on providing crisis stabilization services in “institutions of mental disease.” Generally, under federal law, Medicaid cannot cover services in these settings, which are defined to include hospitals, nursing facilities, or other institutions with more than 16 beds that are primarily engaged in providing diagnosis, treatment, or care of individuals with mental illness, including substance use disorders. This legislation would work in tandem with language and funding in the Governor’s introduced budget to allow DMAS to pursue a Medicaid waiver to allow coverage for services provided during short-term stays for acute care in psychiatric hospitals or residential treatment settings that qualify as Institutes of Mental Disease (such as crisis stabilization units). **VACo supports these efforts.**

Budget amendments to support.

Assistance with implementing new Developmental Disability waiver slots: [**Item 297 #5h \(Sickles\)**](#) and [**Item 297 #3s \(Deeds\)**](#) provide \$8.7 million in FY 2026 for Community Services Boards (CSBs) to cover the onboarding costs for the additional support coordinators needed for the 3,440 new Developmental Disability waiver slots that have been funded over the biennium. This funding is intended to cover the expenses incurred until a new support coordinator can carry a full caseload and begin billing Medicaid.

Marcus Alert funding: [**Item 297 #2h \(Willett\)**](#) and [**Item 297 #6s \(McPike\)**](#) provide \$18 million in FY 2026 to fund additional programs in order to keep implementation on pace for the 2028 statutory deadline, as well as increasing support for all Marcus Alert programs from \$600,000 to \$972,000 per year.

Substance use disorder treatment in local and regional jails: [**Item 394 #2h \(Coyner\)**](#) and [**Item 394 #14s \(Favola\)**](#) would provide \$10 million from opioid

settlement funding in FY 2026 for deposit in the Jail-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Transition Fund. VACo supported the creation of the Fund, which was established in 2023 for the planning or operation of substance use disorder treatment services and transition services, such as medically assisted treatment therapies, addiction recovery, and other services for persons with substance use disorder who are incarcerated in local and regional jails.

Early Intervention: [Item 297 #4h \(Willett\)](#) and [Item 297 #1s \(Deeds\)](#) provide \$5.7 and \$5.8 million, respectively, in FY 2026 to address program growth in Virginia's Part C/Early Intervention program, which serves infants and toddlers with disabilities. A related bill, [HB 1710 \(Gardner\)](#), directs DMAS to convene a stakeholder group to assess and make recommendations related to reimbursement rates for this program; VACo supports this bill.

Home visiting: [Item 292 #4h \(Rasoul\)](#) and [Item 292 #3s \(Favola\)](#) direct DMAS to establish a workgroup to develop a plan for a Medicaid reimbursed home visiting benefit for pregnant and postpartum individuals and their families.

HOUSING

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Support bill to expand optional affordable dwelling unit program to all localities.

[SB 1313 \(McPike\)](#) expands to all localities the ability to provide optional increases in density to meet affordable housing needs in the Commonwealth. Currently this authority is only provided to seven jurisdictions and has proven successful in developing affordable housing units where developers have chosen this option.

The legislation also lays out additional implementation measures and tools for localities to consider when developing a successful program. These include lot size reductions, accessory housing unit allowances, conversion of vacant office and commercial space to multi-family apartments, and allowance for lower-cost home construction alternatives such as manufactured homes and duplex manufactured homes.

VACo supports the bill. After passing in the Senate Local Government Committee by a [vote of 8-6-1](#), SB 1313 will be heard on the [Senate](#) Floor this week for further consideration.

KEY POINTS

- VACo supports incentives to assist localities in creating and sustaining more affordable housing.
- SB 1313 requires a locality, before adopting a program, to create an advisory committee of stakeholders that includes residents, developers, real estate professionals, affordable housing advocates, and finance professionals. This provision will help to craft successful programs at the local level.

Oppose bills to make accessory dwelling units (ADU) a by-right use.

[SB 932 \(Salim\)](#) / [HB 1832 \(Simonds\)](#) mandate that all localities permit accessory dwelling units (ADUs) as an accessory use in residential zoning districts. The legislation also prohibits a locality from requiring rear or side setbacks for the ADU that are greater than the setback required for the primary dwelling. **VACo opposes both bills.** SB 932 will be heard in the [Senate Local Government Committee](#) on Monday, January 27. HB 1832 will be heard in the [House Counties, Cities and Towns Subcommittee #2](#).

KEY POINTS

- Local governments have the authority to allow for the inclusion of ADUs within their zoning ordinances and determine the context of where ADUs can be reasonably accommodated to meet the needs of residents and homeowners.
- A mandate to authorize an ADU in all residential zoning districts excludes input from citizens and communities on whether, and how, ADUs can fit within existing and proposed residential developments.

LABOR

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[HB 2764 \(Tran\)](#) / [SB 917 \(Surovell\)](#) would undermine the existing local option for local governments to engage in collective bargaining agreements with their employees and require local governments to engage in collective bargaining should their employees so choose. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bills have other, problematic provisions. **VACo opposes any effort to mandate collective bargaining for public employees.**

[HB 2495 \(Askew\)](#) / [SB 1401 \(Lucas\)](#) would authorize firefighters and emergency medical services providers employed by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth to engage in collective bargaining through labor organizations. The bills set up a three-member board of arbitration regarding any dispute arising between an employer and firefighters or emergency services. Under the bills, determinations made by the board are final on a disputed issue and are binding on the parties involved. **VACo opposes any effort to mandate collective bargaining for public employees.**

PUBLIC SAFETY

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[HB 2069 \(Garrett\)](#) would increase the assessment on certain insurance companies from one percent to 1.5 percent. The bill provides that the portion of the Fire Programs Fund allocated to localities may be used for the additional purposes of (i) constructing, improving, or expanding fire station facilities; (ii) providing mental health resources for fire personnel; or (iii) hiring additional fire personnel and funding recruitment and retention programs. The bill also prohibits such funds from being used, except as provided, for the purposes of investments, operating expenses, debt repayment, taxes, or fees. The bill also establishes the Aid to Localities Grant Program, to be funded by 0.25 percent of the assessments on insurance companies, for the purposes of helping local fire departments that are at risk of closing or facing major violations due to the lack of funds needed to be in compliance with relevant laws and regulations. **VACo supports this bill.**

Budget Amendments to Support.

[Item 272 #2h \(Sewell\)](#) adds \$10 million from the general fund in FY 26 for grants to local governments to update or establish prescription drug box programs. These updates ensure compliance with new standards for secure drug disposal to prevent misuse and environmental harm, in accordance with the latest federal and state regulatory changes to prescription drug box programs.

[Item 394 #3h \(Krizek\)](#) and **[Item 394 #8s \(Perry\)](#)** provides \$7.5 million from the general fund in fiscal year 2025 to establish the Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replace Program, intended to provide grants of up to \$25,000 to replace drones operated by state and local law enforcement and local first responder agencies that are manufactured by entities domiciled in a country defined as a foreign adversary of the United States.

KEY POINTS

- Funding for public safety continues to be a key priority for local governments.
- Responding to federal unfunded mandates requires additional state support.
- Localities provide most of the public safety services funding.

TRANSPORTATION

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Transportation Services Mandate.

[SB 919 \(Salim\)](#) / [HB 2619 \(Helmer\)](#) would require the governing body of any county that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services, for the contract to include provisions requiring any employee of the private company be given compensation and benefits that are at a minimum equivalent to the compensation and benefits provided to a public employee.

Furthermore, the bill states that if a county has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing collective bargaining by employees of such county, in contracting with a private company for transportation services, the county would require such company to enter and adhere to a collective bargaining agreement. **VACo opposes SB 919 and HB 2619.**

KEY POINTS

- The bills would mandate collective bargaining within select counties, interfere with the ability for a county to make employment and services delivery decisions, and may have costly unintended consequences (as shown by this [fiscal impact statement](#)).
- The bills include language that could be potentially harmful to counties such as how “transportation services” are constituted. Generally, this means those who operate transit systems but could very likely include mechanics of such systems.
- The bills would almost certainly raise the operating costs of transportation delivery systems at a time when the budgets of these services are very tight as it is.

Towing – Repeal of Local Authority.

[SB 1332 \(Marsden\)](#) and [HB 2214 \(McQuinn\)](#) repeal the authority for localities to establish trespass towing fees, with exceptions, and requires the State Corporation Commission to establish such fees statewide and adjust such fees annually. **VACo opposes SB 1332 and HB 2214.**

KEY POINTS

- This bill strips localities of little authority they currently have to set rates regarding trespass towing

- While the bills repeal a locality’s ability to set the initial hook up and removal fee, they also authorize localities to regulate storage fees, administration fees and other fees as well as the ability for localities to regulate and permit towing operations.
- Towing is a local issue and having a locality regulate and permit towing at the local level while having the initial hook up and removal fee set at the state level is contradictory.

Speed Camera Bill Would Redirect Funds from Locality to State.

HB 2041 (Seibold) would authorize the governing body of any county, city, or town to provide, by ordinance, for the placement and operation of a speed safety camera by the law-enforcement agency of such locality for the purposes of recording vehicle speed violations on any highway in such locality as long as:

- The highway speed limit is 45 miles per hour or less
- The highway is in a priority pedestrian corridor as identified by the Department of Transportation in the statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan or
- The highway is a high-risk pedestrian corridor as designated by the Commissioner of Highways

The bill also states that civil penalties collected from speed safety cameras are to be used solely for the operating costs of such speed safety cameras, and that any excess funds collected are to be annually deposited in the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP). While VACo supports photo speed enforcement as a public safety tool, VACo opposes this bill because it diverts locally generated funds away from our communities and into the state-administered Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program (VHSIP).

VACo firmly believes that if localities are granted the expanded authority to implement and oversee speed safety camera programs, they should retain all excess funds generated. Keeping these funds at the local level empowers communities to invest in critical programs and infrastructure improvements that directly address their unique needs and priorities.

Additionally, this bill imposes unnecessary administrative burdens on local governments and law enforcement agencies, creating operational challenges that could hinder the effectiveness of speed safety initiatives.

VACo urges lawmakers to prioritize local control and flexibility to ensure that resources remain where they are needed most—within our communities.

Budget Amendments to Support.

Unpaved Road Funding: [Item 438 #2s \(Stanley\)](#) and [Item 438 #8h \(Williams\)](#) provide \$25 million from the general fund in fiscal year 2026 to be allocated for improvements of unpaved secondary highways. Delegate Williams' amendment is a **request of VACo** and we are happy to see and support Senator Stanley in his efforts as well.

Restore Distribution of Recordation Tax: [Item 251 #1h \(Wiley\)](#) would provide \$20 million from the general fund the second year from state recordation tax revenue to localities for transportation or education purposes.

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA): [Item 433 #2s \(Boysko\)](#) and [Item 433 #1h \(Sickles\)](#) restores \$3.3 million in general fund support for WMATA operating support. The Governor's amendments moved \$73.4 million from the general fund from the second year to the first year and removed all second-year funding, reflecting a net savings of \$11.1 million general fund. An updated estimate shows a revised savings of \$7.8 million compared to the Budget Bill signed in 2024 (Chapter 2).

Transit Operating Shortfall: [Item 433 #1s \(Locke\)](#) and [Item 433 #3h \(Askew\)](#), Senator Locke's amendment would provide \$50 million GF in FY 25 while Delegate Askew's would provide \$50 million GF in FY 26 in one-time funding to the Commonwealth's Mass Transit Fund's Transit Operating and Transit Capital sub-funds. The funding would go toward assisting Virginia's transit agencies with their operating shortfalls.

Thursday, January 23, 2025

General Assembly Committee Schedule

15 minutes after adjournment

([Live Stream of Senate Committee Meetings](#))

([Live Stream of House Committee Meetings](#))

([Senate and House Committees Information](#))

([General Assembly Full Schedule](#))

Senate Education and Health-Public Education

Senate Room C, Room 311, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#)

1/2 hour after adjournment of the Senate ([View Meeting](#))

House Labor and Commerce

House Room A, Room 008, General Assembly Building | [Committee Info](#)

1/2 hour after adjournment of the House ([Agenda](#)) ([View Meeting](#))

House Labor and Commerce-Subcommittee #2

House Room A, Room 008, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#)

Immediately upon adjournment of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce
([Agenda](#)) ([View Meeting](#))

House General Laws

House Room B, Room 205, General Assembly Building | [Committee Info](#)

1/2 hour after adjournment of the House ([Agenda](#)) ([View Meeting](#))

House General Laws-Housing/Consumer Protection

House Room B, Room 205, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#)

Immediately upon adjournment of the House Committee on General Laws ([Agenda](#))
([View Meeting](#))

House General Laws-Professions/Occupations and Administrative Process

House Room B, Room 205, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#)

2 hours after adjournment of the House Committee on General Laws ([Agenda](#)) ([View Meeting](#))

3 PM

Senate Finance and Appropriations-Education

Senate Finance & Appropriations Room, Room 1300, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#) | ([Agenda](#)) ([View Meeting](#))

4 PM

House Public Safety-Firearms

House North Subcommittee Room, Room 200, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#) | [\(Agenda\)](#) [\(View Meeting\)](#)

House Health and Human Services-Social Services

House Room C, Room 206, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#) | [\(Agenda\)](#) [\(View Meeting\)](#)

Senate Education and Health-Public Education

Senate Room C, Room 311, General Assembly Building | [Subcommittee Info](#) | [Docket Info](#)