



2010 Session:
General Assembly Issues

This Issue Brief contains descriptions of some of the issues that appear likely to capture the attention of legislators at the 2010 Session of the General Assembly. It is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of every issue that will be considered. Unanticipated issues will undoubtedly surface, and some of the issues discussed in these pages may not be considered during the 2010 Session. Finally, and most importantly, these descriptions are not predictions of how the General Assembly will respond to any issue.

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Budget Outlook

General Assembly Members Face Two Difficult Budgets in 2010 Session

After numerous revenue reductions and resulting spending cuts, the members of the General Assembly and a new Governor will again be challenged with difficult budgets measures during the 2010 Session. The first budget decision will be to formulate a "caboose bill" to amend the Commonwealth's spending plan for the remaining months of the current biennium that ends June 2010. The General Assembly must deal with a \$300 million revenue shortfall from the previous fiscal year and a further reduction of almost \$1.2 billion in General Fund

revenue for the current fiscal year. This \$1.5 billion in spending reductions will be in addition to the \$5.6 billion of spending reductions already enacted for the 2008-10 biennial budget.

As hard as decisions will be on the current budget, the second budget that will fashion a brand new two-year budget for the 2010-12 Biennium that begins July 1, 2010, will likely be more difficult. Most economists believe the United States economy hit bottom this past summer and is now in the process of a moderate recovery. Many economic indicators are showing recovery, but a number of others are not. Most forecasters believe the unemployment rate will reach 10 percent sometime in the first half of calendar year 2010 and will decrease slowly because economic growth in 2010 and 2011 will be moderate. This spells

difficult decisions for the 2010-12 budget. General Fund revenues for the fiscal year 2008-09 were almost \$500 million below collections in fiscal year 2005-06. In the current fiscal year, revenue will be \$800 million below the amount collected in fiscal year 2005-06.

Not only will the General Assembly have less General Fund revenue to appropriate, but previous measures used to balance budgets may need to be considered again. For example, state employees have had pay raises withheld because of the economic crises. Governor Kaine has recommended the Commonwealth not make its required contribution to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) for state employees in the last quarter of fiscal year 2009-10, which most likely only temporarily delays infusions of cash that VRS will need, especially after VRS lost \$16.8 billion or 29.1 percent of its total assets between March 31, 2008, and March 31, 2009.

Next biennium the Commonwealth will lose the federal stimulus revenue that totaled \$4.8 billion in the current biennium. The State's Rainy Day Fund contained in excess of \$1.2 billion in 2008 but will contain less than \$300 million if Governor Kaine's recommendation to tap an additional \$283 million is approved by the 2010 Session. As for transportation, in 2007 the General Assembly authorized \$3 billion in transportation bonds. However, no bonds have been issued because of a lack of funds to pay debt service. The foregoing list is by no means complete, but simply serves as illustrations of budgetary issues that the new Governor and the 2010 General Assembly will face as they prepare the 2010-12 budget.

John Garka

Commerce & Labor

Title Lending

Title lending refers to relatively small (\$500 average) consumer loans made to individuals that are secured by a lien on the borrower's motor vehicle. As long as the loans are made as open-end lines of credit, and the borrower is not charged interest during the first 25 days, then the loans are exempt from Virginia's usury laws and are unregulated. These loans typically bear interest at a rate of 25 percent per month. As the State has imposed restrictions on payday lending, the availability of title loans appears to be increasing. The House and Senate Commerce

and Labor Committees have established special subcommittees to study title lending. These subcommittees, which have met jointly, are examining such issues as whether title lenders should be licensed by the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Financial Institutions, as well as whether the Commonwealth should impose caps on the rate of interest that may be charged on such loans.

Unemployment Compensation

One consequence of the economic recession is a sharp increase in the amount of unemployment benefits that have been paid to laid off Virginians. Total benefit payments are expected to jump from \$492.9 million in 2008 to \$1.136 billion in 2009. As a result, the balance in our Unemployment Trust Fund will decline to negative \$194.2 million by the end of 2009 and to negative \$561.4 million by the end of 2010. The depletion of the Unemployment Trust Fund will require the Commonwealth to borrow an estimated \$1.266 billion from the federal government in order to continue paying unemployment benefits. Among other consequences of the Trust Fund's insolvency, Virginia employers will lose 0.3 percent of the federal unemployment tax (FUTA) credit, which will increase the per-employee FUTA amount from \$56 to \$77. The average annual state unemployment tax per employee assessed on employers in Virginia, excluding the increased FUTA assessment, is expected to jump from \$95 in 2009 to \$171 in 2010, to \$234 in 2011, and to \$263 in 2012. In addition to other stresses placed on the Commonwealth's budget as a result of the recession, Virginia is expected to be required to make interest payments from its general fund to the federal government of \$22 million in 2011, \$14.4 million in 2012, and \$0.3 million in 2013.

Franklin Munyan

Energy & Environment

Biodiesel and green diesel

There probably will be legislative proposals offered during the 2010 Session that will require state public bodies to procure only diesel fuel containing, at a minimum, two percent, by volume, biodiesel fuel or green diesel fuel. The requirement will only apply to

procurements of diesel fuel for use in on-road internal combustion engines and will not apply if the cost of procurement exceeds the cost of unblended diesel fuel by five percent or more. Based on a finding of sufficient availability of biodiesel or green diesel, the Governor may increase the requirement of biodiesel fuel or green diesel fuel up to 20 percent by volume.

Green Public Buildings

There probably will be legislative proposals requiring executive branch agencies and institutions entering the design phase for construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or renovating such a building where the cost of renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to conform to LEED Silver or Green Globes two globe standard. Exemptions from the requirement may be granted by the Director of the Department of General Services upon a finding of special circumstances that make construction or renovation to the standards impracticable.

Virginia Commission on Energy and Environment

Ellen Porter & Patrick Cushing

Menhaden

In response to the Commonwealth's annual menhaden harvest limit expiring in December 2010, the General Assembly is expected to address management measures for the commercial fishery again this Session. The regional Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission has recently recommended to extend the current annual harvest cap of 109,020 metric tons for another three years while scientific research continues on the health and abundance of the menhaden population within Chesapeake Bay. The Bay's menhaden fishery is one of the oldest and largest commercial fisheries on the Atlantic coast, with more pounds of menhaden landed each year than any other fish in the Bay.



**CHESAPEAKE BAY
COMMISSION**
a tri-state advisory commission serving Maryland,
Pennsylvania and Virginia

Sue Bulbulkaya

Civil Procedures

Uniform Power of Attorney Act

In 2006, the Uniform Power of Attorney Act (UPOAA) was approved by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL). UPOAA, like its predecessor, the Uniform Durable Power of Attorney Act of 1979, provides a simple way for people to deal with their property in case of their incapacity. The UPOAA addresses creation and use of powers of attorneys and good faith reliance on, refusal to recognize, notification of resignation, as well as judicial review of these important legal documents. UPOAA also establishes default rules for a power of attorney that can be modified by the creator and is durable (survives incapacity) unless drafted to expire on a specified date or event. This is a reversal of the original 1979 Act, which stated that a power of attorney is not durable unless it contained specific language to make it so.

During the 2009 Session, there was considerable discussion on one of the most significant changes in UPOAA—an optional power of attorney form. The use of the statutory form is aimed at simplifying the process for creating a power of attorney. The 2009 General Assembly enacted UPOAA, however, the legislation contained a reenactment clause that requires a second vote by the body in a subsequent Session. Since the 2009 legislation was recommended by NCCUSL for adoption by all the states and since the 2009 legislation has a reenactment clause, the UPOAA likely will be revisited in the 2010 Session.

Kevin Stokes

Criminal Procedures

Melendez-Diaz v. Massachusetts

At an August 19, 2009, Special Session the General Assembly passed legislation in response to the United States Supreme Court decision in *Melendez-Diaz v. Massachusetts*, 557 U.S. (June 25, 2009). The legislation, which became effective on August 21, 2009, established a procedure whereby the attorney for the Commonwealth notifies the defendant that he intends to introduce any of the following:

- Certificate of analysis of laboratory tests, including DNA, blood, drug, etc.

- Certificate of DUI breath-test results.
- Affidavit of failure to register as a sex offender.

The defendant in these cases may object to the admission of the certificate or affidavit by the attorney for the Commonwealth and require the person that performed the analysis or examination or the custodian of the sex offender registry to testify in court. The defendant also may choose to waive the objection.

The emergency legislation was enacted with the expectation that the law's effectiveness would be evaluated prior to the 2010 General Assembly Session and modified to accommodate problems that were encountered.

Jescey French and Robie Ingram

General Laws

Alcoholic Beverage Control

Although legislation aimed at privatizing ABC retail operations in 2009 failed in committee, recent attention in the gubernatorial race may revive the issue of ABC retail privatization during the 2010 Session. One of the core issues that will need to be addressed in any proposed legislation is the fiscal impact of a transition to a private retail system. With a growing budget deficit, legislation creating a revenue neutral or revenue positive transition will likely be a requirement. Given the size of the current system, impact on state employees, and the amount of revenue involved, legislation would only be the first step in a multi-year effort. Fortunately, Virginia is not the first state to attempt or complete a transition to a private ABC retail operation. As a reference, 18 states currently retain some form of government ownership over the retail and/or wholesale operation of spirits.

Patrick Cushing

Charitable Gaming

Special subcommittees of the House and Senate Committees on General Laws have been studying charitable gaming issues during the 2009 interim. It is likely that there will be legislation to update the law concerning the conduct and management of charitable gaming, such as bingo and raffles, and the enforcement of charitable gaming laws.

Maria Everett

Housing

Common Interest Communities

There will likely be proposals related to common interest communities, which include condominiums, property owners' associations, and real estate cooperatives. In addition to clarifying the role of the Common Interest Community Board, there will likely be initiatives aimed at the level of authority that the individual governing bodies of the common interest communities have over the individual lot or unit owners.

Amigo Wade

Landlord Fines

Some municipalities in the state have experienced noise, trash, and other violations of the law in areas that have rental properties in the midst of existing neighborhoods that were formerly all homeowner residences. Proposals will likely be introduced during the 2010 Session that allow for localities to fine a landlord who has been unresponsive to the needs of residents in these neighborhoods, such as areas having high student housing. Legislation would allow landlords that have four or fewer properties to be fined civilly if the police have cited tenants three times in a 12-month period for certain violations.

Fair Housing Training

Proposals will likely be introduced during the 2010 Session that compel rental owners to receive Fair Housing Training that is required of all realtors.

Virginia Housing Commission

Elizabeth Palen

Transportation

Highway Funding

With the onset of the current economic recession, the revenue streams that have fed the Highway Maintenance and Construction Fund in the past have diminished to a trickle. Revenues available for highway maintenance and construction are

inadequate even to fund all of required maintenance projects. Some highway rest stops have been closed, roadside mowing has been severely curtailed, and all but the most essential services have been either eliminated or substantially decreased. Efforts during recent Sessions to make existing highway operations more efficient have had limited success. How major highway improvements might be possible in the slow economy is difficult to foresee, and delays at the federal level in Congressional re-authorization of the federal highway funding program will only increase the State's transportation woes.

Naming Highways and Bridges

Legislation generating revenues but involving little or no State expenditures will be prevalent during the 2010 Session. Among these proposals will be measures naming highways and bridges, which may honor the memory of a deceased person or reflect the historical or geographical significance of the area where a highway or bridge is located. The signs are placed by the Virginia Department of Transportation, and the costs of production, installation, and maintenance of the signs are paid by the local jurisdiction. The number of highway and bridge naming proposals has increased in the past several Sessions.

Special License Plates

Legislation creating new special license plates to increase State revenues is likely in the 2010 Session. Since there are already so many special license plates available in Virginia, it has become increasingly difficult for a new special license plate candidate to have a realistic chance of achieving the required 350 prepaid applications filed with the Department of Motor Vehicles within 30 days of the legislation's effective date. The number of new special license plate proposals has fallen dramatically in the past several Sessions.

Pedestrian Safety

Over the years, legislation has been proposed requiring motorists to stop for rather than yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Legislative efforts on this issue have become increasingly complex, involving enforcement of "walk light" signals, enhanced penalties, and other measures. Similar proposals will likely be introduced again in the 2010 Session.

Use of Cell Phones While Driving

In 2009, the General Assembly passed a general prohibition on text-messaging while driving. At the federal level, considerable attention has been given to the dangers of using cell phones while driving. It is quite possible that some effort will be made during the 2010 Session to restrict or eliminate use of these devices while operating a motor vehicle. Attempts have been made to pass measures in this area in the past, but never quite succeeded beyond the prohibition of the use of cell phones by provisional license holders.

Alan Wambold & Caroline Stalker

Education

Public Education

K-12 Grading Policy

The 2009 General Assembly considered two legislative proposals related to the creation of a statewide uniform grading policy for secondary schools. Although both measures ultimately failed, the issue is still alive in various areas of the state, especially northern Virginia where neighboring localities maintain vastly different grading scales. Given the economic conditions in the Commonwealth, student competition for spaces at Virginia's public universities, and competitive in-state tuition rates it is likely that the 2010 General Assembly could reconsider one or both of the measures.

Higher Education

In-state Student Admissions

The 2009 General Assembly considered four proposals related to the number of in-state students admitted to public institutions of higher education. Each proposal essentially provided that the boards of visitors of each public institution in the Commonwealth must establish rules and regulations increasing the number of admitted Virginia domiciles by a certain percentage. The fiscal impact to the institutions of such a mandate ultimately caused the proposals to fail in 2009. However, similar legislation will more than likely be considered during

the 2010 Session as the cost to attend college continues to rise, the affordability of in-state institutions continues to be attractive, and the competition for available admission spaces remains fierce.

Student Loans

The Joint Subcommittee to Study Ways in which the Commonwealth May Work More Closely with Virginia's Private Nonprofit Colleges to Meet Statewide Higher Education Needs is poised to make its final recommendations during the 2010 Session. In light of the economic difficulty facing the Commonwealth as a result of reduced revenues, any legislative recommendations would most likely have minimal fiscal impact and would be narrowly focused on assisting students obtaining loans for attendance at either private or public institutions in Virginia.

Credit Enhancement Programs

The Joint Subcommittee to Study Ways in which the Commonwealth May Work More Closely with Virginia's Private Nonprofit Colleges to Meet Statewide Higher Education Needs will likely recommend a credit enhancement program modeled after the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA) to allow the nonprofit private institutions to take advantage of the Commonwealth's credit rating in obtaining bond financing. The program would impose a moral obligation on the Commonwealth to step in if a private college or university defaults at any time. Strict criteria would be imposed in order for a private institution to be eligible to participate and to further minimize risk to the Commonwealth.

Incentive Grants

Legislation may be introduced during the 2010 Session to create incentive grants that could be used to promote capital projects, increase enrollment of Virginia students, or increase financial assistance to Virginia residents.

Nicole Cheuk & Jessica Eades

Health

Health Information Privacy

Due to the recent health database breach at the Department of Health Professions in 2009, legislation

may be introduced during the 2010 Session to revise Virginia's health privacy laws. Although much health information of individuals is safeguarded by federal law, there may be gaps in the law that may be addressed on the state level.

Smoking Ban

The 2009 General Assembly passed a smoking ban in all restaurants in the Commonwealth that became effective December 1, 2009. Both the public and restaurant owners have been scrutinizing this legislation. Measures may be introduced during the 2010 Session to clarify procedures, exceptions, and other aspects of the law as everyone involved comes into compliance with the new ban.

Flu Vaccines

Because of recent outbreaks of H1N1, also known as the swine flu, there has been a lot of media attention and citizen concern about both state and federal laws that allow for mandatory vaccinations in the event of a public health emergency. Legislation may be introduced during the 2010 Session to clarify how vaccines are to be distributed and when a mandatory vaccination plan would actually be implemented in Virginia. Proposals may include how available supplies of a vaccine would be handled during a possible future pandemic.

Jessica Eades

Mental Health

Advance Medical Directives

Substantial changes were made during the 2009 Session to the statute regarding Advance Medical Directives. The 2010 General Assembly may introduce legislation to clarify the law, as well as make additional changes. Proposals may include:

- Allowing public guardians to authorize the admission of incapacitated persons to mental health facilities.
- Clarifying the application of an advance directive when a person is subject to an emergency custody order, temporary detention order, or involuntary inpatient or mandatory outpatient commitment order.

- Eliminating the requirement that a second physician certify that a person is incapable of making decisions in cases where the person is unconscious or has other "profound impairment" of consciousness, such as due to stroke or trauma.
- Adding the authority of a friend to make medical decisions for an incapacitated person.

Mental Health Services

The 2010 General Assembly may propose changes to the Commonwealth's mental health policies and funding priorities to help establish a single integrated system of public mental health services. Proposals will likely include:

- Changes in the duties of the commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.
- Supervision of the coordination and integration of mental health services.
- Incentives for community services boards (CSBs) to serve clients in crisis in their communities.
- Improvement and greater access to emergency and case management services.

Sarah Stanton

Information Technology

VITA

The Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA), the agency that oversees the state's information technology infrastructure and resources, has been the source of much scrutiny during the 2009 Interim, particularly as it relates to its ongoing public-private partnership agreement with Northrop Grumman for the provision of IT services. Questions about the administration of this contract have led to concerns about the organizational structure and relationship between VITA, the Commonwealth's Chief Information Officer, the Information Technology Investment Board (ITIB) that appoints

the CIO, and the Governor. This organizational structure is also the subject of an ongoing review by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

Several proposals will likely be introduced during the 2010 Session regarding information technology in the Commonwealth. These solutions may range from establishing a different membership of the ITIB, making the CIO directly accountable to the Governor, or reorganizing IT governance in general. There may also be legislation proposed—whether as a bill or as a part of the budget process—regarding the administration of the Northrop Grumman contract and the role of the General Assembly in addressing proposed contract modifications that may require additional appropriations.

Lisa Wallmeyer

Campaigns & Elections

Absentee Voting

Every recent General Assembly Session has considered proposals to allow "no-excuse" in-person absentee voting, a broader revision to allow early voting, or "no-excuse" absentee voting across the board, such as voting in person and by mail.

Overseas and Military Voters

Pending federal legislation to facilitate voting by overseas voters and the military may spur some changes in Virginia's laws during the 2010 General Assembly Session.

Campaign Finance and Disclosure

Legislation may be offered during the 2010 Session proposing changes to the laws governing campaign finance disclosure and political advertisements. Proposals may include limits on campaign contributions, requirements to review or audit campaign disclosure reports, and some fine-tuning of the rules on political advertising disclaimer statements.

Redistricting

The 2010 Session provides a last chance to enact a bill for an advisory redistricting commission—a

measure that has been defeated in the last several sessions. The General Assembly will also consider the primary timetable for the 2011 elections and whether to postpone the June primary to allow time to complete redistricting plans and obtain Department of Justice preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Voter Registration

Recent voting issues in the news during the November elections may prompt proposals in the 2010 Session that require proof of citizenship to register to vote and to strengthen election law measures that enforce the ban on voting by felons.

Ethics Advisory Panels

Legislation could be introduced during the 2010 Session proposing revisions to the operations of the House and Senate Ethics Advisory Panels and possibly to the General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act. Many newspaper editorials from across the Commonwealth have called for advisory panel hearings to be open to the public, as well as for ethics investigations to continue in the event a member resigns or fails to be reelected. Legislation also could take the form of a study resolution, creating a study group to meet during the interim so members might have more time to consider proposals.

Mary Spain

Constitutional Issues

The General Assembly passed several constitutional amendments in 2009. These amendments will likely be referred to the 2010 Session, and if agreed to by the General Assembly, the amendments will be submitted to the voters at the November 2010 election. The constitutional amendments include:

Rainy Day Fund

HJR 647 would amend the Constitution to increase the size of the Revenue Stabilization Fund from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues derived from income and sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years. The Fund is used to offset shortfalls that occur when

appropriations made based on earlier revenue forecasts exceed expected revenues in subsequent revised forecasts.

Homestead Tax Relief

HJR 688 would amend the Constitution to allow the General Assembly to authorize localities to establish the income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting tax relief to homeowners who are 65 years of age or older or who are permanently and totally disabled. The Constitution presently requires a showing that the homeowners bear an extraordinary tax burden on the property in relation to their income or financial worth as deemed by the General Assembly.

Property Tax Exemption for Veterans

HJR 648 and SJR 275 would amend the Constitution to require the General Assembly to exempt from taxation real property that is the principal residence of a veteran (or widow or widower of a veteran) if the veteran has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to have a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability.

Property Tax Exemptions for Energy Conservation

SJR 332 would amend the Constitution to allow property tax exemptions for real or personal property constructed or designed to conserve energy and natural resources. The Constitution currently authorizes the General Assembly directly to exempt, or to authorize localities to exempt, property for certain pollution abatement and solar energy purposes. The proposed amendment broadens exemption purposes, removes the General Assembly's authority directly to grant exemptions, and allows the General Assembly to authorize localities to grant the exemptions.

David Cotter & Mary Spain

Local Government

Cash Proffers and Impact Fees

The local government committees of the General Assembly considered SB 768 in 2008, which would have replaced Virginia's current cash proffer system

with a system of development impact fees. The bill passed the Senate and was carried over in the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns. In the 2008 interim, at the request of the General Assembly, interested parties continued discussion of this issue. Such discussions did not result in legislation for the 2009 Session. However, this issue continues to generate interest and further discussion. It will not be surprising to see legislation introduced during the 2010 Session on this topic.

Urban Development

The Virginia General Assembly passed both HJR 178 and SJR 70 in the 2008 Session, which establish a two-year joint subcommittee to "examine and monitor the transition to channeling developments into Urban Development Areas." These joint resolutions also direct the joint subcommittee to "determine if additional legislation is needed to help localities as they transition to Urban Development Areas." With the joint subcommittee considering legislation for recommendation and with an approaching deadline of 2011 for localities to include their Urban Development Areas within their comprehensive plans, the 2010 Session may see the introduction of bills that clarify terms within the statute.

Jeff Sharp & Rebecca Young

FOIA

Identity Protection

The FOIA Council will be recommending legislation during the 2010 Session that allows any public body to protection from public disclosure those portions of records that contain account numbers or routing information for any credit card, debit card, or other account of any person or public body with a financial institution.



**Virginia Freedom of
Information Advisory Council**

Maria Everett

JCAR

Storm Water Regulations

One of the issues that will likely be addressed during the 2010 Session is the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) storm water regulations and reducing the phosphorous released due to the impact of new construction. After a four year process, DCR is nearing the finalization of its regulations. If the regulations become final, they would take effect beginning in July 2010, but phased in as local programs are adopted.

It is possible the General Assembly may introduce legislation concerning the proposed regulations. Cost to the localities to hire personnel to monitor the water quality, the quantity of phosphorous that may be released, and the cost to developers are the main concerns. DCR has developed a nutrient trading option and excluded development on less than one acre of land disturbed.

Joint Commission on
Administrative Rules

Elizabeth Palen

Virginia Code Commission

Title Revision

The Virginia Code Commission has approved a report on the revision of Title 6.1. Legislation to implement the recommendations of the Code Commission will be introduced in the 2010 Session. The report, which sets out the provisions of proposed Title 6.2, Financial Institutions and Services, is available on the website at <http://codecommission.dls.virginia.gov/titlerevisions.htm>.

Franklin Munyan



DLS Bulletin Board

Joint subcommittees on studies should submit an executive summary including findings and recommendations to DLAS by the first day of the General Assembly's Regular Session.

All requests for drafts of legislation for prefilng to be submitted to DLS by 5:00 p.m. on December 7, 2009.

All drafts of legislation to be prefiled returned by DLS for requester's review by midnight January 1, 2010.

All requests for drafts, redrafts, and corrections of legislation creating or continuing a study to DLS by 5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2010.

All requests for redrafts and corrections for legislation to be prefiled to DLS by 5:00 p.m. on January 8, 2010.

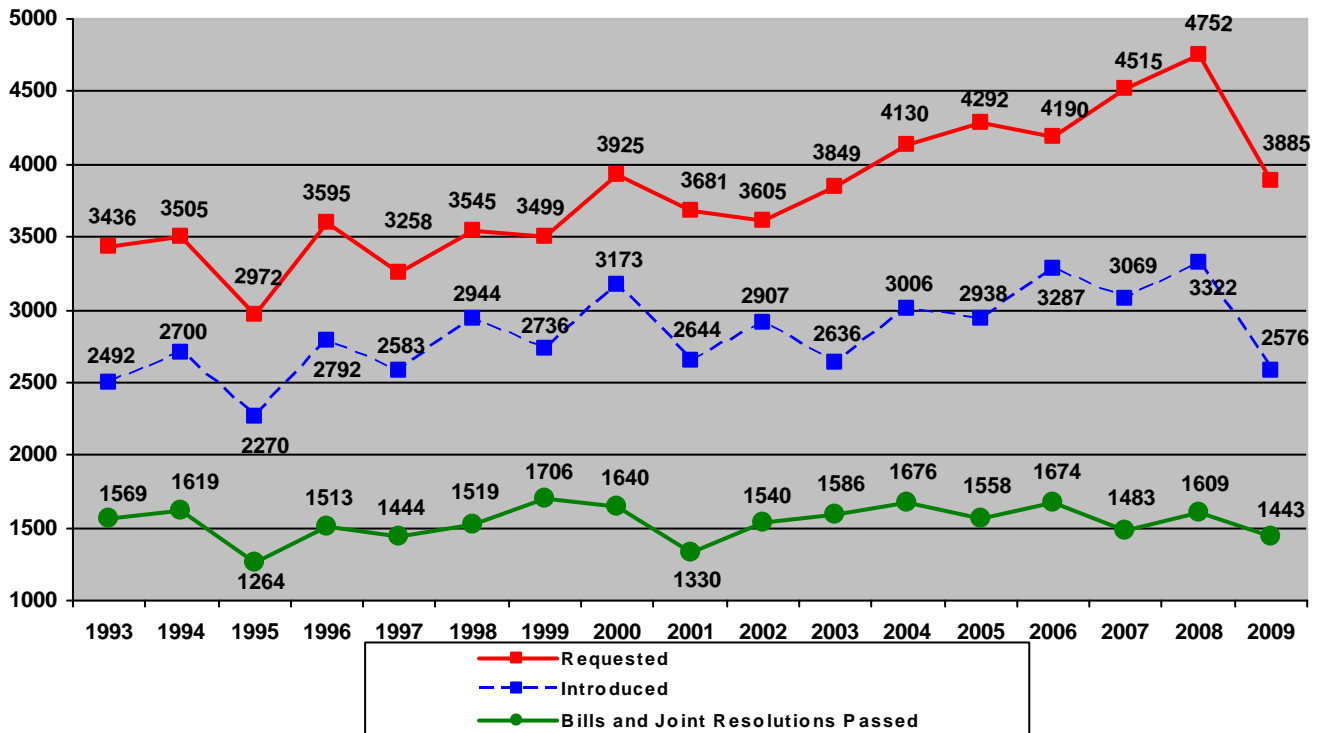
Covered drafts of legislation to be prefiled available at DLS by noon on January 12, 2010.

All requests for drafts, redrafts, and corrections for first-day introduction bills to be submitted to DLS by 5:00 p.m. on January 12, 2010.

Prefiling for the 2010 Session ends at 10:00 a.m. on January 13, 2010.

The 2010 General Assembly convenes on January 13, 2010, at noon.

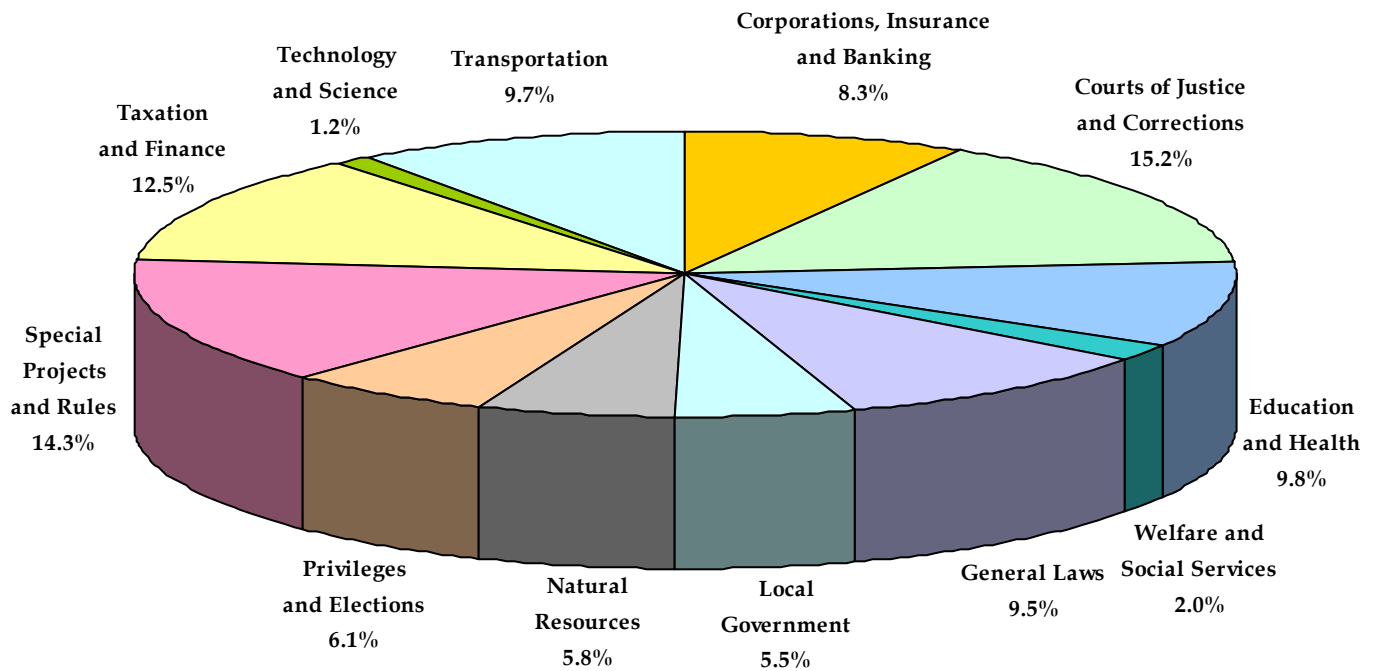
Legislation Requested* *before the deadline,* Introduced and Passed from 1993-2009



* Bill drafts prepared by DLS

2009 Requests for Draft Legislation *

Total Bills - 5046



* Bill drafts prepared by DLS for the 2009 Session (includes resolutions and substitutions).

2009 Regular Session *

Bill Type	Introduced	Passed House	Passed Senate	Passed Both	Continued	Failed	Approved	Vetoed
H.B.	1096	600	521	517	154	733	511	6
H.J.R.	430	375	367	366	21	85	3	0
H.R.	36	31	0	31	0	5	0	0
S.B.	754	372	508	369	131	514	363	6
S.J.R.	240	193	214	192	11	59	2	0
S.R.	21	0	21	21	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	2577	1571	1631	1496	317	1396	879	12

* In 2009, nearly half (48%) of introduced bills, excluding resolutions, became law. However, only slightly more than half (51%) of all bills and resolutions drafted by DLS were introduced. This figure has grown substantially since the advent of prefilings.

Virginia Legislative Issue Brief
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