



STATUS OF BILLS RECOMMENDED BY JCOTS TO 2014 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I. Passed the General Assembly & Signed into Law

HB 180 Invention development services; required disclosure, civil penalty.

Introduced by: [Peter F. Farrell](#)

SUMMARY AS PASSED:

Invention development services; disclosure and civil penalty. Requires each contract for invention development services to include on its cover sheet a disclosure that the contract is a fee-for-service contract with no guarantees as to success of the invention and information on how to file a consumer complaint regarding invention development services with the Office of the Attorney General. The measure increases the maximum civil penalty that the Attorney General may recover in an enforcement action from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for each violation. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

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SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Invention development services; disclosure; civil penalty. Requires each contract for invention development services to include on its cover sheet a disclosure that the contract is a fee-for-service contract with no guarantees as to the success of the invention and information on how to file a consumer complaint regarding invention development services with the Office of the Attorney General. The measure increases the maximum civil penalty that the Attorney General may recover in an enforcement action from \$3,000 to

\$25,000 for each violation. This bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

HB 759 Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted absentee military-overseas ballots.

Introduced by: [Thomas Davis Rust](#)

SUMMARY AS PASSED:

Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots. Requires the State Board of Elections to provide instructions, procedures, services, a security assessment, and security measures for the secure return by electronic means of voted absentee military-overseas ballots from uniformed-service voters outside of the United States. The bill requires the State Board to develop and update annually a security assessment and security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of such votes. The State Board is directed to convene a working group for the development of the initial instructions, procedures, services, security assessment, and security measures, and the working group is required to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly beginning January 1, 2016, on the feasibility and cost of implementation of the secure return of such military-overseas ballots. Additionally, the State Board is directed to work with federal, state, local, and other appropriate entities to establish best practices for uniformed-service voter authentication and identification and for the secure return of such military-overseas ballots. The provisions of this bill amending § 24.2-706 will not become effective unless reenacted by the 2016 Session of the General Assembly. This bill is identical to **SB 11**.

SUMMARY AS PASSED HOUSE:

Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots. Requires the State Board of Elections to provide instructions, procedures, services, a security assessment, and security measures for the secure return by electronic means of voted absentee military-overseas ballots from uniformed-service voters outside of the United States. The bill requires the State Board to develop and update annually a security assessment and security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of such votes. The State Board is directed to convene a working group for the development of the initial instructions, procedures, services, security assessment, and security measures, and the working group is required to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly beginning January 1, 2016, on the feasibility and cost of implementation of the secure return of such military-overseas ballots. Additionally, the State Board is directed to work with federal, state, local, and other appropriate entities to establish best practices for uniformed-service voter authentication and identification and for the secure return of such military-overseas ballots. The provisions of this bill will not become effective unless reenacted by the 2016 Session of the General Assembly.

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots. Requires the State Board of Elections to provide instructions, procedures, and services to enable uniformed-service voters outside of the United States to return voted military-overseas ballots securely by electronic mail or fax. The

bill requires the State Board to develop and annually update security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of such votes and requires the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth to approve the measures. The State Board is directed to convene a working group for the initial development of the security measures. Additionally, the State Board is directed to work with the U.S. Department of Defense to use smart cards issued to active-duty military personnel to authenticate and enable the return of such military-overseas ballots. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

II. Left in Committee

HB 50 Search warrants; examination of object, thing, or person seized may be done in any jurisdiction.

Introduced by: [Michael J. Webert](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Search warrants; examination of things or persons seized. Clarifies that when an object, thing, or person is seized pursuant to a search warrant, the examination of such object, thing, or person, or the contents thereof, may take place in any jurisdiction and not just the jurisdiction where it was seized. Such examination may take place at any time after the execution of the warrant. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

HB 936 Electronic textbooks; accessibility by students at school and in their residence.

Introduced by: [Scott A. Surovell](#)

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Access to electronic textbooks. Prohibits school boards from making electronic textbooks available for use by students in their residence or residences unless the school board adopts a plan to ensure that by July 1, 2017, every student in the local school division will have access to a personal computing device approved by the Board and access to Internet service in his residence or residences. The bill permits a local school board to establish a pilot program for the use of electronic textbooks at any secondary school in the local school division provided that (i) each student at the secondary school has access to a personal computing device approved by the Board and access to Internet service in his residence or residences and (ii) the secondary school is receiving federal funds pursuant to Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, P.L. 89-10, as amended, or no more than 5% of the students in the local school division or 300 children, whichever is greater, participate in the pilot program. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

III. Not Introduced

Computer trespass; penalty. Provides that actions that constitute computer trespass, which under current law are Class 1 misdemeanors if done with malicious intent, are Class 1 misdemeanors if done through intentionally deceptive means and without authority. Certain acts remain a Class 6 felony if done with malicious intent, as under current law. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.