



# Joint Commission on Technology and Science

2008 Session Legislative  
Update

# 2007 JCOTS Endorsed Bills

- Enacted: HB 238 (Cosgrove) and SB 286 (Wampler) Income tax exemption for launch services and payload.
- Enacted: HB 343 (Plum) Cathode ray tubes; disposal bans.
- Enacted: HB 344 (Plum) Computer Recovery and Recycling Act; penalties.
- Enacted: HB 632 (May) Virginia Resources Authority; broadband services.
- Continued: HB 1533 (Plum) Television recycling programs; manufacturer fees; disposal ban.
- Enacted: SB 356 (Watkins) and HB 137 (Peace) Textbook purchasing contracts.

# Other Science and Technology Related Legislation

- Enacted: HB 139 (Peace) Income tax; biodiesel and green diesel fuels producers income tax credit.
- Enacted: HB 218 (Kilgore) Notaries Public.
- Enacted: HB 234 (Cosgrove) Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF); sensor sciences.
- Enacted: HB 1443 (Merricks) Streamlined permitting process for alternative and renewable energy facilities.
- Gov. Recommendation Received by Senate: SB 320 (Wagner) Covenants restricting solar energy collection devices.

# Other Science and Technology Related Legislation

- Gov. Recommendation Received by Senate: SB 464 (Whipple) Virginia Commission on Energy and Environment.
- Enacted: SB 689 (Watkins) Biofuels Production Incentive Grant Program; eligible fuels.
- Enacted: SB 718 (Puller) Renewable energy and energy conservation.
- Enacted: HB 1018 (Hugo) Definition of telecommuting.
- Enacted: HB 1081 (Hugo) State employee telecommuting goal.

# Other Science and Technology Related Legislation

- Enacted: HB 1311 (Byron) and SB 576 (Saslaw)  
Freezing access to credit reports.
- Enacted: HB 1329 (Peace) and SB 206 (Stuart)  
State-owned communications towers; broadband  
service.
- Continued: HB 1360 (Cline) and SB 585 (Cuccinelli)  
Searchable budget database website.
- Enacted: HB 1469 (Byron) and SB 307 (Reynolds)  
Database breach notification.

# Science and Technology Related Studies

- HJ 90 (Cosgrove) Continuing the Joint Subcommittee Studying Science, Math, and Technology Education at the Elementary, Secondary, and Undergraduate Levels. Continues HJ 25 (2006).
- HJ 248 (Sickles) Study; Development and enhancement of the biosciences and biotechnology.
- SJ 126 (Stolle) Center for Innovative Technology; innovation index; report.
- SJ 129 (Stolle) Study; JLARC to study cost of VITA services; report.

# Significant Science and Technology Related Budget Items

- Modeling and Simulation
  - \$3 million to the Virginia Modeling Analysis and Simulation Center in Suffolk in the first year of the biennium.
- Aerospace
  - \$1.3 million the first year and \$9.4 million the second year to provide an incentive for the location of an aerospace engine manufacturer (Rolls Royce) to the Commonwealth.
  - Virginia Space Grant Consortium Scholarships, \$170,000 the first year and \$170,000 the second year from the general fund.
- Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF)
  - \$1 million in each year of the biennium for competitive research grants at universities.

# Significant Science and Technology Related Budget Items

- Jefferson Lab
  - \$6 million the second year of the biennium for Jefferson Science Associates, LLC to leverage a federal investment of \$310 million for an upgrade of the Jefferson Lab's research facilities, which will maintain its leadership in the study of nuclear physics and secure the benefits of such a facility for the Commonwealth.
- Energy
  - \$1.6 million the first year of the biennium for the Virginia Coastal Energy Research Consortium (VCERC) to support research and development of Virginia's marine renewable energy resources with a focus on offshore winds, waves, and marine biomass, including the generation of algal biodiesel.