

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



2014



Virginia Association of Counties



1207 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: 804.788.6652 www.vaco.org

VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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Vital Statistics from the 2014 Session

	Introduced	Passed Both	Failed	Vetoed
House Bills	1,273	514	631	5
House Joint Resolutions	489	419	62	0
House Resolutions	188	170	18	0
Senate Bills	673	320	276	5
Senate Joint Resolutions	212	180	11	0
Senate Resolutions	53	44	8	0
General Assembly Totals	2,888	1,647	1,006	10

2014 Legislative Priorities

Aid to Localities/Population

The Commonwealth should use the most current population statistics available for the purposes of determining state aid to those localities that have experienced population growth in the 10-year period between the decennial enumerations. During that period, population statistics from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, the American Community Survey and from other established entities should be used by the Commonwealth. The General Assembly should consider the many fixed costs of services in determining aid to those localities that have remained stable or lost population.

Devolution of Secondary Roads

VACo vigorously opposes legislative or administrative initiatives that would transfer to counties the responsibility for the construction, maintenance or operation of new and existing roads.

Education Funding

VACo supports full funding for the biennial re-benchmark of Virginia's Standards of Quality (SOQ). VACo encourages the state to expand the SOQ to better recognize localities funding efforts towards local school divisions. VACo also supports full state funding for public education including the SOQ, targeted incentive programs, capital and maintenance support and teacher salaries. Full state funding should be achieved without reduction to other parts of state public education budgets or to the other core services.

Funding of State Mandated Positions

VACo urges the Commonwealth to meet its full funding obligations for constitutional officers and other state mandated positions.

Health and Human Resources Funding

VACo supports state policies and funding to ensure the Commonwealth's at-risk families have access to high quality and appropriate services. The Commonwealth should fully fund localities for state mandated human services and provide the necessary program flexibility to enable localities to provide comprehensive and case-tailored services.

Interoperability

VACo supports the goal that local, regional, state and federal fire, EMS and first responders should be able to communicate using compatible systems to operate more effectively. Local governments require new dedicated federal and state funding sources to achieve this goal.

Land Use/Growth Management Tools

Authority to plan and regulate land use should remain with local governing bodies and VACo opposes any legislation to weaken that authority.

Local Government Revenues

VACo opposes elimination or reduction of specific local tax revenues, including local business taxes.

Local-State Transportation Cooperation

With passage of HB 2313 by the 2013 General Assembly, additional fiscal resources were identified to provide funding for the Commonwealth's broken transportation program. While VACo believes this historic legislation is a step towards addressing our infrastructure needs, we remain concerned about the lack of secondary and urban construction funding.

Unfunded Teacher Pension Liability

Local governments and the state share responsibility for paying the cost of teacher pensions, but under GASB 68, Virginia local governments will have to begin accounting for both the state and local unfunded liabilities for teacher retirement plans after June 15, 2014 on their financial statements. VACo urges the state to account for its proportional share of the liability by paying its current share of teacher pension contributions directly to VRS. This would demonstrate to credit rating agencies and localities that the state is committed to paying its proportional share of unfunded teacher pension liabilities. It would also better protect the bond ratings of Virginia's localities by more accurately reflecting the local share of the unfunded liability.

Water Quality Improvement Funding

In order for comprehensive, watershed-wide water quality approaches to be effective, VACo supports major and reliable forms of financial and technical assistance to local governments from federal and state sources.

Summary of Legislation Affecting Counties

*VACo Budget Analysis is not available in this summary but will be available under separate cover when the 2014-2016 Biennial Budget is approved by the General Assembly and Governor Terry McAuliffe.

*Unless otherwise stated, all legislation goes into effect on July 1, 2014.

*Uncodified Act – A bill that may be of short duration that is not given a regular number in the Code of Virginia but is published in the Acts of the Assembly; it can include the budget bill, local government charters or bills of local application only.

Economic Development and Planning

Authorities, Special Districts, and Associations

HB 118 Virginia Regional Industrial Facilities Act, appointments. Amends § 15.2-6403 of the Code of Virginia by removing the requirement that persons appointed shall be residents of the appointing locality. Patron: Habeeb

HB 1210 Community improvement districts; any locality may by ordinance create. Adds § 15.2-2403.4 to the Code of Virginia to allow for the creation of a community improvement district in any locality by ordinance. The bill provides that the locality's governing board will have all of the powers with respect to the district that it has with respect to a standard service district. The bill also requires that if the locality contracts for any government services on behalf of the district, it shall do so with a nonprofit corporation, a majority of whose board members own property in the district. Patron: Hester

Economic Development

HB 672 Port of Virginia Economic and Infrastructure Development Grant Program, expands existing program. Amends §§ 15.2-1301 and 62.1-132.3:2 of the Code of Virginia to expand the Port of Virginia Economic and Infrastructure Development Zone into a statewide grant program and allows the Virginia Port Authority and the Department of Taxation to exchange information. Patron: Poindexter

HB 932/SB 492 Virginia Jobs Investment Program; changes in administration. Amends §§ 2.2-435.8, 2.2-1605, 2.2-1611, 2.2-1615, 2.2-2237, and 59.1-284.22, adds §§ 2.2-2240.3 through 2.2-2240.6, and repeals §§ 2.2-1612, 2.2-1613, and 2.2-1614 of the Code of Virginia to change the administration of the Virginia Jobs Investment Program from the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority. Patrons: Landes/McWaters

HB 1009 Workforce development; changes name of Va. Workforce Council to Va. Board of Workforce Development. Amends §§ 2.2-435.6, 2.2-435.7, 2.2-2101, 23-38.93, and 60.2-113, adds §§ 2.2-2470 through 2.2-2477; and repeals §§ 2.2-2669 through 2.2-2674.1 and §§ 23-38.53:12 through 23-38.53:20 of the Code of Virginia to recast the Virginia Workforce Council as the Virginia Board of Workforce Development. The Governor is authorized to appoint a Chief Workforce Development Advisor as lead staff to the board and the Virginia Community College System will provide staff support to accomplish the federally mandated requirements of the federal Workforce Investment Act. Staff support for the other duties and functions of the Board are

to be provided by personnel from the Offices of the Secretaries of Education and Commerce and Trade pursuant to a memorandum of agreement. The bill decreases the membership from 31 to 26. The bill also establishes the Advanced Manufacturing Advisory Council to advise the Governor, General Assembly, and Board. Patron: Byron

[HB 1191](#) Economic development incentive programs; SCT to develop & issue report on effectiveness of program. Adds § 2.2-206.1 to the Code of Virginia to require the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to submit an annual report to the Chairs of the Senate Finance and the House Appropriations and Finance Committees on the effectiveness of economic development incentive programs administered by the Commonwealth. Patron: Massie

Local Planning and Zoning

[HB 177](#) Cutting of grass; statewide application. Amends §§ 15.2-901 and 15.2-1215 of the Code of Virginia to make current grass-cutting provisions applicable statewide for all localities. Patron: Farrell

[HB 208](#) Vested rights; amends existing statute. Amends § 15.2-2307 of the Code of Virginia relating to vested rights. Clarifies that structures that meet certain conditions shall be considered nonconforming. Additional changes make clear that a requirement under existing law to bring certain structures into compliance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code shall not affect the nonconforming status of those structures. Patron: Marshall, D.W.

[HB 209](#) Subdivision plats; localities may mandate submission of preliminary plats for tentative approval. Amends § 15.2-2260 of the Code of Virginia to provide that localities may mandate the submission of preliminary subdivision plats for tentative approval only for plats involving more than 50 lots. Patron: Marshall, D.W.

[HB 296/SB 58](#) Comprehensive plans; alignment of transportation infrastructure and facilities. Amends § 15.2-2223 of the Code of Virginia to require localities to take into consideration how to align transportation infrastructure and facilities with affordable, accessible housing and community services when developing the transportation component of the comprehensive plan for the physical development of the territory. Patrons: Villanueva/Marsden

[HB 527](#) Group homes; zoning. Amends § 15.2-2291 of the Code of Virginia to provide that for purposes of zoning, a residential facility in which no more than eight individuals with mental illness, intellectual disability, or developmental disabilities reside, with one or more resident or nonresident staff persons, shall be considered residential occupancy by a single family. Currently, such facilities are required to have one or more resident counselors or other staff persons to qualify for this zoning designation. Patron: Pogge

[HB 1084/SB 578](#) Permits and approvals; damages for denial by locality. Adds § 15.2-2208.1 to the Code of Virginia to provide that an applicant aggrieved by the grant or denial by a locality of any approval or permit, where such grant included, or denial was based upon an unconstitutional condition, shall be entitled to an award of compensatory damages and may be awarded reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill also creates a presumption that a condition proven to be unconstitutional was a factor in the grant or denial of the permit, and it provides that the applicant shall be entitled to an order remanding the matter to the locality with a direction to grant or issue such permits or approvals without the unconstitutional condition. Any action brought pursuant to this bill shall be filed within the applicable time period, as set forth in the Code, after the grant or denial of the application, and the provisions of this bill shall only apply to approvals or permits that are granted or denied on or after July 1, 2014. Patrons: Morris/Obenshain

[HB 1209](#) Family day homes; approval or denial of application by local government.

Amends § 15.2-2292 of the Code of Virginia to clarify that a local governing body may, after notice and a public hearing, either approve, subject to such conditions as agreed upon by the applicant and the locality, or deny a zoning permit application for a family day home serving six through 12 children. Patron: Torian

[SB 237](#) Subdivision ordinances; sidewalk improvements. Amends § 15.2-2242 of the Code of Virginia to add to the list of optional provisions in local subdivision ordinances a provision allowing any town in the Northern Virginia Transportation District to require the dedication of land for sidewalk improvements where the property being developed is designated for such improvements on the locality's pedestrian plan. Patron: Petersen

[SB 241](#) Development rights; required to comply with any locality-adopted neighborhood design standards. Amends § 15.2-2316.2 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a locality may require that development comply with any prior locality-adopted neighborhood design standards identified in the comprehensive plan for the receiving area in which the development shall occur. Patron: Stuart

[SB 430](#) Alcoholic beverage control; limited "farm" brewery license created; local regulation of certain activities. Creates a new limited brewery license for breweries that manufacture no more than 15,000 barrels of beer per calendar year, are located on a farm in the Commonwealth on land zoned agricultural, and use agricultural products that are grown on the farm in the manufacture of their beer. The licensed premises shall be limited to the portion of the farm on which agricultural products, including barley, other grains, hops, or fruit, used by such brewery in the manufacture of its beer are grown and that is contiguous to the premises of such

brewery where the beer is manufactured, exclusive of any residence and the curtilage thereof. The bill limits local regulation of limited brewery licensees and allows any locality to exempt any brewery licensed in accordance with subdivision 2 of § [4.1-208](#) on land zoned agricultural from any local regulation of minimum parking, road access, or road upgrade requirements. Patron: Watkins

Sanitation & Water

[HB 674](#) Water supplies and waterworks; defines human consumption. Amends §§ 32.1-167 and 32.1-169 of the Code of Virginia to define "human consumption" as used in the context of water supplies and waterworks. Patron: Poindexter

[SB 657](#) Alternative onsite sewage system installers; extension of certain interim licenses. An uncodified act to direct the Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System Professionals to extend one time and deem to be valid interim licenses as an alternative onsite sewage system installer held by an individual at such time as the individual applies to take the examination required for issuance of an alternative onsite sewage system installer license. Patron: Black

Miscellaneous

[HB 949/SB 519](#) Natural gas utilities; upstream supply infrastructure projects Amends §§ 56-235.9, 56-265.2:1, and 56-265.4 and adds § 56-609 to the Code of Virginia to authorize a natural gas utility to recover eligible costs of eligible natural gas supply infrastructure projects. The bill also bars the State Corporation Commission from approving the construction of a natural gas compressor station in an area without the locality's certification only if the area is zoned exclusively for residential use. Patrons: Hugo/Wagner

Education

[HB 134/SB 532](#) Diabetes; permission to self-check blood glucose levels on school property. Adds § 22.1-274.01:1 to the Code of Virginia to require local school boards to permit students who are diagnosed with diabetes to carry supplies and equipment for immediate treatment of high and low blood glucose levels. The Department of Education is required to review and update the Manual for Training Public School Employees in the Administration of Insulin and Glucagon. Patrons: Cole/Stuart

[HB 157/SB 276](#) Charter schools; restrictions and pre-lottery enrollment for current students. Amends §§ 22.1-212.6, 22.1-212.8, and 22.1-212.11 of the Code of Virginia to provide that in the case of the conversion of an existing public school, students who attend the school and the siblings of such students may be given the opportunity to enroll in advance of the lottery process. Patrons: Minchew/Favola

[HB 197](#) Virginia history and United States Constitution; supplementary written material on documents. Amends § 22.1-201 of the Code of Virginia to require teachers to ensure that all supplementary written materials used to teach the Declaration of American Independence, the general principles of the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights, the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom, the charters of the Virginia Company of April 10, 1606, May 23, 1609, and March 12, 1612, and the Virginia Declaration of Rights contain accurate restatements of the principles contained in these documents and directs the Department of Education to develop guidelines for such supplementary written materials used by teachers. Patron: Landes

[HB 198/SB 441](#) Student discipline; expulsion due to firearm or drug offenses. Amends §§ 22.1-277.07 and 22.1-277.08 of the Code of Virginia to clarify that students who have committed certain weapons or

drugs offenses are not required to be expelled regardless of the facts of the particular situation. Patrons: Landes/Garrett

[HB 307](#) Hunter safety education; after-school programs for students in grades 7-12. Adds § 22.1-204.2 to the Code of Virginia to permit local school boards to provide after-school hunter safety education programs for students in the school division in grades seven through 12. Students are required to bear the cost of participation. Patron: Lingamfelter

[HB 364](#) Commission on Civics Education established in legislative branch of state government. Adds §§ 30-348 through 30-354 to the Code of Virginia to reestablish the Commission on Civics Education, which expired on June 30, 2013. The purposes of the Commission are to educate students on the importance of citizen involvement in a constitutional republic, promote the study of state and local government among the Commonwealth's citizenry. Patron: Anderson

[HB 410/SB 172](#) Student-athletes; effects of concussions on academic performance. Amends § 22.1-271.5 of the Code of Virginia to require each non-interscholastic youth sports program utilizing public school property to (i) establish policies and procedures regarding the identification and handling of suspected concussions in student-athletes, consistent with either the local school division's policies and procedures or the Board's Guidelines for Policies on Concussions in Student-Athletes, or (ii) follow the local school division's policies and procedures regarding the identification and handling of suspected concussions in student-athletes. Patrons: Anderson/Stuart

[HB 484](#) Electronic cigarettes; prohibited in public elementary and secondary schools. Amends § 22.1-279.6 and adds § 22.1-79.5 to the Code of Virginia to require each school board to develop and implement a policy to prohibit the use of electronic cigarettes on a school bus, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity. Patron: Kory

[HB 683](#) Investigation of alleged child abuse and neglect; agreements with school divisions. Amends § 63.2-1511 of the Code of Virginia by requiring local departments of social services and local school divisions to develop written interagency agreements for the investigation of all complaints of child abuse or neglect. Patron: Herring

[HB 720](#) School board policy, local; employee lactation support. Adds § 22.1-79.5 to the Code of Virginia by requiring each local school board to adopt a policy to set aside, in each school in the school division, a non-restroom location that is shielded from the public view to be designated as an area in which any mother who is employed by the local school board or enrolled as a student may take breaks to express milk to feed her child who is less than one year old. Patron: McClellan

[HB 722/SB 117](#) Methadone clinics; location near schools and daycare centers, exemptions for existing facilities. Amends § 37.2-406 of the Code of Virginia to provide that licensed providers of methadone treatment that are exempt from restrictions regarding proximity to a school or day care center do not retain the exemption when relocating an existing facility or establishing a new facility. Patrons: McClellan/Watkins

[HB 751](#) Students; expulsion for certain drug offenses. Amends § 22.1-277.08 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a school administrator, pursuant to school board policy, may determine that a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate for drug offenses and clarifies that students who have committed drug offenses are not required to be expelled regardless of the facts of the particular situation. Patron: Rust

[HB 851/SB570](#) Assault and battery; full-time or part-time employee, penalty. Amends § 18.2-57 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a battery against any full-time or part-time employee of a public or private elementary school who is engaged in the

performance of his duties is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor and the punishment shall include a sentence of 15 days in jail, two days of which shall be a mandatory minimum sentence. Patrons: LeMunyon/Stuart

[HB 887](#) Governor's Career and Technical Education School, establishing a jointly operated high school. An uncodified act requiring the Board of Education to develop model criteria and procedures for establishing a jointly operated high school with a career and technical education focus to be recommended to the Governor and the General Assembly for funding as a Governor's Career and Technical Education School. Patron: Peace

[HB 930/SB 306](#) Standards of Learning assessments: reform. Amends §§ 2.2-2101 and 22.1-253.13:3 and adds § 22.1-253.13:10 to the Code of Virginia by providing that the number and type of Standards of Learning assessments shall not exceed 17 specified assessments in grades three through eight. The bill also requires the Secretary of Education to establish the Standards of Learning Innovation Committee to periodically review the Standards of Learning and assessments. Patron: Greason/Deeds

[HB 977/SB 43](#) Teachers; extends deadline to request hearing after receiving notice of dismissal. Amends § 22.1-309 of the Code of Virginia to extend from five business days to 10 business days the deadline for a teacher to request a hearing after receiving written notice of a recommendation of dismissal. Patron: Rust/Favola

[HB 1054](#) High school diploma course and credit requirements; computer science. Amends § 22.1-253.13:4 of the Code of Virginia by requiring the Board of Education to consider all computer science course credits earned by students to be science course credits, mathematics course credits, or career and technical education credits in establishing course and credit requirements for a high school diploma and requires the Board to

develop guidelines addressing how computer science courses can satisfy graduation requirements. Patron: Loupassi

HB 1086 Special education; full-time virtual school programs. Amends § 22.1-215 of the Code of Virginia to require each local school board to provide free and appropriate special education for each student with a disability who attends a full-time virtual school program in the school division but resides in another school division in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that the school division in which the student resides shall (i) be released from the obligation to provide free and appropriate special education for such student and (ii) transfer to the school division in which the student attends a full-time virtual school program state and federal funds for the education of such students. Patron: Bell, Richard P.

HB 1096 Student-athletes; Board of Education shall amend guidelines on concussions. An uncodified act to require the Board of Education to amend its guidelines for school division policies and procedures on concussions in student-athletes to include a "Return to Learn Protocol" with requirements that school personnel be alerted to the cognitive and academic issues that may be experienced by a student-athlete who has suffered a concussion or other head injury. Patron: Filler-Corn

HB 1110 Children placed in child-caring institutions or group homes; reimbursement of costs to educate. Amends § 22.1-101.1 of the Code of Virginia to require a school division to be reimbursed by the school division in which a child's custodial parent or guardian or most recent custodial parent or guardian resides for the costs of educating such child, whether disabled or not, who has been placed in foster care or a licensed child-caring institution or group home that is located within

the geographical boundaries of the school division to be reimbursed. Patron: Toscano

HB 1115 Virtual Virginia; DOE to increase online courses available to other school divisions through Program. Amends §§ 22.1-212.2, 22.1-212.24, and 22.1-212.25 of the Code of Virginia to permit the Department of Education to contract with one or more local school boards that have created online courses to make such courses available to other school divisions through Virtual Virginia. The bill permits such school divisions to charge a per-student or per-course fee, subject to Board of Education approval. The bill permits the Department to charge school divisions requesting to offer a course through Virtual Virginia and multidivision online providers an application fee. Patron: Greason

HB 1229/SB 324 A-to-F grading system; delays date for implementing individual school performance grading system. Amends § 2 of Chapter 672 and § 2 of Chapter 692 of the Acts of Assembly of 2013 to delay the implementation of the A-to-F school performance grading system by two years, to October 1, 2016. The bill also requires the Board of Education to develop a preliminary plan for the school performance grading system and provide public notice and solicit public comment on the system. Patrons: Landes/Miller

HB 1242 School boards, elected; tie breaker Amends §§ 15.2-627, 22.1-57.3, and 22.1-75 of the Code of Virginia to require the tie breaker of any elected school board to be elected in the same manner and for the same length of term as the members of the school board and at a general election at which members of the school board are elected. Currently, tie breakers for elected school boards are appointed by the school board. The bill does not require elected school boards to have a tie breaker. Patron: O'Quinn

[SB 270](#) SOL; Board of Education to require only math and English reading assessments for third graders. An uncodified act to direct the Board of Education to require only math and English reading Standards of Learning assessments for third graders. Patron: Miller

[SB 624](#) Emergency care; school board employees that render certain care shall not be liable for negligence. Amends § 8.01-225 of the Code of Virginia to provide that employees of a school board or a local health department approved by the local governing body to provide health services that render certain acts of emergency care shall not be liable for ordinary negligence in acts or omissions on the part of such employee while engaged in such acts of emergency care. Patron: Newman

Environment and Agriculture

Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry

HB 54/SB 432 Compensation for owners of livestock killed or injured by dogs. Amends §§ 3.2-6553 and 3.2-6584 of the Code of Virginia by establishing a \$750 cap on the fair market value that the owner of livestock that has been killed or injured by dogs or hybrid canines is entitled to receive as compensation, provided certain procedures are followed. Currently, such compensation cannot exceed \$400 per animal. Patrons: Hodges/McDougle

HB 268/SB 51 Agricultural operations, local regulation of certain Activities; On- farm working group. Adds § 15.2-2288.6 of the Code of Virginia to protect certain activities at agricultural operations from local regulation in the absence of substantial impacts on the public welfare and requires localities to take certain factors into account when regulating the following activities: the conduct of agritourism activities, the sale of agricultural or silvicultural products or related items, the preparation or sale of foods that otherwise comply with state law, and other customary activities. Localities are prohibited from subjecting the listed activities to a special-use permit requirement in the absence of a substantial impact on health, safety, or public welfare and in most situations are prevented from stringently regulating the sound produced by the listed activities. The bill provides that its provisions shall not affect an entity licensed in accordance with the alcoholic beverage control laws, affect the provisions of the Right to Farm Act, alter the provisions of § 15.2-2288.3 (licensed farm wineries), or restrict the taxation authority of any locality. Patrons: Orrock/Stuart

HB 740 Dogs; killing or injuring livestock or poultry, animal control officer to seize dog committing. Amends § 3.2-6552 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a local animal control officer or other officer shall have a duty to seize or kill a dog found in the act of killing or injuring livestock or poultry. Current law

provides that the officer shall have a duty to kill the dog. Patron: McClellan

HB 858 State forest activity fees; Department of Forestry to promulgate emergency regulations to establish. Amends § 10.1-1152 of the Code of Virginia to authorize the Department of Forestry to promulgate emergency regulations to establish a special use permit fee for activities taking place in state forests. Until the regulations become effective, a fee not to exceed \$15 shall be charged for a special use permit for five specific activities: hunting, fishing, trapping, riding bikes, and riding horses. Patron: Fariss

HB 1089 Zoning; clarifies definition of agricultural products. Amends § 15.2-2288 of the Code of Virginia to clarify the definition of agricultural products. Expands the definition of agricultural production activities in the “Right to Farm Act” to include the practice of aquaculture. In areas zoned as agricultural or silvicultural, no special use permit or special exceptions would be required for aquaculture activities. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2015. Patron: Morris

HB 1092/SB 603 Oyster grounds condemnations. Amends § 28.2-628 of the Code of Virginia to prohibit localities from exercising the right of eminent domain to condemn privately leased riparian and general oyster planting grounds. These planting grounds are assigned to persons under a lease agreement approved by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. An exception to the condemnation prohibition is made for permitted water-dependent linear wastewater projects where there is no practical alternative. Patron: Ransone/Stuart

SB 5 Right to Farm Act restoration of certain provisions. Amends § 3.2-301 of the Code of Virginia to restore application of certain provisions of the Right to Farm Act to cities and towns that currently only apply to counties. Patron: Edwards

Animals

[HB 988](#) Coyotes; DGIF & VDACS to provide information & promote programs in assisting with control concerns. An uncodified act directing the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to promote programs to those seeking assistance with coyote control concerns. Patron: Cline

[HB 1067](#) Animal shelters; definitions. Amends §§ 3.2-6500, 3.2-6502, 3.2-6503, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to substitute the terms “private animal shelter” for “animal shelter” and “public animal shelter” for “pound.” The bill also amends the definitions of “foster care provider,” “foster home,” and “home-based rescue.” Patron: Orrock

[SB 50](#) Endangered and threatened species; possession as a personal pet. Amends § 29.1-568 of the Code of Virginia to allow a person to possess, breed, sell, and transport any nonnative wildlife included on any federal list of endangered or threatened species when the federal government, under the Federal Endangered Species Act, authorizes the possession, breeding, selling, or transporting of such species. Patron: Martin

[SB 42](#) Fox or coyote; penalty to erect, maintain, or operate an enclosure for purpose of hunting with dogs. Adds § 29.1-525.2 to the Code of Virginia to make it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to erect or maintain an enclosure for the purpose of pursuing, hunting, or killing a fox or coyote with dogs. Until July 1, 2054, the bill exempts from the ban any foxhound training preserve that was operating under a permit issued by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries as of January 1, 2014. The bill also directs the Department to adopt regulations to limit the total number of foxes stocked annually to 900, to be allocated in proportion to the acreage of each operating preserve. Patron: Marsden

[SB 444](#) Hybrid canines; any locality, may by ordinance, prohibit keeping of such canines. Amends §§ 3.2-6581 and 3.2-6582 of the Code of Virginia to authorize any locality to prohibit by ordinance the keeping of hybrid canines. Patron: Norment

Dam Safety

[HB 1006/SB 582](#) Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP); DCR to utilize storm-based approach in order to derive PMP. An uncodified act directing the Department of Conservation and Recreation to utilize a storm-based approach to calculate the Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP) for various locations in or affecting Virginia. The methodology for a storm-based approach shall be completed by December 1, 2015. Owners of impounding structures with spillway design inadequacies who maintain coverage under the conditional certificate are not required to rehabilitate the spillway until the PMP analysis is completed and reviewed by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. The bill requires the Board to consider the results of the PMP analysis in its decision of whether to authorize replacement of the current PMP values. Patrons: Byron/Garrett

[HB 1034/SB 466](#) Dams; liability of owners. Amends § 10.1-613.4 of the Code of Virginia to protect owners of land upon which dams that are owned, maintained, or operated by soil and water conservation districts are situated from liability for damages to the property of others or the injury to persons resulting from the failure of the dam. However, this protection is not afforded to the landowner if the damage to others is a result of an act or omission by the landowner that is unrelated to ownership, maintenance, or operation of the dam. Patrons: Orrock/Watkins

[HB 1124](#) Dams; liability of owners or operators of dams. Amends § 10.1-613.4 of the Code of Virginia to require the owner of a dam, prior to conveying ownership of the dam

or decommissioning the dam to a third party, to notify the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the transfer in accordance with the Virginia Impounding Structure Regulations requirements.
Patron: Orrock

Energy

HB 340 Alternative Fuel Vehicle Conversion Fund; moneys in Fund to be used to assist local government. Amends § 2.2-1176.1 of the Code of Virginia to allow moneys in the Fund to be used by local governments, local governmental agencies, and local school divisions for the purpose of assisting with the incremental cost of local government-owned alternative fuel vehicles. Patron: Taylor

HB 796/SB 514 Virginia Energy Plan; postpones due date for quadrennial updates. Amends § 67-202 of the Code of Virginia to postpone the due date for quadrennial updates to the Virginia Energy Plan from July 1 to October 1. Patrons: Lopez/Wagner

HB 822/SB 498 Electric utility regulation; renewable portfolio standards. Amends § 56-585.2 of the Code of Virginia to limit the ability of an electric utility participating in the renewable energy portfolio standard (RPS) program to bank renewable energy sales or renewable energy certificates (RECs) that are in excess of the yearly sales requirement for that RPS Goal. The measure provides that the utility may use such excess sales or RECs to achieve the RPS Goals only in the subsequent five calendar years after the renewable energy was generated or the certificates were created. Patrons: Lopez/McEachin

HB 1025 Biofuels Production Incentive Grant Program; eligibility to receive grants. Amends § 45.1-394 of the Code of Virginia to change the amount of the grant for biofuels produced in the Commonwealth from \$0.10 for each gallon produced and subsequently sold to

(i) \$0.04 for each gallon sold in calendar year 2014, (ii) \$0.03 for each gallon sold in calendar year 2015, and (iii) \$0.025 for each gallon sold in calendar year 2016 and during the period January 1, 2017, through June 30, 2017. The bill provides for a maximum of \$1.5 million in grants to be awarded in each of fiscal years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017. The bill changes current law that provides for no grant to be awarded for sales of biofuels made subsequent to December 31, 2016. Patron: Ingram

HB 1261/SB 615 Carbon dioxide; regulating emissions. Amends §§ 67-201 and 67-202 of the Code of Virginia to require the Virginia Energy Plan to include, with regard to any regulations proposed or promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired electric generating units under Section 3711(d) of the Clean Air Act, an analysis of the costs to and benefits for energy producers and electric utility customers; the effect on energy markets and reliability; and the commercial availability of technology required to comply with such regulations. The measure postpones the due date for quadrennial updates to the Virginia Energy Plan from July 1 to October 1. The measure also requires the Division of Energy of the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, in Plan updates starting in 2014, to set forth energy policy positions relevant to any potential regulations of the State Air Pollution Control Board to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired electric generating units. Patrons: Chafin/Carrico

SB 25 Va. Offshore Energy Emergency Response Fund, established. Amends § 67-301 and adds § 10.1-2503 to the Code of Virginia to establish the Virginia Offshore Energy Emergency Response Fund and directs to it the first \$50 million in royalties received by the Commonwealth as the result of offshore natural gas and oil drilling and exploration. Patron: Reeves

[SB 653](#) Renewable energy property; grants for placing into service, Renewable Energy Property Grant Fund. Adds §§ 45.1-395 and 45.1-396 to the Code of Virginia to establish, beginning with fiscal year 2016, grants for placing into service renewable energy property. The grant would equal 35 percent of the costs paid or incurred to place the renewable energy property into service, not to exceed \$2.5 million for any individual piece of renewable energy property. The bill defines renewable energy as energy derived from sunlight, wind, falling water, biomass, waste, landfill gas, municipal solid waste, wave motion, tides, or geothermal power, but not including energy derived from coal, oil, natural gas, or nuclear power. The Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy would administer the grant program. The Department would be authorized, subject to appropriation, to award up to \$10 million in renewable energy property grants for fiscal year 2016. The act contains a second enactment that requires the act to be reenacted in the 2015 General Assembly in order to become effective. Patron: Norment

[SB 459](#) Electric utility regulation; recovery of nuclear costs, rate adjustment clauses. Amends § 56-585.1 of the Code of Virginia to require an electric utility to establish a regulatory asset for regulatory accounting and ratemaking purposes under which it shall defer operation and maintenance costs incurred in connection with the refueling of any nuclear-powered generating plant and certain related work. Patron: Stosch

[SB 643](#) Electric utility regulation; recovery of costs of offshore wind facilities. Amends § 56-585.1 of the Code of Virginia to limit the portion of all costs incurred by an electric utility between July 1, 2007, and December 31, 2013, in developing an offshore wind facility that are recoverable through a rate adjustment clause to 30 percent of such amount. The remaining 70 percent of all such costs related to such a facility shall be recovered ratably through existing base rates as determined by

the SCC in the test periods under review in the utility's next biennial review filed after July 1, 2014. The measure also states that the planning and development activities for new generation facilities utilizing energy derived from offshore wind are in the public interest. Patron: McEachin

General Natural Resource Protection

[HB 390/SB 209](#) Sand replenishment; sand or other material placed on bottomlands to provide for beach nourishment. Amends § 28.2-1202 of the Code of Virginia to provide that when sand or other material is placed on state-owned bottomlands seaward of the mean low-water mark in order to provide beach nourishment or storm protection or as a result of a dredging project, the deposited material shall be deemed accretion. The public has a right of use and maintenance of the area as previously existed on the adjacent land above the mean low-water mark. Patron: Stolle/McWaters

[HB 911/SB 569](#) Living shorelines projects; issuance of general permits. Amends §§ 28.2-104.1, 28.2-1302, and 28.2-1403 of the Code of Virginia to require regulations for the issuance of general permits for living shoreline projects to include an expedited review process. The bill allows for construction of such projects under the local wetlands and coastal primary sand dunes ordinances. A living shoreline is a shoreline management practice that provides erosion control and water quality benefits. Patrons: Knight/Stuart

[HB 968](#) Brownfield properties; changes definition of bona fide prospective purchaser. Amends § 10.1-1230 of the Code of Virginia to change the definition of the "bona fide prospective purchaser" of brownfield property to include not only the person who acquires or proposes to acquire ownership of a brownfield property but also the tenant of such person. Patron: James

[SB 431](#) Voluntary remediation program; removes cap on registration fees. Amends § 10.1-1232 of the Code of Virginia to remove the \$5,000 cap on registration fees collected by the Department of Environmental Quality from persons conducting voluntary remediation on contaminated properties. The fees defray the costs of administering the voluntary remediation program. Patron: Watkins

[SB 545](#) Reforestation Operations Fund; changes current Fund to nonreverting special fund. Amends § 10.1-1116 of the Code of Virginia to change the current Reforestation Operations Fund to a nonreverting special fund in which the interest generated by the Fund is credited to the Fund. Patron: Ruff

Hunting

[HB 376](#) Spotlighting of Deer. Amends § 29.1-525 of the Code of Virginia to allow the employment of lights by localities for the observation of deer (spotlighting) for certain activities authorized by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Patron: Bulova

[HB 1237/SB 154](#) Wild animals & birds; unlawful to hunt on private property and state waters on Sunday, exception. Amends § 29.1-521 of the Code of Virginia to allow hunting on Sundays under certain circumstances. A person may hunt waterfowl, subject to restrictions imposed by the Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and a landowner and his immediate family or a person with written permission from the landowner may hunt or kill any wild bird or wild animal, including nuisance species, on the landowner's property. Patrons: Gilbert/Puckett

Solid and Hazardous Waste

[HB 856](#) Hazardous waste; removes requirement that permit is required from DEQ to transport. Amends § 10.1-1426 of the Code of Virginia to remove the requirement from the Department of Environmental

Quality to transport hazardous waste. The federal government currently regulates the transporting of hazardous waste. Patron: Fariss

Water Quality and Supply

[HB 131/SB 414](#) Chesapeake Bay; voluntary tax contributions for restoration. Amends § 58.1-344.3 of the Code of Virginia by requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to submit a report to the committees of oversight and the Virginia delegation to the Chesapeake Bay Commission by November 1 of each year describing how the moneys from the voluntary income tax check-off for Chesapeake Bay restoration activities were expended. Patrons: Lingamfelter/Hanger

[HB 445](#) Administrative Process Act; standard procedures for waste load allocations. Amends § 2.2-4006 of the Code of Virginia to establish minimum procedural requirements for the adoption of all waste load allocations, including public notice, public comment opportunity, a stakeholders advisory group process, agency response to comments, and a public meeting. Patron: Bulova

[HB 572](#) Wetlands; board shall give credit for in-lieu fee payments made to VA Aquatic Resources Trust Fund. Amends § 28.2-1308 of the Code of Virginia to require a local wetlands board to give a permit applicant credit toward local in-lieu fees in the amount of the fee he has paid, as an agreed-upon permit condition, to the Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund or another dedicated wetlands restoration fund. Patron: DeSteph

[HB 654](#) Wetland and stream mitigation banks; hydrologic unit boundaries. Amends §§ 28.2-1308, 33.1-223.2:1, and 62.1-44.15:23 of the Code of Virginia to allow the use of a hydrologic unit system or dataset other than the National Watershed Boundary Dataset and allows the adjustment of the hydrologic unit boundaries of such dataset based on the availability of more accurate information. Patron: Scott

[HB 1116](#) Banister River; Scenic River designation. Amends § 10.1-411.3 of the Code of Virginia to extend the State Scenic River designation of the Banister River from the current 38.4 miles to 63.3 miles. Patron: Adams

[HB 1173/SB 423](#) Stormwater management programs; State Water Control Board to establish procedures and regulations. Amends §§ 62.1-44.15:24, 62.1-44.15:27, 62.1-44.15:28, and other sections of the Code of Virginia by allowing a local government to “opt out” of requirements to manage a stormwater program if the local government is not subject to “MS4” permitting requirements. For such localities, stormwater programs will be managed by the Department of Environmental Quality. Also, localities designated as “MS4” after January 1, 2014 will have until January 1, 2015 (instead of July 1, 2014) to adopt their stormwater programs. Among other provisions, the bill also alters the permitting appeals process and allows for an agreement in lieu of a stormwater management plan for single lots not part of a common plan of development, and it and directs the State Water Control Board to adopt regulations relating to the issuance of permits for parcels in subdivisions already permitted as part of a common plan of Patrons: Hodges/Hanger

[HB 1193](#) State Water Control Board; Governor to try to ensure that membership is geographically balanced. Amends § 62.1-44.9 of the Code of Virginia to require the Governor, in making appointments to the State Water Control Board, to try to ensure that membership is geographically balanced. Patron: Webert

[HB 1217](#) Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas; documentation in lieu of proof of septic tank pump-out. Amends § 62.1-44.15:72 of the Code of Virginia to provide that any locality allowing owners of certain on-site sewage treatment systems to submit documentation in lieu of proof of septic

tank pump-out shall require that such documentation be certified by a licensed or certified on-site sewage system operator or soil evaluator. Patron: Morris

[SB 257](#) Tye River; designation as component of Virginia Scenic River System. Adds § 10.1-418.9 to the Code of Virginia to designate a 12.7-mile segment of the Tye River as a component of the Virginia Scenic Rivers System. Patron: Deeds

[SB 551](#) Cranesnest River; designates as component of Virginia Scenic Rivers System. Amends §§ 10.1-408, 10.1-410.2, and 10.1-411.2 and adds § 10.1-411.4 to the Code of Virginia to designate a 10.7-mile segment of the Cranesnest River in Dickenson County as a component of the Virginia Scenic Rivers System. Patron: Puckett

Miscellaneous

[HB 201/SB 83](#) Center for Rural Virginia, Secretary of Agriculture & Forestry added as member of board of trustees. Amends § 2.2-2721 of the Code of Virginia to add the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Center for Rural Virginia. Patron: Landes/Ruff

Finance

Budgeting

HB 199 DLS, local government expenditures or reductions. Amends § 30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia to require the Division of Legislative Services to identify and forward to the Commission on Local Government (Commission) introduced joint resolutions calling for a study of local government expenditures or revenues. The bill also authorizes the Department of Planning and Budget and the Department of Taxation to forward to the Commission introduced bills that require additional local government expenditures or a reduction in local government revenues. Patron: Landes

HB 559/SB 546 Virginia Defense Force; localities may appropriate money for force. Amends §§ 44-113 and 44-137 of the Code of Virginia to authorize a locality to appropriate such sums of money and real and personal property as it may deem proper to the Virginia Defense Force, when that organization is maintained within the limits of the locality. This bill is identical to SB 546. Patrons: Anderson/Ruff

HB 1051/SB 124 Constitutional officers; if proposed budget reduces funding of such officer, 14 day written notice. Amends §§ 15.2-1656, 15.2-2506, and 58.1-1727 of the Code of Virginia to include electronic or other systems among those items that a local governing body shall provide for the use of clerks of all courts of record as in the governing body's judgment may be reasonably necessary for the proper conduct of such offices. The bill also provides that if a proposed local budget reduces funding for a constitutional officer at a rate greater than the average rate of reduced funding for other agencies, exclusive of the school division, the locality shall give written notice to such constitutional officer at least 14 days prior to adoption of the budget, and the local governing body shall consider any written

objection of the officer made within seven days of the notice. Patron: Knight/Lucas

SB 549 Emergency relief; donations by localities to charitable institutions.

Amends § 15.2-953 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a locality may make gifts and donations to any nonprofit tax-exempt organization that is engaged in providing emergency relief to residents, including providing the repair or replacement of private property damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster. Patron: Puckett

Compensation and Retirement

HB 22 Unemployment compensation; calculating an employer's benefit ratio.

Amends § 60.2-530 of the Code of Virginia by providing that an employer's payroll, for purposes of calculating its benefit ratio and state unemployment tax rate, shall be deemed to be \$1 when the employer's taxable payroll for the applicable 12-month period is not more than \$1. The measure eliminates the necessity of dividing the employer's benefit charges by a payroll amount of \$0, which produces an infinite benefit ratio and results in an assessment of state unemployment taxes at the highest rate. Patron: Kory

HB 389 Unemployment compensation; voluntary separation presumed. Establishes a rebuttable presumption that an individual left work voluntarily if the individual was a graduate student whose employment commenced and ended between spring and fall semesters of his academic program and he returned to his academic program following his separation from employment. Patron: Minchew

SB 18 Unemployment compensation; voluntarily leaving employment to accompany military spouse. Provides that good cause for leaving employment exists if an employee voluntarily leaves a job to accompany the employee's spouse, who is on active duty in the military or naval services of the United

States, to a new military-related assignment established pursuant to a permanent change of duty order from which the employee's place of employment is not reasonably accessible. The measure applies only if the state to which the spouse is transferred has a similar provision, unless the transfer involves members of the Virginia National Guard relocated within the Commonwealth. Benefits paid to qualifying claimants shall be charged against the pool rather than against the claimant's employer. Patron: Locke

[SB 110](#) Unemployment compensation; short-time compensation program report.

Establishes a short-time compensation program that provides employers with the option of reducing the hours worked by employees, while permitting the employees whose hours are reduced to receive partial compensation for lost wages. Program participation requires Virginia Employment Commission approval of a plan, which must provide that the reduction in hours of work is in lieu of a layoff of an equivalent percentage of employees and that employees' health and retirement benefits cannot be reduced or eliminated under the plan. Patron: Stanley

[SB 188](#) State and local employees; deferred compensation plans. Amend §§ 51.1-600 and 51.1-604 of the Code of Virginia to authorize the inclusion of a Roth contribution program in deferred compensation retirement plans for state and local government employees beginning July 1, 2015. The Roth IRA option does not apply to the new voluntary defined contribution option for Hybrid plan employees. Currently, this change would impact approximately 200 state agencies as well as approximately 60 local employers that have opted to use the Commonwealth's 457 deferred compensation plan. Patron: McDougle

Taxation and Fees

[HB 44](#) Defense Force; creates personal property tax classification for vehicle owned by member. Amends § 58.1-3506 of the Code

of Virginia by creating a separate personal property tax classification for a motor vehicle owned or leased by a uniformed member of the Virginia Defense Force and used by the uniformed member of the Virginia Defense Force to respond to his official duties. Any locality is authorized to set a personal property tax rate for such motor vehicles less than the rate applicable to the general class of tangible personal property. Patron: Cole

[HB 121](#) Tax information, disclosure by Department of Taxation. Amends § 58.1-3 of the Code of Virginia to require the Department of Taxation to disclose the total aggregate amount of an income tax deduction or credit taken by all taxpayers, regardless of how few the number of taxpayers, upon request by the General Assembly or any duly constituted committee of the General Assembly. Under current practice, the Department of Taxation does not disclose such information if fewer than four taxpayers took the deduction or credit. Patron: Toscano

[HB 149](#) Real property tax; board of equalization. Amends §§ 58.1-3370, 58.1-3371, and 58.1-3373 of the Code of Virginia to provide that an alternate member be appointed to a board of equalization if a regular member applies to the board for relief. Patron: Minchew

[HB 156/SB 175](#) Real and personal property tax; exemption for religious bodies. Amends § 58.1-3606 of the Code of Virginia to clarify the meaning of real property used exclusively for religious worship for determining the real property tax exemption for religious bodies. Patron: Minchew/Black

[HB 187/SB 508](#) Real and personal property tax exemption; aviation museum. Adds § 58.1-3652 to the Code of Virginia to permit any locality to exempt any real or personal property the legal title to which is not held by a nonprofit entity but is subject to the sole use and occupancy of a nonprofit entity, as long as the nonprofit entity uses such property solely to (i) exhibit or display certain military aircraft

to the general public or (ii) use such aircraft for educational purposes. Patrons: Knight/Wagner

HB 283 Alcoholic beverage control; suspension of license for local tax delinquency. Amends § 4.1-225 of the Code of Virginia to authorize the ABC Board to suspend or revoke the license of a licensee who is delinquent for a period of 90 days or more in the payment of any taxes, or any penalties or interest related thereto, lawfully imposed by the locality where the licensed business is located, as certified by the treasurer, commissioner of the revenue, or finance director of such locality, unless (i) the outstanding amount is de minimis; (ii) the licensee has pending a bona fide application for correction or appeal with respect to such taxes, penalties, or interest; or (iii) the licensee has entered into a payment plan approved by the same locality to settle the outstanding liability. Patron: Albo

HB 460 Income tax credits, motion picture production credit. Amends § 58.1-439.12:03 of the Code of Virginia to change the motion picture production income tax credit by (i) increasing the total cap for all such credits from \$5 million per biennium to \$6.5 million each fiscal year and (ii) having the credit expire on December 31, 2018. The bill also requires the Department of Taxation to publish information regarding the credit even if such information is not classified so as to prevent the identification of the taxpayer claiming the credit. Patron: Kilgore

HB 497 BPOL; appeal of business license tax classification. Amends § 58.1-3703.1 of the Code of Virginia to permit a taxpayer to appeal to the Tax Commissioner or request a written ruling from him with regard to the classification of the business for BPOL tax purposes, regardless of whether the locality has conducted an audit, issued an assessment, or taken any other action. Patron: Head

HB 499 Real property tax; nonjudicial sale of certain delinquent property. Amends §

58.1-3975 of the Code of Virginia to reduce the number of years of delinquency in payment of taxes from five years to three years before a locality may sell real property that (i) measures less than 4,000 square feet or (ii) is determined to be unsuitable for building. Patron: Yost

HB 525 Real property tax; notice of assessment. Amends § 58.1-3330 of the Code of Virginia to require every notice of assessment to set forth (i) the new and prior two appraised values of land and appraised value of improvements, and the assessed values of such if different from the appraised values; (ii) the new tax rate and the rates for the prior two tax years; (iii) the total new tax levy and the tax levies for the prior two years; and (iv) the percentage changes in such levies. Under current law, such information is required for the current year and the prior year. The bill also requires the notice to inform each property owner of his right to review and make copies of records maintained by the local assessment office. Patron: Pogge

SB 596 Alcoholic beverage control; state and local license taxes on certain brewery licences. Imposes a state license tax of \$350 and a local license tax of \$250 for breweries that manufacture no more than 500 barrels of beer during the licensing year. Patron: Marsden

HB 589 Personal property tax; exemption for household goods. Amends § 58.1-3504 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the personal property tax exemption for household goods includes property primarily used for household purposes, including electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, and personal computers. Patron: Davis

HB 614 Landlord and tenant law; energy submetering, local government fees. Amends § 55-226.2 of the Code of Virginia to provide that in lieu of increasing the rent, the owner, manager, or operator of a commercial or residential building or campground may employ a program that utilizes a mathematical formula for allocating

the actual or anticipated local government fees billed to the building or campground owner among the tenants in such building or campground if clearly stated in the rental agreement or lease. Such owner, manager, or operator of a commercial or residential building or campground may also charge and collect from each tenant additional service charges, including monthly billing fees, account set-up fees, or account move-out fees, to cover the actual costs of administrative expenses for administration of such a program. If the building is residential and is subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act, such local government fees and administrative expenses shall be deemed to be rent. The bill defines the term “local government fees” as any local government charges or fees assessed against a commercial or residential building or campground, including stormwater, recycling, trash collection, elevator testing, fire or life safety testing, or residential rental inspection programs. Patron: Miller

[HB 617](#) Personal property tax classification. Amends § 58.1-3506 of the Code of Virginia to authorize a locality to establish lower personal property tax rates on the tangible property of businesses that locate for the first time in the locality. The lower rates would apply for the first two tax years that the business is subject to the personal property tax. If a locality has enacted an exemption from the local license tax or fee (BPOL) for beginning businesses, only those beginning businesses that qualify for such exemption may be eligible for the lower personal property tax rates. Patron: Davis

[HB 663](#) Real estate; judicial sale of property for delinquent taxes. Amends § 58.1-3969 of the Code of Virginia to remove obsolete language that referred to the judicial sale of abandoned real estate. The term “abandoned” is no longer used to describe any class of real estate in Title 58.1. Patron: Brink

[HB 737](#) Neighborhood assistance tax credits; increases percentage of persons served by organization. Amends § 58.1-

439.20 of the Code of Virginia to increase the percentage of persons served by a neighborhood organization and who are low-income, as defined in § 58.1-439.18, from 40 percent to 50 percent, for purposes of applying to the Department of Social Services for an allocation of neighborhood assistance tax credits for use by business firms making donations to the neighborhood organization. Patron: O’Bannon

[HB 975/SB 127](#) Hybrid electric motor vehicles; repeals annual license tax.

Amends § 58.1-2249 of the Code of Virginia to repeal the \$64 annual license tax on hybrid electric motor vehicles that was first imposed beginning July 1, 2013. The bill also provides for refunds of the license tax paid on hybrid electric motor vehicles for registration years beginning on or after July 1, 2014. Patrons: Rust/Newman

[HB 1000](#) Real property tax; exemption for certain elderly and disabled persons.

Amends §§ 58.1-3210, 58.1-3211.1, and 58.1-3212 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the real property tax exemption for the sole dwelling of the elderly and disabled includes dwellings held by certain trusts. The bill also provides that if a locality establishes income restrictions for the exemption, then the locality shall exclude (i) the income of relatives living in the dwelling providing caregiving services, whether or not they are compensated, and (ii) the income of non-relative caregivers living in the home, whether or not they are compensated. Patron: Minchew

[HB 1028](#) Gas severance tax; extends sunset provision to December 31, 2015.

Amends § 58.1-3713 of the Code of Virginia to extend the sunset date from December 31, 2014, to December 31, 2015, for the local gas severance tax that is dedicated to (i) the Gas Road Improvement Fund, (ii) the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Fund, and (iii) water, sewer, and gas lines. Patron: Morefield

HB 1075 Political subdivisions, certain audits. Amends § 30-140 of the Code of Virginia to provide that no audit shall be required for certain political subdivisions, the members of whose governing body are not elected by popular vote, for any fiscal year during which such entity's financial transactions did not exceed the sum of \$25,000. The current threshold is \$5,000. Patron: Jones

HB 1099 Local meals, & food & beverage taxes; exempts nonprofit entity from collecting on fundraising sales. Amends §§ 58.1-3833 and 58.1-3840 of the Code of Virginia to exempt nonprofit entities from collecting meals tax or food and beverage tax on the first \$100,000 of otherwise taxable fundraising sales. Patron: Farrell

HB 1108 Motor vehicle sales and use tax; exemptions. Amends § 58.1-2403 of the Code of Virginia to exempt from the motor vehicle sales and use tax motor vehicles sold to a § 501(c)(3) organization that are primarily used by the organization to transport to markets for sale produce that is (i) produced by local farmers and (ii) sold by such farmers to the organization. Patron: Hester

HB 1179/SB 591 Neighborhood assistance tax credits; proposals, emergency. Amends § 58.1-439.20 of the Code of Virginia to allow neighborhood organizations to submit the required financial audit, review, or compilation within the 30-day period immediately following any deadline established for the submission of neighborhood organization proposals for tax credits. So long as the proposal was otherwise complete by the deadline, the proposal would be timely filed if the audit, review, or compilation is submitted within such 30-day period. Emergency clause. Patrons: Hugo/Barker

HB 1202/SB 338 Mineral lands; local property and license taxes. Amends §§ 58.1-3286 and 58.1-3712 of the Code of Virginia to permit a commissioner of the revenue to enter

into agreements with taxpayers regarding the fair market value of mineral lands and deems any such agreements entered into on or after January 1, 2013, but prior to July 1, 2014, valid and enforceable. The bill states that it is declaratory of existing law. Patrons: O'Quinn/Puckett

HB 1239/SB 418 Real and personal property taxes; exemption for solar energy equipment, facilities or devices. Amends §§ 58.1-3660 and 58.1-3661 of the Code of Virginia to exempt from real and personal property tax business-owned or business-operated solar energy equipment, facilities, or devices that collect, generate, transfer, or store thermal or electric energy. Patrons: Hugo/Hanger

SB 100 Retail Sales and Use Tax; satellite television programming equipment. Amends § 58.1-602 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the separately stated charge for equipment of a provider of satellite television programming leased or sold to the customer of such programming is subject to sales and use tax. Patron: Ruff

SB 480 Real property tax; notice of assessment. Amends § 58.1-3330 of the Code of Virginia to require every notice of assessment to set forth (i) the new and prior two assessed values of land and assessed value of improvements; (ii) the new tax rate and the rates for the prior two tax years; (iii) the total new tax levy and the tax levies for the prior two years; and (iv) the percentage changes in such levies. Under current law, such information is required for the current year and the prior year. The bill also requires the notice to inform each property owner of his right to review and make copies of records maintained by the local assessment office. Patron: Norment

SB 563 Neighborhood Assistance Act; increases amount of tax credits that may be issued under program. Amends § 58.1-439.20 of the Code of Virginia to increase by

\$500,000 in each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016 the amount of tax credits that may be issued under the tax credit program for both donations supporting education programs and donations supporting other than education programs. After the phase-in is completed, each fiscal year \$9 million in tax credits could be issued for donations supporting education programs and \$8 million in tax credits could be issued for donations supporting other than education programs. The bill also grants a five-year exemption from current eligibility requirements relating to persons served by the neighborhood organization and the use of the organization's revenues. Only those organizations that received neighborhood assistance tax credits for fiscal year 2011-2012 would benefit from the exemption. Patron: Stosch

SB 673 Retail Sales and Use Tax; distribution of certain revenue. Amends § 58.1-608.3 of the Code of Virginia to allow the entitlement to sales tax revenue to begin quarterly with the first quarter in which revenue is generated in a building or structure within the public facility. Patron: Puckett

General Government

Annexation, Boundary Adjustments, Intergovernmental Relations

HB 652 Boundary adjustments; notice of any agreement shall be served upon affected landowners. Amends § 15.2-3107 of the Code of Virginia to provide that all affected landowners shall be given notice of a proposed voluntary boundary adjustment. The bill authorizes landowners to file a petition to intervene in the action under certain circumstances. Patron: LaRock

SB 312 Annexation Moratorium Statute; continuation of the moratorium on annexation by cities. Amends § 15.2-3201 of the Code of Virginia to extend the temporary restrictions on granting city charters, filing annexation notices, and instituting annexation proceedings and county immunity proceedings until July 1 following the 2014-2016 biennium. Patron: Vogel

Courts

HB 143 Courthouse; posting of notices on website. Amends § 1-211.1 of the Code of Virginia by providing that documents required to be posted by a clerk on or at the front door of a courthouse or on a public bulletin board at a courthouse may instead be posted on the public government website of the locality served by the court. Patron: Minchew

HB 477 Electronic summons system; fees. Amends § 17.1-275.5 and adds §.1-279.1 to the Code of Virginia to allow counties and cities to assess a fee not to exceed \$5 as part of the costs in each criminal or traffic case in district or circuit court to be used for the implementation and maintenance of an electronic summons system. Patron: Villanueva

HB 607 Recordation & marginal release; circuit court clerk not required to make recordings in record books. Amends §§ 6.2-417, 8.01-269, 8.01-431, and other

sections of the Code of Virginia to remove the requirements that the clerk of the circuit court make recordings in the margins of pages in record books to accommodate the use of electronic filing databases by circuit court clerks. Patron: Robinson

SB 59 Warrants; maintenance by clerks of court. Amends §§ 3.2-3942, 3.2-6568, 10.1-610, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to provide that the responsibility for maintaining the files of executed administrative search warrants, investigation warrants, and inspection warrants lies with the clerk of the circuit court of the city or county in which the search or investigation was made. Currently, the issuing magistrate or judge is responsible for maintaining such warrants. Patron: Stuart

SB 435 Circuit court clerks; automated system in lieu of order books. Amends §§ 17.1-124, 17.1-225, 17.1-242, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to provide that circuit court clerks may keep an automated system in lieu of order books and land books as well as allow remote access to such system with regard to nonconfidential court records. The bill permits circuit court clerks to keep court records at a designated location outside of the clerk's office. The bill also exempts instruments and records that are more than 100 years old from the prohibition against the clerks' posting personal information on the Internet. Patron: McDougle

Elections

HB 97 Elections; central absentee voter precincts. Amends § 24.2-712 of the Code of Virginia by removing the requirement that a central absentee voter precinct that is allowed by the general registrar to open after 6:00 a.m. on the day of the election must open before noon on the day of the election. Patron: Head

HB 104 Chief and assistant chief election officers; appointment, qualifications and terms of officers. Amends § 24.2-115 of the Code of Virginia by allowing the chief

and assistant chief election officers to be nonpartisan if a representative for one or both of the two political parties receiving the highest and next highest number of votes in the preceding gubernatorial election is unavailable. The bill requires that notice be given to representatives of both political parties at least 10 days prior to the election that the electoral board intends to use nonaffiliated officers so that the political parties have the opportunity to provide additional candidates for election officers. Patron: Cole

HB 275 Electoral boards, local; meetings, proceedings, and records. Amends § 24.2-107 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the general registrar shall determine a reasonable charge, not to exceed the statutory amount set for copies of court records, for copies made of local electoral board books, papers, and records. Patron: Krupicka

HB 632 Elections; substitution of officers of election. Amends §§ 24.2-115 and 24.2-117 of the Code of Virginia to authorize an electoral board member to request in writing the removal of an officer of election whom he knows to be the spouse, parent, grandparent, sibling, child, or grandchild of a candidate in that election. Currently, only a candidate may require the removal of an officer of election for these grounds by a request in writing. The substitute officer holds office and serves only for that election. Patron: Kilgore

HB 956 Elections; filings by candidates and political parties. Amends §§ 24.2-502 and 24.2-511 of the Code of Virginia to streamline the process by which information regarding candidates' filing of required statements of economic interests is transmitted to the State Board of Elections or local electoral boards. The bill also requires the date a candidate is nominated by a method other than a primary to be certified to the State Board; currently, only the name of the candidate so nominated is required to be certified. Patron: Chafin

HB 1024 Constitutional and local offices; special election to fill vacancy. Amends § 24.2-226 of the Code of Virginia to require the court to order a special election for a vacancy in any elected constitutional or local office to be held on the date of the next general election, unless the governing body filing the petition for the writ requests in its petition a different date for the special election that precedes the next general election. In that case the court is required to order the election be held on that date if it complies with current law regarding times for special elections. However, if the vacancy occurs within 90 days of the next general election, the special election shall be held on the second general election, unless otherwise requested in the petition. Patron: Ingram

Freedom of Information Act

HB 193/SB 161 FOIA; meetings by electronic communication in emergencies or personal matters. Amends § 2.2-3708.1 of the Code of Virginia to remove the requirement that a public body approve by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting the remote participation in the meeting by one of its members. The bill instead requires the public body to have adopted a written policy allowing for and governing participation, including an approval process for such participation of its members by electronic communication means. Once adopted, the public body shall apply this policy strictly and uniformly, without exception, to its entire membership, and without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting. Patron: Minchew/Favola

HB 219 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; record exemption for certain letters of recommendation. Amends § 2.2-3705.4 of the Code of Virginia to add a record exemption for educational institutions for confidential

letters and statements of recommendation placed in the records of educational agencies or institutions respecting an application for promotion. Patron: Albo

HB 380 Freedom of Information Act; disclosure pursuant to court order or subpoena. Adds § 2.2-3703.1 to the Code of Virginia to provide that nothing in FOIA shall have any bearing upon disclosures required to be made pursuant to any court order or subpoena, nor shall any discretionary exemption from mandatory disclosure be construed to make records covered by such discretionary exemption privileged under the rules of discovery, unless disclosure is otherwise prohibited by law. Patron: Surovell

Conflicts of Interest

HB 1211/SB 649 Conflicts of Interests Acts, State and Local Government & General Assembly; establishes Council. Amends §§ 2.2-419, 2.2-423, 2.2-426, and other sections of the Code of Virginia and adds § 2.2-3103.1, 30-103.1, 30-129.1, 30-129.2, 30-129.3, and other sections to the Code of Virginia to establish the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council composed of 15 members: four appointments each by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, Senate Committee on Rules, and Governor; one designee of the Attorney General; one representative of the Virginia Association of Counties; and one representative of the Virginia Municipal League. The Council will review and post online the disclosure forms filed by lobbyists and persons subject to the conflict of interests acts and provide formal opinions and informal advice, education, and training. The bill requires the filing of the disclosure forms twice a year. The Division of Legislative Services will staff the Council, and the Council will transmit complaints of conflict law violations to the ethics advisory panels of the House of Delegates and Senate. The bill prohibits tangible gifts with a value of more than \$250 or a combination of

tangible gifts with a value of more than \$250 to certain officers and employees of state or local governmental or advisory agencies or to legislators from a lobbyist; a lobbyist's principal; or a person, business, or organization who is a party to or seeking to become a party to certain governmental contracts. The bill also clarifies the distinction between gifts and other things of value received for travel, reduces a number of disclosure provision thresholds from \$10,000 to \$5,000, and requires the disclosure of gifts to immediate family members. The bill provides that the provisions of the conflict of interests acts do not preclude prosecution for any criminal law violation, including bribery. Patrons: Gilbert/Norment

Personnel

HB 420 Public assets; misuse, adoption of local ordinance by locality, penalty. Amends § 18.2-112.1 of the Code of Virginia to allow localities to adopt an ordinance that provides that a non-full-time officer, agent, employee, or elected official who misuses public assets when the value of such use exceeds \$1,000 in a 12-month period is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Patron: Minchew

HB 494 Localities; personnel policies related to use of public property. Adds § 15.2-1505.2 to the Code of Virginia to require all localities, except those towns with a population of less than 3,500 that do not have a personnel policy, to establish personnel policies covering the use of public property by officers and employees of the locality. Such policies shall address the use of telephones, computers, and related devices and peripheral equipment that are the property of the locality for (i) personal use, to the extent that such use interferes with the employees' productivity or work performance, or (ii) political activities. Patron: Lingamfelter

HB 745 Internet publication of personal information; prohibition, attorneys for the Commonwealth. Amends § 18.2-186.4:1

of the Code of Virginia to add attorneys for the Commonwealth to the current provision prohibiting a state or local agency from publicly posting or displaying on the Internet the home address or personal telephone numbers of a law-enforcement officer or state or federal judge or justice if such official has made a written demand and obtains a court order. Patron: Bell, Robert B.

Public Safety

HB 100/SB 600 Concealed handgun permits; references to issuance of handgun permit before July 1, 2008. Amends §§ 18.2-308.02 and 18.2-308.011 of the Code of Virginia by providing that any references to the issuance of a concealed handgun permit in any order book before July 1, 2008, are exempt from the requirement that such orders be withheld from public disclosure. The bill also directs circuit court clerks to issue replacement permits to permit holders who undergo a lawful name change. Patrons: Lingamfelter/Cosgrove

HB 138/SB 485 Magistrates; authorized to exercise powers regarding search warrants throughout Commonwealth. Amends §§ 16.1-69.25 and 19.2-44 of the Code of Virginia to authorize magistrates and district court judges to exercise powers regarding search warrants throughout the Commonwealth. Patrons: Pogge/Norment

HB 186/SB 349 Seized drugs and paraphernalia; forfeiture to law enforcement. Amends § 19.2-386.23 of the Code of Virginia to provide that seized drugs and drug paraphernalia, the lawful possession of which is not established or the title to which cannot be ascertained, may be forfeited to a law-enforcement agency for training purposes pursuant to a court order. Current law limits such forfeiture to the Department of Forensic Science for research and training purposes. Limitations are placed on the amount of drugs that a law-enforcement agency may retain and monthly inventories must be submitted to

the chief law-enforcement officer in writing. Patron: Knight/Cosgrove

HB 310 First informer broadcaster; access to station in state emergency area to disseminate news. Adds § 44-146.18:3 to the Code of Virginia to provide that state and local governmental agencies shall grant first informer broadcasters access to their broadcasting station or television system within an area declared a state of emergency area by the Governor for the purpose of provision of news, public service and public safety information, and repairing or resupplying their facility or equipment. A first informer is defined as the critical personnel of a radio or television broadcast station engaged in (i) the process of broadcasting; (ii) the maintenance or repair of broadcast station equipment, transmitters, and generators; or (iii) the transportation of fuel for generators of broadcast stations. Patron: Lingamfelter

HB 323 Temporary detention order; transportation. Amends § 37.2-810 of the Code of Virginia to provide that a magistrate may specify any willing law-enforcement agency that has agreed to provide transportation to execute a temporary detention order and transport the person who is the subject of the order. Currently, the magistrate must specify the law-enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the person resides or, if the nearest boundary of the jurisdiction in which the person resides is more than 50 miles from the nearest boundary of the jurisdiction in which the person is located, the law-enforcement agency of the jurisdiction in which the person is located. Patron: O'Bannon

HB 334/SB 421 Multidisciplinary child sexual abuse response teams, local; attorney to establish to review cases. Adds § 15.2-1627.5 to the Code of Virginia to require every attorney for the Commonwealth to establish a multidisciplinary child sexual abuse response team to conduct regular reviews of cases involving felony sex offenses involving

children. Such teams may also review other reports of child abuse and neglect or sex offenses involving children in the jurisdiction. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2015. Patrons: Bell, Robert B./McDougal

[HB 357](#) Concealed handgun permit applicant; access to information. Amends § 18.2-308.02 of the Code of Virginia to allow a clerk of a circuit court to disclose information contained in a concealed handgun permit application to the applicant. Currently, the clerk may not disclose such information to anyone except a law-enforcement officer acting in the performance of his official duties. Patron: Anderson

[HB 872](#) Interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreement; agreement may allow loan of unmarked police vehicles. Amends § 15.2-1726 of the Code of Virginia to provide that interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements may allow the loan of unmarked police vehicles. Patron: Rush

[HB 885](#) Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund; filing of claims. Amends §§ 19.2-368.5, 19.2-368.9, and 19.2-368.11:1 of the Code of Virginia to allow the Fund to extend the time for filing a claim if the attorney for the Commonwealth submits written notice that the crime is being investigated as a result of newly discovered evidence. This provision applies to crimes committed on or after July 1, 1977, because under current law, the only claims that can be accepted are those for crimes that occurred on or after that date, and does not apply to crimes committed on or after July 1, 2001, because legislation that became effective on July 1, 2001, allowed the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, which administers the Fund, to extend the time for filing for good cause shown. Patron: Peace

[HB 1049/SB 597](#) Regional Criminal Justice Academy Training Fund; local fee. Amends § 9.1-106 of the Code of Virginia to change the date by which a locality must have been operating a certified independent criminal

justice academy from July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2012, to allow certain localities to charge a fee for operating their criminal justice academies. Patrons: Helsel/Locke

[HB 1248](#) 911 emergency service calls; recordings shall be deemed authentic if with certain information. Amends § 8.01-390 of the Code of Virginia to provide that recordings and records of 911 emergency service calls shall be deemed authentic transcriptions or recordings of the original statements if they are accompanied by a certificate that authenticates them as true copies and the certificate contains the date and time of the incoming call and, if available, the incoming phone number. Patron: Surovell

[SB 211](#) Controlled substances; law-enforcement reports to Board of Pharmacy. Amends § 19.2-386.23 of the Code of Virginia to eliminate the requirement that law-enforcement reports on the destruction of seized controlled substances and other drugs and paraphernalia be submitted to the Board of Pharmacy. A return under oath by the law-enforcement officer ordered to destroy them, reporting the time, place, and manner of destruction, will still be made to the court that ordered the destruction or, if the substances are not needed as evidence, to the chief law-enforcement officer. Patron: Carrico

[SB 496](#) Police officers, special; repeals provisions allowing a circuit court for any locality to appoint. Amends §§ 2.2-2801, 9.1-101, 15.2-1124, and other sections of the Code of Virginia and repeals §§ 15.2-1737 through 15.2-1746 of the Code of Virginia to repeal the provisions of the Code allowing a circuit court for any locality to appoint special police officers for such locality upon application of the sheriff or chief of police. Under current law, all appointments made pursuant to these provisions became void on September 15, 2004. The changes in this bill do not affect a sheriff's or chief of police's ability to request appointment of a special conservator of the peace. Patron: Norment

Workers Compensation

HB 456 Workers' compensation; civil penalty for failure to make required reports, collection costs. Amends § 65.2-902 of the Code of Virginia to clarify that the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission is authorized to assess a civil penalty against an insurance carrier, self-insurer, group self-insurance association, or third-party administrator that fails to make reports required by the Commission. Patron: Kilgore

HB 458 Workers' compensation; civil penalties, collection costs. Amends § 65.2-805 of the Code of Virginia to increase the maximum civil penalty that may be assessed against an employer for failure to obtain workers' compensation insurance or provide evidence of compliance with the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act to \$50,000. Currently, noncompliant employers are subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000. The measure provides that, subject to the maximum, the penalty for each day of noncompliance will be no more than \$250. Patron: Kilgore

Miscellaneous

HB 283 Alcoholic beverage control; suspension of license for local tax delinquency. Authorizes the ABC Board to suspend or revoke the license of a licensee who is delinquent for a period of 90 days or more in the payment of any taxes, or any penalties or interest related thereto, lawfully imposed by the locality where the licensed business is located, as certified by the treasurer, commissioner of the revenue, or finance director of such locality, unless (i) the outstanding amount is de minimis; (ii) the licensee has pending a bona fide application for correction or appeal with respect to such taxes, penalties, or interest; or (iii) the licensee has entered into a payment plan approved by the same locality to settle the outstanding liability. Patron: Albo

HB 1011 Local Government, Commission on; local mandates. Amends § 15.2-2903 of the Code of Virginia to extend from July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2018, the task force appointed by the Governor to review state mandates on localities. Patron: Byron

HB 1196 Clerks offices; recordation, possession of child pornography, wills, etc. Amends §§ 17.1-123, 18.2-374.1:1, 19.2-165, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to make up each day's proceedings that have been recorded in the order book shall be deemed the official records; (ii) providing that clerks may possess evidence of child pornography in the course of their duties; (iii) requiring clerks to receive and maintain control over evidence at the time it is admitted; (iv) allowing the secretary of a firefighting company to appoint a designee for the purpose of filing membership lists with the clerk; (v) removing the requirement in the Uniform Federal Lien Registration Act that a filing officer endorse on the notice of a federal lien the title and address of the official or entity certifying the lien; and (vi) providing that the clerk may make a motion to require a personal representative to furnish security. Patron: Cline

SB 194 Eminent domain; date of valuation in actions shall be determined by court. Amends § 8.01-187 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the "date of valuation" of property in an inverse condemnation proceeding is the date determined by the court to be the date the property was taken or damaged. Patron: Black

Health and Human Resources

Human Remains, Disposition

HB 997 Cemeteries; procedure for removal and relocation of human remains. Amends §§ 57-36 and 57-38.1 of the Code of Virginia to provide that should any locality having acquired by any means land on which an abandoned graveyard is located, including lands acquired in accordance with § 22.1-126.1 for educational purposes, initiate plans to use that land for purposes other than to maintain the graveyard, such locality shall, prior to completion of said plans, develop and engage in active public notice and participation regarding efforts to avoid adverse impacts to the graveyard or to remove the remains interred in such graveyard to an alternative repository. The bill provides that such notice and participation shall include, at minimum, publication of at least one notice in a local newspaper of general circulation, notice posted at the site of the graveyard, and notice to and consultation with any historic preservation or other such commission, as well as area historical and genealogical societies, and at least one public hearing, and notice to the Department of Historic Resources (Department) and any local historical commission or organization. In addition, if a locality has acquired land on which an abandoned cemetery or gravesite of Virginians held as slaves at the time of their deaths is located, the locality must notify the Department of the location of such cemetery or gravesite. The Department shall maintain as a public record a listing of all locations of all abandoned cemeteries and gravesites of Virginians held as slaves at the time of their deaths that have been submitted to the Department. Patron: Anderson

SB 77 Dead human bodies; absence of next of kin, disposition of remains, prerequisites for cremation. Amends § 54.1-2818.1 and adds § 54.1-2807.02 to the Code of Virginia to provide that, in the absence of a next of kin, a person designated to make arrangements for

disposition of a decedent's remains, an agent named in an advance directive, or a guardian who exercises powers conferred in an order of appointment, or upon the failure or refusal of such next of kin, designated person, agent, or guardian to accept responsibility for the disposition of the decedent's remains, any person who is 18 years of age or older who is able to provide identification of the deceased and willing to pay the costs of disposition of the remains may make arrangements for such disposition and may authorize cremation. The bill also provides that a funeral service establishment or funeral service licensee who makes arrangements in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be immune from civil liability absent bad faith or malicious intent. Patron: Martin

SB 304 Dead human bodies; establishes a process for disposition for unclaimed bodies. Amends §§ 32.1-298, 32.1-299, 54.1-2807, and 54.1-2818.1, adds §§ 32.1-309.1 through 32.1-309.4; and repeals §§ 32.1-284, 32.1-288, and 32.1-288.1 of the Code of Virginia to establish a process for the disposition of unclaimed dead bodies. Emergency clause. Patron: Alexander

Health Care

HB 130/SB 253 Health care providers; civil immunity for members of or consultants to boards or committees. Amends § 8.01-581.16 of the Code of Virginia by extending civil liability protection to members of, or consultants to, boards or committees established (i) under the requirements of a national accrediting organization granted authority by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or (ii) pursuant to guidelines approved or adopted by statewide or local associations representing licensed health care providers for acts or omissions done in the performance of their duties as members of, or consultants to, such boards or committees. Under current law, the board or committee may only be established pursuant

to federal or state law or to Joint Commission on Accreditation Healthcare Organization requirements. Patrons: Minchew/McDougle

HB 305 Immunizations; Department of Health to seek reimbursement for cost in certain cases. Amends § 32.1-46 of the Code of Virginia to require the Department of Health to provide certain vaccines for children free of charge to the parent of the child if the child is eligible for the Vaccines for Children Program or the child is eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or CHAMPUS. In cases in which a child is covered by a health carrier, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or CHAMPUS, the Department shall seek reimbursement for all allowable costs associated with the provision of the vaccine. Patron: O'Bannon

HB 586/SB 416 Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan; eligibility for assistance. Amends § 32.1-351 of the Code of Virginia to eliminate the requirement that an individual under the age of 19 must have been without health insurance for at least four months or must meet the requirements set forth in the Virginia Plan for Title XXI of the Social Security Act (Children's Health Insurance Program) to be eligible for assistance under the Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan. The bill requires regulations to be promulgated within 280 days of enactment. Patron: O'Bannon/Hanger

HB 680/SB 60 Joint Commission on Health Care; extends sunset provision to July 1, 2018. Amends § 30-170 of the Code of Virginia to extend the sunset provision for the Joint Commission on Health Care from July 1, 2015, to July 1, 2018. This bill is identical to SB 60. Patrons: Brink/Puller

HB 702 Uniform assessments; qualified assessors. Amends § 32.1-330 and adds § 32.1-330.4 to the Code of Virginia to require the Department of Medical Assistance Services to enter into contracts with public and private entities to conduct community-based and

institutional screenings in jurisdictions in which the screening team has been unable to complete screenings within 30 days of an individual's application. The bill also provides that every individual who requests a screening for the purpose of enrollment in a PACE plan shall be eligible for such screening, regardless of whether the individual is eligible under the state plan for medical assistance. The bill requires the Board of Medical Assistance Services to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill within 280 days of its enactment. Patron: Head

HB 1043/SB 542 Health benefit exchanges; regulation of navigators. Amends §§ 38.2-3455 and 38.2-3456 and adds §§ 38.2-3457 through 38.2-3460 to the Code of Virginia to require navigators, on and after September 1, 2014, to be registered with the State Corporation Commission, in addition to being certified by the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The measure prohibits navigators from receiving compensation for services when prohibited by federal law. The Commission shall register a navigator if his character and general fitness warrant belief that he will act fairly, in the public interest, and in accordance with law. Navigators are required to submit an application to the Commission in a form the Commission prescribes, pay an application fee, and provide a criminal record history. The Commission is authorized to examine and investigate those involved in navigator activities and requires them to report to the Commission (i) any action taken by HHS, (ii) any felony conviction, and (iii) any administrative action taken in another jurisdiction or by another governmental agency in the Commonwealth. The Commission may determine whether the federal standards and qualifications for navigators are sufficient to ensure that navigators can perform their required duties. If the Commission finds that they are not, it is required to make a good faith effort to work in cooperation with the U.S. Secretary of HHS to propose improvements.

If the Commission determines the standards and qualifications remain insufficient, the Commission is directed to adopt the necessary regulations to ensure that navigators can perform their required duties. Patrons: Byron/Martin

HB 1176 Health insurance; notice of increase in premium or deductible. Amends § 38.2-3407.14 of the Code of Virginia to require health insurers, including health maintenance organizations and corporations providing accident and sickness subscription contracts, to provide written notice of intent to increase the annual premium or deductible in conjunction with the proposed renewal of coverage under any individual health insurance policy, contract, or plan. Such notices are required to be given not less than 75 days prior to the proposed renewal of coverage; however, the bill provides that the deadlines for the provision of notices may be adjusted by the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance to account for delays in product or rate approval that result from filing requirements established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The requirement begins with policy, contract, or plan year renewals beginning on or after January 1, 2015. Currently, notices of premium increases are required to be given when a premium increase exceeds 35 percent, and the notices are required to be given at least 60 days prior to the proposed renewal. Patron: Ware

HB 1222 First responders; mental health education and training. An uncodified act to provide that the Secretary of Public Safety and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall encourage the dissemination of information about specialized training in evidence-based strategies to prevent and minimize mental health crises in all jurisdictions. The information shall be disseminated to law-enforcement personnel, other first responders, hospital emergency department personnel, school personnel, and other interested parties. Patron: Watts

Social Services

HB 202 Licensure of assisted living facilities; credit references. Amends § 63.2-1707 of the Code of Virginia to update requirements relating to applications for licensure as an assisted living facility, replacing the requirement for at least one letter of credit with the requirement for at least one credit reference. Patron: O'Bannon

HB 215 Board of social services; process for withdrawal by local governments. Adds § 63.2-306.1 to the Code of Virginia to establish a process for withdrawal from a district board of social services by the local governing body of a county or city. Patron: Tyler

HB 262/SB 316 Local social service boards; appointment of county supervisors. Amends § 63.2-301 of the Code of Virginia to provide that in cases in which a member of a local board of social services is also a member of the board of supervisors of a county represented by the local board, he shall serve on the local board at the pleasure of the board of supervisors of which he is a member or until such time as he ceases to be a member of the board of supervisors. Patron: Scott/Vogel

HB 264/SB 417 Local social service boards, in-house counsel. Amends § 63.2-317 of the Code of Virginia to authorize local boards of social services to employ in-house counsel to provide general legal advice and representation related to specific actions. Patrons: Bell, Richard P./Hanger

HB 405/SB 332 Suspected child abuse or neglect, reports to law enforcement. Amends § 63.2-1503 of the Code of Virginia to require the local department of social services to notify the local attorney for the Commonwealth and the local law-enforcement agency of all complaints of suspected child abuse and neglect involving certain injuries or criminal acts immediately upon receipt of the complaint, but in no case more than two hours

from receipt of the complaint. The bill also requires the local department to complete a written report on a form provided by the Board of Social Services for such purpose for each case in which a local law-enforcement agency is notified of a case of suspected child abuse or neglect. Patrons: Bell, Robert B./Howell

[HB 412/SB 639](#) Child care; background checks for providers. An uncodified act to direct the Department of Social Services to convene a work group to review current state and federal laws and regulations governing criminal history background checks for child-care providers and to develop a plan for implementation of national fingerprint-based criminal history background checks for all child-care providers in the Commonwealth, and to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2014. Patrons: Anderson/Hanger

[HB 468](#) Child day programs; licensure exemptions. Amends § 63.2-1715 of the Code of Virginia to exempt from the child day program licensure requirement any summer instructional or athletic experience operated by an accredited private elementary, middle, or high school. Patron: Massie

[HB 683](#) Investigation of alleged child abuse and neglect; agreements with school divisions. Amends § 63.2-1511 of the Code of Virginia to require local departments of social services and local school divisions to develop written interagency agreements for the investigation of all complaints of child abuse or neglect. Patron: Herring

[HB 888](#) Uniform assessment instrument; regulations. Amends § 63.2-1804 of the Code of Virginia to transfer authority for promulgating regulations governing uniform assessments for residents of assisted living facilities from the Board of Social Services to the Commissioner of the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services. Patron: Peace

[HB 890](#) Social worker; family-services specialists. Amends §§ 32.1-330, 51.5-148, 63.2-219, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to allow family-services specialists and qualified equivalent workers to perform tasks currently limited to social workers. The bill expands the authority of the Adult Protective Services Unit to establish minimum standards of training and educational opportunities for all workers in the field of adult protective services, which minimum standards currently apply to social workers. The bill changes the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) employment requirement for a baccalaureate degree from “social work” positions to “family-services specialist” positions. The bill adds family-services specialists to the list of individuals required to report suspicions of child abuse or neglect and allows DMAS-designated assessors to serve in place of social workers on community-based screening teams. Patron: Peace

[SB 260](#) Emergency custody & temporary detention; web-based psychiatric bed registry. Amends §§ 16.1-340, 16.1-340.1, 16.1-345.4, and other sections of the Code of Virginia and adds §§ 16.1-340.1:1, 37.2-308.1, and 37.2-809.1 to the Code of Virginia to extend the time that a person may be held pursuant to an emergency custody order from four hours with a possible two-hour extension to eight hours. The bill also provides that a representative of the law-enforcement agency that takes the person into emergency custody or executes an emergency custody order must notify the local community services board as soon as practicable after the person is taken into custody or the order is executed. The bill provides further that an individual for whom a temporary detention order is issued shall be detained in a state facility unless the state facility or an employee or designee of the community services board is able to identify an alternative facility that is able and willing to provide temporary detention. Under no circumstances shall a state facility fail or refuse

to admit an individual who meets the criteria for temporary detention unless an alternative facility has agreed to accept the individual. The state facility and the local community services board may continue to look for an alternative facility for an additional four hours. The provisions of this bill allowing for this additional four-hour period expire on June 30, 2018. The bill also requires that a person who is the subject of an emergency custody order or temporary detention order be given a written summary of the procedures and statutory protections associated with such custody or detention. The bill also directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to establish an acute psychiatric bed registry that will provide real-time information on the availability of beds in public and private psychiatric facilities and residential crisis stabilization units for individuals who meet the criteria for temporary detention. The provisions of the bill establishing such registry are subject to an emergency clause. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall submit an annual report to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on the implementation of the provisions of the bill. Finally, the bill directs the Governor's Mental Health Task Force to study issues associated with law enforcement's involvement in the admission process and make recommendations designed to reduce the burden on law-enforcement resources. Patron: Deeds

Youth Services

HB 478 Emergency custody orders; duration, extension. Amends §§ 16.1-340, 16.1-345.4, 19.2-182.9, and other sections of the Code of Virginia to expand the time that a person may be held pursuant to an emergency custody order from four hours with a possible two-hour extension to eight hours. The bill also provides that a representative of the law-enforcement agency that takes the person into emergency custody or executes an emergency custody order must notify the local community

services board as soon as practicable after the person is taken into custody or the order is executed. The bill also requires that a person who is the subject of an emergency custody order or temporary detention order be given a written summary of the procedures and statutory protections associated with such custody or detention. Finally, the bill directs the Governor's Mental Health Task Force to study issues associated with law enforcement's involvement in the admission process and make recommendations designed to reduce the burden on law-enforcement resources. Patron: Villanueva

HB 520 Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families, State Executive Council.

Amends § 2.2-2648 of the Code of Virginia to remove the Governor's Special Advisor on Children's Services from and adds a juvenile and domestic relations district court judge to be appointed by the Governor to the State Executive Council for Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families. The bill clarifies technical appointment processes. Patron: Bell, Richard P.

HB 522 Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families; appeals.

Amends § 2.2-5206 of the Code of Virginia to require community policy and management teams to establish policies and procedures for appeals by youth and their families of decisions made by local family assessment and planning teams regarding services to be provided to the youth and family pursuant to an individual family services plan. Patron: Bell, Richard P.

HB 1106 Virginia Commission on Youth; review seclusion and restraint in schools.

An uncodified act to require the Virginia Commission on Youth, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, to review (i) statewide policies and regulations on the use of seclusion and restraint in public and private elementary and secondary schools and (ii) methods used in other states to reduce and eliminate the

use of seclusion and restraint in public and private elementary and secondary schools. The bill requires the Commission to make recommendations for the modernization of Virginia's policies and regulations on the use of seclusion and restraint in schools and submit its recommendations no later than November 30, 2014, to the General Assembly. The Virginia Commission on Youth shall report its findings to the Governor and the 2015 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Patron: Hope

[SB 284](#) Kinship care; review of policy governing placement of children, foster care. An uncodified act to direct the Department of Social Services to review current policies governing kinship care placements, propose regulations governing kinship care placements, and review the fiscal impact of the proposed regulations. The bill directs the Department of Social Services to report its recommendations and findings to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Board of Social Services by January 1, 2016. Patron: Howell

[SB 400](#) Kinship foster care; removal of child from physical custody of kinship foster parent. Amends § 63.2-900.1 of the Code of Virginia to prohibit the removal of a child placed in kinship foster care from the physical custody of the kinship foster parent, provided the child has been living with the kinship foster parent for six consecutive months and the placement continues to meet approval standards for foster care, unless the kinship foster parent consents to the removal; removal is agreed upon at a family partnership meeting as defined by the Department of Social Services; removal is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction; or removal is warranted pursuant to § 63.2-1517 of the Code of Virginia. Patron: Reeves

Transportation

Administration and Governance

HB 2 Commonwealth Transportation Board; statewide prioritization process. Amends § 33.1-23.5:5 of the Code of Virginia by providing for the development of a prioritization process for projects funded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. Such prioritization shall weigh factors such as congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, and environmental quality and be applied within each highway construction district. Patron: Stolle

HB 164 Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; background checks of applicants. Adds § 19.2-389.2 to the Code of Virginia to authorize the chief of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority police department, or his designee, to conduct criminal background checks through the Central Criminal Records Exchange and the Federal Bureau of Investigation on applicants who have been conditionally offered employment with the Authority. The applicant's criminal history record information obtained by the chief must otherwise be kept confidential. The bill also establishes criteria that the Authority must consider in determining whether an applicant's criminal conviction directly relates to the position offered. Patron: Albo

HB 560 Land use permits; issued by VDOT to a company providing utility service solely for agricultural use. Amends § 2.2-1151.1 of the Code of Virginia to exempt persons, including corporations, that provide utility service for their own agricultural or residential use from having to get land use permits from VDOT. Patron: Fariss

HB 793 Transportation planning; VDOT to estimate costs necessary to mitigate or ameliorate congestion. Amends § 15.2-2222.1 of the Code of Virginia to require the Department of Transportation, when

reviewing certain proposed comprehensive plan amendments from localities in Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia), to recommend specific transportation improvements to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the Commonwealth Transportation Board, and the appropriate locality that are necessary to ameliorate congestion. Patron: LeMunyon

HB 904 Transportation projects; notice by VDOT. Adds § 33.1-223.2:30 to the Code of Virginia to require VDOT, at least 30 days prior to any public hearing regarding a transportation project valued in excess of \$100 million, to provide notice of the hearing by regular mail to all owners of property within and adjacent to such project study corridor. Patron: Hugo

HB 1253/SB 513 Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission; created. Amends § 33.1-23.5:4 and adds § 33.1-466 through 33.1-476 to the Code of Virginia to create the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, which is composed of the chief elected officers of the governing bodies of the 14 localities in Planning District 23, two senators, three delegates, and four nonvoting ex officio members. The bill moves the responsibility for approval of projects and the priority of such projects pursuant to the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund from the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) to the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC). The bill also directs the HRTPO and VDOT to assist the new HRTAC in its formation. Patrons: Jones/Wagner

Funding and Tolls

HB 396/SB 298 Department of Rail and Public Transportation, funding. Adds § 33.1-12.02 to the Code of Virginia to codify appropriation act language dealing with funding of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation. Patron: O'Bannon

[HB 761/SB 264](#) Fare enforcement inspectors; appointed to enforce payment of fares for use of mass transit facility. Adds § 33.1-223.2:30 to the Code of Virginia to provide for the appointment of fare enforcement inspectors to enforce payment of fares for use of mass transit facilities operated in Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia). The bill also provides that failure of a transit user to pay the fare or produce proof of fare payment shall result in a civil penalty of not more than \$100. Patrons: Rust/Ebbin

[HB 1048/SB 518](#) Highway system funding. Amends § 33.1-23.1 of the Code of Virginia to include primary state highway system extensions, the part of the primary highway that runs through a city or town, in the list of highways that receive the 25 percent for reconstruction of deteriorated highways of the amount allocated each year by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. The bill also reduces the number of vehicles per day on unpaved roads from 200 to 50 for the unpaved roads that may be considered for five percent of the annual allocation. Patrons: Rust/Wagner

Highways, Rail and Bridges

[HB 255](#) Photo-monitoring; systems to enforce traffic light signals. Amends § 15.2-968.1 of the Code of Virginia to require that all “photo-red” systems have yellow light signal lengths of at least three seconds. Patron: Lingamfelter

[HB 377/SB 295](#) Billboard signs; adjustment or relocation. Amends § 33.1-95.2 of the Code of Virginia to include the erection of a sound barrier as an action that allows relocation of a billboard sign. The bill also allows a billboard to remain in its original location until the Commissioner of Highways or other condemn or gives notice to its owner that the sign must be removed. Patrons: Anderson/Puckett

[HB 416/SB 397](#) Loudoun County; VDOT’s duties & responsibilities to properly maintain the rural gravel road network. An uncodified act to provide specific goals for VDOT’s maintenance of the rural gravel road network in Loudoun County. Patron: Minchew/Vogel

[HB 733](#) Ordinances, local; vehicles blocking access to curb ramps, etc., on public or private property. Amends § 46.2-1220 and repeals §§ 46.2-1306 and 46.2-1306.1 of the Code of Virginia to allow localities by ordinance to prohibit vehicle parking that blocks access to mailboxes. Patron: Lingamfelter

[HB 978](#) Utility crossings; localities, etc., whose facilities are to be crossed shall cooperate with other. Amends §§ 56-560 and 56-570 of the Code of Virginia to require a locality or political subdivision whose facilities are to be crossed or affected by a project under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 to cooperate fully with other entities in planning and arranging the manner of the crossing or relocation of the facilities. If the locality or political subdivision and the private entity are not able to agree upon a plan for the crossing or relocation, the private entity is authorized to request the Commonwealth Transportation Board to resolve the matter. The measure also requires requests for approval of a transportation facility to include a list of the locality’s or political subdivision’s facilities that will be crossed by the transportation facility and a statement of plans to accommodate the crossings. Patron: Rust

[HB 990](#) Relocation Assistance & Real Property Acquisition Policies; replacement housing for homeowners, etc. Amends §§ 25.1-401, 25.1-409, and 25.1-410 of the Code of Virginia to provide that relocation assistance and real property acquisition policies of the Commonwealth apply in the case of transportation projects funded in whole

or in part with state or federal funds unless compliance would jeopardize the receipt and expenditure of all or a portion of federal funds that would otherwise be available for transportation projects. The bill also raises the authorized payment to a displaced homeowner from \$22,500 to \$31,000 and reduces from 180 to 90 the number of days that may pass between displacement and negotiations for the acquisition of property before such payment is authorized. The bill also increases from \$5,250 to \$7,200 the maximum payment permitted to a person leasing or renting a comparable replacement dwelling for a period of 42 months. The provisions of the bill relating to such payments and time period have a delayed effective date of October 1, 2014. Patron: Fowler

HB 1040 Traffic light signal photo-monitoring; use of system, appeals. Amends §§ 15.2-968.1 and 16.1-106 of the Code of Virginia to provide that operators found in violation of ordinances created to enforce photo-monitoring systems for traffic lights have a right to appeal to the circuit court in a civil proceeding. The bill also reduces from \$50 to \$20 the amount of the matter in controversy above which an appeal of right exists in a civil case. Patron: Joannou

Motor Vehicles

HB 166 Inoperable, abandoned, and salvage vehicles; salvage vehicle dealers. Amends §§ 46.2-1205, 46.2-1601, 46.2-1603.1, 46.2-1608, and 46.2-1609 and adds §§ 46.2-1601.1, 46.2-1601.2, and 46.2-1601.3 to the Code of Virginia to enhance and clarify certain requirements and practices relating to the licensing and activities of vehicle demolishers, rebuilders, salvage dealers, salvage pools, and vehicle removal operators, including: (i) requiring that vehicle records be kept at and license and business hours be displayed at the licensed place of business; (ii) expanding the authorization of DMV to deny, suspend, or revoke licenses for certain violations; (iii) codifying a 30-day grace period for license

renewals; and (iv) authorizing DMV to impose civil penalties for violations where a conviction is not sought. Patron: Scott

HB 369 Parking management companies; expands powers of companies operating under contracts with localities. Amends §§ 46.2-1220 and 46.2-1225 of the Code of Virginia by expanding the powers of parking management companies operating under contracts with local governments to enforce local parking restrictions and reduces the population requirement of a city that allows the city to provide by ordinance that law-enforcement officers or uniformed city employees or personnel may issue summonses or tickets for parking violations from 100,000 to 90,000. Patron: Head

Studies and Other Resolutions

[HJ 16/SJ 3](#) Study; recurrent flooding; report.

Establishes an 11-member joint subcommittee to formulate recommendations for the development of a comprehensive and coordinated planning effort to address recurrent flooding. The joint subcommittee is charged with recommending short- and long-term strategies for minimizing the impact of recurrent flooding. The joint subcommittee must submit its report to the Governor and the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Patrons: Stolle/Lockehttp

[SJ 28/SJ 75](#) Study; Manufacturing

Development Commission; report. Directs the Manufacturing Development Commission to examine the economic and environmental benefits of the use of recycled material in the manufacturing process in Virginia. Patrons: Marshall, D/Wagner

[HJ 57/SJ 35](#) Study; toxicity of selenium;

report. Requests the Department of Environmental Quality to study the toxicity of selenium to aquatic life. Patrons: Kilgore/Carrico

[HJ 62](#) Study; Crime Commission; missing persons; report.

Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the current state of readiness of Virginia's Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue efforts for rapid and well-coordinated deployment in all missing, endangered, and abducted person cases. Patron: Albo

[HJ 68](#) Study; viral hepatitis within the Commonwealth; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to identify resources available, and needed, for the treatment and prevention of viral hepatitis. The resolution directs the Commission to ascertain regulatory and other factors limiting the treatment and prevention of viral hepatitis and to identify opportunities for integration of viral hepatitis treatment within new or existing HIV-positive treatment programs. Patron: Hodges

[HJ 96](#) Study; Virginia Freedom of

Information Act; report. Directs the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council to study all exemptions contained in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to determine the continued applicability or appropriateness of such exemptions and whether the Virginia Freedom of Information Act should be amended to eliminate any exemption from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act that the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council determines is no longer applicable or appropriate. The bill requires the FOIA Council to report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2016. Patron: LeMunyon

[HJ 103](#) Study; JLARC; Virginia's Line of Duty

Act; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study Virginia's Line of Duty Act, the current and projected future costs of benefits awarded thereunder, and the advisability of coordinating those benefits with additional benefits paid under other state and federal programs. Patron: Jones

[HJ 122](#) Statewide transportation technology goals and plan of action.

Requests the Secretary of Transportation and VDOT to create and implement statewide transportation technology goals and a five-year plan of action. Such goals and plan are to be directed to enhancing the efficiency, safety, and convenience of all modes of transportation throughout the Commonwealth. Patron: LeMunyon

[HJ 190](#) Study; supported decision-making;

report. Requests the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to examine the use of supported decision-making for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth, compare the Commonwealth's policies and practices related to supported decision-making and informed choice to the policies and practices used in other jurisdictions, and recommend strategies to improve the use of supported decision-making in the Commonwealth. Patron: Landes

HJ 196 Study; Public and private educational placements of students with disabilities; report. Directs the Commission of Youth to study the use of federal, state, and local funds for the public and private educational placements of students with disabilities. In conducting its study, the Commission on Youth shall (i) examine the use of CSA and Medicaid funds for private day and private residential special education placements; (ii) gather local and statewide data on the extent to which youth are placed in settings that are segregated from nondisabled students; (iii) determine the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of more integrated alternatives to provide special education services to students including, but not limited to, those students with intellectual and developmental disabilities currently in segregated settings in the Commonwealth; and (iv) consider any other matters as it deems appropriate to meet the objectives of this study. Patron: Adams

SJ 24 Study; expungement of juvenile records; report. Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to study expungement of juvenile records. Patron: Favola

SJ 47 Study; joint subcommittee to study the mental health services in the Commonwealth; report. Establishes a joint subcommittee to study mental health services in the Commonwealth in the 21st century. The joint subcommittee shall consist of 12 legislative members. The joint subcommittee may appoint work groups to assist it with its work. In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall (i) review and coordinate with the work of the Governor's Task Force on Improving Mental Health Services and Crisis Response; (ii) review the laws of the Commonwealth governing the provision of mental health services, including involuntary commitment of persons in need of mental health care; (iii) assess the systems of publicly

funded mental health services, including emergency, forensic, and long-term mental health care and the services provided by local and regional jails and juvenile detention facilities; (iv) identify gaps in services and the types of facilities and services that will be needed to serve the needs of the Commonwealth in the 21st century; (v) examine and incorporate the objectives of House Joint Resolution 240 (1996) and House Joint Resolution 225 (1998) into its study; (vi) review and consider the report *The Behavioral Health Services Study Commission: A Study of Virginia's Publicly Funded Behavioral Health Services in the 21st Century*; and (vii) recommend statutory or regulatory changes needed to improve access to services, the quality of services, and outcomes for individuals in need of services. Patron: Deeds

SJ 54 Study; tiered-reimbursement subsidy program for child-care providers; report. Requests that the Department of Social Services (DSS) study strategies for implementation of a tiered-reimbursement subsidy program based on a quality-rating-improvement system for child-care providers in the Commonwealth. Patron: Miller

SJ 64 Study; Crime Commission; missing persons; report. Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the current state of readiness of Virginia's Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue efforts for rapid and well-coordinated deployment in all missing, endangered, and abducted person cases. Patron: McDougal

SJ 69 Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment; Master Rail Plan; Report. Requests the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment to develop a Master Rail Plan for the principal facilities of the Port of Virginia. Patron: Watkins

Carry Over Bills

HB 889 Economics education and financial literacy; online course of instruction.

Amends and reenacts § [22.1-200.03](#) of the Code of Virginia, relating to economics education and financial literacy; online course of instruction. Requires (i) the Board of Education to develop an online course of instruction and assessment in the objectives of economics education and financial literacy and (ii) each local school board to offer the online course of instruction and assessment to public middle and high school students as an alternative to classroom instruction. Patron: Comstock

HB 946 Workers' compensation; fee schedule for medical care services, prompt payment of bills. Amends and reenacts § [65.2-605](#) of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered [65.2-605.1](#), relating to workers' compensation; fee schedule for medical care services; payment of bills for medical services. Limits the pecuniary liability of an employer for medical, surgical, and hospital services provided on or after October 1, 2015, pursuant to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act to the maximum amount that may be paid pursuant to fee schedules established by the Workers' Compensation Commission, unless a contract provides otherwise. The Commission is directed to promulgate regulations establishing medical care fee schedules governing all medical care services rendered pursuant to the Act. Patron: Hugo

HB 955 Administrative Process Act; exemption for certain regulations. Amends and reenacts § 2.2-4006 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Administrative Process Act; exemption for certain regulations. Exempts from the full regulatory review process regulations that are necessary to conform to changes in Virginia statutory law or the appropriation act, provided the agency (i) provides a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action in conformance with the provisions

of § 2.2-4007.01, (ii) publishes the proposed regulation and provides an opportunity for oral and written comments as provided in § 2.2-4007.03, and (iii) conducts at least one public hearing as provided in § 2.2-4009 prior to the publishing of the proposed regulations. The bill provides that any such regulation shall be adopted, amended, or repealed no later than six months after the Virginia statutory law or appropriation act that necessitated the change becomes effective. Patron: Head

HB 1050 Soil & water conservation district; exempts certain signs from regulation as outdoor structures. Amends and reenacts § 33.1-355 of the Code of Virginia, relating to soil and water conservation district signs and advertisements. Exempts certain soil and water conservation district signs from regulation as outdoor advertising structures. Patron: Edmunds

HB 1159 Political contributions; prohibitions during procurement process. Amends and reenacts §§ 2.2-3104.01, 2.2-4376.1, 56-573.3, and 56-575.17:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to political contributions; prohibitions during procurement process. Includes the mayor or chief executive officer of a locality, school superintendent, and any member of a local governing body, planning commission, or school board in the current prohibition against knowingly soliciting or accepting a contribution, gift, or other item with a value greater than \$50 from any bidder, offeror, or private entity who has submitted a bid or proposal pursuant to the Virginia Public Procurement Act, the Public-Private Transportation Act, or the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act during the bidding period. The restrictions only apply if the stated or expected value of the contract is \$5 million or more and do not apply to contracts awarded as the result of competitive sealed bidding. Furthermore, no bidder, offeror, or private entity who has submitted a bid or proposal under such acts shall offer or promise to make such a gift to the mayor or chief executive officer of a locality,

school superintendent, or any member of a local governing body, planning commission, or school board. Any violation shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$500 or up to two times the amount of the contribution or gift, whichever is greater. Patron: Rasoul

HB 1203 Localities; provision of grievance procedure. Amends and reenacts § 15.2-1507 of the Code of Virginia, relating to localities; provision of grievance procedure. Requires that the final step in an employee grievance procedure adopted by a local governing body be either a hearing before an administrative hearing officer agreed upon by both parties or a hearing before an impartial panel. Patron: Hugo

HB 1234 Landfills; limitation on location. Amends and reenacts § 10.1-1408.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to limitation on the expansion of landfills. Requires the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality not to approve of the proposed expansion of a facility within 150 feet of a Resource Protection Area. Patron: Albo

SB 289 Line of Duty Act; funding and review. Amends and reenacts §§ 9.1-401, 9.1-402, 9.1-403, 9.1-404, 9.1-405, and 58.1-662 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 9.1-400.1 and 9.1-400.2, relating to Line of Duty Act; funding and review. Creates a Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Fund and provides for the funding of Line of Duty claims. The bill also establishes an advisory review board to assist the Comptroller in the review of claims involving a claimant who has not received a disability determination from the Virginia Retirement System, Social Security Administration, Workers' Compensation Commission, or any recognized retirement system or who is, as of the time the claim for benefits had been filed, working in an alternative position. Patron: Carrico

SB 309 Composite index, local; procedure for appealing computation. Amends the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered [22.1-97.1](#), relating to the appeal of a computation of the composite index. Provides a procedure for appealing the computation of the composite index of local ability-to-pay before a review committee consisting of three Board of Education members, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of Education or his designee, and the Secretary of Finance or his designee. Patron: Vogel

SB 334 Virginia Disaster Relief Fund; established. Amends the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 44-146.18:3, relating to establishment of the Virginia Disaster Relief Fund. Creates the Virginia Disaster Relief Fund, to be administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. The bill provides that moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purpose of helping Virginia households recover from a natural or man-made disaster and that the Fund shall aid voluntary nonprofit and faith-based organizations, local recovery groups, and local governments to satisfy a disaster household's unmet needs. Patron: Puckett

SB 483 Real property tax liens; assignment to third party. Amends and reenacts §§ 58.1-807, 58.1-3018, 58.1-3340, and 58.1-3930 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 30 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-3018.1, relating to real property tax liens; assignment to a third party. Provides that if a taxpayer agrees, a third party who pays the delinquent taxes due on the taxpayer's real property may be assigned the tax lien on the property. Patron: Stuart

SB 524 Segregated revenues; local fines and penalties. Amends the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 15.2-2501.1 and 30-135.1, relating to segregating revenues from local fines and penalties. Provides for a

portion of the revenues from local fines and penalties to be segregated and deposited in a special fund in those counties or cities in which the local fines and penalties collected exceed a threshold amount. If the local fines and penalties collected by a county's or city's district courts during the fiscal year exceed 65 percent of the total of all fines and penalties collected by such courts, then the requirement to segregate and deposit the local fines and penalties in a special fund is triggered. One-half of the local fines and penalties exceeding such 65 percent would be deposited into the local special fund. Local fines and penalties deposited into the special fund could be used for any purpose including the funding or financing of the operations or administration of police or sheriff's departments. The bill intends to create a mechanism to track local government appropriations of local fines and penalties in certain counties and cities. Patron: Carrico

SB 547 Uranium exploration; sampling of well near activity. Amends the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 32.1-176.5:1.1 and 45.1-275.1, relating to testing of wells near uranium exploratory activity. Requires the holder of a permit to conduct uranium activities to contact those property owners who have wells located within 750 feet of the exploration activity and, with the owners' consent, to periodically sample their water supply. The bill requires sampling every six months during the time the exploration activity is being conducted and six months after the exploratory drill holes have been plugged. Patron: Ruff

SB 574 Local fiscal impact bills; first day introduction. Amends and reenacts § 30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, relating to local fiscal impact estimates. Requires local fiscal impact bills to be introduced no later than the first day of the session. This bill was continued to the 2015 Session of the General Assembly. Patron: Garrett

To read the full text of legislation mentioned in this summary, as well as the legislative history and votes on individual bills, visit the Division of Legislative Services' at lis.virginia.gov.



Virginia Association of Counties



1207 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Phone: 804.788.6652 www.vaco.org

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