

**October 14, 2009**

**VACo's Preliminary 2010 Legislative Program and Schedule of Conference Committee Meetings Released**

The Preliminary 2010 Legislative Program is now posted on [VACo's web site](#). The document includes a host of important and timely proposed policy statements including new language regarding K-12 education funding, stormwater regulations, land use authorities, and state and local fiscal relations. The Finance Committee once again is recommending the inclusion of an overarching policy statement regarding state and local fiscal sustainability. It incorporates key recommendations regarding state mandates from the Administration of Government Steering Committee, state funding for education from the Education Steering Committee, Transportation funding from the Transportation Steering Committee as well as key recommendations regarding state and local revenues and appropriations for critical services.

The new program is adopted during the annual conference at the Homestead in Bath County. VACo's eight steering committees will finalize and adopt their policy sections on Sunday, Nov. 8. The Resolutions Committee will ratify the Program on Monday, Nov. 9, and the VACo membership will adopt the Program during the annual business meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10. The meeting schedule is posted below.

**Schedule of meetings at the Homestead to finalize the 2010 Legislative Program**

**Sunday, Nov. 8**

1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Steering Committee Meetings:

- Environment and Agriculture *Piedmont*
- Health and Human Resources *Appalachian*
- Administration of Government *Chesapeake*
- Telecommunications and Utilities *Blue Ridge*

2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Steering Committee Meetings:

- Education *Appalachian*
- Community Development and Planning *Chesapeake*
- Finance *Blue Ridge*
- Transportation *Piedmont*

**Monday, Nov. 9**

7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Resolutions Committee *Georgian*

**Tuesday, Nov. 10**

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Business Meeting including adoption of the 2010 Legislative Program and Achievement Awards followed by Raffle and Adjournment *Regency Ballrooms*

## **About the development and adoption of VACo's annual legislative program**

- 1. Spring regional meetings:** In even number years VACo members are invited to attend regional meetings to identify and discuss key statewide legislative and policy issues.
- 2. Three Resolutions Committee meetings:** The committee oversees the development of the annual Legislative Program. The meetings occur in the spring after the regional meetings, early fall, and during the annual conference in November. The committee receives regular legislative updates, via conference call, during the regular legislative session in the winter. The Resolutions Committee includes the six members of VACo's Executive Committee and the chairs and vice chairs of VACo's eight steering committees. VACo's First Vice President chairs the committee. The eight steering committees are Administration of Government, Community Planning and Development, Education, Environment and Agriculture, Finance, Health and Human Services, Telecommunications and Utilities, and Transportation.
- 3. Steering Committees meet at least twice:** Late summer and November during the annual conference. The Steering Committees develop their policy sections of the annual Legislative Program.
- 4. The membership is asked to adopt the new legislative program during the annual business meeting.** The meeting occurs on the last day of the annual conference in November.

### **Additional information**

The President appoints steering committee chairs and vice chairs. VACo members volunteer to serve on steering committees. In early October, prior to the annual conference, the membership receives a Preliminary Legislative Program. This draft is revised during the annual conference.

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