# Virginia General Assembly

# **2024 Session Summary**



Virginia Division of Legislative Services

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# **Contents**

Introduction	. 1
Administration of Government	. 3
Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food.	17
Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control	20
Aviation	22
AviationBehavioral Health and Developmental Services	22
Civil Remedies and Procedure	28
Commonwealth Public Safety.	32
Conservation	37
Corporations	
Counties, Cities and Towns	
Courts Not of Record	
Courts of Record	61
Crimes and Offenses Generally	
Criminal Procedure	80
Domestic Relations	88
Education	
Elections	123
Eminent Domain	134
Financial Institutions and Services	134
Fire Protection	135
Fisheries and Habitat of the Tidal Waters	
General Assembly	
General Provisions	
Health	
Highways and Other Surface Transportation Systems	151
Homestead and Other Exemptions	54
Hotels, Restaurants, Summer Camps, and Campgrounds	54
Housing	54
Institutions of Higher Education; Other Educational and Cultural Institutions	
Insurance	
Juvenile Justice	
Labor and Employment	
Libraries	
Military and Emergency Laws	
Mines, Minerals, and Energy	175
Motor Vehicles	
Notaries and Out-of-State Commissioners	
Pensions, Benefits, and Retirement	
Persons with Disabilities	
Police (State)	
Prisons and Other Methods of Correction	
Professions and Occupations	
Property and Conveyances	
Public Service Companies	209 117
Religious and Charitable Matters; Cemeteries	
State Corporation Commission	
Trade and Commerce	
Unemployment Compensation	
Uniform Commercial Code — General Provisions	.ンフ 11(
Waters of the State, Ports and Harbors	
Welfare (Social Services)	

# **Contents**

Wildlife, Inland Fisheries and Boating	248 248
Workers' Compensation	
Miscellaneous Bills and Resolutions	
Constitutional Amendments	251
Other Resolutions	
Miscellaneous (Including Budget and Bonds)	
Charters	255
Study Resolutions	
Appendix A: Session Statistics	263
Appendix B: Session Highlights	
Index of House Bills	285
Index of Senate Bills	

# Introduction

This publication presents a summary of legislation considered by the Virginia General Assembly at its 2024 Regular Session through adjournment sine die on **March 9**, **2024**. Detailed information on any piece of legislation in Virginia may be found on the Virginia Legislative Information System (http://lis.virginia.gov).

Bill summaries are organized by alphabetical subject areas that correspond to titles in the Code of Virginia. Bills that affect more than one Code title have been placed under the dominant subject area of the legislation. Bills that do not amend the Code of Virginia are also listed under the subject headings. Within each subject heading, the bills are further differentiated as *Passed*, *Failed*, *or Carried Over*. Passed bills are subject to review and veto by the Governor; thus, some of the bills listed as passed in this volume may be amended and some may not become law. Bills that have been vetoed by the Governor or that have received Governor's recommendations and may be acted upon by the General Assembly at the Reconvened Session on April 17, 2024, include such notation accordingly.

The General Assembly sometimes incorporates provisions from one bill into another bill, so even if a bill has failed, one or more of its provisions may exist in legislation that has been passed. If a summary indicates that a bill must be reenacted by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly, its provisions will not become effective on July 1, 2024, unless the bill is amended at the Reconvened Session to remove that requirement.

Five special categories of legislation follow the bills listed by subject area: constitutional amendment resolutions, other resolutions, miscellaneous noncodified bills (including the budget, bonds, and claims bills), charter bills, and study resolutions.

# **Administration of Government**

#### **Passed**

P HB233 Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority; eligible site for site development grant; minimum acreage requirement. Provides that the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority may determine a site of at least 50 contiguous acres to be an eligible site if such site meets certain criteria provided in the bill to receive a site development grant from the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund. This bill is identical to SB 135. Patron - Campbell

P HB237 Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board. Modifies aspects of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board by adding a fourth Secretary to the Board's membership, to be appointed by the Governor, and providing that the Secretary of Labor may be one of the Secretaries appointed to the Board. The bill also reduces the amount of matching funds required for any grant awarded from the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Fund by requiring such funds to be equal to at least half of the grant awarded until July 1, 2028.

Patron - Austin

P HB242 Virginia Public Procurement Act; competitive negotiation; exceptions to contractual terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal. Removes the prohibition on a public body from requiring an offeror to state in a proposal any exception to any liability provisions contained in a Request for Proposal for information technology. The bill also requires an offeror to state any exception to any contractual terms or conditions in writing at the time of responding to such Request for Proposal, if so requested by the public body, which exception shall be considered during negotiations, but prohibits the public body from basing the scoring or evaluation on such exceptions when selecting offerors for negotiations. Current law only prohibits a public body from requiring an offeror to state in a proposal any exception to the liability provisions of the Request for Proposal. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Public Body Procurement Work Group. This bill is identical to SB 242. Patron - Bulova

P HB311 Virginia Public Procurement Act; local public bodies; electronic submissions of bids or proposals. Mandates that all local public bodies provide an option to submit bids or proposals for procurement contracts through the Commonwealth's statewide electronic procurement system, known as eVA, or other electronic means. Current law only encourages local public bodies to use eVA for such submissions. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Patron - Hope

P HB317 Office of the Children's Ombudsman; children's residential facility. Authorizes the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to request that the Department of Social Services, the local department of social services, a children's residential facility, or a child-placing agency grant access and provide consent to interview children in foster care who are the subject of or the complainant in an investigation. The bill also contains technical amendments.

Patron - Gardner

P HB333 Virginia Council on Environmental Justice; meetings and staffing; appointment of members. Allows the members of the Virginia Council on Environmental

Justice to travel throughout the Commonwealth to view and record conditions related to human health and the environment within and in close proximity to environmental justice communities. The bill prohibits the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources from delegating any requested staff support for the Council to any agency, regardless of whether such agency is an agency for which the Secretary is responsible to the Governor. The bill further directs any vacancy in the membership of the Council that is in existence on the date the bill's provisions take effect, other than a vacancy occurring by the expiration of a term, to be filled for the unexpired term no later than August 31, 2024. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Jones

P HB342 Naloxone or other opioid antagonists; possession and administration by state agencies. Requires state agencies to possess naloxone or other opioid antagonists used for overdose reversal to a person who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid overdose and permits employees of any state agency to possess and administer naloxone or other opioid antagonists. The bill also directs the Department of Health to post on its website informational resources relating to the use of naloxone and other opioid antagonists for opioid overdose reversal and prevention in public places. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health to develop a plan for the procurement and distribution of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to each state agency and for the possession of naloxone or other opioid antagonists by each state agency and to report its progress in developing such plan to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024. Patron - Hope

P HB356 Investment of public funds. Allows any qualified public entity of the Commonwealth to invest in asset-backed securities that are guaranteed by the United States or any agency thereof. This bill is identical to SB 510. Patron - Fowler

P HB589 Office of Data Governance and Analytics; reciprocal data-sharing agreements; veteran-specific data. Allows the Office of Data Governance and Analytics to enter into reciprocal data agreements with state agencies for the purpose of sharing veteran-specific data in order to support data-informed outreach plans for veterans.

Patron - Glass

P HB613 Henrietta Lacks Commission; sunset date. Changes the sunset of the Henrietta Lacks Commission from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2024. *Patron - Price* 

P HB651 Virginia Information Technologies Agency; assess the creation of a cyber civilian corps for the Commonwealth; report. Directs the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to assess the creation of a cyber civilian corps for the Commonwealth, including determining (i) the utility of such a corps, (ii) eligibility for such corps, and (iii) availability of potential volunteers. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Feggans

P HB712 Six-year financial plan. Modifies the requirements for the six-year financial plan submitted by the Governor to the General Assembly by (i) requiring that such plan be submitted on or before the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly instead of on or before the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly held in an even-numbered year as required by current law and (ii) provid-

ing that such plan ensure structural balance between projected revenues and expenditures for the six-year period. This bill is identical to SB 399.

Patron - Torian

P HB728 Department of General Services; Division of Purchases and Supply; disposition of surplus materials; technological equipment. Permits the Department of General Services to establish procedures for a buy-back or trade-in agreement with a purchasing vendor for surplus technological equipment.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB738 Space Force; extension of certain benefits and privileges for persons serving in a branch of the Armed Forces. Amends several provisions of law related to certain benefits and privileges available to persons serving or having served in a branch of the Armed Forces to include the Space Force as an eligible branch. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Sewell

P HB782 Virginia Human Rights Act; dual-filed civil actions. Clarifies timelines for dual-filing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination under the Virginia Human Rights Act and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The bill allows either the complainant or the respondent for any charge of discrimination to request a notice of the right to file a civil action after the Commission has closed its file on such charge of discrimination. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Herring

P HB814 Virginia Tourism Authority; powers; historically accurate advertising. Requires the Virginia Tourism Authority, in consultation with The Library of Virginia, the Virginia African American Advisory Board, and other subject matter experts, to create guidelines for the Authority's publications and advertising materials to ensure the accurate representation in such publications and advertising materials of the experiences of enslaved persons at and the contributions of enslaved persons to properties in the Commonwealth with a historic link to slave ownership.

Patron - Mundon King

**HB816** Virginia Freedom of Information Act; effective date of procedures for conducting meetings held through electronic communication means during declared **states of emergency.** Provides that the provisions for conducting a meeting by electronic means due to a state of emergency stated in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are declarative of existing law since March 20, 2020, with respect to the Governor's declared state of emergency due to COVID-19. Under the bill, any meeting by a public body using electronic communication means occurring from that date until July 1, 2021, and any otherwise lawful action taken at it is validated with respect to FOIA if the body provided public notice, public access, and public comment commensurate with the requirements of existing FOIA provisions regarding electronic and closed meetings. The bill is a response to the case Berry v. Bd. of Supervisors (Va. 2023) and is a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. This bill is identical to SB 244.

Patron - Cherry

P HB818 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definitions of meetings and public business. Exempts certain public meetings from the definition of "meeting" under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to clarify that three or more members of a public body may appear and participate in

such public meeting without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. The bill also exempts members of a public body who attend a public meeting of a second public body without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. Finally, the bill defines "public business" as activity that a public body has undertaken or proposed to undertake on behalf of the people it represents. The bill states that its provisions are declarative of existing law. This bill is identical to SB 36.

Patron - Cherry

**HB894** Virginia Freedom of Information Act; electronic meetings. Amends the number of all-virtual public meetings that public bodies, with certain exceptions, may convene in a calendar year to no more than two times per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. Current law limits the number of all-virtual public meetings to no more than two times per calendar year or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. The bill also provides that with respect to all-virtual public meetings, when audio-visual technology is available, a member of a public body shall, for purposes of a quorum, be considered absent from any portion of the meeting during which visual communication with the member is voluntarily disconnected or otherwise fails or during which audio communication involuntarily fails. This bill is identical to SB 734.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB962 Noncitizens of the United States; terminology. Removes the term "alien" as it pertains to persons who are not citizens or nationals of the United States and replaces it with synonymous language, as appropriate, throughout the Code of Virginia. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

P HB1018 Powers of investigators; enforcement of certain tobacco laws. Authorizes investigators with the Office of the Attorney General to seize cigarettes that are unlawfully sold, possessed, distributed, transported, imported, or otherwise held and to accompany and participate with special agents of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board or other law-enforcement officials engaging in an enforcement action involving counterfeit and unstamped cigarettes.

Patron - Wilt

P HB1040 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definition of "caregiver"; remote participation in meetings by persons with disabilities and caregivers; remote voting. Provides that for purposes of determining whether a quorum is physically assembled, an individual member of a public body who is a person with a disability or a caregiver, defined in the bill, and uses remote participation counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present. The bill also provides that the participation policy adopted by a public body, as required by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, shall not prohibit or restrict any individual member of a public body who is participating in an all-virtual meeting or who is using remote participation from voting on matters before the public body. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. This bill is identical to SB 85.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB1083 Virginia Longitudinal Data System and Virginia Workforce Data Trust; work group; report. Directs the Secretary of Education to convene a work group to review the current capabilities and future needs of the Virginia

Longitudinal Data System and the Virginia Workforce Data Trust and, based on the results of such review, develop a work plan for improving the Virginia Longitudinal Data System. *Patron - Coyner* 

HB1108 Virginia Public Procurement Act; construction management and design-build contracting. Requires state public bodies, covered institutions, and local public bodies to provide documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a construction contract to all the unsuccessful applicants upon request. The bill adds certain requirements for covered institutions, including posting all documents that are open to public inspection exchanged between the Department of General Services and the covered institution on the central electronic procurement website eVA. The bill requires approval by a majority vote of the covered institution's board of visitors or governing board if the covered institution chooses to proceed with construction management or design-build against the recommendation of the Department for (i) projects funded by funds other than those provided from the state general fund or (ii) projects of \$65 million or more funded in whole or in part from state general funds. For projects under \$65 million funded in whole or in part by state general funds, the bill provides that the covered institution shall obtain approval from the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, or their designees, and a representative of the

The bill requires a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build, if required by its local governing body, prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or eVA. The bill provides that the Department shall report annually, for any construction management or design-build project, on the qualifications that made such project complex. Finally, the bill requires the Department, with the assistance of staff of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, to assess the implementation and administration of construction management and design-build projects and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2029. This bill incorporates HB 965 and is identical to SB 18.

Patron - Carr

P HB1113 Virginia Public Procurement Act; job order contracting; limitations. Increases from \$6 million to \$10 million the maximum threshold above which the sum of all jobs performed in a one-year job order contract term shall not exceed. The bill also increases the maximum threshold amount for any individual job order from \$500,000 to \$1 million. Finally, the bill increases from two to three the number of additional one-year terms for which job order contracts may be renewable, and the bill only applies to contracts entered into on or after the bill's effective date.

Patron - Carr

P HB1116 Virginia Public Procurement Act; methods of procurement; certain construction projects. Allows a public body to establish purchase procedures, if adopted in writing, not requiring competitive sealed bids or competitive negotiation for single or term contracts for non-transportation-related construction projects if the aggregate or the sum of all phases is not expected to exceed \$300,000. Current law places the limit at \$200,000.

Patron - Carr

P HB1125 Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program established; report. Establishes the Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program and

directs the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to designate up to two sites and four projects for participation in the Program. Sites and projects eligible for the Program shall include only (i) sites eligible for a site development grant under the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program or (ii) projects with significant local, regional, or statewide economic impact that the governing body of the locality in which the project is located has either (a) approved following a public meeting or hearing or (b) submitted, by resolution, for consideration to be included in the Program. No more than two eligible sites or projects shall be designated as part of the Program within any locality annually. The Authority shall complete a review process within 45 days of designating a site to reduce permitting conflicts and provide relevant guidance to applicants. The bill also provides that no project shall be considered eligible to enter the Program after December 31, 2027, and requires annual reporting from the Authority. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and expires on June 30, 2028. This bill is identical to SB 217.

Patron - Carr

P HB1138 Fort Monroe Authority; powers and duties. Renames the executive director of the Fort Monroe Authority as the chief executive officer of the Authority. This bill is identical to SB 89.

Patron - Cordoza

P HB1139 Fort Monroe Authority; land and utility ownership. Removes the number of acres and the instrument number of the quitclaim deed recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Hampton on June 14, 2013, in reference to the area that is known as Fort Monroe and redefines such area to be what is shown in the land records of the City of Hampton as being owned by the Commonwealth, whether in the name of the Commonwealth or the Fort Monroe Authority. This bill is identical to SB 90.

Patron - Cordoza

P HB1146 Department of Law; Address Confidentiality Program; victims of child abduction. Expands to victims of child abduction eligibility for the Address Confidentiality Program established by the Statewide Facilitator for Victims of Domestic Violence.

Patron - Cordoza

P HB1178 Commonwealth of Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority; board of directors; member**ship.** Amends the membership of the board of directors of the Commonwealth of Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority by adding four nonlegislative citizen members to increase the total membership to 15 members and removing the position currently held by a director of a technology transfer office or equivalent position from a major research public institution of higher education. The bill (i) provides the Speaker of the House of Delegates the power to appoint four nonlegislative citizen members to the board of directors, (ii) provides the Senate Committee on Rules the power to appoint four nonlegislative citizen members to the board of directors, and (iii) removes such appointment power from the Joint Rules Committee. Finally, the bill prohibits any member of the board from investing personal funds in venture capital activities or grants, loans, or investment programs supported or administered by the Authority. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Sickles

P HB1361 Virginia Public Procurement Act; Virginia resident preference. Provides preference as it relates to procurement for a bidder who is a resident of Virginia and then a bidder whose goods are produced in the United States. For the procurement of goods by manufacturers, when the low-

est responsive and responsible bidder is not a resident of Virginia and the bid of any Virginia resident is within 10 percent of such bid, the bill gives the lowest responsive and responsible bidder that is a Virginia resident the option to match the price of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Furthermore, if the lowest responsive and responsible bidder is a resident of another state and such state allows a resident a percentage preference or price-matching preference for the procurement of goods, the bill grants a like preference to responsive and responsible bidders who are residents of Virginia. Under the bill, an eligible bidder that is a Virginia resident shall be granted the greater of either preference. The bill exempts a public body from the provisions of the bill if such public body is rendered ineligible to receive federal funding due to the provisions of the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. Finally, the bill directs the Department of General Services to report to the General Assembly regarding the bill's efficacy, including any retaliatory action taken by other states, no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session. This bill incorporates HB 164, HB 341, and HB 1154. Patron - Feggans

P HB1381 Center for Rural Virginia; name change. Renames the Center for Rural Virginia as the Senator Frank M. Ruff, Jr. Center for Rural Virginia. This bill is identical to SB 704.

Patron - Runion

HB1404 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program established; disparity study report. Establishes the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 42 percent of certified small SWaM business utilization in all discretionary spending by executive branch agencies and covered institutions in procurement orders, prime contracts, and subcontracts, as well as a target goal of 50 percent subcontracting to small SWaM businesses in instances where the prime contractor is not a small SWaM business for all new capital outlay construction solicitations that are issued. The bill provides that executive branch agencies and covered institutions are required to increase their small SWaM business utilization rate by three percent per year until reaching the 42-percent target level or, if unable to do so, to implement achievable goals to increase their utilization rate. In addition, the bill provides for a small SWaM business setaside for executive branch agency and covered institution purchases of goods, services, and construction, requiring that purchases up to \$100,000 be set aside for award to certified small SWaM businesses.

The bill creates the Division of Procurement Enhancement within the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity for purposes of collaborating with the Department of General Services, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, the Department of Transportation, and covered institutions to further the Commonwealth's efforts to meet the goals established under the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program, as well as implementing initiatives to enhance the development of small businesses, microbusinesses, women-owned businesses, minority-owned businesses, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses in the Commonwealth.

Finally, the bill requires the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to conduct a disparity study every five years, with the next disparity study due no later than January 1, 2026. The bill specifies that the study shall evaluate the need for enhancement and remedial measures to address the disparity between the availability and the utilization of womenowned and minority-owned businesses. The provisions of the bill other than those requiring a disparity study have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and apply to covered institu-

tions beginning July 1, 2025. This bill incorporates HB 716. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Ward

P HB1412 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exemption for complainant personal contact information. Amends an existing exemption from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for names, addresses, and phone numbers of complainants furnished in confidence with respect to an investigation of individual zoning enforcement complaints or complaints relating to the Uniform Statewide Building Code or the Statewide Fire Prevention Code made to a local governing body to exempt personal contact information of such complainants as defined in the bill.

Patron - Cherry

P HB1452 Duties of agencies and their appointing authorities; diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic plans. Requires each state agency to submit its annual report assessing the impact of its diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic plans on the populations served by the agency and on the agency's workforce and budget to the General Assembly, in addition to the Governor, by July 1 of each year.

Patron - Askew

HB1457 Virginia investment performance grants; Virginia economic development incentive grants. Requires, for any Virginia investment performance grant award determination that includes a job creation requirement, an eligible manufacturer or research and development service to pay an average wage, excluding fringe benefits, that is no less than the prevailing average wage for such new jobs. Under the bill, beginning July 1, 2024, (i) the aggregate amount of Virginia investment performance grants payable to all grant recipients in any fiscal year shall not exceed \$7 million and (ii) grants shall be payable in amounts up to \$5 million per eligible manufacturer or research and development service in five equal, annual installments of up to \$1 million, beginning in the first year after verification of capital investment and pledged employment. The bill also provides that eligible companies shall be eligible to receive Virginia economic development incentive grants in the first year after verification that requirements applicable to such grant are satisfied. The bill contains an enactment clause clarifying that no existing agreement entered into prior to the effective date of the bill shall be impacted by the bill.

Patron - Carr

P SB18 Virginia Public Procurement Act; construction management and design-build contracting. Requires state public bodies, covered institutions, and local public bodies to provide documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a construction contract to all the unsuccessful applicants upon request. The bill adds certain requirements for covered institutions, including posting all documents that are open to public inspection exchanged between the Department of General Services and the covered institution on the central electronic procurement website eVA. The bill requires approval by a majority vote of the covered institution's board of visitors or governing board if the covered institution chooses to proceed with construction management or design-build against the recommendation of the Department for (i) projects funded by funds other than those provided from the state general fund or (ii) projects of \$65 million or more funded in whole or in part from state general funds. For projects under \$65 million funded in whole or in part by state general funds, the bill provides that the covered institution shall obtain approval from the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and

Appropriations, or their designees, and a representative of the Department.

The bill requires a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build, if required by its local governing body, prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or eVA. The bill provides that the Department shall report annually, for any construction management or design-build project, on the qualifications that made such project complex. Finally, the bill requires the Department, with the assistance of staff of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, to assess the implementation and administration of construction management and design-build projects and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2029. This bill incorporates SB 249 and is identical to HB 1108.

Patron - Locke

P SB36 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definitions of meetings and public business. Exempts certain public meetings from the definition of "meeting" under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to clarify that three or more members of a public body may appear and participate in such public meeting without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. The bill also exempts members of a public body who attend a public meeting of a second public body without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. Finally, the bill defines "public business" as activity that a public body has undertaken or proposed to undertake on behalf of the people it represents. The bill states that its provisions are declarative of existing law. This bill is identical to HB 818.

Patron - Locke

P **SB85** Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definition of "caregiver"; remote participation in meetings by persons with disabilities and caregivers; remote voting. Provides that for purposes of determining whether a quorum is physically assembled, an individual member of a public body who is a person with a disability or a caregiver, defined in the bill, and uses remote participation counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present. The bill also provides that the participation policy adopted by a public body, as required by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, shall not prohibit or restrict any individual member of a public body who is participating in an all-virtual meeting or who is using remote participation from voting on matters before the public body. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. This bill is identical to HB 1040.

Patron - Favola

P SB89 Fort Monroe Authority; powers and duties. Renames the executive director of the Fort Monroe Authority as the chief executive officer of the Authority. This bill is identical to HB 1138.

Patron - Locke

P SB90 Fort Monroe Authority; land and utility ownership. Removes the number of acres and the instrument number of the quitclaim deed recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Hampton on June 14, 2013, in reference to the area that is known as Fort Monroe and redefines such area to be what is shown in the land records of the City of Hampton as being owned by the Commonwealth, whether in the name of the Commonwealth or the Fort Monroe Authority. This bill is identical to HB 1139.

Patron - Locke

P SB135 Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority; eligible site for site development grant; minimum acreage requirement. Provides that the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority may determine a site of at least 50 contiguous acres to be an eligible site if such site meets certain criteria provided in the bill to receive a site development grant from the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund. This bill is identical to HB 233.

Patron - Head

P SB186 Secretary of Health and Human Resources; work group; wholesale prescription drug importation programs; report. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to investigate wholesale prescription drug importation programs in other states and evaluate best practices for the establishment and application of such a program in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to provide a report to the Governor, the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services, and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB204 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; release of criminal investigative files exception. Exempts a victim's insurance company and attorney from the prohibition on releasing photographic, audio, video, or other records depicting such victim. The bill also permits a victim, a victim's immediate family members if the victim is deceased, a victim's parent or guardian, the victim's insurance company, or the victim's attorney to waive the 14-day period for a public body to respond to a request for criminal investigative files.

Patron - Diggs

P SB215 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; removal of Virginia residency requirement for access to certain criminal investigation files. Removes the requirement that persons to whom non-ongoing criminal investigation files shall otherwise be disclosed be citizens of the Commonwealth. Current law limits disclosure of public records to individuals who are citizens of the Commonwealth unless a clear exception applies.

Patron - Perry

P **SB217** Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program established; report. Establishes the Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program and directs the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to designate up to two sites and four projects for participation in the Program. Sites and projects eligible for the Program shall include only (i) sites eligible for a site development grant under the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program or (ii) projects with significant local, regional, or statewide economic impact that the governing body of the locality in which the project is located has either (a) approved following a public meeting or hearing or (b) submitted, by resolution, for consideration to be included in the Program. No more than two eligible sites or projects shall be designated as part of the Program within any locality annually. The Authority shall complete a review process within 45 days of designating a site to reduce permitting conflicts and provide relevant guidance to applicants. The bill also provides that no project shall be considered eligible to enter the Program after December 31, 2027, and requires annual reporting from the Authority. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and expires on June 30, 2028. This bill is identical to HB 1125.

Patron - Locke

P SB222 Commonwealth information security requirements. Exempts cybersecurity information, defined in the bill, from the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the Government Data Collection and Dissemination Practices Act while in possession of the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA). The bill requires VITA to keep such cybersecurity information confidential unless the Chief Information Officer or his designee authorizes publication or disclosure of reports or aggregate cybersecurity information.

Patron - McGuire

SB242 Virginia Public Procurement Act; competitive negotiation; exceptions to contractual terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal. Removes the prohibition on a public body from requiring an offeror to state in a proposal any exception to any liability provisions contained in a Request for Proposal for information technology. The bill also requires an offeror to state any exception to any contractual terms or conditions in writing at the time of responding to such Request for Proposal, if so requested by the public body, which exception shall be considered during negotiations, but prohibits the public body from basing the scoring or evaluation on such exceptions when selecting offerors for negotiations. Current law only prohibits a public body from requiring an offeror to state in a proposal any exception to the liability provisions of the Request for Proposal. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Public Body Procurement Work Group. This bill is identical to HB 242.

Patron - McPike

SB244 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; effective date of procedures for conducting meetings held through electronic communication means during declared states of emergency. Provides that the provisions for conducting a meeting by electronic means due to a state of emergency stated in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are declarative of existing law since March 20, 2020, with respect to the Governor's declared state of emergency due to COVID-19. Under the bill, any meeting by a public body using electronic communication means occurring from that date until July 1, 2021, and any otherwise lawful action taken at it is validated with respect to FOIA if the body provided public notice, public access, and public comment commensurate with the requirements of existing FOIA provisions regarding electronic and closed meetings. The bill is a response to the case *Berry v*. Bd. of Supervisors (Va. 2023) and is a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. This bill is identical to HB 816.

Patron - McPike

P **SB260** Virginia Public Procurement Act; Virginia preference. Provides first preference for goods produced in Virginia and then provides for preference to goods produced in the United States before a tie bid is decided by lot in determining the award for any contract for goods, services, or construction under the Virginia Public Procurement Act. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - DeSteph

P SB324 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; charges for production of public records; report. Prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any costs incurred during the first hour spent accessing, duplicating, supplying, or searching for records requested in conjunction with the requester's first request. The bill provides that for any additional time spent accessing, duplicating, supplying, or searching for such records, or for any additional record requests, the public body shall not charge an hourly rate for accessing,

duplicating, supplying, or searching for the records exceeding the lesser of the hourly rate of pay of the lowest-paid individual capable of fulfilling the request or \$40 per hour. The bill allows a public body to petition the appropriate court for relief from the \$40-per-hour fee cap upon showing by a preponderance of the evidence that there is no qualified individual capable of fulfilling the request for \$40 per hour or less and requires such petition to be heard within seven days of when the petition is made, provided that the public body has sent and the requester has received a copy of the petition at least three working days prior to filing. The bill also provides that in certain instances a hearing on any petition shall be given precedence on a circuit court's docket over all cases that are not otherwise given precedence by law and that the time period the public body has to respond to a record request shall be tolled between the requester's receipt of the petition and the final disposition of the court. The bill prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any court costs or fees resulting from a petition. The bill directs the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council to study whether public bodies should charge requesters pursuant to the bill and report on its findings by December 2024. The provisions of the bill amending the Code of Virginia do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Roem

# P SB329 Compost and other products containing organic soil amendments infrastructure; civil penalty. Allows a locality by ordinance to require certain generators, as defined in the bill, of large quantities of organic waste to separate the organic waste from other solid waste and ensure that the organic waste is diverted from final disposal in a refuse disposal system. The bill allows a locality to establish civil penalties for violations of such ordinance but requires the locality to

rate the organic waste from other solid waste and ensure that the organic waste is diverted from final disposal in a refuse disposal system. The bill allows a locality to establish civil penalties for violations of such ordinance but requires the locality to issue a warning to a generator that violates the ordinance prior to collecting such a civil penalty. Finally, the bill expresses that it is the intent of the General Assembly that new public school buildings and facilities and improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities include waste disposal infrastructure, as defined in the bill. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Surovell

P SB340 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exclusions from mandatory disclosure; purchase card statement. Clarifies that the name of a public employee, officer, or official as it appears on a purchase card statement or other payment record and the description of individual purchases are not exempt from disclosure by the State Comptroller.

Patron - Salim

P SB350 Virginia Human Rights Act; right to

**sue.** Permits a complainant who has not received a notice of the right to file a civil action from the Office of Civil Rights of the Department of Law or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as requested after 180 days have passed from the date the complaint was filed to commence a timely civil action in an appropriate general district or circuit court having jurisdiction over the person who allegedly unlawfully discriminated against the complainant. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Perry

P SB389 Autism Advisory Council; reestablished. Reestablishes the Autism Advisory Council, which expired July 1, 2022. The bill also increases from eight to 25 the number of Council members, establishes eligibility criteria for nonlegislative citizen members, and provides that no recommendation of the Council shall be adopted if a majority of

the legislative members appointed to the Council vote against the recommendation and for the recommendation to fail not-withstanding the majority vote of the Council. The law prior to expiration of the Council provided that no Council recommendation could be adopted if a majority of the House members or Senate members voted against the recommendation and for the recommendation to fail notwithstanding the majority vote of the Council. The bill has a sunset date of July 1, 2027. *Patron - Pekarsky* 

P SB399 Six-year financial plan. Modifies the requirements for the six-year financial plan submitted by the Governor to the General Assembly by (i) requiring that such plan be submitted on or before the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly instead of on or before the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly held in an even-numbered year as required by current law and (ii) providing that such plan ensure structural balance between projected revenues and expenditures for the six-year period. This bill is identical to HB 712.

Patron - McDougle

P SB436 Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; Director. Changes the title of the Director of the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to the Commissioner of Workforce Development and Advancement. The bill makes the Department, in consultation with the Governor, responsible for developing the formula for providing for 30 percent of WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker funds. Current law provides that the Virginia Community College System develops such formula in consultation with the Governor. The bill also makes the Office of Education and Labor Market Alignment, in consultation with the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, responsible for establishing the high-demand fields for which noncredit workforce training programs may be offered by eligible educational institutions.

Patron - Suetterlein

P SB487 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; analysis of the use of artificial intelligence by public bodies; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to conduct an analysis of the use of artificial intelligence by public bodies in the Commonwealth and the creation of a Commission on Artificial Intelligence. JCOTS shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology no later than December 1, 2024. This bill incorporates SB 621.

Patron - Aird

P **SB510** Investment of public funds. Allows any qualified public entity of the Commonwealth to invest in asset-backed securities that are guaranteed by the United States or any agency thereof. This bill is identical to HB 356. *Patron - Stanley* 

P SB570 Virginia Human Rights Act; definition of "employer." Waives the Commonwealth's sovereign immunity to a civil action under the definition of "person" in relevant law. The bill also expands the definition of "employer" as it relates to the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities under the Virginia Human Rights Act to include any government or political subdivision, or agent of such government or political subdivision, employing more than five employees for each working day in each of 20 or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar

year. The bill also reduces the number of employees from 15 to five for the definition of employer of domestic workers. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB584 Department of General Services; General Services Board established; Chief Administrator. Establishes the General Services Board to oversee the Department of General Services and, among other duties, to appoint a Chief Administrator for the Department. The Board shall consist of nine members: one nonlegislative citizen member appointed by the Governor, two nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, two nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, one department or agency head appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules serving ex officio, one department or agency head appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates serving ex officio, and two department or agency heads appointed by the Governor serving ex officio. Under current law, the Department is headed by the Director who is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB704** Center for Rural Virginia; name change. Renames the Center for Rural Virginia as the Senator Frank M. Ruff, Jr. Center for Rural Virginia. This bill is identical to HB 1381.

Patron - Mulchi

\$B729 Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank; established; report. Creates the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank to finance clean energy projects, greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects, and other qualified projects through the strategic deployment of public funds in the form of grants, loans, credit enhancements, and other financing mechanisms. The Bank is governed by a 12-member Board of Directors, consisting of nine nonlegislative citizen members and three ex officio members with voting privileges, who include the Director of the Department of Energy, the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, and the State Treasurer or their designees. The bill provides that the nonlegislative citizen members are to be appointed as follows: four members by the Senate Committee on Rules, four members by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and one member by the Governor, each of whom are required to have expertise in real estate, finance, or project development or legal expertise in zero-emission or low-emission energy generation, infrastructure, transportation, agriculture, storm water management, or housing. The bill contains provisions for (i) the appointment of a president and the hiring of staff, (ii) the powers and duties of the Bank, (iii) lending practices, (iv) a strategic plan, (v) an investment strategy, (vi) public outreach requirements, (vii) audits, (viii) exemptions from taxes and from personnel and procurement procedures, and (ix) reporting requirements. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Surovell

P SB734 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; electronic meetings. Amends the number of all-virtual public meetings that public bodies, with certain exceptions, may convene in a calendar year to no more than two times per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. Current law limits the number of all-virtual public meetings to no more than two times per calendar year or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. The bill also provides that with respect to all-virtual public meetings, when audio-visual tech-

nology is available, a member of a public body shall, for purposes of a quorum, be considered absent from any portion of the meeting during which visual communication with the member is voluntarily disconnected or otherwise fails or during which audio communication involuntarily fails. This bill is identical to HB 894.

Patron - Marsden

## Failed

F HB58 Industrial development authorities; disclosure statements. Eliminates the requirement for industrial development authority and economic development authority board members representing towns with populations of 3,500 or less to file a disclosure statement of certain personal interests and other information.

Patron - Wright

F HB97 Governor; chief of staff and Governor's Secretaries. Provides that no chief of staff appointed by the Governor and no Secretary appointed by the Governor shall be members of each other's immediate family when each is serving in his appointed capacity at the same time.

Patron - Green

F HB164 Procurement; preference for local products and firms by localities. Allows localities to give a procurement preference to a higher bid that includes local products and firms so long as the bid price is not more than 10 percent greater than the bid price of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. This bill was incorporated into HB 1361.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F HB290 Attorney General; instituting or conducting criminal prosecutions for violations of criminal sexual assault and commercial sex trafficking committed against children. Authorizes the Attorney General to institute or conduct criminal prosecutions in cases involving a violation of criminal sexual assault or commercial sex trafficking when such crimes are committed against children.

Patron - Ballard

F HB341 Virginia Public Procurement Act; consideration of employment of older Virginia residents. Allows public bodies to include as a factor that will be used in evaluating a Request for Proposal the proposer's participation in programs that employ Virginia residents age 55 or older. The bill also provides that in the case of a tie bid between two or more bidders-both of which are eligible for a preference as a bidder for goods produced in Virginia or goods, services, or construction provided by Virginia persons, firms, or corporations-an additional preference shall be given to any bidder that participates in such programs. This bill was incorporated into HB 1361.

Patron - Thomas

F HB381 Virginia Public Procurement Act; participation by veteran-owned small businesses. Requires all public bodies to include in their goals for participation by small businesses a minimum of five percent participation by veteran-owned businesses and service disabled veteran-owned businesses. Current law only requires a goal of three percent participation by service disabled veteran-owned businesses and does not impose such goal upon local public bodies. The bill also requires the Department of General Services to update the eVA portal to include a category for veteran-owned and service disabled veteran-owned small businesses that is conspicuous to

the general public to easily display and search set-aside opportunities for such businesses.

Patron - Feggans

F HB412 Virginia Economic and Development Partnership Authority; Virginia Creative Economy Grant Fund and Program; established. Establishes the Virginia Creative Economy Grant Fund and Program, to be administered by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, for the purpose of awarding grants to independent content creators and creative entrepreneurs for the purpose of developing and expanding the creative economy in Virginia. The bill provides for the award of grants of no more than \$20,000 to any recipient.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB542 Revenue Stabilization Fund and Revenue Reserve Fund; required deposits. Requires deposit of any revenues that would be required to be deposited in the Revenue Stabilization Fund or Revenue Reserve Fund to be deposited in the Taxpayer Relief Fund, established by the bill, in certain circumstances. Such deposits shall be made if the combined balance in the Revenue Stabilization Fund or Revenue Reserve Fund exceeds 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues derived from taxes on income and retail sales.

Patron - McNamara

HB544 Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; Director. Changes the title of the Director of the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to the Commissioner of Workforce Development and Advancement. The bill directs the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to examine the feasibility or need of any new workforce development program prior to its creation and provide a report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The bill changes the minimum level of fiscal support from WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker funds to training and job placement services from 40 to 50 percent. The bill also makes the Department responsible for providing a list of high-demand occupations to eligible educational institutions.

Patron - Walker

F HB579 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; records of federal animal welfare violations; limitation on fees. Prohibits any public body in custody of records that pertain to or were generated as a result of a violation of federal animal welfare regulations, policies, or guidelines from charging more than \$25 for the production of such records regarding any one incident or one animal testing facility. Patron - Simonds

F HB642 Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program. Establishes the Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program, to be administered by the Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation, for the purpose of awarding grants to independent content creators and creative economy entrepreneurs, as those terms are defined in the bill, for the purpose of developing and expanding the creative economy, as defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth. The bill provides for the award of grants of no more than \$20,000 to any recipient. Patron - Glass

F HB666 State agencies; electronic information breach. Requires every state agency to promptly notify affected citizens of the Commonwealth in the event of a breach of such state agency's electronic information system from unauthorized uses, intrusions, or other security threats, which breach compromises such citizens' personal information. The

bill requires the Chief Information Officer to provide requirements for such notifications.

Patron - Freitas

F HB671 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; public body; revenue from public funds. Adds to the definition of "public body" any organization, corporation, or agency that received more than 50 percent of its annual revenue, within any of the three preceding years, from public funds. Patron - Freitas

F HB680 Department of Human Resource Management; recruitment policy; direct work experience. Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to develop a statewide recruitment policy designed to provide guidance to state agencies on how to remove postsecondary degree requirements from hiring considerations and recruit qualified employees utilizing appropriate baseline requirements, the specifics of which are outlined in the bill. Patron - Leftwich

F HB703 Department of General Services and Department of Transportation; regulations and requirements; transit and school bus shelters; concrete pad construction. Directs the Department of General Services and the Department of Transportation to amend and conform the regulations and requirements for localities and transit agencies constructing concrete pad foundations for school bus shelters, public transit shelters, and rideshare stations.

Patron - Webert

F HB716 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; disparity study. Requires the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to conduct a disparity study every five years, the next due no later than January 1, 2026. The study shall evaluate the need for enhancement and remedial measures to address the disparity between the availability and the utilization of women-owned and minority-owned businesses. This bill was incorporated into HB 1404. Patron - Torian

F HB722 Department of Planning and Budget; Regulatory Budget Program established; report. Directs the Department of Planning and Budget to establish a Regulatory Budget Program under which each executive branch agency subject to the Administrative Process Act shall reduce overall regulatory requirements by 30 percent by January 1, 2027. The bill requires the Department to report to the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules on the status of the Program no later than October 1 of each year, beginning October 1, 2025. Finally, the bill provides that the Department, in consultation with the Office of the Governor, shall issue guidance for agencies regarding the Program and how an agency can comply with the requirements of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of January 1, 2027.

Patron - Webert

F HB727 Administrative Process Act; emergency regulations for economic development projects. Provides that an agency may receive a waiver, defined in the bill as the approval for the promulgation of emergency regulations or suspension of current regulations, for the creation of qualifying economic development projects, also defined in the bill, upon consultation with and receipt of the approval of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority and the approval of the Governor that such regulations are necessary for the achievement of such qualifying economic development project. The bill exempts from such waiver the promulgation of regulations pursuant to

the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program of the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry and by the Department of Environmental Quality.

Patron - Webert

F HB743 Legal holidays; Indigenous Peoples' Day. Replaces Columbus Day, the second Monday in October, with Indigenous Peoples' Day as a state holiday. Patron - Krizek

F HB758 Virginia Public Procurement Act; prohibition on boycotting Israel. Requires all public bodies to include in every contract in excess of \$100,000 with a business that employs more than 10 employees and in every subcontract or purchase order in excess of \$10,000 a provision that states that during the performance of the contract, neither the contracting business nor any of its affiliates shall engage in a boycott of Israel.

Patron - Walker

F HB872 Property rights in parking areas owned or controlled by the Commonwealth; firearms and ammunition. Provides that with certain exceptions the Commonwealth shall not adopt or enforce any statute or regulation that prevents an employee, visitor, or contractor from storing a lawfully possessed firearm and ammunition in a locked private motor vehicle parked at any parking area owned or controlled by the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that any previously enacted statutes, promulgated regulations, policies, or rules that are inconsistent with the provisions of the bill are null and void.

Patron - Earley

F HB873 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; closed meeting exemption; home instruction of children. Creates an exemption from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for discussion, consideration, or decisions relating to home instruction of children, unless objected to by a parent or guardian in an open meeting, that are exempt from disclosure pursuant to relevant law.

Patron - Earley

F HB965 Virginia Public Procurement Act; consideration of best value concepts for construction services. Permits public bodies to consider best value concepts when procuring construction services. Under current law, public bodies may consider best value concepts only when procuring goods and nonprofessional services. This bill was incorporated into HB 1108.

Patron - Lopez

HB966 Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth; Office of Commonwealth Resilience; Interagency Resilience Working Group; Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund; Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; Advisory Review Committee. Moves the position of Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) from under the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to under the Governor and creates an Office of Commonwealth Resilience to support the CRO in his functions and duties. The bill requires the CRO to convene an Interagency Resilience Working Group to support the coordination of planning and implementation of resilience efforts, eliminates the position of Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, and requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund. The bill also requires the Director to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund and adds the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the CRO to the list of those with whom the Virginia Resources Authority is required to consult in directing the distribution of loans or grants from the Fund. The bill requires the Department to make available for public inspection at the office of the Department and on a publicly accessible website records of each application for grants and loans from the two Funds and the actions taken thereon.

Patron - Kent

F HB1000 Environmental Justice Task Force; report. Establishes the Environmental Justice Task Force for the purpose of furthering environmental justice in the Commonwealth, consisting of the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Secretary of Transportation, or their designees. The bill requires the Task Force to advise the Governor and state agencies of the Commonwealth on environmental justice issues, particularly as such issues relate to minority and low-income communities. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 2024, regarding its activities. Patron - Anthony

**HB1095** Commonwealth information security **requirements.** Requires state public bodies, defined in the bill, to (i) comply with the Commonwealth's security policies and standards, (ii) ensure each of their employees completes information security training, (iii) conduct regular security audits, (iv) report the results of such audits to the appropriate entity, and (v) implement security monitoring and enter into memoranda of understanding with the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth for sharing information with the Commonwealth's central information security systems. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth to (a) publish and maintain a list of the Commonwealth's security policies and standards with which state public bodies are required to comply, (b) ensure that transition meetings with state public bodies occur, and (c) document such transitions and any exemptions from the requirements of the bill. Patron - Oates

F HB1154 Virginia Public Procurement Act; preferences for goods, services, or construction by U.S. entities. Provides that in the case of a tie bid, preference shall be given first to goods produced in Virginia or to goods, services, or construction provided by Virginia persons, firms, or corporations and second to goods produced in the United States or to goods, services, or construction provided by United States persons, firms, or corporations. This Bill was Incorporated into HB 1361.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1158 Administrative Process Act; executive branch agencies. Requires executive branch agencies to ensure that certain regulations and guidance documents under the Virginia Register Act and Administrative Process Act, as appropriate, are posted on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall according to instructions issued by the Department of Planning and Budget.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1168 Office of the Children's Ombudsman; powers. Grants the Children's Ombudsman with regard to children receiving child-protective services, in foster care, or placed for adoption and children who may have died as a result of alleged abuse or neglect the power to directly oversee local departments of social services, reverse the decisions of local

departments of social services, and petition a court to reverse any custody or visitation changes made as a result of the error of a local department of social services.

Patron - Cordoza

HB1191 Virginia Public Procurement Act; construction management and design-build contracting; applicability. States that design-bid-build, defined in the bill, utilizing competitive sealed bidding is the preferred method of procurement for construction services in the Commonwealth. Complex projects, defined in the bill, may request an exemption from the provisions of the bill and relevant law from the Division of Engineering and Buildings of the Department of General Services. The bill requires all documents related to the proposed use of construction management or design-build by state public bodies and institutions of higher education and any available subcontractor opportunities to be posted on eVA. The bill transfers from the Department of General Services to the Division of Engineering and Buildings the authority to evaluate the proposed use of construction management or designbuild by state public bodies and institutions of higher education and specifies that a local governing body must approve at a public meeting the use of construction management or designbuild by a local public body. Finally, the bill prohibits state public bodies, institutions of higher education, and local governing bodies from considering prior construction management or design-build experience of contractors on comparable proj-

Patron - Sickles

F HB1193 Department of Human Resource Management; recruitment policy; direct work experience. Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to develop a statewide recruitment policy designed to provide guidance to state agencies on how to remove postsecondary degree requirements from hiring considerations and recruit qualified employees utilizing appropriate baseline requirements, the specifics of which are outlined in the bill. Patron - Earley

F HB1205 Public deposits; credit unions. Authorizes credit unions to hold public deposits and become qualified public depositories. The bill provides that the Commonwealth and counties, cities, towns, and other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth may become members of a credit union for the purposes of placing deposits in and receiving services from the credit union. The bill directs the Treasury Board to designate a rating service to evaluate the creditworthiness of any credit union seeking to become a qualified public depository within 180 days of enactment. The bill also requires the Treasury Board to promulgate emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. Patron - Lopez

F HB1267 Virginia Tourism Authority; Governor's Major Entertainment Opportunity Fund. Renames the Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund under the Virginia Tourism Authority as the Governor's Major Entertainment Opportunity Fund and changes its purpose from supporting the film and video industries in Virginia to supporting major entertainment events not regularly scheduled in Virginia by providing the means for attracting entertainment operations and projects with spectators or participants in the Commonwealth using Virginia employees, goods, and services. Patron - Willett

F HB1329 Virginia Human Rights Act; dualfiled civil actions. Clarifies timelines for dual-filing complaints alleging unlawful discrimination under the Virginia Human Rights Act and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The bill allows either the complainant or the respondent for any charge of discrimination to request a notice of the right to file a civil action after the Commission has closed its file on such charge of discrimination.

Patron - Simon

F HB1350 Authority of Attorney General; criminal cases; human and sex trafficking. Authorizes the Attorney General to prosecute violations of criminal law relating to human and sex trafficking offenses in connection with racketeering.

Patron - Delaney

F HB1378 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exclusions; apprenticeship programs; minors. Excludes from the mandatory disclosure requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act any information in a public record regarding the participation of a minor in a program run by a state body, such as an internship, externship, or apprenticeship, except as otherwise prescribed by law. Patron - Kent

F HB1440 Virginia Public Procurement Act; public works contracts; project labor agreements. Removes the statutory authority for any public body, including any state or local government, when engaged in procuring products or services or letting contracts for construction, manufacture, maintenance, or operation of public works, to require bidders to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements on the public works projects.

Patron - Wiley

F HB1448 Virginia Human Rights Act; unlawful discrimination. Prohibits any state agency or political subdivision in the Commonwealth from supporting, implementing, recognizing, or utilizing any program, process, or procedure that conveys or denies a benefit, advantage, or privilege to an individual based solely on such individual's race, sex, or ethnicity.

Patron - Garrett

HB1456 Solar-ready roofs for certain government buildings; net-zero energy consumption building design for schools. Requires any executive branch agency or institution and any locality entering the design phase for the construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or the renovation of a building where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to ensure that such building includes a solar-ready, cool, or energy-efficient roof, defined in the bill. The bill also requires new public school buildings and facilities and improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building to, after notice is given to the governing body, be designed and constructed to meet net-zero energy consumption standards. The provisions of this bill only apply to projects entering the design phase on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Carr

F HB1468 Consumer Data Protection Act; enforcement by the Attorney General; civil penalty. Permits the Attorney General to prohibit TikTok from being available to known minors in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that a civil penalty of \$7,500 may be assessed for violations by TikTok unless such website or application could not have reasonably known or have had reason to know of such operation in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Leftwich

F SB79 Solar-ready roofs for certain government buildings; net-zero energy consumption building design for schools. Requires any executive branch agency or institution and any locality entering the design phase for the construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or the renovation of a building where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to ensure that such building includes infrastructure for renewable energy systems. The bill also requires the Department of Energy to convene a work group to make recommendations on how to implement renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities. The provisions of this bill only apply to projects entering the design phase on or after January 1, 2026.

Patron - Favola

F SB122 Department of General Services; Office of Pharmaceutical Services; report. Establishes in the Department of General Services an Office of Pharmaceutical Services to develop and execute a plan to consolidate state agency prescription drug purchasing and pharmacy benefit management programs to increase efficiency in prescription drug purchasing and constrain spending on prescription drugs. The bill directs the Department to provide to the Governor and the General Assembly an interim report on the development of the plan by November 1, 2024, and a final report on the plan by November 1, 2025.

Patron - VanValkenburg

SB249 Virginia Public Procurement Act; construction management and design-build contracting. Limits the use of construction management or design-build contracts by state public bodies and covered institutions for complex projects. The bill requires state public bodies, covered institutions, and local public bodies to provide documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a contract to all the unsuccessful applicants upon request. The bill adds certain requirements for covered institutions, including posting all documents exchanged between the Department of General Services and the covered institution on the central electronic procurement website eVA and requires approval by the covered institution's board of visitors or governing board if the covered institution chooses to proceed with construction management or design-build against the recommendation of the Department. The bill requires a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or eVA. Finally, the bill provides that the Department shall report annually, for any construction management or design-build project, on the qualifications that made such project complex. This bill was incorporated into SB 18.

Patron - McPike

F SB410 Virginia Tourism Authority; Governor's Major Entertainment Opportunity Fund. Renames the Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund under the Virginia Tourism Authority as the Governor's Major Entertainment Opportunity Fund and changes its purpose from supporting the film and video industries in Virginia to supporting major entertainment events not regularly scheduled in Virginia by providing the means for attracting entertainment operations and projects with spectators or participants in the Commonwealth using Virginia employees, goods, and services.

Patron - Head

F SB415 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definition of "meeting." Amends the definition of "meeting" as it relates to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to add

an exception for local political party meetings. The bill is a recommendation of the FOIA Council.

Patron - Stuart

F SB473 Administrative Process Act; executive

**branch agencies.** Requires executive branch agencies to ensure that certain regulations and guidance documents under the Virginia Register Act and Administrative Process Act, as appropriate, are posted on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall according to instructions issued by the Department of Planning and Budget.

Patron - Hackworth

F SB503 License plate reader systems; civil penalty. Provides requirements for the use of license plate reader systems, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems to scanning, detecting, and recording data about vehicles and license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying a vehicle that is (i) associated with a wanted, missing, or endangered person or human trafficking; (ii) stolen; (iii) involved in an active law-enforcement investigation; or (iv) in the vicinity of a recent crime and may be connected to that crime. The bill authorizes and requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a permitting process for installing and using such systems in state highway rights-of-way.

Patron - Surovell

F SB604 Virginia Public Procurement Act; prohibition on boycotting Israel. Requires all public bodies to include in every contract in excess of \$100,000 with a business that employs more than 10 employees and in every subcontract or purchase order in excess of \$10,000 a provision that states that during the performance of the contract, neither the contracting business nor any of its affiliates shall engage in a boycott of Israel.

Patron - McGuire

F **SB621** Commission on Artificial Intelligence; report; sunset. Creates the Commission on Artificial Intelligence to advise the Governor on issues related to artificial intelligence and make advisory recommendations based on its findings. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. This bill was incorporated into SB 487.

Patron - Pillion

SB699 Revenue reserves and budgetary amendments. Provides that if the Governor in the Budget Bill recommends a transfer of funds in the Revenue Reserve Fund in excess of the statutory 15 percent combined balance limit, then the corresponding purpose and proposed use of such transferred funds shall be included within the corresponding budget items. The bill also directs that if the Revenue Stabilization Fund and Revenue Reserve Fund are in excess of the statutory 15 percent combined balance limit, the State Comptroller shall transfer such excess amounts to the general fund and present such amounts as an assigned fund balance for nonrecurring expenditures on the Comptroller's preliminary annual report and if such a transfer is required, but the Revenue Stabilization Fund is not in excess of its Constitutional 15 percent balance limit, the amounts required to be transferred shall first be deposited into the Revenue Stabilization Fund instead of the general fund.

Patron - Lucas

# **Carried Over**

C HB141 Department of Veterans Services; Veteran's Fellowship for State Government Pilot Program.

Creates, within the Department of Veterans Services, the Veteran's Fellowship for State Government Pilot Program (the Program) through which the Department shall collaborate with Virginia Commonwealth University to recruit veterans to participate in undergraduate-level and graduate-level cohorts to assist such veterans in pursuing educational pathways to employment with the Commonwealth. The Department shall report annually to the General Assembly by November 1 regarding the progress of the participants, the return on investment for the Commonwealth, and recommendations for Program enhancements. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Reid

C HB178 Social Work Advisory Board; established; report. Establishes the Social Work Advisory Board to advise the Governor on efforts to improve the social work profession in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Social Work Advisory Board to report annually by December 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding its activities and recommendations. The bill contains an expiration date of June 30, 2027.

Patron - Gardner

C HB502 Nonbinary sex or gender designation option. Requires all forms or applications to offer any applicant the option of "male," "female," or "nonbinary" when designating the applicant's sex or gender. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Cohen

C HB775 License plate reader systems; civil penalty. Provides requirements for the use of license plate reader systems, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems to scanning, detecting, and recording data about vehicles and license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying a vehicle that is (i) associated with a wanted, missing, or endangered person or human trafficking; (ii) stolen; (iii) involved in an active law-enforcement investigation; or (iv) in the vicinity of a recent crime and may be connected to that crime. The bill authorizes and requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a permitting process for installing and using such systems in state highway rights-of-way. This bill incorporates HB 1037.

Patron - Herring

C HB787 Administrative Process Act; exemptions; limitations; appeals of case decisions regarding benefits sought. Provides that in appeals of case decisions regarding the grant or denial of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, general relief, auxiliary grants, or state-local hospitalization, the review shall be based upon the agency record and the court may enter intermediate relief. The bill also provides that in such appeals, unless an error of law appears, the court shall enter judgment by dismissing the review action or affirming the agency regulation or decision.

Patron - Hope

C HB897 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; guidance to small businesses; identification of enforcement actions; work group; report. Requires the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to develop and provide guidance to businesses with newly approved permits and established businesses regarding responsibilities and requirements for maintaining such business that includes information identifying any regularly occurring required report to a state agency and any associated fees, penalties, or waivers.

The bill requires each state agency to annually report any enforcement action taken by the agency against a small business in the previous calendar year that specifies each infraction and the enforcement action taken by the agency. The bill requires the Department to post de-identified aggregated data by state agency and infraction type from such reports on its website.

The bill requires the Department to convene a work group to identify and recommend means to provide relief to small businesses regarding regularly occurring required reports to state agencies. The work group is required to identify each such report and consider (i) if such report can be required less frequently or eliminated; (ii) if the required information has not changed since the previous report, allowing the small business to satisfy the reporting requirement by indicating that there has been no change; (iii) establishing a waiver or lowering the threshold to qualify for an existing waiver; (iv) reducing or eliminating any penalty for noncompliance; and (v) any other means to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses. The Department is required to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024. Patron - Kent

C HB899 State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act and the General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act; deadline for annual filing of disclosure statements; deadline for public disclosure. Changes the filing deadline for statements of economic interests and financial disclosure statements from February 1 to December 15. The bill requires the forms to be made public within 30 days of the filing deadline; currently, this is required within six weeks of the filing deadline.

Patron - Srinivasan

C HB920 License plate readers; penalties. Provides requirements for the use of license plate readers, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill requires such agencies to enter into an agreement with the license plate reader owner or other responsible non-law-enforcement entity to operate a data trust, defined in the bill, to store the data collected by a license plate reader and requires any such law-enforcement agency to apply to the data trust for access to such data. The bill limits the use of license plate readers to scanning, detecting, and identifying license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying vehicles involved in certain crimes. Patron - Shin

C HB951 Building service employees; public contracting. Permits any county, city, or town in the Commonwealth to provide for certain requirements concerning incumbent and successor service employers, defined in the bill, by local ordinance or resolution. For example, such local ordinance or resolution may require that successor service employers retain incumbent service employees during a transition period of 90 days. Under the bill, service employees are those who perform work in connection with the care or maintenance of property, services at an airport, or food preparation services at schools. The bill provides that a employer that violates the provisions of a local ordinance or resolution enacted pursuant to the bill may be subject to a civil action and monetary damages.

Patron - Lopez

C HB954 Virginia Human Rights Act; prohibits discrimination on the basis of citizenship or immigration status. Adds citizenship or immigration status to the classes protected from unlawful discrimination in the Virginia Human Rights Act.

Patron - Lopez

C HB1101 Virginia Public Procurement Act; professional services; definition. Adds to the definition of "professional services," for use throughout the Virginia Public Procurement Act, services of an investment and financial advisor procured by the Department of the Treasury.

Patron - Wiley

C HB1192 State debt collection; statute of limitations. Establishes a seven-year statute of limitations on the commencement of any action by a state agency or institution to collect past due accounts receivable due to the Commonwealth. *Patron - Scott, P.A.* 

C HB1273 Virginia Public Procurement Act; additional public works contract requirements. Provides that public bodies shall require the contractor and its subcontractors for any capital outlay project, as defined in the bill, to complete certain safety training programs, maintain records of compliance with applicable laws, and participate in approved apprenticeship training programs. The bill provides exemptions from such requirements for reasons related to lack of availability of apprentices and high costs. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Krizek

C HB1348 Department of General Services; Office of Pharmaceutical Services; report. Establishes in the Department of General Services an Office of Pharmaceutical Services to develop and execute a plan to consolidate state agency prescription drug purchasing and pharmacy benefit management programs to increase efficiency in prescription drug purchasing and constrain spending on prescription drugs. The bill directs the Department to provide to the Governor and the General Assembly an interim report on the development of the plan by November 1, 2024, and a final report on the plan by November 1, 2025.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

C HB1355 Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility. Makes numerous organizational changes to the Information Technology Access Act. The bill defines "information and communications technology" as it relates to digital accessibility, defined in the bill, for all persons with disabilities. The bill permits the head of each covered entity, defined in the bill, to designate an employee to serve as such covered entity's digital accessibility coordinator and provides that such digital accessibility coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing such covered entity's digital accessibility policy. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Tran

C HB1371 Virginia Public Procurement Act; local arbitration agreements. Allows a participating locality, for any procurement solicitation or contract exceeding \$10,000 for goods and services, to require the bidder or offeror to disclose certain information regarding pre-dispute arbitration clauses, defined in the bill, in employment, civil rights, and certain consumer disputes, and provides that a locality may consider the policies and practices related to arbitration of each bidder and offeror. The bill also provides that a participating locality shall require the bidder or offeror to provide written or electronic submissions to allow the locality to ascertain (i) whether the bidder or offeror requires persons with whom it is in a work relationship or prospective work relationship to sign or otherwise enter into a contract containing a pre-dispute arbitration clause that would cover an employment or civil rights dispute and (ii) whether the bidder or offeror requires consumers to sign or otherwise enter into a contract containing a predispute arbitration clause as a condition of downloading mobile applications or using websites to pay a school district for goods, services, or fees. The bill authorizes a participating locality to cancel, terminate, or suspend, in whole or in part, the contract of any contractor that has violated a provision of the bill and to declare the contractor ineligible for further contracts with such locality for up to five years.

Patron - Simon

C HB1390 Department of Human Resource Management; disclosure of certain information. Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to provide any recognized public employee association, upon the request of such association, a list containing the name and work address of each current state employee. The bill requires such association to ensure that the information contained in such list remains confidential and prohibits any mailing sent by such association to a state employee from containing (i) political or partisan content, (ii) commercial advertising, or (iii) the personal information of any state employee.

Patron - Cole

C HB1463 Department of General Services; Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services; review of procurement process; employment services organizations. Directs the Department of General Services, in cooperation with the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, to perform a comprehensive review of the process for procuring goods and services from employment services organizations. The bill provides that such review shall examine the current process for procurement, potential set-asides or percentage goals, and whether employment services organizations should be housed alongside small, women-owned, or minority-owned businesses within the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity.

Patron - Laufer

C HB1495 Apprenticeship program; film and television industry. Requires the Director of Workforce Development and Advancement to establish a program to promote apprenticeships in the film and television industry. The Director may provide financial incentives to employers who hire and retain an apprentice in the film and television industry for at least six months. In consultation with the Virginia Film Office, the Director shall establish guidelines and criteria for the program.

Patron - Cousins

C HB1537 JLARC; Department of Human Resource Management; Grievance Procedure Manual; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to conduct a review of the Department of Human Resource Management's Grievance Procedure Manual as it relates to the Department of Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice. The bill requires that JLARC evaluate the effectiveness of such procedures and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology and the House Committee on General Laws by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Gardner

C HJ32 Study; JLARC; creation of Secretariat of Rural Affairs; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the need for and feasibility of creating a Secretariat of Rural Affairs in the Commonwealth. Patron - O'Quinn

C SB113 Department of Veterans Services; Veteran's Fellowship for State Government Pilot Program. Creates, within the Department of Veterans Services, the Vet-

eran's Fellowship for State Government Pilot Program (the Program) through which the Department shall collaborate with Virginia Commonwealth University to recruit veterans to participate in undergraduate-level and graduate-level cohorts to assist such veterans in pursuing educational pathways to employment with the Commonwealth. The Department shall report annually to the General Assembly by November 1 regarding the progress of the participants, the return on investment for the Commonwealth, and recommendations for Program enhancements. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Reeves

C SB140 Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team established; penalty; report. Establishes the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team to develop and implement procedures to ensure that fetal and infant deaths occurring in the Commonwealth are analyzed in a systematic way. The bill requires the Team to compile triennial statistical data regarding fetal and infant deaths and to make such data available to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Health. The bill provides that information and records obtained or created by the Team and portions of meetings of the Team at which individual fetal and infant deaths are discussed shall be confidential.

Patron - Carroll Foy

C SB197 Attorney General; instituting or conducting criminal prosecutions for violations of criminal sexual assault and commercial sex trafficking committed against children. Authorizes the Attorney General to institute or conduct criminal prosecutions in cases involving a violation of criminal sexual assault or commercial sex trafficking when such crimes are committed against children.

Patron - Diggs

C SB247 Building service employees; public contracting. Permits any county, city, or town in the Commonwealth to provide for certain requirements concerning incumbent and successor building service employers, defined in the bill, by local ordinance or resolution. For example, such local ordinance or resolution may require that successor building service employers retain incumbent employees during a transition period of 90 days. Under the bill, building service employees are those who perform work in connection with the care or maintenance of property, services at an airport, or food preparation services at schools. The bill provides that a building service employer that violates the provisions of a local ordinance or resolution enacted pursuant to the bill may be subject to a civil action and monetary damages. Patron - McPike

C SB492 Virginia Public Procurement Act; procurement of electric vehicles; forced and child labor prohibition. Prohibits public bodies from awarding contracts to acquire an electric vehicle or electric vehicle component from a business unless such business provides a sworn declaration from the manufacturer of such electric vehicle or electric vehicle component certifying that every person involved in the production of such electric vehicle or electric vehicle component and every person involved in the sourcing, manufacturing, or mining of the material used in such electric vehicle or electric vehicle component did not use forced labor or oppressive child labor, both terms defined in the bill, in the sourcing, manufacturing, or mining of such electric vehicle or electric vehicle component.

Patron - Stanley

C SB647 Virginia Public Procurement Act; competitive sealed bidding; required criteria in invitations to

**bid.** Requires all public bodies to include in any Invitation to Bid criteria that will be used in determining whether a bidder who is not prequalified by the Virginia Department of Transportation is a responsible bidder. Current law authorizes, but does not require, localities to include such criteria in Invitations to Bid.

Patron - Carroll Foy

SB733 Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth; Office of Commonwealth Resilience; Interagency Resilience Working Group; Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund; Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; Advisory Review Committee. Moves the position of Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) from under the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to under the Governor and creates an Office of Commonwealth Resilience to support the CRO in his functions and duties. The bill requires the CRO to convene an Interagency Resilience Working Group to support the coordination of planning and implementation of resilience efforts, eliminates the position of Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, and requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund. The bill also requires the Director to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund and adds the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the CRO to the list of those with whom the Virginia Resources Authority is required to consult in directing the distribution of loans or grants from the Fund. The bill requires the Department to make available for public inspection at the office of the Department and on a publicly accessible website records of each application for grants and loans from the two Funds and the actions taken thereon. The Virginia Flood Resilience Advisory Committee replaces the Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee effective February 1,

Patron - Marsden

# Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food

#### Passed

P HB62 Local animal cruelty registries. Allows any locality to establish an animal cruelty registry for public access on the website of such locality or its local police department. The bill provides that such registry may include the names and relevant information of persons convicted of certain felony offenses for animal cruelty and that a person on such registry may request removal of his name after 15 years, provided that he has no additional felony convictions of an animal cruelty offense. The bill directs that all costs relating to a locality's animal cruelty registry shall be borne by such locality. This bill is identical to SB 93.

Patron - Campbell

PHB223 Cruelty to animals; possession and ownership of animals. Provides that any person convicted of felony cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of companion or equine animals for life and any person convicted of misdemeanor cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of such animals for a period of up to five years. Under current law, such prohibition is limited to companion animals

and a period equal to the statutory maximum period of incarceration. The bill also specifies that a court may order that any animal possessed or owned by such person may be disposed of by a local governing body or delivered to another person with a right of property in the animal.

The bill further provides that any person who has his rights to possession or ownership of companion or equine animals prohibited pursuant to a felony conviction may petition the court where such conviction occurred for a restoration of his rights after five years from the date of conviction. This bill is identical to SB 11.

Patron - Orrock

P HB299 License tax; retired police or military dogs; exemption. Allows a locality by ordinance to exempt any dog that served as a police or law-enforcement dog or military working dog from the license tax on the ownership of dogs. Such ordinance must include a verification process for the vaccination records of such a dog. Patron - Ballard

P HB320 Pesticide control exemptions; herbicide applications by unpaid volunteers. Exempts from the provisions of state pesticide laws and regulations any unpaid volunteer who uses any nonrestricted herbicide with the express authorization of a local political subdivision for the sole pur-

pose of controlling invasive plants or noxious weeds on properties owned by such local political subdivision. The bill provides that such unpaid volunteer shall use such herbicide under the direct supervision of a certified commercial applicator and the local political subdivision shall provide instruction by a certified commercial applicator to the unpaid volunteer prior to application on (i) the risks associated with the herbicide utilized, (ii) the proper use of equipment used to apply the herbicide, (iii) the proper use of personal protective equipment, (iv) other information to prevent an unreasonable adverse effect on the environment, and (v) any other information rele-

Patron - Bulova

vant to the specific herbicide utilized.

P HB330 Financing of a dog or cat. Prohibits the financing of a dog or cat unless such financing complies with the provisions of state and federal law related to consumer credit.

Patron - Orrock

P HB580 Task Force on Transparency in Publicly Funded Animal Testing Facilities; report. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a Task Force on Transparency in Publicly Funded Animal Testing Facilities, consisting of legislators and stakeholders, for the purpose of identifying potential deficiencies in publicly funded animal testing facilities in the Commonwealth and recommending methods and context for making certain information about such animal testing facilities publicly available. The bill requires the Task Force to report its findings to certain committees of the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 411.

Patron - Simonds

P HB759 Food inspections; private homes; pickles and acidified vegetables; gross sales. Increases from \$3,000 to \$9,000 the gross sales annual revenue cap for sales of pickles and other acidified vegetables that have an equilibrium pH value of 4.6 or lower and are processed and prepared in a private home without an inspection as otherwise required to operate a food establishment. The bill expands the exemption for private homes where the resident processes and prepares certain food products to allow for such person to sell the food at a temporary event that operates for a period of no more than

14 consecutive days. The bill also clarifies that such person may advertise such food products over the Internet provided that the sale takes place in person and complies with certain restrictions.

Patron - Freitas

P HB804 Dangerous dog; extending the time for adjudication. Requires the court, unless good cause is determined by the court, to hold the evidentiary hearing pursuant to the dangerous dog summons within 30 days or as soon as practicable from the issuance of the summons. Under current law, the court is required to hold such hearing not more than 30 days from the issuance of the summons.

Patron - Rasoul

HB1135 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; blue catfish work group; report. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders in order to support and encourage coordination regarding efforts to create a robust and resilient market for blue catfish. The work group shall (i) review past and ongoing efforts to promote the creation of a market for blue catfish, (ii) identify and explore potential sectors for the blue catfish market, and (iii) identify any actions that the Commonwealth can take to promote and expand the market for blue catfish. The Department shall submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the work group to the Governor, the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, and relevant committees of the General Assembly no later than September 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 402.

Patron - Hodges

PHB1354 Declawing cats; prohibition. Makes unlawful the practice of declawing cats for any person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine except as necessary for a therapeutic purpose, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Martinez

P HB1377 Soybean Board; assessment from sale of soybeans. Changes the amount of the assessment for research, education, publicity, and the promotion of the sale and use of soybeans, currently at \$0.02 per bushel, to a rate of one half of one percent of the net market price per bushel. Patron - Webert

P HB1399 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Potato Board; membership. Reduces from seven to five the number of members that serve on the Potato Board. The bill provides that the terms of persons serving as members of the Potato Board prior to the effective date of the bill shall expire on the effective date of the bill and that five members shall be appointed in accordance with the staggered terms set out in the bill.

Patron - Bloxom

P HB1460 Virginia Verified Meat certification. Prohibits any person from labeling any product as Virginia Verified Meat if it does not meet the definition of that term in the bill and allows any person not employed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to be eligible to certify Virginia Verified Meat claims if approved by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Patron - Webert

P HB1531 Cruelty to elephants; pain-inflicting training tools prohibited; actions for attachment; civil penalty. Prohibits using devices such as a bullhook, axe handle, or block and tackle or engaging in certain practices in order to discipline, train, or control the behavior of an elephant. The bill

provides that any person who uses such devices or engages in certain practices that inflict fear or pain on or cause physical injury to an elephant is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 for the first offense and not to exceed \$5,000 for subsequent violations. Finally, the bill provides that an action in equity may be brought to request an attachment for any devices prohibited by the bill against a person violating the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Tran

P SB11 Cruelty to animals; possession and ownership of animals. Provides that any person convicted of felony cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of companion or equine animals for life and any person convicted of misdemeanor cruelty to animals may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of such animals for a period of up to five years. Under current law, such prohibition is limited to companion animals and a period equal to the statutory maximum period of incarceration. The bill also specifies that a court may order that any animal possessed or owned by such person may be disposed of by a local governing body or delivered to another person with a right of property in the animal.

The bill further provides that any person who has his rights to possession or ownership of companion or equine animals prohibited pursuant to a felony conviction may petition the court where such conviction occurred for a restoration of his rights after five years from the date of conviction. This bill is identical to HB 223.

Patron - Favola

P SB93 Local animal cruelty registries. Allows any locality to establish an animal cruelty registry for public access on the website of such locality or its local police department. The bill provides that such registry may include the names and relevant information of persons convicted of certain felony offenses for animal cruelty and that a person on such registry may request removal of his name after 15 years, provided that he has no additional felony convictions of an animal cruelty offense. The bill directs that all costs relating to a locality's animal cruelty registry shall be borne by such locality. This bill is identical to HB 62.

Patron - Stanley

SB402 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; blue catfish work group; report. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders in order to support and encourage coordination regarding efforts to create a robust and resilient market for blue catfish. The work group shall (i) review past and ongoing efforts to promote the creation of a market for blue catfish, (ii) identify and explore potential sectors for the blue catfish market, and (iii) identify any actions that the Commonwealth can take to promote and expand the market for blue catfish. The Department shall submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the work group to the Governor, the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, and relevant committees of the General Assembly no later than September 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 1135.

Patron - Stuart

P SB411 Task Force on Transparency in Publicly Funded Animal Testing Facilities; report. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a Task Force on Transparency in Publicly Funded Animal Testing Facilities, consisting of legislators and stakeholders, for the purpose of identifying potential deficiencies in publicly funded animal testing facilities in the Commonwealth and recommending methods and context for making certain informa-

tion about such animal testing facilities publicly available. The bill requires the Task Force to report its findings to certain committees of the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 580.

Patron - Boysko

P SB412 Rabies clinics; animal vaccination and microchip services. Allows rabies clinics approved by local health departments and governing bodies to offer microchipping and additional animal health vaccines at the discretion of the licensed veterinarian or veterinarians participating in the clinic. The bill requires any licensed veterinarian who administers animal health vaccinations at the clinic to provide the owner or custodian of an animal a vaccination record for each vaccinated animal and ensure that a licensed veterinary establishment retains a copy of each vaccination record. The bill allows licensed veterinary technicians to administer animal health vaccines at a rabies clinic under the immediate and direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian on the premises unless otherwise provided by regulations. The bill requires local health departments to submit a report to the Department of Health no later than December 31 of each year that includes (i) the number and location of rabies clinics approved and (ii) the number and type of vaccinations administered, the number of microchips administered, and the number of veterinarians and veterinary technicians in attendance at each clinic to determine the type of service utilized.

Patron - Boysko

#### Failed

F HB221 Free-Roaming Cat Management Plan; regulations. Directs the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services to promulgate regulations establishing minimum requirements for a Free-Roaming Cat Management Plan and establish a model plan for localities to reduce and control the population of free-roaming cats and the abandonment of cats for the purpose of reducing the negative impacts of free-roaming cats on public health, wildlife, and the cat population. The bill permits a locality to adopt such plan created by the Board and include in such plan any ordinances related to cats that are currently in effect. The bill directs the Board, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to promulgate such regulations no later than July 31, 2025.

Patron - Orrock

F HB297 Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Fund; Tobacco Region Revolving Fund; eligible localities; Planning District 4. Adds Planning District 4 (New River Valley Region) to a group of localities that is eligible to receive funds from the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Fund and the Virginia Tobacco Region Revolving Fund.

Patron - Ballard

HB681 Home-produced or small farm-produced food products. Allows the sale of food products made from any fruit, grain, herbs, honey, meat, milk, mushrooms, nuts, poultry, seafood, or vegetables by a farm employing 10 or fewer people or by a private home, so long as (i) the sale is made directly to consumers and (ii) the product is labeled with the producer's name and address, the product's ingredients, and a disclosure statement indicating that the product is not subject to Virginia's food safety laws or regulations.

Patron - Leftwich

F HB1382 Meat; misbranding.

Patron - Garrett

# F HB1485 Industrial hemp; maximum THC

concentration. Increases from 0.6 percent to one percent, in the definition of industrial hemp, the maximum allowable concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in the plant Cannabis sativa. The bill allows the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to destroy Cannabis sativa found to have a THC concentration greater than one percent only if such Cannabis sativa is intended for human consumption; reduces the application and registration requirements for any person seeking to grow, deal in, or process industrial hemp; and prohibits the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Commissioner from adopting any regulation that prohibits the use of industrial hemp or hemp products in the production of any commercial feed product regulated by the Board.

Patron - Freitas

# F **SB266** Animal control officers; additional training. Increases the number of hours of required additional

**training.** Increases the number of hours of required additional training in animal control and protection from 15 to 24 every three years for all animal control officers and deputy animal control officers employed by a locality.

Patron - DeSteph

#### Carried Over

# C HB9 Animal control officers; additional training. Increases the number of hours of required additional train-

ing. Increases the number of hours of required additional training in animal control and protection from 15 to 24 every three years for all animal control officers and deputy animal control officers employed by a locality.

Patron - Ennis

# C HB206 Pet shops; notice of deceased animals; report. Requires pet shops to annually submit a summary of

records indicating any time a dog or cat in their possession dies or is euthanized to the State Veterinarian in a format prescribed by him.

Patron - Simonds

C HB1434 Land grant; Sandy Point; Mattaponi Indian Tribe. Authorizes the Department of Forestry to grant and convey tracts of land within Sandy Point State Forest in King William County south of and including Brooks Creek to the Mattaponi Indian Tribe. The bill also authorizes the Department to grant and convey other tracts of land within Sandy Point State Forest as the Department deems suitable, provided that prior to such conveyance, the Department may enter into discussions with the Tribe, localities, and relevant stakeholders to determine how such tracts of land may be used for the benefit of the public.

Patron - Hodges

C SB31 Companion Animal Surgical Sterilization Program and Fund established. Establishes the Companion Animal Surgical Sterilization Program and Fund to reimburse participating veterinarians for the surgical sterilizations they perform on eligible cats or dogs. The bill provides that a surcharge of \$50 per ton of pet food distributed in the Commonwealth be deposited in the Fund and such pet food be exempted from the existing litter tax. An animal will be eligible for sterilization under the Program if it is a feral or free-roaming cat or is owned by a low-income individual or a releasing agency such as an animal shelter.

Patron - Stanley

# Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control

#### Passed

P HB522 Alcoholic beverage control; advertisements. Directs the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to promulgate regulations that prescribe the terms and conditions under which manufacturers, brokers, importers, and wholesalers may advertise and promote alcoholic beverages via the Internet, social media, direct-to-consumer electronic communication, or other electronic means. This bill is identical to SB 182.

Patron - Krizek

HB688 Alcoholic beverage control; sale and delivery of mixed beverages and pre-mixed wine for offpremises consumption; third-party delivery license; sunset; repeal. Repeals the July 1, 2024, sunset on provisions that allow (i) distillers that have been appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, mixed beverage restaurant licensees, and limited mixed beverage restaurant licensees to sell mixed beverages for off-premises consumption and (ii) farm winery licensees to sell pre-mixed wine for off-premises consumption. The bill also repeals, effective July 1, 2026, third-party delivery licenses. The bill requires the Authority to convene a work group to review third-party delivery licenses and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 15, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 635.

Patron - Leftwich

P HB698 Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2024, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 448. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Krizek

P HB815 Medical cannabis program; product expiration; confidentiality; penalty. Increases from six months to 12 months the maximum expiration date allowable for a cannabis product after registration absent stability testing. The bill allows pharmaceutical processors to employ as pharmacy technician trainees individuals who have less than one year of experience and allows pharmaceutical processors to employ persons with less than one year of experience to perform certain other supervised duties for which current law requires two years of experience. The bill also provides for the confidentiality of certain records and other information of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority, including the exemption of certain information from the mandatory disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Patron - Cherry

P HB1349 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses; on-and-off premises wine and beer licenses. Defines performing arts facility and sports facility and standardizes the eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses

and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing arts food concessionaires. Under current law, the eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements. The bill also removes provisions that allow the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant annual mixed beverage motor sports facility licenses and motor car sporting event facility licenses and creates an annual mixed beverage sports facility license, which may be granted to persons operating a sports facility or food concessions at a sports facility and would authorize the licensee to sell mixed beverages during any event and immediately subsequent thereto to patrons within all seating areas, concourses, walkways, concession areas, and additional locations designated by the Board (i) in closed containers for off-premises consumption or (ii) in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers or in single original metal cans for on-premises consumption. This bill is identical to SB 180, SB 400, SB 657, and SB 724.

Patron - Krizek

P SB26 Alcoholic beverage control; public consumption; exemption. Provides that the prohibition on drinking or offering to another an alcoholic beverage in public shall not apply when such acts are conducted on the premises of a campground located on private property at which a majority of the campers use travel or tent trailers, pickup campers, or motor homes or similar recreational vehicles.

Patron - Stanley

P SB180 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses; on-andoff premises wine and beer licenses. Defines performing arts facility and sports facility and standardizes the eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing arts food concessionaires. Under current law, the eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements. The bill also removes provisions that allow the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant annual mixed beverage motor sports facility licenses and motor car sporting event facility licenses and creates an annual mixed beverage sports facility license, which may be granted to persons operating a sports facility or food concessions at a sports facility and would authorize the licensee to sell mixed beverages during any event and immediately subsequent thereto to patrons within all seating areas, concourses, walkways, concession areas, and additional locations designated by the Board (i) in closed containers for off-premises consumption or (ii) in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers or in single original metal cans for on-premises consumption. This bill is identical to HB 1349, SB 400, SB 657, and SB 724.

Patron - DeSteph

P SB182 Alcoholic beverage control; advertisements. Directs the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to promulgate regulations that prescribe the terms and conditions under which manufacturers, brokers, importers, and wholesalers may advertise and promote alcoholic beverages via the Internet, social media, direct-to-consumer electronic communication, or other electronic means. This bill is identical to HB 522.

Patron - Rouse

P SB400 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses; on-and-off premises wine and beer licenses. Defines performing arts facility and sports facility and standardizes the eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing

arts food concessionaires. Under current law, the eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements. The bill also removes provisions that allow the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant annual mixed beverage motor sports facility licenses and motor car sporting event facility licenses and creates an annual mixed beverage sports facility license, which may be granted to persons operating a sports facility or food concessions at a sports facility and would authorize the licensee to sell mixed beverages during any event and immediately subsequent thereto to patrons within all seating areas, concourses, walkways, concession areas, and additional locations designated by the Board (i) in closed containers for off-premises consumption or (ii) in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers or in single original metal cans for on-premises consumption. This bill is identical to HB 1349, SB 180, SB 657, and SB 724.

Patron - Deeds

P SB448 Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2024, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 698. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Rouse

P SB635 Alcoholic beverage control; sale and delivery of mixed beverages and pre-mixed wine for offpremises consumption; third-party delivery license; sunset; repeal. Repeals the July 1, 2024, sunset on provisions that allow (i) distillers that have been appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, mixed beverage restaurant licensees, and limited mixed beverage restaurant licensees to sell mixed beverages for off-premises consumption and (ii) farm winery licensees to sell pre-mixed wine for off-premises consumption. The bill also repeals, effective July 1, 2026, third-party delivery licenses. The bill requires the Authority to convene a work group to review third-party delivery licenses and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 15, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 688.

Patron - Rouse

P SB657 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses; on-andoff premises wine and beer licenses. Defines performing arts facility and sports facility and standardizes the eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing arts food concessionaires. Under current law, the eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements. The bill also removes provisions that allow the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant annual mixed beverage motor sports facility licenses and motor car sporting event facility licenses and creates an annual mixed beverage sports facility license, which may be granted to persons operating a sports facility or food concessions at a sports facility and would authorize the licensee to sell mixed beverages during any event and immediately subsequent thereto to patrons within all seating areas, concourses, walkways, concession areas, and additional locations designated by the Board (i) in closed containers for off-premises consumption or (ii) in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers or in single original metal cans for on-premises consumption. This bill is identical to HB 1349, SB 180, SB 400, and SB 724.

Patron - Reeves

P SB658 Alcoholic beverage control; summary suspension; timeline. Provides that when special agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority are conducting an initial investigation for purposes of summary suspension and the 48-hour time limit for such initial investigation expires on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the special agents may submit their findings from such initial investigation any time prior to the close of business on the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Patron - Reeves

P SB724 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses; on-andoff premises wine and beer licenses. Defines performing arts facility and sports facility and standardizes the eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing arts food concessionaires. Under current law, the eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements. The bill also removes provisions that allow the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant annual mixed beverage motor sports facility licenses and motor car sporting event facility licenses and creates an annual mixed beverage sports facility license, which may be granted to persons operating a sports facility or food concessions at a sports facility and would authorize the licensee to sell mixed beverages during any event and immediately subsequent thereto to patrons within all seating areas, concourses, walkways, concession areas, and additional locations designated by the Board (i) in closed containers for off-premises consumption or (ii) in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers or in single original metal cans for on-premises consumption. This bill is identical to HB 1349, SB 180, SB 400, and SB 657.

Patron - Stanley

## Failed

F HB101 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses. Allows the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to issue annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses to persons operating food concessions at any performing arts amphitheater, arena, or similar facility that has a total capacity in excess of 3,000 patrons and is located in the City of Virginia Beach.

Patron - Tata

F HB307 Alcoholic beverage control; exemptions from licensure; manufacture of spirits at personal residence for domestic consumption. Exempts from the licensure requirements of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act any person who, after being granted a permit by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to keep, store, or possess any still or distilling apparatus for the purpose of distilling alcohol, manufactures at his residence for domestic consumption spirits in an amount not to exceed (i) 100 gallons per year if there are two or more persons 21 years of age or older residing in the residence or (ii) 50 gallons per year if there is only one person 21 years of age or older residing in the residence.

Patron - Ballard

F HB559 Alcoholic beverage control; mixed beverage performing arts facility license; Pulaski County.

Amends certain provisions related to the granting of a mixed beverage performing arts facility license by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to allow certain facilities in Pulaski County to be eligible for such license.

Patron - Ballard

F HB773 Marijuana; criminal penalties. Modifies several criminal penalties related to marijuana, imposes limits on dissemination of criminal history record information related to certain marijuana offenses, and provides a petition process for any person who has been sentenced to jail or to the custody of the Department of Corrections for a marijuana offense to seek a resentencing hearing. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Herring

F HB1050 Alcoholic beverage control; confectionery mixed beverage retail license. Creates a confectionery mixed beverage retail license that authorizes the licensee to prepare and sell on the licensed premises for on-and-off premises consumption confectionery that contains five percent or less alcohol by volume. The bill provides that any alcohol contained in such confectionery shall not be in liquid form at the time of sale, unless such confectionery is a frozen dessert, as defined in the bill. The bill also sets the state and local license fee for such confectionery license and repeals the provisions of alcoholic beverage control law that created an off-premises wine and beer confectionery license.

Patron - Batten

F HB1117 Alcoholic beverage control; mixed beverage performing arts facility license; Cities of Norfolk and Richmond; minimum patron capacity. Reduces from 1,400 to 400 the minimum patron capacity a performing arts facility in the City of Norfolk or Richmond is required to have as one of the conditions for being granted a mixed beverage license by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

Patron - Carr

HB1118 Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses. Allows the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to issue annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses to persons operating food concessions at any (i) performing arts facility located in the City of Charlottesville, provided that the performing arts facility (a) is occupied under a bona fide long-term lease or concession agreement, the original term of which was more than five years; (b) has a total capacity in excess of 550 patrons; and (c) has been rehabilitated in accordance with historic preservation standards; (ii) outdoor performing arts amphitheater, arena, or similar facility that has seating for more than 5,000 persons and is located in the City of Richmond; or (iii) outdoor performing arts amphitheater, arena, or similar facility that has seating for more than 2,500 persons and is located in the City of Charlottesville.

Patron - Carr

# F HB1298 Retail licenses.

Patron - Williams

F SB168 Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio. Reduces the current 45 percent food-to-beverage ratio for certain mixed beverage licensees. The bill requires that a mixed beverage restaurant, caterer's, or limited caterer's licensee meet or exceed the following: (i) for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$4,000 but less than \$10,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall be 35 percent and (ii)

for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$10,000, there shall be no food-to-beverage ratio requirement imposed.

Patron - Reeves

F SB317 Alcoholic beverage control; farm winery licenses; requirements and privileges. Exempts from certain requirements imposed on farm winery licensees by prior legislation persons that hold a farm winery license that was granted on or before July 1, 2020, and has continuously remained valid and active subsequent to its issuance if requested by such licensee. Such requirements relate to the characteristics of and tasks to be performed on the licensed premises, license qualifications, manufacturing and sale requirements and limitations, and utilization of contract winemaking services.

Patron - Stuart

F SB416 Alcoholic beverage control; tied house exception. Allows a manufacturer, bottler, broker, importer, or wholesaler to sponsor or provide support, including equipment, staff, financial, and other support, for a special event for which a nonprofit organization has been issued a banquet license and partners with a governmental entity that holds a mixed beverage caterer's license, provided that the mixed beverage caterer's license held by the governmental entity is not used in coordination with such special event.

Patron - Head

F SB423 Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on July 1, 2025; however, the bill allows certain pharmaceutical processors to begin operations on July 1, 2024, and allows a limited number of other licensees to begin operations on January 1, 2025.

Patron - Ebbin

# Aviation

### **Passed**

P HB446 Abandoned or derelict aircraft. Provides that an airport has a lien on an abandoned or derelict aircraft, defined in the bill, on its property for all fees and charges for the use of the airport by such aircraft and for all fees and charges incurred by the airport for the transportation, storage, and removal of the aircraft. The bill authorizes an airport operator or his designee to retain, trade, sell, or dispose of an abandoned or derelict aircraft on the property of such airport. The bill provides for notice requirements prior to any such transfer of ownership interest in the aircraft. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Williams

# Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

# Passed

P HB125 Special justices and independent evaluator fees; emergency custody and voluntary and involuntary

civil admissions. Increases the fee that a special justice receives for presiding over emergency custody and voluntary and involuntary civil admissions from \$86.25 to \$120 for each commitment hearing and from \$43.25 to \$70 for each certification hearing. The bill also increases the fee that an independent evaluator receives if required to serve as a witness or an interpreter from \$75 to \$120 for each commitment hearing and from \$43.25 to \$70 for each certification hearing. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Watts

P HB313 Office of the State Inspector General; investigations of abuse or neglect at state psychiatric hospitals; report. Directs the Office of the State Inspector General to (i) develop a plan to fulfill its statutory obligation to fully investigate all complaints it receives alleging abuse, neglect, or inadequate care at a state psychiatric hospital and (ii) submit such plan to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024. The bill also requires the Office to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on or before November 1 of each year regarding the number of such complaints received and the number of complaints that were fully investigated by the Office.

Patron - Hope

P HB314 State hospitals; discharge planning; report. Provides that (i) when an individual is to be discharged from Central State Hospital, Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute, or Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute in 30 days or less after admission, the appropriate community services board shall implement the discharge plan developed by the state facility and (ii) when an individual is to be discharged from any other state facility in 30 days or less after admission, or from a state hospital more than 30 days after admission, the appropriate community services board or behavioral health authority shall be responsible for the individual's discharge planning. Under current law, community services boards and behavioral health authorities provide discharge planning for all individuals discharged from state hospitals, regardless of the duration of their stay. The bill requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to make certain annual reports by August 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly and to provide the General Assembly with a one-time evaluation of the impacts of the changes to discharge planning implemented by the bill by November 1, 2025. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 179. Patron - Hope

P HB327 Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; inclusive housing plan; individuals with disabilities. Directs the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Commissioner) to work with stakeholders to develop a plan to ensure that people with disabilities across the Commonwealth, including individuals affected by the Settlement Agreement entered into on August 23, 2012, pursuant to U.S. of America v. Commonwealth of Virginia, have an opportunity to access affordable and inclusive housing, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commissioner to present the plan to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025. Patron - Feggans

P HB434 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; facilities licensed to provide inpatient substance use disorder treatment; valid discharge plans. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Development

opmental Services to amend its regulations to require that any facility licensed by the Department to provide inpatient substance use disorder treatment be required to prepare and record a valid discharge plan upon the discharge or withdrawal of any individual from the facility who has received substance use disorder treatment while admitted to such facility. The bill requires such discharge plan to include the provision of funds withheld from the individual's prior payments to the facility to assist the individual in the execution of such discharge plan. The bill requires the regulations to provide that failure by a facility to prepare and record valid discharge plans may result in civil penalties, license suspension, or license revocation. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Arnold

P HB515 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; discharge pilot program; report. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop and implement a pilot program relating to the discharge of individuals at one state hospital. The bill requires the Department to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Behavioral Health Commission no later than November 1, 2025.

Patron - Hope

P HB806 Department of Human Resource Management; employee designation and payment policies; nursing staff at state psychiatric hospitals. Directs the Department of Human Resource Management to amend its policies to authorize the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and state psychiatric hospitals to designate as full-time employees nursing staff and psychiatric technicians who work at least 36 hours per week to permit state hospitals to use 12-hour shifts for such staff. The bill prohibits the Department from requiring reductions in pay or other benefits for such employees based solely on the fact that the employee works 36 hours per week. The bill also directs the Department to examine whether the policy change should be extended to comparable direct care positions in other executive branch agencies to improve recruitment and retention. As introduced, this bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission and is identical to SB 177.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB823 Temporary detention order; alternative transportation. Provides that when a magistrate is determining whether an alternative transportation provider is available for the purposes of designating a transportation provider for the transportation of a person who is the subject of a temporary detention order, an alternative transportation provider shall be deemed available if the provider states that it is available to take custody of the person from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider.

The bill also provides that if (i) no alternative transportation provider is available to provide transportation, willing to provide transportation, and able to provide transportation in a safe manner or (ii) the law-enforcement agency elects to provide transportation, the magistrate shall designate the primary law-enforcement agency and jurisdiction designated to execute the temporary detention order to provide transportation of the person. This bill is identical to SB 497.

Patron - Cherry

P HB861 Weapons; possession or transportation; hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor

for any person to knowingly possess in or transport into the building of any hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, any (i) firearm or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile or projectile of any kind; (ii) knife, except a pocket knife having a folding metal blade of less than three inches; or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including explosives and stun weapons. The bill also provides that notice of such prohibitions shall be posted conspicuously at the public entrance of any hospital and no person shall be convicted of the offense if such notice is not posted, unless such person had actual notice of the prohibitions. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies exceptions to the prohibition. This bill is identical to SB 515. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hernandez

P HB888 Civil commitments and temporary detention orders; definition of mental illness; neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities; Secretary of Health and Human Resources to evaluate placements for certain individuals; report. Specifies that for the purpose of civil commitments and temporary detention orders, behaviors and symptoms that manifest from a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability are excluded from the definition of mental illness and are, therefore, not a basis for placing an individual under a temporary detention order or committing an individual involuntarily to an inpatient psychiatric hospital. The bill provides that if a state facility has reason to believe that an individual's behaviors or symptoms are solely a manifestation of a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability, the state facility may require that a licensed psychiatrist or other licensed mental health professional reevaluate the individual's eligibility for a temporary detention order before the individual is admitted and shall promptly authorize the release of an individual held under a temporary detention order if the licensed psychiatrist or other licensed mental health professional determines the individual's behaviors or symptoms are solely a manifestation of a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability. The foregoing provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to evaluate, identify, and develop placements for individuals with neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities, as well as any statutory or funding changes needed to prevent inappropriate placements for such individuals, and to report his findings and recommendations by November 1, 2024. As introduced, this bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to SB 176.

Patron - Watts

**HB1242** Emergency custody and temporary detention orders; evaluations; presence of others. Requires (i) the evaluator conducting the evaluation of an individual to determine whether such individual meets the criteria for temporary detention or (ii) the hospital emergency department and treating physician or other health care provider designated by the physician, when providing services to an individual who is being evaluated to determine whether the individual meets the criteria for temporary detention, to allow the individual's family member or legal guardian who is present and who may provide support and supportive decision making to be present with the individual unless the individual objects or the evaluator or treating physician determines that their presence would create

a medical, clinical, or safety risk to the patient or health care provider or interferes with patient care. This bill is identical to SB 546.

Patron - Willett

P HB1269 Barrier crimes; adult substance abuse and mental health services; exception. Permits the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, providers of substance abuse or mental health services to adults, and community services boards and behavioral health authorities to hire applicants convicted of certain barrier crimes of misdemeanor assault and battery or involving controlled substances provided that such conviction occurred more than four years prior to the application date for employment. This bill is identical to SB 626.

Patron - Price

P SB19 Recovery residences; death and serious injury reports. Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to promulgate regulations that require recovery residences to report to the Department any death or serious injury that occurs in the recovery residence. This bill incorporates SB 190.

Patron - Favola

SB34 Temporary detention; certified evaluators; report. Authorizes hospitals with a psychiatric emergency department located in the City of Hampton to employ certain trained individuals to perform evaluations to determine whether a person meets the criteria for temporary detention for behavioral health treatment. The bill requires participating hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments in the City of Hampton to annually report the length of time between when a person who is the subject of an emergency custody order arrives at the psychiatric emergency department of a participating hospital and when the temporary detention order evaluation is completed and (ii) the number of (a) admissions, (b) psychiatric emergency department visits, (c) temporary detention order evaluations completed, (d) temporary detention orders executed, (e) individuals under temporary detention admitted to the participating hospital, and (f) individuals transferred from the psychiatric emergency department of the participating hospital to a state facility to the Senate Committee on Education and Health, the House Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Behavioral Health Commission. The bill requires participating hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments in the City of Hampton to report monthly to the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services the number of (a) crisis evaluations conducted each month; (b) temporary detention orders executed as a result of such evaluations and the percentage of evaluations such temporary detention orders represent; (c) reportable events associated with such temporary detention orders and the percentage of temporary detention orders that such reportable events represent; (d) certain reportable events; and (e) other events. The bill requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to submit by October 1, 2026, to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Health and Human Services an evaluation of the overall effectiveness of certified evaluators conducting temporary detention order evaluations pursuant to the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Locke

P SB176 Civil commitments and temporary detention orders; definition of mental illness; neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities; Secretary of Health and Human Resources to evaluate placements for certain individuals; report. Specifies that for

the purpose of civil commitments and temporary detention orders, behaviors and symptoms that manifest from a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability are excluded from the definition of mental illness and are, therefore, not a basis for placing an individual under a temporary detention order or committing an individual involuntarily to an inpatient psychiatric hospital. The bill provides that if a state facility has reason to believe that an individual's behaviors or symptoms are solely a manifestation of a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability, the state facility may require that a licensed psychiatrist or other licensed mental health professional reevaluate the individual's eligibility for a temporary detention order before the individual is admitted and shall promptly authorize the release of an individual held under a temporary detention order if the licensed psychiatrist or other licensed mental health professional determines the individual's behaviors or symptoms are solely a manifestation of a neurocognitive disorder or neurodevelopmental disability. The foregoing provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to evaluate, identify, and develop placements for individuals with neurocognitive disorders and neurodevelopmental disabilities, as well as any statutory or funding changes needed to prevent inappropriate placements for such individuals, and to report his findings and recommendations by November 1, 2024. As introduced, this bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to HB 888.

Patron - Favola

P SB177 Department of Human Resource Management; employee designation and payment policies; nursing staff at state psychiatric hospitals. Directs the Department of Human Resource Management to amend its policies to authorize the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and state psychiatric hospitals to designate as full-time employees nursing staff and psychiatric technicians who work at least 36 hours per week to permit state hospitals to use 12-hour shifts for such staff. The bill prohibits the Department from requiring reductions in pay or other benefits for such employees based solely on the fact that the employee works 36 hours per week. The bill also directs the Department to examine whether the policy change should be extended to comparable direct care positions in other executive branch agencies to improve recruitment and retention. As introduced, this bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission and is identical to HB 806.

Patron - Favola

P SB178 Office of the State Inspector General; investigations of abuse or neglect at state psychiatric hospitals; report. Directs the Office of the State Inspector General to (i) develop a plan to fulfill its statutory obligation to fully investigate all complaints it receives alleging abuse, neglect, or inadequate care at a state psychiatric hospital and (ii) submit such plan to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024. The bill also requires the Office to submit an annual report to the General Assembly on or before December 1 of each year regarding the number of such complaints received and the number of complaints that were fully investigated by the Office.

Patron - Favola

P **SB179** State hospitals; discharge planning; report. Provides that (i) when an individual is to be discharged from Central State Hospital, Southwestern Virginia Mental

Health Institute, or Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute in 30 days or less after admission, the appropriate community services board shall implement the discharge plan developed by the state facility and (ii) when an individual is to be discharged from any other state facility in 30 days or less after admission, or from a state hospital more than 30 days after admission, the appropriate community services board or behavioral health authority shall be responsible for the individual's discharge planning. Under current law, community services boards and behavioral health authorities provide discharge planning for all individuals discharged from state hospitals, regardless of the duration of their stay. The bill requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to make certain annual reports by August 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly and to provide the General Assembly with a one-time evaluation of the impacts of the changes to discharge planning implemented by the bill by November 1, 2025. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 314.

Patron - Favola

**SB497** Temporary detention order: alternative **transportation.** Provides that when a magistrate is determining whether an alternative transportation provider is available for the purposes of designating a transportation provider for the transportation of a person who is the subject of a temporary detention order, an alternative transportation provider shall be deemed available if the provider states that it is available to take custody of the person from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider. The bill also provides that if (i) no alternative transportation provider is available to provide transportation, willing to provide transportation, and able to provide transportation in a safe manner or (ii) the lawenforcement agency elects to provide transportation, the magistrate shall designate the primary law-enforcement agency and jurisdiction designated to execute the temporary detention order to provide transportation of the person. This bill is identical to HB 823.

Patron - Carroll Foy

**P SB515** Weapons; possession or transportation; hospital that provides mental health services or develop**mental services; penalty.** Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to knowingly possess in or transport into the building of any hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, any (i) firearm or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile or projectile of any kind; (ii) knife, except a pocket knife having a folding metal blade of less than three inches; or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including explosives and stun weapons. The bill also provides that notice of such prohibitions shall be posted conspicuously at the public entrance of any hospital and no person shall be convicted of the offense if such notice is not posted, unless such person had actual notice of the prohibitions. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies exceptions to the prohibition. This bill is identical to HB 861. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Williams Graves

P SB546 Emergency custody and temporary detention orders; evaluations; presence of others. Requires (i) the evaluator conducting the evaluation of an individual to determine whether such individual meets the criteria for temporary detention or (ii) the hospital emergency department and treating physician or other health care provider designated by

the physician, when providing services to an individual who is being evaluated to determine whether the individual meets the criteria for temporary detention, to allow the individual's family member or legal guardian who is present and who may provide support and supportive decision making to be present with the individual unless the individual objects or the evaluator or treating physician determines that their presence would create a medical, clinical, or safety risk to the patient or health care provider or interferes with patient care. This bill is identical to HB 1242.

Patron - Bagby

P SB569 State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; regulations; crisis receiving centers; appropriate and safe use of seclusion; work group; report. Directs the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend its regulations to ensure that its licensing and human rights regulations support high-quality crisis services, including by authorizing the appropriate and safe use of seclusion in crisis receiving centers and crisis stabilization units. The bill exempts the Board's initial adoption of such regulations from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act. The bill also directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene a work group to propose additional regulations to allow for the use of (i) evidence-based and recovery-oriented seclusion and restraint practices and (ii) alternative behavior management practices that may limit or replace the use of seclusion and restraint in hospitals, residential programs, and licensed facilities. The bill requires the Department to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed regulations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2025. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Deeds

P SB574 Behavioral Health Commission; behavioral health and crisis response services; civil admissions laws and processes; work group; report. Directs the Behavioral Health Commission to convene a work group to study how to effectively align current civil admissions laws and processes with new behavioral health and crisis response services and resources in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Behavioral Health Commission to make recommendations for any statutory, regulatory, licensing, training, and reimbursement changes related to Virginia's current civil admissions process and to report such recommendations by July 1, 2025. Patron - Deeds

P SB603 Department of Criminal Justice Services; priority treatment for incarcerated women who are pregnant and in need of substance abuse treatment; work group; report. Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Health, to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study and make recommendations related to prioritizing treatment for incarcerated women who are pregnant and in need of substance abuse treatment. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024.

Patron - McGuire

P SB626 Barrier crimes; adult substance abuse and mental health services; exception. Permits the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, providers of substance abuse or mental health services to adults, and community services boards and behavioral health authorities to hire applicants convicted of certain barrier crimes of

misdemeanor assault and battery or involving controlled substances provided that such conviction occurred more than four years prior to the application date for employment. This bill is identical to HB 1269.

Patron - Pillion

#### **Failed**

F HB23 Weapons; possession or transportation; facility that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to possess in or transport into any facility that provides mental health services or developmental services in the Commonwealth, including a hospital or an emergency department or other facility rendering emergency medical care, any (i) firearm or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile or projectile of any kind; (ii) knife, except a pocket knife having a folding metal blade of less than three inches; or (iii) other dangerous weapon, including explosives and stun weapons. The bill provides that any such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon is subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and specifies exceptions to the prohibition.

Patron - Laufer

F HB50 Central State Hospital; psychiatric bed allocation. Directs Central State Hospital to designate additional beds as forensic and psychiatric beds. *Patron - Jones* 

F HB504 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; licensed professionals; licensed behavior analysts; definition. Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend in its regulations the definition of "licensed professional" to include licensed behavior analysts.

Patron - Cohen

HB608 Temporary detention; certified evaluators; report. Authorizes hospitals with a psychiatric emergency department to employ certain trained individuals to perform evaluations to determine whether a person meets the criteria for temporary detention for behavioral health treatment. The bill defines psychiatric emergency department as an emergency department of a hospital licensed by the Department of Health that is physically attached to a hospital with adult and adolescent inpatient psychiatric beds and adult detoxification beds licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. The bill requires participating hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments to annually report the number of temporary detention order evaluations completed, the number of temporary detention orders petitioned, the number of individuals evaluated for temporary detention who were determined to not meet the criteria for temporary detention, and the number of individuals under a temporary detention order admitted to a state facility to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health, the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions, and the Behavioral Health Commission. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Price

F HB808 State psychiatric hospitals; temporary detention orders; delayed admission to determine medical needs. Allows state psychiatric hospitals to delay admission of an individual under a temporary detention order until the state psychiatric hospital has determined that the individual does not have potentially life-threatening medical needs that require immediate evaluation and treatment that the state psychiatric hospital is incapable of providing. This bill is a recommenda-

tion of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission.

Patron - Rasoul

HB822 Emergency custody; transportation; transfer of custody. Provides that, in cases in which transportation of a person subject to an emergency custody order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and that the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as custody of the person is transferred to the community services board or its designee that is responsible for conducting the evaluation or the temporary detention facility, as is appropriate. The bill adds employees of and persons providing services pursuant to a contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to the list of individuals who may serve as alternative transportation providers for emergency custody orders. Additionally, the bill allows for the transfer of custody to the temporary detention facility if the magistrate issuing the emergency custody order determines that the person subject to the order is not at risk to seriously harm others in the near future without any additional conditions being met.

Patron - Cherry

F HB829 Special justice fees; emergency custody and voluntary and involuntary civil admissions. Increases the fee that a special justice receives for presiding over emergency custody and voluntary and involuntary civil admissions hearings from \$86.25 to \$143.75 for each commitment hearing and from \$43.25 to \$70 for each certification hearing.

Patron - Williams

HB885 Community services boards; core of services. Adds to the list of the core services to be provided by community services boards (i) crisis services for individuals with a mental illness or substance use disorder, (ii) outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, (iii) psychiatric rehabilitation services, (iv) peer support and family support services, (v) mental health services for members of the armed forces located 50 miles or more from a military treatment facility and veterans located 40 miles or more from a Veterans Health Administration medical facility, and (vi) care coordination services. The bill removes language that conditions the duty of community services boards to provide case management services on the availability of funding. The bill further requires community services boards to provide any such services (a) to every adult who has a serious mental illness, child who has or is at risk of serious emotional disturbance, and individual who has a substance use disorder and (b) in a timely manner and at a location that is near the individual. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, for most provisions.

Patron - Watts

F HB1065 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; community services boards; quarterly stakeholder meetings. Provides that every community services board shall conduct stakeholder meetings at least four time per year to discuss challenges, identify opportunities for improvement, and collaboratively work towards effective solutions. The bill requires each community services board to submit an annual report of such meetings to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and authorizes the Director of the Department to provide guidance and recom-

mendations to such boards and to revise funding in response to such reports.

Patron - Hodges

SB149 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to (i) eliminate the requirement that, in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else is available to provide services to the member; (ii) modify the program rules to allow for respite services when the legally responsible individual is the unpaid caregiver; and (iii) modify the program rules to allow a legally responsible individual or stepparent to be the employer of record. This bill was incorporated into SB 488.

Patron - Suetterlein

SB190 Recovery residences; certification requirements; death and serious injury reports; work group; report. Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to promulgate regulations that require recovery residences to (i) comply with uniform health and safety requirements established by the Department and published on its website and (ii) report to the Department, in the same manner as licensed facilities and programs, any death or serious injury that occurs in the recovery residence. The bill requires the Department to maintain on its website the certification standards of the credentialing entity for each recovery residence. The bill also requires the Department to convene a work group to (a) analyze and make recommendations regarding the creation of a process through which the Department can provide oversight of all recovery residences in the Commonwealth, (b) make recommendations to ensure transparency with the public and residents or potential residents of recovery residences regarding the certification of each recovery residence, and (c) report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Subramanyam

F SB653 State psychiatric hospitals; temporary detention orders; delayed admission to determine medical needs. Allows state psychiatric hospitals to delay admission of an individual under a temporary detention order until the state psychiatric hospital has determined that the individual does not have potentially life-threatening medical needs that require immediate evaluation and treatment that the state psychiatric hospital is incapable of providing. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Behavioral Health Commission.

Patron - Durant

# **Carried Over**

C SB590 Community services boards; core of services. Adds to the list of the core services to be provided by community services boards (i) crisis services for individuals with a mental illness or substance use disorder, (ii) outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, (iii) psychiatric rehabilitation services, (iv) peer support and family support services, (v) mental health services for members of the armed forces located 50 miles or more from a military treatment facility and veterans located 40 miles or more from a Veterans Health Administration medical facility, and (vi) care coordination services. The bill removes language that conditions the

duty of community services boards to provide case management services on the availability of funding. The bill further requires community services boards to provide any such services (a) to every adult who has a serious mental illness, child who has or is at risk of serious emotional disturbance, and individual who has a substance use disorder and (b) in a timely manner and at a location that is near the individual. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, for most provisions. *Patron - Deeds* 

# **Civil Remedies and Procedure**

#### **Passed**

P HB34 Contract actions; medical debt. Provides that in any action, including those brought by the Commonwealth, upon any contract to collect medical debt, as defined in the bill, such an action is barred if not commenced within three years from the due date applicable to the first invoice for a health care service unless the contract with a hospital or health care provider is for a payment plan that allows for a longer period of time for the collection of debt by the hospital or health care provider. The bill specifies that such limitation shall not apply to medical debt arising from services provided by programs administered by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Clark

P HB73 Unlawful detainer; expungement; entering of an order without further petition or hearing. Provides that in unlawful detainer actions filed in the general district court, if the 30-day period following the dismissal of such an action has passed or if a voluntary nonsuit is taken and the six-month period following such nonsuit has passed, the court shall, without further petition or hearing, enter an order requiring the expungement of such action, provided that no order of possession has been entered. The bill provides that if a judgment is entered in favor of the defendant, such defendant may petition the court for an expungement pursuant to the petition process under current law. Additionally, the bill retains the petition process existing under current law for unlawful detainer actions commenced prior to July 1, 2024, for which the court still has records.

Patron - Hope

P HB86 Summons for unlawful detainer; hearing date; amendments to amount due; subsequent filings. Specifies a process by which a plaintiff, plaintiff's attorney, or agent in an unlawful detainer action may amend the amount due to him in an unlawful detainer action. The bill further provides that if such an amendment is permitted the plaintiff shall not subsequently file additional warrants in debt against the defendant for additional amounts if those amounts could have been included in such amended amount. The bill provides that if the plaintiff requests all amounts due and owing as of the date of the hearing or if the court grants an amendment of the amounts requested, the plaintiff shall not subsequently file additional unlawful detainers or warrants in debt against the defendant for such additional amounts if those amounts could have been included in the amended amount.

Patron - Hope

P HB140 Adoption; award of damages; death by wrongful act. Provides that, in a case for death by wrongful act, the child of a decedent who has been adopted after the death of such decedent shall be included in the class of benefi-

ciaries entitled to an award of damages resulting from such case, provided that a court had not previously terminated the parental rights of such decedent. This bill is identical to SB 209.

Patron - Reid

P HB156 Exemptions from jury service upon request; age. Increases from 70 to 73 the age at which a person is exempt from jury service upon request. This bill is identical to SB 638.

Patron - Green

P HB171 Signing of pleadings, motions, and other papers; electronic signatures. Clarifies that an electronic signature or a digital image of a signature shall satisfy the requirement in current law that every pleading, motion, or other paper of a party be signed by at least one attorney of record. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P HB202 Optometrists; expert witness testimony. Allows an optometrist to testify as an expert witness in a court of law on certain matters within the scope of his practice. This bill is identical to SB 254.

Patron - Williams

HB264 Legal notices and publications; onlineonly news publications; requirements. Provides that, where any ordinance, resolution, notice, or advertisement is required by law to be published in a newspaper, such ordinance, resolution, notice, or advertisement instead may be published in an online-only news publication subject to certain requirements specified in the bill. The bill sets out a process by which an online-only news publication shall petition the circuit court of the appropriate jurisdiction to publish such ordinances, resolutions, notices, or advertisements and authorizes the court to grant such online-only news publication the authority to publish such ordinances, resolutions, notices, or advertisements for a period of one year. The bill also describes the process by which an online-only news publication may continue renewing such authority to publish in each successive year. This bill is identical to SB 157.

Patron - Hope

P HB315 Department of Medical Assistance Services; lien for claim of personal injuries. Creates a process by which a lien in favor of the Department of Medical Assistance Services on a claim for personal injuries may be satisfied upon the request of the injured person who received medical care or services to treat such personal injury. The bill provides that the Department is required within 60 days of receipt of the request of the injured person to provide such injured person or his personal representative with an itemized statement detailing all health care expenses paid for by a program of the Department and a sum specific demand for payment in full and final resolution of the Department's lien. Such request shall not be made by the injured person or his personal representative until all claims for health care expenses to be paid for by a program of the Department for an alleged injury on which the claim is based have been submitted to and processed for potential payment by the Department. The bill provides that if the Department fails to respond to such request, the injured party or his personal representative may submit to the Department an offer of payment for a sum certain in satisfaction of the lien, including an explanation of the reasons for such offer, and the Department may then, within 30 days, accept or reject such offer. The bill also clarifies that such process is not the exclusive means by which an injured person or his personal representative may request such itemized statement of health care

expenses. Under the bill, the Department shall report on a quarterly basis those offers of the payment for a sum certain in satisfaction of liens to which it does not respond to the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committee on Appropriations. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Simon

Patron - Simon

P HB418 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions. Provides that one or more members of a class may, as representative parties on behalf of all members, bring a civil action or may be proceeded against in a civil action, provided that (i) the class is so numerous that joinder of all members or proceeding with such actions on an individual basis is impracticable or contrary to judicial economy; (ii) there are questions of law or fact common to the class; (iii) the claims or defenses of the representative parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class; and (iv) the representative parties shall fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. The bill further sets out the procedure to certify a class action, the duties of counsel appointed in a class action, the various orders a court may issue during the course of a class action, and the process by which a settlement, voluntary dismissal, or compromise may occur. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to SB 259. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

P HB432 Making copy of jury panel available to counsel. Increases from three to five full business days before a trial the timeframe within which the clerk or sheriff or other officer responsible for notifying jurors to appear in court for the trial of a case must make available to all counsel of record a copy of the jury panel to be used for the trial of such case. Patron - Arnold

P HB640 Wrongful incarceration; compensation. Provides that any person who is convicted of a felony by a county or city circuit court of the Commonwealth and is wrongfully incarcerated for such felony shall receive, in addition to the compensation for wrongful incarceration specified under current law, not less than \$30,000 for each year or fraction thereof (i) of imprisonment after being sentenced to death or (ii) that such person was required to register with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. The bill further requires that the amount paid to the person wrongfully incarcerated shall be in the form of a lump sum; under current law, only the initial 25 percent of an award is required to be paid in lump sum form.

The bill further removes the bar against receiving compensation if such wrongfully incarcerated person received any funds pursuant to a settlement agreement with any person or entity for compensation or damages arising out of the factual situation in connection with the conviction. The bill replaces such requirement with a provision allowing for the wrongful incarceration compensation award to be offset by any such award in a civil action or settlement.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB641 Claims; David Wayne Kingrea; compensation for wrongful inclusion on sex offender registry. Grants relief in an amount to be appropriated to David Wayne Kingrea, who was wrongly convicted of taking indecent liberties with a minor and, as a result of such wrongful conviction, was required to register on the sex offender registry. Patron - Sullivan

P HB740 Unlawful detainer; bifurcation of case; contested rent and damages. Provides that, at an initial hearing on an unlawful detainer, if the defendant contests the

amount of rent and damages alleged to be due and owing to the plaintiff, the court shall not bifurcate the unlawful detainer case. Under current law, at the initial hearing, upon request of the plaintiff, the court is required to bifurcate the unlawful detainer case and set a continuance date no later than 120 days from the date of the initial hearing to determine final rent and damages. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Cousins* 

PHB779 Permissible venue; personal injury and wrongful death actions; appointment of administrator on behalf of estate of decedent. Provides that in a personal injury or wrongful death action in which an administrator is appointed on behalf of the estate of a decedent, permissible venue shall lie only in a county or city in which venue would have been properly laid if the person for whom such appointment is made had survived. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference and is identical to SB 138. Patron - Callsen

P HB794 Statutory agents; service of process. Adds the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission to the definition of "statutory agent" when such Clerk is appointed for the purpose of service of process on any individual, corporation, or limited partnership. The bill further applies certain methods of service of process currently applicable to limited liability corporations to nonstock corporations and domestic stock corporations. The bill provides that domestic or foreign limited liability partnerships may be served by personal service on its registered agent as directed by applicable provisions of Title 50 (Partnerships). The bill further provides that whenever the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission is appointed as the statutory agent service shall be deemed sufficient upon the person or entity being served and shall be effective on the date when service is made on the Clerk, provided, however, that the time for such person or entity to respond to process sent by the Clerk shall run from the date when the certificate of compliance is filed. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Henson

P HB901 Interlocutory ruling, order, or action; motion to reconsider. Clarifies that no litigant, after making an objection or motion known to the court, shall be required to move for reconsideration to preserve his right to appeal a ruling, order, or action of the court, even if such ruling, order, or action is without prejudice to a motion to reconsider. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference. Patron - Srinivasan

P HB1248 Debtor interrogatories; fieri facias; against whom a summons shall be issued. Requires the clerk of the court from which a fieri facias is issued to issue a summons against any person known or reasonably suspected to be a debtor to, or bailee of, the execution debtor in order to ascertain the personal estate of a judgment debtor provided the judgment creditor or his attorney files an affidavit stating as such. Under current law, such clerk of the court shall issue a summons against any debtor to, or bailee of, the execution debtor. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Williams

P HB1335 Motor vehicle value; J.D. Power Official Used Car Guide. Adds the J.D. Power Official Used Car Guide to the list of publications from which the retail value of an automobile is admissible as evidence of fair market value of such automobile in any civil or criminal case in which the price of an automobile is in issue.

Patron - Webert

P SB138 Permissible venue; personal injury and wrongful death actions; appointment of administrator on behalf of estate of decedent. Provides that in a personal injury or wrongful death action in which an administrator is appointed on behalf of the estate of a decedent, permissible venue shall lie only in a county or city in which venue would have been properly laid if the person for whom such appointment is made had survived. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference and is identical to HB 779.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB157** Legal notices and publications; onlineonly news publications; requirements. Provides that, where any ordinance, resolution, notice, or advertisement is required by law to be published in a newspaper, such ordinance, resolution, notice, or advertisement instead may be published in an online-only news publication subject to certain requirements specified in the bill. The bill sets out a process by which an online-only news publication shall petition the circuit court of the appropriate jurisdiction to publish such ordinances, resolutions, notices, or advertisements and authorizes the court to grant such online-only news publication the authority to publish such ordinances, resolutions, notices, or advertisements for a period of one year. The bill also describes the process by which an online-only news publication may continue renewing such authority to publish in each successive year. This bill is identical to HB 264.

Patron - Boysko

P SB209 Adoption; award of damages; death by wrongful act. Provides that, in a case for death by wrongful act, the child of a decedent who has been adopted after the death of such decedent shall be included in the class of beneficiaries entitled to an award of damages resulting from such case, provided that a court had not previously terminated the parental rights of such decedent. This bill is identical to HB 140.

Patron - Perry

**SB214** Service of garnishment summons upon corporation, limited liability company, etc.; garnishment designee. Requires a summons for garnishment against a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, financial institution, or other entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth to be served on the garnishment designee, as that term is defined in the bill, of such corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, financial institution, or other entity, unless such garnishment designee is also the judgment debtor. The bill provides alternative methods of service if the judgment creditor certifies that such corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, financial institution, or other entity has no garnishment designee, such garnishment designee cannot be found at the designated address, or such garnishment designee is also the judgment debtor. Before a judgment creditor serves the registered or statutory agent of a financial institution, such creditor shall further certify that after exercising due diligence, no managing employee, as that term is defined in the bill, could be found, that such managing employee is the judgment creditor, or that such service has been authorized or requested by such institution. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Sturtevant

Patron - Surovell

P **SB254** Optometrists; expert witness testimony. Allows an optometrist to testify as an expert witness in a court of law on certain matters within the scope of his practice. This bill is identical to HB 202.

to HB 156.

Patron - Jordan

SB256 Motor vehicle insurance claims; bad faith. Provides that if an insurance company licensed in the Commonwealth to write motor vehicle insurance (i) denies, refuses, fails to pay, or fails to make a timely and reasonable settlement offer to its insured under the provisions of any uninsured or underinsured motorist benefits coverage in a policy of motor vehicle insurance applicable to the insured after the insured has become legally entitled to recover or (ii) after all applicable liability policy limits and underlying uninsured and underinsured motorists benefits have been tendered or paid, rejects a reasonable settlement demand made by the insured within the policy's coverage limits for uninsured or underinsured motorist benefits or fails to respond within a reasonable time after being presented with such demand after the insured has become legally entitled to recover, and it is subsequently found by a court of proper jurisdiction that such denial, refusal, or failure to timely pay or failure to make a timely and reasonable settlement offer, rejection of a reasonable settlement demand, or failure to timely accept a reasonable settlement demand was not made in good faith, in addition to the amount due and owing by the insurance company to its insured on the judgment against the tortfeasor, the insurance company shall also be liable to the insured in an amount up to double the amount of the judgment obtained against the underinsured motorist, uninsured motorist, immune motorist, unknown owner or operator, or released defendant in the underlying personal injury or wrongful death action, not to exceed \$500,000, together with reasonable attorney fees for bringing the claim, and all costs and expenses incurred by the insured to secure a judgment against the tortfeasor, and interest from 30 days after the date of such denial or failure or the date the reasonable settlement demand. Under the bill, the insured or the insured's representative may seek adjudication of a claim that the insurance company did not act in good faith as a posttrial motion before the court in which the underlying personal injury or wrongful death judgment was obtained or as a separate action against the company. If the insured or the insured's representative seeks adjudication as a separate action and the underlying judgment is appealed, any action filed under this subsection shall be stayed by the court pending final resolution of the appeal of the underlying judgment. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Surovell

SB259 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions. Provides that one or more members of a class may, as representative parties on behalf of all members, bring a civil action or may be proceeded against in a civil action, provided that (i) the class is so numerous that joinder of all members or proceeding with such actions on an individual basis is impracticable or contrary to judicial economy; (ii) there are questions of law or fact common to the class; (iii) the claims or defenses of the representative parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class; and (iv) the representative parties shall fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. The bill further sets out the procedure to certify a class action, the duties of counsel appointed in a class action, the various orders a court may issue during the course of a class action, and the process by which a settlement, voluntary dismissal, or compromise may occur. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to HB 418. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB638** Exemptions from jury service upon request; age. Increases from 70 to 73 the age at which a person is exempt from jury service upon request. This bill is identical to HB 156.

#### Failed

HB153 Department of Medical Assistance Services; lien for claim of personal injuries. Creates a process by which a lien in favor of the Department of Medical Assistance Services on a claim for personal injuries may be satisfied upon the request of the injured person who received medical care or services to treat such personal injury. The bill provides that the Department is required within 30 days of receipt of the request of the injured person to provide such injured person or his personal representative with an itemized statement detailing all health care expenses paid for by a program of the Department and a sum specific demand for payment in full and final resolution of the Department's lien. The bill provides that if the Department fails to respond to such request, the injured party or his personal representative may submit to the Department an offer of payment for sum certain in satisfaction of the lien, and the Department may then, within 30 days, accept or reject such offer.

Patron - Simon

F HB182 Breach of a contract; attorney fees; factors. Provides that, for any contract entered into on or after July 1, 2024, if such contract contains a provision allowing the award of attorney fees to a party when the other party to such contract breaches such contract, the court may also allow reasonable attorney fees to be awarded to the party that prevails in any action, whether as plaintiff or defendant, with respect to such contract. The bill requires the court to take into account certain factors in determining such reasonable attorney fees. *Patron - Hope* 

F HB487 Harassment by computer or other electronic means; civil action. Creates a civil cause of action for an individual injured by a person who coerces, intimidates, or harasses such individual by computer or other electronic means, regardless of whether such person has been charged with or convicted of a corresponding criminal violation. The bill provides that such injured individual may recover for damages caused by such coercion, intimidation, or harassment and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Garrett

F HB562 Commercial entity offering social media accounts; restricted hours for minors; civil liability. Provides that no commercial entity that offers social media accounts, as defined in the bill, shall knowingly or intentionally allow a minor to access his social media account during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. unless the minor's parent, guardian, or legal custodian has provided permission for the minor to use such social media account during these hours. The bill provides that any commercial entity that violates these provisions shall be subject to civil liability for damages resulting from the interference with a minor's sleep cycle or mental health by allowing such minor to access to his social media account during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Campbell

F HB704 Localities; liability for owning or operating vehicle. Provides that in any case in which a locality is the owner of, or operator through medium of a driver of, or otherwise is the insured under the policy upon a vehicle involved in an accident, or is self-insured, the defense of governmental immunity shall not be a bar to action or recovery of damages arising from such accident against such locality.

Patron - Webert

F HB1104 Wrongful death; death of parent or guardian of child resulting from driving under the influence; child support. Provides that in any action for death by wrongful act where the defendant, as a result of driving a motor vehicle or operating a watercraft under the influence, unintentionally caused the death of another person who was the parent or legal guardian of a child, the person who has custody of such child may petition the court to order that the defendant pay child support.

Patron - Walker

F HB1214 Civil causes of action; social media platforms; complying with certain requests for information. Requires the owner or operator of a social media platform, as defined in the bill, to comply with requests from a party to a civil action concerning (i) any identifying information regarding any person alleged to have published content giving rise to such action on such platform and (ii) restoration of access to any person claiming ownership of an account created on such platform, provided such person can prove original ownership of such account.

Patron - Arnold

F HB1250 Action establishing boundaries to land; attorney fees. Provides that in an action to establish boundary lines the court may award attorney fees to any prevailing party when the need to ascertain the true boundary lines arose from the action of another party, and where such action was in willful disregard of the rights of another. The bill also provides that a claim of damages may be joined with any proceeding to establish boundary lines. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Williams

F HB1332 Nuisance; action against adjoining property owner. Provides that a civil action may be brought by a property owner against the owner of an adjoining property alleged to be a nuisance for damages and reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill further provides that a hearing held pursuant to such action shall be held 90 days after the filing of such action and that, if the defendant provides evidence that he has taken all actions necessary to correct the nuisance, the case shall be dismissed.

Patron - Morefield

F HB1413 Identity of persons communicating anonymously over the Internet; procedure governing certain subpoenas in civil proceedings; social media companies and platforms. Applies the procedures governing certain subpoenas in civil proceedings, currently applicable to Internet service providers, to social media companies and platforms. Patron - Cherry

F SB86 Spoliation of evidence. Clarifies that, where evidence that should have been preserved in anticipation of litigation is lost, disposed of, altered, concealed, destroyed, or not preserved, and cannot be restored or replaced, no finding of intent that a party lost or destroyed evidence to prevent its use in litigation shall be required for the court to order remedial measures as provided by law.

Patron - Peake

F SB493 Medical malpractice; limitations on recovery; certain actions. Eliminates the cap on the recovery in actions against health care providers for medical malpractice where the act or acts of malpractice occurred on or after July 1, 2024, and occurred against a patient age 10 or younger.

Patron - Stanley

F SB532 Commercial entity offering social media accounts; restricted hours for minors; civil liability. Provides that no commercial entity that offers social media accounts, as defined in the bill, shall knowingly or intentionally allow a minor to access his social media account during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. unless the minor's parent, guardian, or legal custodian has provided permission for the minor to use such social media account during these hours. The bill provides that any commercial entity that violates these provisions shall be subject to civil liability for damages resulting from the interference with a minor's sleep cycle or mental health by allowing such minor to access to his social media account during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Jordan

F SB587 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons. Provides that a circuit court may enter an order joining, coordinating, consolidating, or transferring civil actions upon finding that separate civil actions brought by a plaintiff on behalf of multiple similarly situated persons involve common questions of law or fact and arise out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences. Under current law, such order is permitted only where six or more plaintiffs have filed such actions. The bill further requires the Supreme Court of Virginia to promulgate rules no later than November 1, 2024, governing such actions. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, except that the provisions of the bill requiring the Supreme Court to promulgate rules are effective in due course.

Patron - Bagby

#### **Carried Over**

HB697 Synthetic media; penalty. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic media, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to use any synthetic media for the purpose of committing any criminal offense involving fraud, constituting a separate and distinct offense with punishment separate and apart from any punishment received for the commission of the primary criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the synthetic media to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of synthetic media, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts.

Patron - Maldonado

# Commonwealth Public Safety

#### Passed

P HB133 Department of Fire Programs; work group; options for local government employees who respond to emergencies with toxic material exposure. Directs the Department of Fire Programs to convene a work group to identify and analyze options to help ensure that local government employees who respond to emergencies that expose them to toxic materials have appropriate preemptive and ongoing health care and are able to pay any health expenses related to such emergency and its aftereffects that are

not covered by relevant health insurance plans. The work group is directed to report its findings to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 650. *Patron - Convirs-Fowler* 

P HB203 Private security services business; training requirements; human trafficking. Requires the compulsory minimum, entry-level, and in-service training standards for an unarmed security officer, armed security officer, courier, security canine handler, and alarm respondent to include a training requirement on recognizing and reporting instances of suspected human trafficking. The bill provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall have the power and duty to develop an online course to meet such training requirement.

Patron - Simonds

HB250 Department of Criminal Justice Services; law-enforcement officers; interrogation practices. Provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall have the power and duty to establish a comprehensive framework for the custodial and noncustodial interrogation of adults and juveniles by law-enforcement officers within the Commonwealth, which shall include (i) developing policies and procedures for interrogation practices, including guidance on when the use of the following is considered lawful: (a) false promises of leniency, (b) misleading statements regarding evidence or statements of witnesses or co-conspirators, and (c) inauthentic replica documents or computer-generated audiovisual evidence; (ii) establishing and publishing a model policy for conducting such interrogations to serve as a guideline for criminal justice agencies in the Commonwealth; and (iii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of law-enforcement officers on conducting such interrogations. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policy by January 1, 2025. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the training required by the bill by January 1, 2028. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Glass

P HB321 Line of Duty Act; payment of benefits. Increases from \$25,000 to \$75,000 the death benefit payout under the Virginia Line of Duty Act for a death caused by occupational cancer, respiratory disease, or hypertension or heart disease for those deaths that will occur on or after January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 649.

Patron - McQuinn

P HB586 Training standards for law-enforcement officers; drug use. Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish training standards and publish and periodically update model policies for law-enforcement personnel on the use of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to prevent opioid overdose deaths, in coordination with statewide naloxone training programs developed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Virginia Department of Health.

Patron - McClure

P HB611 Civilian deaths in custody; report. Requires every law-enforcement agency and state or juvenile correctional facility to report to the Department of Criminal Justice Services and every local or regional correctional facility to report to the State Board of Local and Regional Jails certain information regarding the death of any person who is detained, under arrest or in the process of being arrested, en route to be incarcerated, incarcerated, or otherwise in the custody of such law-enforcement agency or correctional facility.

The bill provides that any law-enforcement agency or state or juvenile correctional facility that fails to comply may, at the discretion of the Department, be declared ineligible for state grants or funds. The bill also requires the Department and the Board to analyze the submitted data to determine the means by which such information can be used to reduce the number of such deaths. Finally, the bill requires the Director of the Department and the Board to annually report the findings and recommendations resulting from the analysis and interpretation of the data to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Attorney General beginning on or before July 1, 2025, and each July 1 thereafter. This bill incorporates HB 423. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Price* 

P HB898 Department of Forensic Science; laboratory procedures; requirements regarding DNA profiles. Provides that when an accused person or his attorney files a motion for a scientific investigation, he must certify that the Department of Forensic Science or Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services has indicated it has a methodology to perform the requested scientific investigation. The bill also clarifies that the signature of a person who received material to be analyzed by a laboratory on an evidence submission receipt shall be deemed prima facie evidence that such person was an authorized agent and that such receipt constitutes proper receipt by the laboratory. The bill also provides that such signature on a request for laboratory examination form or evidence submission receipt may be made by hand or electronic means. The bill also removes the requirement that a party intending to offer the results of a deoxyribonucleic (DNA) analysis provide or make available copies of the DNA profiles but retains the requirement that such party provide or make available copies of the report or statement to be introduced. Additionally, the bill requires the Department to confirm whether or not there is a DNA profile on file for a specific individual if a federal, state, or local criminal justice agency that participates in the National DNA Index System requests that information in furtherance of an official investigation of any criminal offense. The bill contains technical amendments. Patron - Kent

P HB933 Alzheimer's disease and dementia training for dispatchers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. Requires certain agencies in the Commonwealth to develop curricula and provide training related to Alzheimer's disease and dementia to dispatchers employed by or in any local or state government agency, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission and the Commonwealth Council on Aging.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P HB1022 Universal certification for certain law-enforcement officers. Provides that any sworn lawenforcement officer with at least one year of experience (i) whose training qualifications meet or exceed current training standards established by the Board of Criminal Justice Services and who is in compliance with the minimum qualifications, (ii) who has not had a break in service of more than 24 months, and (iii) who is leaving the transferring agency in good standing with no pending investigations or disciplinary actions shall be eligible for employment at any law-enforcement agency within the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions. Prior to any conditional offer of employment, the bill requires the hiring law-enforcement agency to request certain specified information from all prior law-enforcement agencies and to employ all reasonable means to obtain personnel records for lawenforcement officers transferring from an out-of-state or federal law-enforcement agency. The bill requires that upon the receipt of all requested information by the hiring law-enforcement agency, the applicant law-enforcement officer shall complete a sworn declaration that the provided information or records are, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, a true, correct, and complete response to such request. This bill is identical to SB 207.

Patron - Wilt

P HB1246 Law-enforcement training; individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish compulsory minimum and in-service training standards for law-enforcement officers on communicating with individuals with an intellectual disability or a developmental disability, such as autism spectrum disorder, which shall include (i) an overview and behavioral recognition of autism spectrum disorder, (ii) best practices for crisis prevention and de-escalation techniques, (iii) an objective review of any relevant tools and technology available to assist in communication, and (iv) education on law-enforcement agency and community resources for the autism community on future crisis prevention. The bill requires that such training standards be established in consultation with at least one individual with autism spectrum disorder, one family member of an individual with autism spectrum disorder, one specialist who works with individuals with autism spectrum disorder, one representative from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and one representative from a state or local law-enforcement agency. The bill requires the Department to establish such training standards by January 1, 2027, and requires any person employed as a lawenforcement officer prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the compulsory in-service training by July 1, 2028. This bill is identical to SB 547.

Patron - Willett

Patron - Gardner

P HB1309 State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board; guidelines for the provision of emergency treatment of fire, police, and search and rescue dogs. Requires the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board, in consultation with the Board of Veterinary Medicine, to develop guidelines and guidance for the provision of emergency treatment of fire, police, and search and rescue dogs injured in the line of duty and the transportation of such dogs by an emergency medical services vehicle to a veterinary care facility equipped to provide emergency treatment to such dog. Patron - Campbell

P HB1369 Criminal justice training academies; curriculum. Provides that an approved criminal justice training academy may utilize an alternative curriculum and lesson plans that meet or exceed the compulsory minimum training standards without seeking a waiver from the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Under current law, the Department is required to develop a uniform curriculum to be used at all criminal justice training academies unless a waiver to the uniform curriculum is granted by the Department.

P HB1433 Line of Duty Act; eligible dependent.

Provides that for purposes of continued health insurance pursuant to the Line of Duty Act, an eligible dependent means the natural or adopted child or children of a deceased person or disabled person or of a deceased or disabled person's eligible spouse, provided that any such natural child is born as the result of a pregnancy that occurred prior to, or no later than six months after, the time of the employee's death or disability and that any such adopted child is (i) adopted prior to, or no later than six months after, the time of the employee's death or disability or (ii) adopted more than six months after the

employee's death or disability if the adoption is pursuant to a preadoptive agreement entered into prior to, or no later than six months after, the death or disability. Under current law, an eligible dependent includes a child born or adopted prior to the time of the employee's death or disability. The bill's provisions only apply to an eligible dependent of a deceased person or disabled person when such death or disability occurred on or after July 1, 2017, and the bill specifies that any new health insurance coverage for those qualifying as an eligible dependent is only prospective from July 1, 2024.

Patron - Hodges

P HB1496 Surveillance technology reporting by state and local law-enforcement agencies and sheriff's departments. Requires all state and local law-enforcement agencies and sheriff's departments to provide to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (the Department) a list of surveillance technologies, defined in the bill, procured by such agencies and departments on an annual basis by November 1 of each year. The bill requires the Department to provide such information to the Virginia State Crime Commission and the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

Patron - Rasoul

SB145 Special conservators of the peace; armed security officer registration. Provides that a special conservator of the peace may possess simultaneous registration with the Department of Criminal Justice Services as an armed security officer and shall maintain the rights, requirements, and restrictions contained therein.

Patron - Head

SB207 Universal certification for certain lawenforcement officers. Provides that any sworn law-enforcement officer with at least one year of experience (i) whose training qualifications meet or exceed current training standards established by the Board of Criminal Justice Services and who is in compliance with the minimum qualifications, (ii) who has not had a break in service of more than 24 months, and (iii) who is leaving the transferring agency in good standing with no pending investigations or disciplinary actions shall be eligible for employment at any law-enforcement agency within the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions. Prior to any conditional offer of employment, the bill requires the hiring law-enforcement agency to request certain specified information from all prior law-enforcement agencies and to employ all reasonable means to obtain personnel records for lawenforcement officers transferring from an out-of-state or federal law-enforcement agency. The bill requires that upon the receipt of all requested information by the hiring law-enforcement agency, the applicant law-enforcement officer shall complete a sworn declaration that the provided information or records are, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, a true, correct, and complete response to such request. This bill is identical to HB 1022.

Patron - Diggs

SB547 Law-enforcement training; individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish compulsory minimum and in-service training standards for law-enforcement officers on communicating with individuals with an intellectual disability or a developmental disability, such as autism spectrum disorder, which shall include (i) an overview and behavioral recognition of autism spectrum disorder, (ii) best practices for crisis prevention and de-escalation techniques, (iii) an objective review of any relevant tools and technology available to assist in communication, and (iv) education on law-enforcement agency and community resources for the autism community on future crisis prevention. The bill requires that such

training standards be established in consultation with at least one individual with autism spectrum disorder, one family member of an individual with autism spectrum disorder, one specialist who works with individuals with autism spectrum disorder, one representative from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and one representative from a state or local law-enforcement agency. The bill requires the Department to establish such training standards by January 1, 2027, and requires any person employed as a lawenforcement officer prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the compulsory in-service training by July 1, 2028. This bill is identical to HB 1246.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB630** Public safety officer; Commonwealth Public Safety Medal of Valor; dispatcher. Adds a dispatcher, including a dispatcher employed by the Department of State Police, to the definition of a public safety officer for purposes of possible selection by the Governor for the Commonwealth Public Safety Medal of Valor, presented for performance above and beyond the call of duty involving extraordinary valor in the face of grave danger, at great personal risk. A dispatcher is defined in relevant law as an individual employed by a public safety answering point, an emergency medical dispatch service provider, or both, who is qualified to answer incoming emergency telephone calls or provide for the appropriate emergency response either directly or through communication with the appropriate public safety answering point.

Patron - McGuire

SB649 Line of Duty Act; payment of benefits. Increases from \$25,000 to \$75,000 the death benefit payout under the Virginia Line of Duty Act for a death caused by occupational cancer, respiratory disease, or hypertension or heart disease for those deaths that will occur on or after January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 321. Patron - Salim

SB650 Department of Fire Programs; work group; options for local government employees who respond to emergencies with toxic material exposure. Directs the Department of Fire Programs to convene a work group to identify and analyze options to help ensure that local government employees who respond to emergencies that expose them to toxic materials have appropriate preemptive and ongoing health care and are able to pay any health expenses related to such emergency and its aftereffects that are not covered by relevant health insurance plans. The work group is directed to report its findings to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 133. Patron - Rouse

## Failed

**HB232** Line of Duty Act; campus police officers; private police officers. Provides employees of contributing nonprofit private institutions of higher education, defined in the bill, and contributing private police departments, defined in the bill, with the benefits granted to employees of participating employers under the Line of Duty Act. The bill clarifies that the Line of Duty Act shall not apply to any private institution of higher education or private police department that is not a contributing nonprofit private institution of higher education or contributing private police department, respectively. Patron - Campbell

HB249 Department of Criminal Justice Services; law-enforcement agencies; use of generative artificial intelligence and machine learning systems. Provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall have the power and duty to establish a comprehensive framework for the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning systems, both defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies, which shall include (i) developing policies and procedures for the use of generative AI and machine learning systems in lawenforcement activities; (ii) establishing and publishing a model policy for the use of generative AI and machine learning systems to serve as a guideline for criminal justice agencies in the Commonwealth; and (iii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of lawenforcement officers on the use of generative AI and machine learning systems. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policy by January 1, 2025, and that all criminal justice agencies shall adopt a policy consistent with such model policy by July 1, 2025. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the training required by the bill by January 1, 2026.

Patron - Glass

HB251 Department of Criminal Justice Services; criminal justice agencies; audiovisual surveillance technologies. Provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall have the power and duty to establish a comprehensive framework for the use of audiovisual surveillance technologies as defined in the bill, including license plate reader systems, by criminal justice agencies within the Commonwealth. The comprehensive framework shall include (i) developing policies and procedures that ensure technology usage, data security, and data retention are in compliance with existing laws and regulations; (ii) establishing and publishing a model policy for the use of audiovisual surveillance technologies to serve as a guideline for criminal justice agencies in the Commonwealth; and (iii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of lawenforcement officers operating or accessing audiovisual surveillance technologies, which shall include training on relevant state and federal laws, operational guidelines, privacy and civil liberties considerations, and proper data handling and retention. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policy by January 1, 2025, and that all criminal justice agencies shall adopt a policy consistent with such model policy by July 1, 2025. The bill requires any lawenforcement officer who is authorized to operate or access audiovisual surveillance technologies to complete the training required by the bill by July 1, 2025.

Patron - Glass

Program. Establishes the Virginia Firefighting Facilities Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants on a first-come, first-served basis to localities for the purpose of building and maintaining their firefighting facilities. The amount of such grants shall be as provided in the appropriation act. The Program shall be administered by the Department of Fire Programs. The Department shall develop guidelines for the Program, which shall (i) emphasize providing grants to localities that are cost burdened in the provision of firefighting services and (ii) require remedying facilities that do not meet minimum standards established by law.

Patron - Ballard

HB423 Civilian deaths in custody; report.

Requires every law-enforcement agency and correctional facility to report to the Department of Criminal Justice Services certain information regarding the death of any person who is detained, under arrest or in the process of being arrested, en route to be incarcerated, incarcerated, or otherwise in the custody of such law-enforcement agency or correctional facility.

The bill provides that any law-enforcement agency or correctional facility that fails to comply may, at the discretion of the Department, be declared ineligible for state grants or funds. The bill also requires the Department to analyze the submitted data to (i) determine the means by which such information can be used to reduce the number of such deaths and (ii) examine the relationship, if any, between the number of such deaths and the actions of management of such law-enforcement agencies and correctional facilities. Finally, the bill requires the Director of the Department to annually report the findings and recommendations resulting from the analysis and interpretation of the data to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Attorney General beginning on or before July 1, 2025, and each July 1 thereafter. This bill was incorporated into HB 611.

Patron - McQuinn

F HB494 Virginia Fire and EMS Safety Loan Fund. Creates the Virginia Fire and EMS Safety Loan Fund, to be administered by the Virginia Resources Authority. Under the bill, money in the Fund would be used exclusively for the financing of purchases by local fire and EMS services of at least \$50,000 (i) for capital projects to construct or modernize facilities that house firefighting equipment or vehicles or ambulance or rescue vehicles; (ii) of firefighting apparatus, ambulances, or rescue vehicles; and (iii) of protective, accessory, or communication equipment for firefighting or EMS services. The bill also establishes the Joint Fire and EMS Loan Board, which shall be responsible for directing the distribution of loans from the Fund, with an emphasis on localities in need of financing assistance to meet minimum standards.

Patron - Garrett

**HB575** Persons employed to perform forensic science duties; training and certification; policies for reporting wrongdoing or misconduct. Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a comprehensive framework, in coordination with the Department of Forensic Science and with the approval of the Forensic Science Board, for the employment, job entry training, and certification requirements for any person employed by any state or local law-enforcement agency to perform forensic laboratory services or forensic science duties, including a forensic specialist or forensic analyst, which training and certification shall be administered by the Department of Forensic Science. The bill provides that the comprehensive framework shall include (i) developing policies and procedures for such employees to report instances of wrongdoing or misconduct committed by another such employee, a law-enforcement officer, or an attorney for the Commonwealth; (ii) establishing and publishing a model policy for the employment, job entry training, and certification for such employees; and (iii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of such employees.

Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to appoint a policy and curriculum review committee to assist the Department in carrying out its duties in establishing the comprehensive framework and requires that such establishment shall require approval of the majority of the members of the policy and curriculum review committee and is subject to final approval of the Forensic Science Board. The bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish the comprehensive framework by January 1, 2025, and all law-enforcement agencies to adopt the policies and procedures by July 1, 2025. The bill also requires any person employed by any state or local law-enforcement agency to perform forensic laboratory services or forensic science duties, including a forensic specialist or forensic analyst prior to July 1, 2024, to complete the training required by the bill by January 1, 2026.

The bill also requires the Forensic Science Board to develop policies and procedures for employees of the Department of Forensic Science to report instances of wrongdoing or misconduct committed by another employee of the Department of Forensic Science or an employee of an entity for which the Department of Forensic Science has the responsibility to perform forensic laboratory services.

Patron - Glass

F HB751 Line of Duty Act; campus police officers; private police officers. Provides employees of contributing nonprofit private institutions of higher education, defined in the bill, and contributing private police departments, defined in the bill and including airport police officers employed by the Lynchburg Regional Airport Police Department, with the benefits granted to employees of participating employers under the Line of Duty Act. The bill clarifies that the Line of Duty Act shall not apply to any private institution of higher education or private police department that is not a contributing nonprofit private institution of higher education or contributing private police department, respectively.

Patron - Walker

F HB846 Department of Criminal Justice Services; certification and regulation of charitable bail organizations. Provides for certification and regulation by the Department of Criminal Justice Services of charitable bail organizations, defined in the bill as any entity or nonprofit organization that exists for the purpose of providing or posting bond for another person and does not include a person that pays bail for (i) three or fewer defendants in any 180-day period or (ii) a defendant's family or household member. Patron - Williams

HB1043 Virginia Firefighting Personnel and Equipment Grant Program. Establishes the Virginia Firefighting Personnel and Equipment Grant Program for the purpose of providing grants to localities to hire additional firefighters and to improve their firefighting and emergency medical services. The Department of Fire Programs shall administer the Program, and two types of grants shall be made from the Program. The first shall provide grants to localities to increase the number of firefighters. Such grants shall be made for up to three years and shall be used by localities for programs to (i) hire new, additional full-time firefighters; (ii) convert part-time or volunteer firefighters to full-time firefighters; or (iii) recruit and retain volunteer firefighters. The other type of grant shall be provided to localities for improving firefighting and emergency medical services. Authorized uses of grant funds include acquiring firefighting and emergency medical services vehicles and equipment and modifying facilities. For both grants, the funds shall not be used to supplant any funds currently provided by the Commonwealth or by the locality and shall be used to increase the total amount of funds available for the provision of firefighting or emergency medical services.

The Department shall report annually, beginning November 1, 2025, to the Governor and the General Assembly information regarding a list of grants, the amount of each approved grant, information on the performance assessment system that the bill directs the Department to create, an evaluation of each grant based on such system, and any other criteria deemed relevant by the Department.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1181 Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program and Fund; firearm and ammunition tax. Establishes the Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program (the Program) and redirects funds from the Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and

Prevention Fund (the Fund) to support such program. The bill requires the Program be administered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services (the Department) to distribute grants to localities and organizations for the purpose of improving public health and safety by supporting effective violence reduction initiatives in communities that are disproportionately impacted by violence, particularly homicides, shootings, and aggravated assaults. The bill provides that funds may also be used to finance the hiring of counselors in public elementary and secondary schools and research initiatives that have the objective of reducing gun violence.

The bill provides that the Department shall issue grants on a competitive basis. As a condition of receiving a grant, a locality or organization must commit a cash or in-kind contribution equivalent to the amount of the grant, with waivers allowed for good cause, and report on its progress toward achieving the grant's objectives. The bill requires the Department to provide public access to such reports.

The bill imposes a five percent tax on the sale of any firearm or ammunition, with all revenue from the tax accruing to the Fund. Under the bill, firearm and ammunition sales to state or local agencies or law-enforcement officers are exempt from such tax.

Patron - Laufer

F HB1341 Law-Enforcement Officers Procedural Guarantee Act; hearing panel decisions. Provides that for the purposes of the Law-Enforcement Officers Procedural Guarantee Act a majority decision of a hearing panel shall be binding on the employing agency. Under current law, such decisions are advisory recommendations only. The bill also provides that a hearing panel's decision may be appealed to the circuit court in the jurisdiction where the grievance arose. Lastly, the bill provides that the third member of the hearing panel shall not be from within the employing law-enforcement agency.

Patron - Garrett

F HB1484 Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program; established. Establishes the Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Emergency Management and financially managed by the Virginia Resources Authority, for the purpose of making loans and awarding grants to local governments to assist with improvement projects relating to public safety radio and communications infrastructure.

Patron - Campbell

F SB466 Line of Duty Act; campus police officers; private police officers. Provides employees of contributing nonprofit private institutions of higher education, defined in the bill, and contributing private police departments, defined in the bill, with the benefits granted to employees of participating employers under the Line of Duty Act. The bill clarifies that the Line of Duty Act shall not apply to any private institution of higher education or private police department that is not a contributing nonprofit private institution of higher education or contributing private police department, respectively. The bill requires each contributing nonprofit private institution of higher education and contributing private police department to pay its pro rata share of the initial costs to implement this bill, as determined by the Virginia Retirement System.

Patron - Obenshain

F SB659 Law-Enforcement Officers Procedural Guarantee Act; hearing panel decisions. Provides that for the purposes of the Law-Enforcement Officers Procedural Guarantee Act a majority decision of a hearing panel shall be binding on the employing agency. Under current law, such

decisions are advisory recommendations only. The bill also provides that a hearing panel's decision may be appealed to the circuit court in the jurisdiction where the grievance arose. Lastly, the bill provides that the third member of the hearing panel shall not be from within the employing law-enforcement agency.

Patron - Reeves

#### **Carried Over**

C HB602 Virginia Center for Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention; Virginia Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund; creation. Creates the Virginia Center for Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention (the Center) within the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund, to be administered by the Center, to replace the existing Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund.

Patron - Price

C HB676 Department of Criminal Justice Services; school resource officers; establishment of minimum employment qualifications prohibited. Prohibits the Department of Criminal Justice Services from establishing minimum qualifications for the employment of school resource officers, including any minimum age or experience requirement, or providing guidance or standards or adopting regulations relating to such minimum qualifications unless expressly authorized by law.

Patron - Runion

C HB859 Human trafficking investigators; licensing by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Authorizes the Department of Criminal Justice Services to register and issue licenses for human trafficking investigators. The bill provides that a human trafficking investigator is a private investigator who is GSA compliant and engages in the business of, or accepts employment to make, investigations to obtain information on sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking as defined in the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and in the federal Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015.

Patron - Williams

# Conservation

#### **Passed**

P HB47 Invasive plant species; retail sales; civil penalty. Requires, for the retail sale of any invasive plant species for outdoor use on a list established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant display signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2024, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Any retail establishment that violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500. This bill is identical to SB 306. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Seibold

P HB122 Department of Environmental Quality; review and authorization of projects; hearing and appeal. Allows any person aggrieved by the final decision of the Department of Environmental Quality regarding the authorization of a project and who has participated in a proceeding for a permit to construct or operate a small renewable energy project under procedures adopted by the Department to seek judicial review of such action in accordance with the Administrative Process Act in the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond within 30 days of such decision. The bill requires the court to hear and decide such action as soon as practicable after the date of filing. This bill is identical to SB 580.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB309 Department of Forestry; Forestland and Urban Tree Canopy Conservation Plan required. Requires the Department of Forestry, in coordination with a Technical Advisory Committee composed of stakeholders, to develop a Forestland and Urban Tree Canopy Conservation Plan no later than November 1, 2026, and update such plan at least once every five years thereafter. The bill requires the Department to post and maintain on its website the most recent version of the Plan and to submit the Plan to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than November 30, 2026, and following any update to such plan. This bill is identical to SB 461.

Patron - Hope

P HB428 Quitclaim and release property rights. Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to quitclaim and release certain real property rights related to a portion of real estate owned by the Department related to an offsite well and water system serving New River Trail State Park in Wythe County.

Patron - Arnold

P HB673 Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; projects; low-income geographic areas; nature-based solutions. Provides that the Department of Conservation and Recreation shall give additional weight to projects located in low-income geographic areas and projects that incorporate nature-based solutions when distributing loans or grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund to particular local governments. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Feggans

P HB778 Quitclaim and release property rights. Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to quitclaim and release certain real property rights related to a portion of real estate owned by the Department related to an offsite ingress and egress easement serving the Biscuit Run property in Albemarle County. Patron - Callsen

P HB892 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department of Forestry; Office of Farmland Preservation transferred. Transfers from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Forestry the Office of Farmland Preservation and its powers and duties and reporting requirements, the Virginia Farm Link Program, the Century Farm Program, and the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund. The bill

renames the Office as the Office of Working Lands Preservation. The bill makes technical amendments to effectuate the transfer and requires the Department of Environmental Quality to report to the Department of Forestry by July 1 of each year certain enumerated information about nonpoint source nutrient credits certified in the previous year that involve land use conversion. This bill is identical to SB 616.

Patron - Bulova

HB1157 Consultation with federally recognized Tribal Nations in the Commonwealth; permits and reviews with potential impacts on environmental, cultural, and historic resources. Requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to establish policies and procedures for consulting with federally recognized Tribal Nations in the Commonwealth when evaluating certain permits and reviews relating to environmental, cultural, or historic resources that potentially impact those federally recognized Tribal Nations in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Secretary of the Commonwealth to designate an Ombudsman for Tribal Consultation to facilitate communication and consultation with federally recognized Tribal Nations in the Commonwealth and requires the Ombudsman to develop by January 1, 2025, a list of localities in which federally recognized Tribal Nations in the Commonwealth shall be consulted to effectuate the provisions of the bill. The bill codifies Executive Order 82 (2021). This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Krizek

**HB1186** Department of Conservation and Recreation; two-year pilot program; all-terrain power wheelchairs in state parks. Provides that the Department of Conservation and Recreation shall establish a two-year pilot program beginning October 1, 2024, and ending October 30, 2026, to enhance accessibility for individuals with limited mobility in Virginia's state parks by providing all-terrain power wheelchairs that may be used by such persons during their visits. The bill permits the Department to choose the locations for the pilot program and enter into a contract for the purchase of all-terrain power wheelchairs to be used in the pilot program. The bill allows the Department to adopt guidelines to administer the pilot program and requires the Department to make a report available to the public regarding the outcome of the pilot program on its website by November 1, 2026. Patron - Tran

HB1379 Department of Environmental Quality reports; consolidation. Consolidates varying due dates for certain reports relating to the Department of Environmental Quality to the Governor and the General Assembly to October 1 and requires such reports be submitted as part of one annual report. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Patron - Lovejoy

P HB1458 Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth; Interagency Resilience Management Team; Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund; Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; Advisory Review Committee. Amends certain provisions relating to the functions and duties of the Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) of the Commonwealth. The bill requires the CRO to convene an Interagency Resilience Management Team to support the coordination of planning and implementation of resilience efforts, eliminates the position of Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, and requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund.

The bill also requires the Director to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund and adds the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the CRO to the list of those with whom the Virginia Resources Authority is required to consult in directing the distribution of loans or grants from such Fund. The bill requires, for the two Funds, the Department of Conservation and Recreation to (i) make available for public inspection at the office of the Department and on a publicly accessible website records of each application for grants and loans and the actions taken thereon and (ii) provide an opportunity for a 30-day public comment period prior to each new grant or loan offering to solicit feedback on proposed revisions to the Funds' manuals. This bill incorporates HB 948.

Patron - Hernandez

**SB17** Motor sports facilities; local incentives. Allows a locality that is home to a motor sports facility, as defined in relevant law, in the Commonwealth to propose local incentives that address the economic conditions within such locality and will help stimulate real property improvements and new job creation. The bill allows a locality to establish eligibility criteria for local incentives that are different from the current criteria required by relevant law.

Patron - Stanley

P SB306 Invasive plant species; retail sales; civil **penalty.** Requires, for the retail sale of any invasive plant species for outdoor use on a list established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant display signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2024, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Any retail establishment that violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500. This bill is identical to HB 47. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Salim

P \$B342 Virginia Waste Management Board; transportation and open burning of vegetative waste. Requires the Virginia Waste Management Board to amend regulations to allow for vegetative waste to be transported to another location for open burning if it is impractical or unsafe to destroy such waste on the premises of private property.

Patron - Stuart

**P SB461** Department of Forestry; Forestland and Urban Tree Canopy Conservation Plan required. Requires the Department of Forestry, in coordination with a Technical Advisory Committee composed of stakeholders, to develop a Forestland and Urban Tree Canopy Conservation Plan no later than November 1, 2026, and update such plan at least once every five years thereafter. The bill requires the Department to post and maintain on its website the most recent version of the Plan and to submit the Plan to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than November 30,

2026, and following any update to such plan. This bill is identical to HB 309.

Patron - Marsden

Patron - Deeds

P SB580 Department of Environmental Quality; review and authorization of projects; hearing and appeal. Allows any person aggrieved by the final decision of the Department of Environmental Quality regarding the authorization of a project and who has participated in a proceeding for a permit to construct or operate a small renewable energy project under procedures adopted by the Department to seek judicial review of such action in accordance with the Administrative Process Act in the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond within 30 days of such decision. The bill requires the court to hear and decide such action as soon as practicable after the date of filing. This bill is identical to HB 122.

P SB616 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department of Forestry; Office of Farmland Preservation transferred. Transfers from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Forestry the Office of Farmland Preservation and its powers and duties and reporting requirements, the Virginia Farm Link Program, the Century Farm Program, and the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund. The bill renames the Office as the Office of Working Lands Preservation. The bill makes technical amendments to effectuate the transfer and requires the Department of Environmental Quality to report to the Department of Forestry by July 1 of each year certain enumerated information about nonpoint source nutrient credits certified in the previous year that involve land use conversion. This bill is identical to HB 892.

Patron - Pillion

P SB674 Virginia Coastal Resilience Collaborative at The College of William and Mary in Virginia. Changes references relating to coastal resilience policy from the Coastal Policy Center at William and Mary School of Law to the Virginia Coastal Resilience Collaborative at The College of William and Mary in Virginia to reflect the dissolution of the Coastal Policy Center. The bill also adds the Collaborative to the list of entities with whom the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources may seek input and consultation in setting coastal resilience policies.

Patron - McDougle

## Failed

F HB3 State Air Pollution Control Board; motor vehicle emissions standards. Repeals the requirement that the State Air Pollution Control Board implement a low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle program for motor vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later. The bill prohibits the Board from adopting or enforcing any model year standards related to control of emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, including low-emission vehicle and zero-emission vehicle standards pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act and prohibits the Commonwealth from requiring any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine to be certified as compliant with model year standards related to the control of emissions adopted by California for which a waiver has been granted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act.

F HB7 State Air Pollution Control Board; regulations; low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle standards. Repeals the State Air Pollution Control Board's authority to implement low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle stan-

dards that apply for vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later.

Patron - Fowler

F HB67 Disabled Veteran's Passport; service-connected disability. Entitles any veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces with a service-connected disability to a Disabled Veteran's Passport for free entry into state parks and discounted services. Current law limits such passport to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces with a service-connected disability rating of 100 percent.

Patron - Campbell

HB216 Department of Conservation and Recreation; variances to general permit requirements for certain impounding structures; hazard potential classifications study; report. Requires the Soil and Water Conservation Board to develop a process by which an owner may submit a request only to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for a temporary or permanent variance to the general permit requirements for certain impounding structures for its review and consideration. The bill directs the Department to study issues relating to hazard potential classifications for impounding structures in the Commonwealth and report its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by December 1, 2024. The bill also directs the Department to advise the Governor and the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources of any variances to the general permit requirements granted by the Department.

Patron - Orrock

HB259 Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund; percentage of funds available; owner match requirements. Reduces from 50 percent to 30 percent the project match required of applicants to receive funds from the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund for grants (i) to a local government that owns a dam, (ii) to a local government for a dam located within the locality, or (iii) to a private entity that owns a dam for the design, repair, and safety modifications of such a dam if it is identified in a safety report. The bill provides that grants made from the Fund to a local government or private entity for the determination of the hazard classification for impounding structures, dam break analysis, the mapping and digitization of dam break inundation zones, incremental damage analysis, and other engineering requirements shall require no more than a 10 percent match by the applicant except that such applicant shall be required to provide a minimum of \$5,000 of the cost of the project, if funded, and such match provided by such applicant may be used to pay the application fees for the necessary impounding structure operation and maintenance certificate. The bill removes the 50 percent limit on matching grants that owners of impounding structures may be eligible for from the Fund and other sources of funding available to the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to assist in the development of dam break inundation zone maps and for conducting incremental damage assessments in accordance with the Virginia Impounding Structure Regulations. The bill also removes the limitation that the total amount of expenditures for grants in any fiscal year are not to exceed 50 percent of the total noninterest or income deposits made to the Fund during the previous fiscal year together with the total amount collected in interest or income from the investment of moneys in the Fund from the previous year as determined at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Patron - Orrock

F HB316 Virginia Recycling Development Center established; report. Establishes the Virginia Recycling Development Center for the purposes of furthering the development of markets and processing for recycled commodities and products, to be run by a Director appointed and supervised by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. The bill creates the Virginia Recycling Development Center Advisory Committee, establishes reporting requirements, and creates the Recycling Market Development Fund to be used to fund the Center. The bill requires the Advisory Committee to make recommendations on the sources of potential funding for and detailed qualifying uses of the Fund and report its recommendations to the Secretary no later than October 1, 2024. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2038.

Patron - Bulova

F HB496 Waste tire disposal by tire producers and haulers; fee; requirements. Requires a hauler, as defined in the bill, to (i) register with the Department of Environmental Quality and (ii) transfer all waste tires to a transfer station, material recovery facility, landfill with a solid waste permit as required by law, or waste tire end user. The bill expands the purpose of the Waste Tire Trust Fund to include paying the costs of implementing the waste tire disposal requirements of haulers and funding research, studies, and demonstration projects that stimulate the growth of existing and emerging markets for waste tires. The bill also increases the tire recycling fee from \$0.50 to \$2 beginning July 1, 2024, and directs the Waste Management Board to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Garrett

HB538 Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plan Grant Fund and Program established. Requires the Office of Environmental Education within the Department of Conservation and Recreation, in conjunction with the Department of Education and any other stakeholder that it deems appropriate, to implement the Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plan Grant Program and Fund for school districts to develop local student environmental literacy plans and, with consultation from the Department of Education, to maintain a state environmental literacy plan. The bill establishes the Program and Fund, to be administered by the Office, for the purpose of awarding grants on a competitive basis to any local school board that seeks assistance to initiate, expand, or improve teacher professional development opportunities or student environmental education programs that align with the content and objectives of the bill.

Patron - Cole

F HB660 Corporate income tax; distribution of revenues; state parks. Requires five percent beginning July 1, 2024, of all corporate income tax revenues to be distributed to the State Park Conservation Resources Fund to provide (i) free entry to Virginia state parks and (ii) the conservation, development, maintenance, and operations of state parks acquired or held by the Department of Conservation and Recreation as provided in the appropriation act. The bill provides that such distribution shall not reduce the total amount of annual appropriations for the Department and the Fund below the total amounts appropriated for the most recent fiscal year ending before July 1, 2024, except as provided by a subsequent appropriation act.

Patron - Kilgore

F HB693 State Air Pollution Control Board; motor vehicle emissions standards. Repeals the requirement that the State Air Pollution Control Board implement a low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle program for motor vehi-

cles with a model year of 2025 and later. The bill prohibits the Board from adopting or enforcing any model year standards related to control of emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, including low-emission vehicle and zero-emission vehicle standards pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act and prohibits the Commonwealth from requiring any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine to be certified as compliant with model year standards related to the control of emissions adopted by California for which a waiver has been granted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act. The bill has a delayed effective date that is contingent upon the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association certifying to the Virginia Code Commission that total annual sales of zero-emission vehicles have not met the annual standards adopted by regulation by the California Air Resources Board.

Patron - Ware

F HB741 Department of Environmental Quality; nuclear energy electric generation facilities; permitting. Redefines "small renewable energy projects" as "small clean energy projects" and adds an electrical generation facility with a rated capacity not exceeding 300 megawatts that generates electricity only from nuclear energy located in Planning District 1 (LENOWISCO), 2 (Cumberland Plateau), 3 (Mount Rogers), or 4 (New River Valley Region) to the definition for purposes of the regulation of such projects by the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill requires the Department to limit the permitting of such facilities pursuant to the definition and directs the Department to develop the applicable permit by rule regulations for such nuclear energy projects to be effective as soon as practicable.

Patron - O'Quinn

F HB795 Conveyance of easement. Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to grant and convey a temporary construction and ingress and egress easement over Neabsco Road at Leesylvania State Park to the Newport Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. The easement will allow ingress and egress for the repairs and restoration to a slope failure due to poor soils on the neighborhood open space property by the Newport Estates Homeowners Association.

Patron - Henson

HB948 Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund; Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; Advisory Review Committees. Requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund (the Preparedness Fund) and adds the Advisory Review Committee to the list of those with whom the Department is required to consult in establishing guidelines regarding the distribution and prioritization of loans and grants from the Preparedness Fund. The bill also requires the Director to convene an Advisory Review Committee to assist in the distribution of loans and grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (the Revolving Fund) and adds the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the Advisory Review Committee to the list of those with whom the Virginia Resources Authority is required to consult in directing the distribution of grants or loans from the Revolving Fund to particular local governments and establishing the interest rates and repayment terms of such loans. The bill requires the Department to make available for public inspection at the office of the Department and on a publicly accessible website records of each application for grants and loans from the two Funds and the actions taken thereon, post such applications within 15 calendar days of the loan or grant round application deadline, and provide an opportunity for a 30-day public comment period prior to each new loan

offering to solicit feedback on proposed revisions to the funds' manuals. This bill was incorporated into HB 1458. *Patron - Lopez* 

F HB1012 State parks; First Responder and Veteran Passport; discounted entry and parking. Establishes a First Responder and Veteran Passport that entitles a first responder or a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or other military service to receive a 50 percent discount on parking and admission fees at state parks in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Lovejoy

HB1056 Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources; coastal resilience policy; research university collaborative. Requires the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and all relevant agencies, when setting coastal resilience policies, issuing permits, and evaluating grant proposals to seek input and consultation from the Commonwealth's research university collaborative. Current law permits the Secretary to seek input and consultation from such collaborative when setting coastal resilience policies. The bill removes the Virginia Coastal Policy Center from such collaborative and provides that such collaborative may include any other institution in the Commonwealth conducting coastal resilience research. The bill also requires the Secretary to utilize such collaborative's expertise, research, and data analysis for the implementation of water management techniques and coastal resilience strategies. Under current law, such requirements by the Secretary are permissive.

Patron - Hodges

F HB1227 Recycling Infrastructure Improvement Fund; established; report. Establishes the Virginia Recycling Infrastructure Improvement Fund for the purpose of supporting local government recycling programs. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality to administer the Fund as a grant program to encourage the establishment of physical infrastructure and equipment necessary to start or improve local government recycling operations. The bill prohibits local governments from discontinuing their recycling programs until after July 1, 2028.

Patron - Willett

F HB1367 State parks; First Responder and Veteran Passport; discounted entry and parking. Establishes a First Responder and Veteran Passport that entitles a first responder or a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or other military service to receive a 50 percent discount on parking and admission fees at state parks in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Jones

F HB1449 Virginia Coastal Resilience Collaborative at The College of William and Mary in Virginia. Changes references relating to coastal resilience policy from the Coastal Policy Center at William and Mary School of Law to the Virginia Coastal Resilience Collaborative at The College of William and Mary in Virginia to reflect the dissolution of the Coastal Policy Center. The bill also adds the Collaborative to the list of entities with whom the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources may seek input and consultation in setting coastal resilience policies.

Patron - Batten

F HB1464 Validity of conservation easements; open-space land; public body. Requires the public body to hold a conservation easement or the public body acquiring real property for open-space land to determine that the limitations or obligations from acquiring such easement or real property

for open-space land conform in all respects to the comprehensive plan for the area in which the easement or real property is located.

Patron - Wiley

F HB1474 Virginia Code Commission; work group to recommend exemptions from the Dam Safety Act; low hazard potential impounding structures. Directs the Virginia Code Commission to convene a work group to recommend exemptions from the requirements of the Dam Safety Act for low hazard potential impounding structures where failure is not expected to cause loss of human life or material economic damage. The bill requires the Commission to submit a report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology summarizing the work and any recommendations of the work group by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Batten

F HB1523 State parks; procurement exemption; Natural Area Preservation Funds created. Exempts the Department of Conservation and Recreation from competitive sealed bidding or competitive negotiation for the purchase of items for resale at retail outlets and food services operations at state parks. The bill also establishes the Natural Areas Preservation Projects Fund and the Natural Areas Preservation Acquisition and Development Fund.

Patron - Higgins

F SB3 State Air Pollution Control Board; regulations; low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle standards. Repeals the State Air Pollution Control Board's authority to implement low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle standards that apply for vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later.

Patron - Stuart

**SB53** State Air Pollution Control Board; motor vehicle emissions standards. Repeals the requirement that the State Air Pollution Control Board implement a low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle program for motor vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later. The bill prohibits the Board from adopting or enforcing any model year standards related to control of emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, including low-emission vehicle and zero-emission vehicle standards pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act and prohibits the Commonwealth from requiring any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine to be certified as compliant with model year standards related to the control of emissions adopted by California for which a waiver has been granted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act.

Patron - McDougle

F **SB160** State Air Pollution Control Board; regulations; low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle standards. Repeals the State Air Pollution Control Board's authority to implement low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle standards that apply for vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later.

Patron - McGuire

F SB299 Board of Conservation and Recreation; Cave Board; repeal. Repeals provisions relating to the establishment of the Cave Board and transfers the duties of the Cave Board to the Board of Conservation and Recreation. The bill also changes from 12 members to 13 members the membership of the Board of Conservation and Recreation and requires at least one appointment made by the Governor to the Board of Conservation and Recreation to be based on a person's knowl-

edge of and activity in the conservation, exploration, study, and management of caves.

Patron - French

F SB414 Tire stewardship program established; report. Requires producers of tires sold in the Commonwealth to join a tire stewardship organization on or before January 1, 2026, which must submit a plan to the Department of Environmental Quality for the establishment of an approved tire stewardship program. Such tire stewardship program shall establish a statewide collection system for discarded tires to facilitate higher rates of recycling and resale for such tires. The bill establishes reporting requirements for tire stewardship organizations and provides that the Office of the Attorney General may, at the request of the Department, enforce the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Head

F SB486 Certain natural gas pipeline expansion unlawful; Planning District 19. Prohibits the increase or expansion of any natural gas pipeline capacity in Planning District 19 (Crater Region), whether in new or existing pipelines, that uses existing compressors powered by natural gas-fired combustion turbines, diesel motors, or other technology using fossil fuels. Such prohibition shall apply to all proposed or existing compressors in Planning District 19 associated with natural gas pipelines, including those serving interstate and intrastate pipelines, regardless of size for the purpose of air pollution reduction. The bill requires the State Air Pollution Control Board to ensure that the provisions of the bill are incorporated into the Commonwealth's state implementation plan enacted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act. Patron - Aird

F SB561 Department of Environmental Quality; nuclear energy electrical generation facilities; permitting. Adds an electrical generation facility with a rated capacity not exceeding 300 megawatts that generates electricity only from nuclear energy located in Planning District 1 (LENOWISCO), 2 (Cumberland Plateau), 3 (Mount Rogers), or 4 (New River Valley Region) to the definition of small renewable energy project for purposes of the regulation of such projects by the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill requires the Department to limit the permitting of such facilities pursuant to the definition and directs the Department to develop the applicable permit by rule regulations for such nuclear energy projects to be effective as soon as practicable.

Patron - Hackworth

## **Carried Over**

C HB406 Department of Environmental Quality; enforcement of regulations; Clean Water Act; cooling water intakes at power plants. Requires the Department of Environmental Quality to promptly enforce federal regulations implementing a provision of the federal Clean Water Act for cooling water intakes at power plants to reduce negative impacts on fish populations in the waters of the Commonwealth.

Patron - Clark

C HB745 Mattress stewardship program established; civil penalty. Prohibits the disposal of a mattress, as defined in the bill, in a landfill or an incinerator beginning January 1, 2028, and requires producers of mattresses sold at retail in the Commonwealth or a representative organization acting on a producer's behalf to submit a plan for the establishment of a mattress stewardship program. Such mattress stewardship program plan shall establish an assessment for all mattresses

sold in the Commonwealth and a network of convenient and free collection sites for postconsumer mattresses, defined in the bill, that will facilitate higher rates of recycling and materials recovery for postconsumer mattresses. The bill establishes annual reporting requirements for mattress producers or representative organizations and establishes a Mattress Stewardship Program Advisory Board to advise on the proper implementation and sustainability of the mattress stewardship program. The bill also establishes the powers and duties of the Department of Environmental Quality as they relate to the bill and civil penalties for improper mattress disposal and violations of the mattress stewardship program. Patron - Laufer

C HB1403 Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund; percentage of funds available; owner match requirements.

Patron - Laufer

C SB446 State Air Pollution Control Board, State Water Control Board, and Virginia Waste Management Board consolidated; Board of Environmental Resources established. Consolidates the State Air Pollution Control Board, State Water Control Board, and Virginia Waste Management Board and transfers the duties of such boards into a new Board of Environmental Resources. The bill establishes membership, term, meeting, and recording requirements for the Board and also establishes the position, powers, and duties of the Executive Director of the Board.

Patron - Stuart

C SB465 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation. Allows land trusts that have been accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission or a similar set of standards and practices adopted by the Virginia Land Conservation Board of Trustees (the Board) to hold an interest in land other than a fee simple interest as a result of a grant or transfer from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (the Foundation) without a co-holder. Current law requires that certain interests in land as a result of a grant or transfer from the Foundation be held jointly by a holder and a public body. The bill also allows, whenever a holder acquires fee simple interest in land as a result of a grant or transfer from the Foundation, the Board to accept a reversionary interest in such land as an alternative to a public body holding an open space easement in such land. Patron - Marsden

SB698 Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund; percentage of funds available; **owner match requirements.** Reduces from 50 percent to 30 percent the project match required of applicants to receive funds from the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund for grants (i) to a local government that owns a dam, (ii) to a local government for a dam located within the locality, or (iii) to a private entity that owns a dam for the design, repair, and safety modifications of such a dam if it is identified in a safety report. The bill provides that grants made from the Fund to a local government or private entity for the determination of the hazard classification for impounding structures, dam break analysis, the mapping and digitization of dam break inundation zones, incremental damage analysis, and other engineering requirements shall require no more than a 10 percent match by the applicant except that such applicant shall be required to provide a minimum of \$5,000 of the cost of the project, if funded, and such match provided by such applicant may be used to pay the application fees for the necessary impounding structure operation and maintenance certificate. The bill removes the 50 percent limit on matching grants that owners of impounding structures may be eligible for from the Fund and other sources of funding available to the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to assist in the development of dam break inundation zone maps and for conducting incremental damage assessments in accordance with the Virginia Impounding Structure Regulations. The bill also removes the limitation that the total amount of expenditures for grants in any fiscal year are not to exceed 50 percent of the total noninterest or income deposits made to the Fund during the previous fiscal year together with the total amount collected in interest or income from the investment of moneys in the Fund from the previous year as determined at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Patron - French

# Corporations

#### **Passed**

P HB124 State Corporation Commission; annual report filing requirements. Permits a person authorized by a domestic or foreign stock or nonstock corporation to sign the annual report of such corporation for purposes of the Virginia Stock Corporation Act and the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB723 Property Owners' Association Act; meetings of the board of directors; inconsistent provisions. Provides that the provisions of the Property Owners' Association Act govern the conduct of meetings of the board of directors without regard to whether the property owners' association is incorporated or unincorporated. The bill clarifies that such provisions shall not be interpreted to supersede corporate authorities otherwise established by law or governing documents.

Patron - Webert

#### Failed

F HB1506 Retail franchise agreements; governing law; competition restrictions. Provides that retail franchise agreements shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth and prohibits any person from offering or entering into a franchise agreement that includes competition restrictions that extend beyond termination or expiration of the franchise agreement unless such restriction is approved by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Patron - Wyatt

SB148 Securities Act; digital tokens; exemption. Provides that an issuer or seller of a digital token, as defined in the bill, shall be exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act if (i) the digital token cannot be considered an investment contract, as defined in the bill; (ii) the primary purpose of the token is consumptive, as defined in the bill; (iii) the issuer or seller of the digital token did not market the digital token to the initial buyer as a financial investment; and (iv) at least one of four additional criteria are satisfied. The bill requires an issuer or seller of a digital token to file a notice of intent with the State Corporation Commission prior to qualifying for such exemption. The bill also requires the Commission to make a notice of intent form available on its website for this purpose and permits the Commission to promulgate rules as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Head

# **Counties, Cities and Towns**

#### **Passed**

PHB59 Virginia Regional Industrial Facilities Act; Planning Districts 13 and 14. Adds Planning Districts 13 (Southside) and 14 (Commonwealth Regional Commission) to the list of areas where localities may create a regional industrial facility authority that contains a town and only one city or county rather than at least two cities or counties. Patron - Wright

P HB128 Local regulation of door-to-door vendors; political parties exempted. Provides that local ordinances regulating the activities of door-to-door vendors shall not apply to any person participating in certain specified political activities.

Patron - Watts

P HB136 Waiving of utility connection fees in certain areas; City of Staunton. Allows the City of Staunton to reduce or waive utility connection fees in certain designated areas.

Patron - Campbell

P HB151 Department of Energy; building standards for certain local buildings. Requires the Department of Energy, upon request, to provide technical assistance to localities, subject to available budgetary resources, as localities implement mandates related to onsite renewable energy generation, energy storage, and resilience standards for construction or renovation of certain public buildings. The bill also makes several technical and clarifying changes to the existing statute, in part by defining or redefining existing terms found in the statute. This bill is identical to SB 245.

Patron - Helmer

HB208 Comprehensive plan; healthy commu**nities strategy.** Authorizes a locality, beginning July 1, 2024, to adopt a healthy communities strategy as part of its next and any subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan. The bill provides that the locality's strategy may include identifying (i) major sources of pollution or hazardous waste sites within the locality, (ii) policies to mitigate the unique or compounded health risks to residents that may be caused by such pollution sources or hazardous waste sites, (iii) objectives and policies to promote civic engagement in public decision-making processes by residents, (iv) objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that promote healthy communities, and (v) objectives and policies that encourage linking public transit with community and health services and siting or colocating health services in unconventional settings to ensure convenient access for all community members. This bill is identical to SB 595. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Simonds

P HB405 Commission on Electric Utility Regulation; evaluation of infrastructure necessary for electric vehicle charging facilities. Directs the State Corporation Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide technical assistance to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation (the Commission) if the Commission evaluates the design and deployment of the electrical distribution infrastructure necessary to support the installation of electric vehicle charging facilities in new developments consisting of single-family and multifamily residential units. The bill requires the Commission to engage rep-

resentatives from the residential and commercial development industries, private sector utility consultants, and other stakeholders if it conducts such an evaluation. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McClure

P HB456 City council salaries. Increases the statutory salary caps for members of city councils and requires a public hearing prior to adopting an ordinance to set city council salaries. The bill also provides that the maximum salaries may be adjusted in any year by an inflation factor not to exceed five percent.

Patron - Callsen

P HB459 Conservation of trees during land development process in certain localities. Expands authority of certain localities to adopt an ordinance providing for the planting and replacement of trees during the development process by allowing a tree canopy fund that currently applies to the planting of trees on public property to include maintenance of trees on private property and planting and maintenance of trees on private property. The bill removes a provision that requires that any funds collected for the purposes of the tree canopy fund be returned to the original contributor if not spent within five years but maintains the requirement that such funds be spent within five years. The bill also includes an expansion of the canopy credit. This bill is identical to SB 121.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB460 Cumberlands Airport Commission. Establishes a new charter for the Cumberlands Airport Commission and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1958. The proposed charter sets out the organization of the Commission and contains powers and duties typically granted for authorities. The bill also removes the Town of Lebanon and the Counties of Lee and Russell from the Commission. This bill is identical to SB 728.

Patron - Kilgore

P HB467 Establishment by localities of certain real estate contract disclosures prohibited. Prohibits localities from establishing or enforcing a mandatory disclosure requirement for a real estate licensee, any party to a contract for the sale or listing of residential real property, or any authorized agent of such party. The bill provides that prohibited mandatory disclosures include mandatory notifications in contracts, contract amendments or addenda, advertising, other promotional materials, and subsequent deeds after the initial deed is recorded, related to the sale of residential real estate. This bill is identical to SB 354.

Patron - Simon

P HB478 Community revitalization fund; expanding use for all localities. Expands the current provisions of law allowing for the establishment of a community revitalization fund for the purpose of preventing neighborhood deterioration to apply to all localities. Currently, only the City of Richmond is authorized to establish such a fund. This bill is identical to SB 49 and is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Coyner

P HB529 Conservation and replacement of trees during development process. Expands certain existing local government authority to conserve or replace trees during the development process by expanding such authority statewide. The bill allows localities to establish higher tree canopy replacement percentages based on density per acre. The bill also alters the current process for granting exceptions to a local ordinance by altering a provision that requires the granting of

an exception when strict application of the ordinance would result in unnecessary or unreasonable hardship to the developer and replacing it with a requirement that the locality concur with such determination. The bill permits localities to monitor and assess the condition and coverage of tree canopies at development sites during the time period up to 20 years' maturity of the planted trees. The bill makes numerous technical amendments. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hope

P HB581 Human trafficking response teams. Requires attorneys for the Commonwealth to establish multidisciplinary human trafficking response teams. The bill provides that each team shall hold a meeting, at least annually, to (i) discuss implementation of protocols and policies; (ii) establish and review guidelines for the community's response to various forms of human trafficking, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking; and (iii) review protocols for the traumainformed, victim-centered collection, preservation, and secure storage of evidence from physical evidence recovery kit examinations. The bill also provides that the Virginia Freedom of Information Act shall not apply to human trafficking response teams, with certain exceptions.

Patron - Simonds

P HB619 Military centered community zones; local designation. Allows localities to establish, by ordinance,

one or more military centered community zones, defined in the bill as a community that has a significant presence of military personnel living or working in the designated area and where such presence drives, or has the potential to drive, significant economic activity. The bill provides that a locality, or another political subdivision acting on behalf of the locality, may offer unique benefits to businesses looking to locate within a zone for the purpose of serving the needs of the military personnel, including reduction of certain fees and taxes. In addition, the bill provides that local governing bodies are authorized to enter into agreements for the payment of economic development incentive grants to such businesses. The bill also allows a governing body to provide for certain regulatory flexibility and incentives and provides that the establishment of a military centered community zone shall not preclude the area from also being designated as an enterprise zone or from receiving support under the Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program. This bill is identical to SB 343.

Patron - Price

P HB634 Residential dwelling units; rentals for 30 consecutive days or longer. Prohibits a locality from enacting or enforcing an ordinance that bans the rental of residential dwelling units for 30 consecutive days or longer. The bill allows a locality by ordinance to regulate such rental if such regulations (i) are reasonable and (ii) do not exceed the requirements for an owner-occupied residential property or a residential property rented for a lease term of 12 months or more in the same zoning district. This bill is identical to SB 308.

Patron - Simon

**HB650** Zoning; residential and electrical generation projects; period of validity. Provides that the conditions of a special exception or special use permit may include a period of validity; however, in the case of a special exception or special use permit for residential and electrical generation projects, the period of validity shall be no fewer than three years. The bill provides that for so long as a special exception, special use permit, or conditional use permit remains valid, no change or amendment to any local ordinance, map, resolution, rule, regulation, policy, or plan adopted subsequent to the date of approval of the special exception, special use permit, or con-

ditional use permit shall adversely affect the right of the developer or his successor in interest to commence and complete an approved development in accordance with the lawful terms of the special exception, special use permit, or conditional use permit unless the change or amendment is required to comply with state law or there has been a mistake, fraud, or a change in circumstances substantially affecting the public health, safety, or welfare.

Patron - Coyner

P HB755 Civil penalties for certain local property violations; industrial and commercial areas. Allows localities by ordinance to charge enhanced civil penalties for certain local property violations on property that is zoned or utilized for industrial or commercial purposes. Patron - Walker

P HB776 Minimum qualifications for lawenforcement officers; citizenship; waiver. Allows individuals who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence who have resided in the United States for no less than 60 months and who are both eligible for and have applied for United States citizenship to qualify for the positions of chief of police and all police officers of any locality, all deputy sheriffs and jail officers in the Commonwealth, and all law-enforcement officers. The bill allows any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers to hire, recruit, or refer an individual who is a citizen of the United States over another individual who meets such qualifications if such individuals are equally qualified.

Current law only allows citizens of the United States to qualify for the named positions; the citizenship requirement can only be waived for good cause upon request of a sheriff or chief of police or the director or chief executive of any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers to the Department of Criminal Justice Services. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Herring

P HB914 Local historic districts; tax incentives. Allows a locality that establishes a local historic district to provide tax incentives for the conservation and renovation of historic structures in such district. The bill provides that such incentives may include tax rebates to the extent allowed by the Constitution of Virginia. Patron - Shin

**HB947** Local government powers; regulation of tobacco, nicotine, and hemp product retail sale locations. Allows a locality to regulate the retail sale locations of tobacco products, nicotine vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or hemp products intended for smoking for any such retail sale location and may prohibit a retail sale location on property within 1,000 linear feet of a child day center or a public, private, or parochial school.

Patron - Lopez

P HB950 Uniform Statewide Building Code; temporary prohibition on modifications. Provides that neither the Governor nor the Board of Housing and Community Development shall modify any regulation in the Uniform Statewide Building Code prior to the conclusion of the Commonwealth's next triennial code development process. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

HB953 Local Environmental Impact Fund. Allows localities to create a permanent and perpetual fund to be known as the Local Environmental Impact Fund. The bill

provides that the Fund shall consist exclusively of appropriated local moneys and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and

other funds received on its behalf and that the Fund is to be created for the purpose of granting funds to residents or locally owned businesses for the mitigation of environmental impacts. Such grants from the Fund shall be used only for the purchase of energy efficient (i) lawn care and landscaping equipment, (ii) home appliances, (iii) HVAC equipment, or (iv) micromobility devices. The Fund shall be administered and managed by the locality. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Lopez

P HB1019 Health insurance for local employees.

Permits any locality to allow participation in its group health insurance program by any non-benefitted employee, including members of governing bodies, if such non-benefitted employee or governing body member is not otherwise entitled to participate, provided that such non-benefitted employees reimburse the locality for the full cost of their participation. The bill provides that reimbursement may include forgoing all or a part of a local government salary.

Patron - Wilt

P HB1028 Affordable housing; assisted living facilities. Allows localities that have adopted an affordable housing program to require that in an application for a special exception or special use permit affordable rental units be included for any proposed development of an assisted living facility. Such ordinance shall apply to newly licensed assisted living facilities and permit applications approved on or after January 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Reaser

P HB1100 Conservation of trees during land development process. Expands current provisions that provide that certain localities in Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia) may, by ordinance, require conservation of trees during the land development process by making such provisions available to localities statewide. This bill incorporates HB 170 and HB 534. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Carr

P HB1167 Local prohibition on the sale of English ivy; civil penalty. Authorizes any locality to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the sale of English ivy, with violations punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$50 for a first violation and not to exceed \$200 for a subsequent violation within 12 months. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Krizek

P HB1211 Tax assessment districts; petition by parcel owners. Changes the threshold for petitioning a city or town for establishment of a tax assessment district from not less than three-fourths of the landowners affected to the owners of not less than three-fourths of the parcels affected. Patron - Hayes

P HB1386 Firearms; workplace rules of localities. Provides that any locality that adopts an ordinance prohibiting the public carrying of firearms shall not have workplace rules that are less restrictive than such ordinance. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

HB1392 Local government employee insurance programs. Authorizes any locality to include in its group life, accident, and health insurance programs any person to whom coverage could be extended under the provision of current law that sets out who may be covered under a private group accident and sickness insurance policy.

Patron - Jones

HB1395 Historic preservation. Provides that the filing of a building permit or demolition application shall stay a locality from issuing any permit to raze or demolish a historic landmark, building, or structure until 30 days after the rendering of the final decision of the governing body of the locality pursuant to a historic preservation ordinance. Patron - Hope

P HB1410 Russell County Industrial Development Authority; appointments. Clarifies that the board of supervisors of Russell County may appoint nine members to its industrial development authority, which shall consist of two members from the governing body of a town that has used its borrowing capacity to borrow \$2 million or more for industrial development and such other members as the board of supervisors shall agree upon. Under current law, two of the members must come from a town that has used its borrowing capacity to borrow \$2 million or more for industrial development. This bill is identical to SB 727.

Patron - O'Quinn

HB1415 Civil penalty for demolition of historic structures. Authorizes any locality to adopt an ordinance establishing a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in a historic district or that has been designated by a governing body as a historic structure or landmark in violation of an ordinance that no such building or structure shall be razed, demolished, or moved without the approval of a review board. The bill provides that such civil penalty shall not exceed the market value of the property as determined by the assessed value of the property at the time of razing, demolition, or moving of the building or structure. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - McQuinn

HB1461 Short-term rental property; locality's ability to prohibit lessee or sublessee operator. Prohibits a locality from barring an operator, as defined in existing law, from offering such property as a short-term rental solely on the basis that the operator is a lessee or sublessee of such property, provided that the property owner has granted permission for its use as a short-term rental. The bill adds an attestation that the property owner has granted such permission if the operator is a lessee or sublessee to the information that an operator must provide to annually register such short-term rental. The bill permits a locality to limit a lessee or sublessee to one shortterm rental.

Patron - Mundon King

HB1486 Vacant buildings; registration. Permits any county, city, or town to require, by ordinance, the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and (i) that meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law, (ii) that meets the definition of "criminal blight" in relevant law, or (iii) in which a locality has determined a person is living without the authority of the owner to register such building annually. Under current law, any city and certain towns are permitted to require the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law to register such building annually. This bill is identical to SB 48 and is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Thomas

HB1488 Local government; standardization of public notice requirements for certain meetings, hearings, or intended actions. Standardizes the frequency with which and length of time in which notices of certain meetings, hearings, and other intended actions of localities must be published.

The notice provisions included in the bill are organized into three groups: (i) publication required at least seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; (ii) publication required twice, with the first notice appearing no more than 28 days before and the second notice appearing no less than seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; and (iii) publication required three times, with the first notice appearing no more than 35 days before and the third notice appearing no less than seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action. The bill also standardizes descriptive information in such notices related to (a) proposing, amending, or repealing ordinances; (b) local budget adoption; and (c) zoning ordinances and planning-related actions. This bill is identical to SB 413.

Patron - Henson

P **\$B48** Vacant buildings; registration. Permits any county, city, or town to require, by ordinance, the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and (i) that meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law, (ii) that meets the definition of "criminal blight" in relevant law, or (iii) in which a locality has determined a person is living without the authority of the owner to register such building annually. Under current law, any city and certain towns are permitted to require the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law to register such building annually. This bill incorporates SB 478, is identical to HB 1486, and is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Locke

SB49 Community revitalization fund; expanding use for all localities. Expands the current provisions of law allowing for the establishment of a community revitalization fund for the purpose of preventing neighborhood deterioration to apply to all localities. Currently, only the City of Richmond is authorized to establish such a fund. This bill is identical to HB 478 and is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Locke

SB69 Minimum qualifications for law-enforcement officers; citizenship; waiver. Allows individuals who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to qualify for the positions of chief of police, police officer of a locality, deputy sheriff, jail officer, and law-enforcement officer. Current law allows only citizens of the United States to qualify for the named positions. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - McPike

SB88 Decertification of law-enforcement offi**cers and jail officers.** Makes various changes to the provisions related to decertification of law-enforcement officers and jail officers. The bill provides that the Department of Criminal Justice Services may conduct decertification review hearings in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act. The bill provides that the findings and decision of the Department may be appealed to the Board and that the final administrative decision of the Board may be then appealed and reviewed by a court. The bill also provides that records provided to the Board or Department for the purposes of decertification of an identifiable law-enforcement officer or jail officer may be withheld from the public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and those meetings concerning the decertification of an identifiable law-enforcement or jail officer may be closed. The bill also allows the Department to grant a continuance of any informal fact-finding conference or formal hearing upon motion by the decertified officer or his counsel or the Attorney General for good cause shown. The bill requires an officer to remain decertified during a period of continuance of any informal fact-finding conference or formal hearing for a pending criminal charge unless the Department finds the officer's continued decertification may cause circumstances that constitute a manifest injustice to the officer, in which case the officer's certification may be reinstated during the period of continuance until the conviction becomes final. Current law allows the Board, when an officer's conviction has not become final, to decline to decertify such officer after considering the likelihood of irreparable damage to the officer if such officer is decertified during the pendency of an ultimately successful appeal, the likelihood of injury or damage to the public if the officer is not decertified, and the seriousness of the offense. Additionally, the bill allows for the decertification of an officer who is terminated or resigns for an act committed while in the performance of his duties that compromises an officer's credibility, integrity, or honesty or that constitutes exculpatory or impeachment evidence in a criminal case. The bill also provides that persons who are currently in a recruit or field training status and have committed an act that would be any basis for decertification are ineligible for certification. The bill also specifies that the required notification to the Department related to an officer being terminated or resigning (i) for engaging in serious misconduct; (ii) while such officer is the subject of a pending internal investigation involving serious misconduct; or (iii) for an act committed while in the performance of his duties that compromises an officer's credibility, integrity, or honesty or constitutes exculpatory or impeachment evidence in a criminal case shall be within 48 hours of completion of an internal investigation. Under current law, such notification is required to be within 48 hours of the termination or resignation. The bill also requires the Department to establish standards and procedures for when the Department may grant a petition for reinstatement of certification of a decertified officer. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Locke

P **SB121** Conservation of trees during land development process in certain localities. Expands authority of certain localities to adopt an ordinance providing for the planting and replacement of trees during the development process by allowing a tree canopy fund that currently applies to the planting of trees on public property to include maintenance of trees on private property and planting and maintenance of trees on private property. The bill removes a provision that requires that any funds collected for the purposes of the tree canopy fund be returned to the original contributor if not spent within five years but maintains the requirement that such funds be spent within five years. The bill also includes an expansion of the canopy credit. This bill is identical to HB 459.

Patron - Subramanyam

P **SB134** Economic development authorities; Craig County. Allows the board of supervisors of Craig County to appoint one of its members to the Economic Development Authority of the County of Craig.

Patron - Head

P SB188 Election of certain governing bodies; conversion to single-member districts. Allows the governing body of a locality that has been subject to a court order imposing a remedial election system under voting rights laws to adopt an ordinance to convert one or more at-large seats of such body to single-member districts. The bill provides that members of such governing body in office on the effective date of such ordinance shall complete their terms of office. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rouse

P SB245 Department of Energy; building standards for certain local buildings. Requires the Department of Energy, upon request, to provide technical assistance to localities, subject to available budgetary resources, as localities implement mandates related to onsite renewable energy generation, energy storage, and resilience standards for construction or renovation of certain public buildings. The bill also makes several technical and clarifying changes to the existing statute, in part by defining or redefining existing terms found in the statute. This bill is identical to HB 151.

Patron - McPike

P SB296 Local planning commission; action on proposed plats, site plans, and development plans; residential use. Requires local planning commissions to use the same approval process for residential development projects as is currently required for commercial development projects.

P SB308 Residential dwelling units; rentals for 30 consecutive days or longer. Prohibits a locality from enacting or enforcing an ordinance that bans the rental of residential dwelling units for 30 consecutive days or longer. The bill allows a locality by ordinance to regulate such rental if such regulations (i) are reasonable and (ii) do not exceed the requirements for an owner-occupied residential property or a residential property rented for a lease term of 12 months or more in the same zoning district. This bill is identical to HB 634

Patron - McPike

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB339 Joint Commission on Technology and Science analysis; blockchain, digital asset mining, and cryptocurrency; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science to conduct an analysis of and make recommendations regarding the use of blockchain technology, digital asset mining, and cryptocurrency in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Commission to submit its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology no later than December 1, 2024. Patron - Salim

P **SB343** Military centered community zones; local designation. Allows localities to establish, by ordinance, one or more military centered community zones, defined in the bill as a community that has a significant presence of military personnel living or working in the designated area and where such presence drives, or has the potential to drive, significant economic activity. The bill provides that a locality, or another political subdivision acting on behalf of the locality, may offer unique benefits to businesses looking to locate within a zone for the purpose of serving the needs of the military personnel, including reduction of certain fees and taxes. In addition, the bill provides that local governing bodies are authorized to enter into agreements for the payment of economic development incentive grants to such businesses. The bill also allows a governing body to provide for certain regulatory flexibility and incentives and provides that the establishment of a military centered community zone shall not preclude the area from also being designated as an enterprise zone or from receiving support under the Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program. This bill is identical to HB 619. Patron - Rouse

P SB354 Establishment by localities of certain real estate contract disclosures prohibited. Prohibits locali-

ties from establishing or enforcing a mandatory disclosure

requirement for a real estate licensee, any party to a contract for the sale or listing of residential real property, or any authorized agent of such party. The bill provides that prohibited mandatory disclosures include mandatory notifications in contracts, contract amendments or addenda, advertising, other promotional materials, and subsequent deeds after the initial deed is recorded, related to the sale of residential real estate. This bill is identical to HB 467.

Patron - Locke

P SB413 Local government; standardization of public notice requirements for certain meetings, hearings, or intended actions. Standardizes the frequency with which and length of time in which notices of certain meetings, hearings, and other intended actions of localities must be published. The notice provisions included in the bill are organized into three groups: (i) publication required at least seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; (ii) publication required twice, with the first notice appearing no more than 28 days before and the second notice appearing no less than seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action; and (iii) publication required three times, with the first notice appearing no more than 35 days before and the third notice appearing no less than seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action. The bill also standardizes descriptive information in such notices related to (a) proposing, amending, or repealing ordinances; (b) local budget adoption; and (c) zoning ordinances and planning-related actions. This bill is identical to HB 1488.

Patron - Head

P **SB595** Comprehensive plan; healthy communities strategy. Authorizes a locality, beginning July 1, 2024, to adopt a healthy communities strategy as part of its next and any subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan. The bill provides that the locality's strategy may include identifying (i) major sources of pollution or hazardous waste sites within the locality, (ii) policies to mitigate the unique or compounded health risks to residents that may be caused by such pollution sources or hazardous waste sites, (iii) objectives and policies to promote civic engagement in public decision-making processes by residents, (iv) objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that promote healthy communities, and (v) objectives and policies that encourage linking public transit with community and health services and siting or colocating health services in unconventional settings to ensure convenient access for all community members. This bill is identical to HB 208. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Bagby

P SB597 Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority; comprehensive plan. Authorizes any locality in the Commonwealth to provide for an affordable housing dwelling unit program by amending the zoning ordinance of such locality. Current law restricts such authorization to counties with an urban county executive form of government or county manager plan of government and certain other localities. This bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McPike

P SB645 Local fiscal distress; determination by Auditor of Public Accounts; state intervention. Sets out a procedure for determining when localities are in fiscal distress, as defined in the bill, and when state intervention may be necessary. The bill requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to develop criteria for a preliminary determination that a locality may be in fiscal distress. The bill also requires the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget to identify any amounts remaining unexpended from general fund appropria-

tions in the state budget as of June 30 of each year, which constitute state aid to local governments. From such unexpended balances, the Governor may reappropriate up to \$750,000 from amounts that would otherwise revert to the balance of the general fund and transfer such amounts as necessary to establish a component of fund balance that may be used for the purpose of providing state assistance, oversight, and intervention actions for localities deemed to be fiscally distressed and in need of state assistance, oversight, or intervention to address such distress. The bill provides that if a report to the Governor concludes that a locality located in Planning District 19 (Crater Planning District Commission) is either unwilling or unable to comply with the conditions necessary to address its fiscal distress, the Commission on Local Government shall appoint an emergency fiscal manager and implement a remediation plan to restore sustainable fiscal health to such locality. The emergency fiscal officer shall give timely notice of any proposed actions to be taken and an opportunity for public input prior to such action and shall establish benchmarks that will allow such locality to exit the state intervention plan upon meeting such benchmarks.

Patron - Aird

P **SB701** Vested rights; building permits. Provides that if a locality has issued a building permit, despite nonconformance with the zoning ordinance, and a property owner, relying in good faith on the issuance of the building permit, incurs extensive obligations or substantial expenses in diligent pursuit of a building project that is in conformance with the building permit and the Uniform Statewide Building Code, the locality shall not treat such building as an illegal use but rather as a legal nonconforming use. Current law requires that such project be completed and a certificate of occupancy issued in order to receive such protection.

Patron - French

P SB727 Russell County Industrial Development Authority; appointments. Clarifies that the board of supervisors of Russell County may appoint nine members to its industrial development authority, which shall consist of two members from the governing body of a town that has used its borrowing capacity to borrow \$2 million or more for industrial development and such other members as the board of supervisors shall agree upon. Under current law, two of the members must come from a town that has used its borrowing capacity to borrow \$2 million or more for industrial development. This bill is identical to HB 1410.

Patron - Pillion

P **SB728** Cumberlands Airport Commission. Establishes a new charter for the Cumberlands Airport Commission and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1958. The proposed charter sets out the organization of the Commission and contains powers and duties typically granted for authorities. The bill also removes the Town of Lebanon and the Counties of Lee and Russell from the Commission. This bill is identical to HB 460.

Patron - Pillion

### Failed

F HB147 Reimbursement of expenses incurred in responding to terrorism hoax incident, bomb threat, malicious activation of fire alarm, or false emergency communication to emergency personnel. Allows a locality that has an ordinance requiring any person over 18 years of age convicted of false emergency communication to emergency personnel to reimburse such locality at the time of sentencing or in a separate civil action to bill a flat fee of \$2,500 or a minute-by-min-

ute accounting of actual costs incurred. The bill also allows a locality that has an ordinance requiring any person under 18 years of age convicted of false emergency communication to emergency personnel to reimburse such locality at the time of sentencing or in a separate civil action to bill a flat fee of \$2,500 or a minute-by-minute accounting of actual costs incurred, not to exceed \$2,500. Current law allows a flat fee of \$250 or a minute-by-minute accounting of actual costs incurred, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.

F HB170 Conservation of trees during land development process; authorized localities. Allows any locality to adopt an ordinance providing for the conservation of trees during the land development process. Under current law, only a locality within Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia)

that meets certain population density and nonattainment classification criteria is authorized to adopt such an ordinance. This bill was incorporated into HB 1100.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F HB229 Advertisement of legal notices; website. Allows a locality to advertise legal notices on the locality's website instead of, or in addition to, publishing such notices in a newspaper having general circulation in the locality. Patron - Campbell

F HB235 Persons occupying street for commercial use; civil penalty. Allows cities and towns by ordinance to establish a uniform schedule of civil penalties for commercial use of a street, avenue, park, bridge, or any other public place or public property or any public easement of a city or town, in a manner not permitted to the general public, without having first legally obtained the consent of the city or town. The bill provides that the schedule of civil penalties shall be uniform for each type of specified violation, and the penalty for any one violation, unless elsewhere authorized, shall not exceed (i) \$500 for the initial penalty, (ii) \$1,000 for the second violation, or (iii) \$1,500 for the third or subsequent violation. Patron - Tata

F HB293 Disposal of unclaimed property in possession of sheriff or police; notice of public display and sale. Allows a law-enforcement agency to publish the required notice that there will be a public display and sale of certain unclaimed personal property that has been in the possession of such law-enforcement agency and remained unclaimed for more than 60 days on the law-enforcement agency's official website or any related social media platforms once a week for two successive weeks. Under current law, such notice may only be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality.

Patron - Ballard

F HB301 Local enforcement of property maintenance. Adds the violation of one or more local ordinances related to the proper maintenance of property to existing provisions that allow a locality to require a property owner to remove, repair, or secure a building, wall, or other structure that might endanger the public health or safety of other residents of such locality as a reason for requiring such maintenance. The bill also allows the locality through its own agents or employees to take such actions after proper notice.

Patron - Ballard

F HB334 Certification of boiler and pressure vessel operators by localities. Repeals an existing statute that allows localities by ordinance to require certification of boiler and pressure vessel operators.

Patron - Wiley

F HB337 Siting of data centers; impacts on resources and historically significant sites. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall only be approved in areas where the data center will (i) have a minimal impact on historic, agricultural, and cultural resources and (ii) not be within one-half mile of a national park, state park, or other historically significant site. Patron - Thomas

F HB344 Displacement of private waste companies. Reduces from five years to one year the period of time a locality must provide notice to a private waste company before the locality engages in the actual provision of the waste service that displaces the company.

Patron - Green

F HB345 Timing of local elections. Allows a city or town by majority vote of the local governing body to hold its municipal elections on the first Tuesday in May for terms to commence July 1, in which case the terms of council members shall be extended by six months in order to implement the transition. Currently, cities and towns must hold their municipal elections at the time of the November general election. *Patron - Green* 

F HB364 Local government; water-filled fire sprinkler systems. Permits a locality to allow the installation of automatic water-filled or wet-pipe fire sprinkler systems in new townhome construction. The bill provides that such ordinance shall require the installation be completed in compliance with standards, requirements, and specifications for the installation of an automatic water-filled or wet-pipe fire sprinkler system as prescribed by the National Fire Protection Association's NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems. An automatic water-filled or wet-pipe fire sprinkler system shall not be required when additions or alterations are made to existing townhomes that do not have an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed.

F HB377 Zoning; traffic impact statements. Prohibits a locality from requiring a local traffic impact statement as a condition for approval of a rezoning application that involves a multifamily residential use of fewer than 50 residential units.

Patron - Owen

F HB378 Release of developer performance guarantees. Clarifies that existing provisions related to the periodic partial and final release of developer performance guarantees also applies to performance guarantees for erosion and sediment control measures, stormwater management facilities, and fill and borrow areas.

Patron - Owen

F HB409 Election of certain governing bodies; conversion to single-member districts. Allows the governing body of a locality that has been subject to a court order imposing a remedial election system under voting rights laws to adopt an ordinance to convert one or more at-large members of such body to single-member districts. The bill provides that members of such governing body in office on the effective date of such ordinance shall complete their terms of office.

Patron - Askew

F HB443 Local government; standardization of public notice requirements for certain meetings, hearings, or intended actions. Standardizes the frequency with which and length of time in which notices of certain meetings, hear-

ings, and other intended actions of localities must be published. The notice provisions included in the bill are organized into three groups: (i) publication required at least seven days before a meeting, hearing, or intended action; (ii) publication required twice, with the first notice appearing no more than 28 days before and the second notice appearing no less than seven days before a meeting, hearing, or intended action; and (iii) publication required three times, with the first notice appearing no more than 35 days before and the third notice appearing no less than seven days before the meeting, hearing, or intended action. The bill also standardizes descriptive information in such notices related to (a) proposing, amending, or repealing ordinances; (b) local budget adoption; and (c) zoning ordinances and planning-related actions.

Patron - Williams

F HB476 Vacant buildings; registration. Permits any county, city, or town to require, by ordinance, the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and (i) that meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law, (ii) that meets the definition of "criminal blight" in relevant law, or (iii) in which a locality has determined a person is living without the authority of the owner to register such building annually. Under current law, any city and certain towns are permitted to require the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and meets the definition of "derelict building" in relevant law to register such building annually. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Coyner

F HB534 Conservation of trees; Town of Vienna. Allows the Town of Vienna, by ordinance, to require that a

subdivision or development provide for the preservation or replacement of trees on the development site such that the minimum tree canopies or covers 10 years after development is projected to meet specified coverage criteria. Under current law, the criteria apply to tree canopies or covers 20 years after development. This bill was incorporated into HB 1100.

Patron - Seibold

F HB539 Release of developer performance guarantees. Provides that no governing body or administrative agency shall refuse to make a periodic partial or final release of a bond, escrow, letter of credit, or other performance guarantee for the actions of anyone not under contractual agreement with a subdivider or developer or under the direct supervision and control of the subdivider or developer.

Patron - Owen

F HB567 Requirement for electric vehicle charging stations for certain developments. Provides that any locality may by ordinance require electric vehicle charging stations as part of subdivision or site plan approval for a development containing commercial, industrial, or multifamily residential uses with a density of seven residential dwelling units per acre or greater. The bill contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Askew

F HB644 Local prohibition or regulation of gaspowered leaf blowers; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The ordinance may include provisions for a civil penalty.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB655 Local fiscal distress; determination by Auditor of Public Accounts; state intervention. Sets out a procedure for determining when localities are in fiscal distress,

as defined in the bill, and when state intervention may be necessary. The bill requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to develop criteria for a preliminary determination that a locality may be in fiscal distress. The bill also requires the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget to identify any amounts remaining unexpended from general fund appropriations in the state budget as of June 30 of each year, which constitute state aid to local governments. From such unexpended balances, the Governor may reappropriate up to \$750,000 from amounts that would otherwise revert to the balance of the general fund and transfer such amounts as necessary to establish a component of fund balance that may be used for the purpose of providing technical assistance and intervention actions for localities deemed to be fiscally distressed and in need of intervention to address such distress. The bill provides that if a report to the Governor concludes that a locality is either unwilling or unable to comply with the conditions necessary to address its fiscal distress, the Governor shall use all powers available to him to intervene for the purpose of addressing such fiscal distress. The bill further grants authority to the Governor to appoint an emergency fiscal manager and grant the manager with all powers available and necessary to implement a plan to restore sustainable fiscal health to the locality. The emergency fiscal officer shall give timely notice of any proposed actions to be taken and an opportunity for public input prior to such action and shall establish benchmarks that will allow a locality to exit the state intervention plan upon meeting such benchmarks.

Patron - Coyner

F HB668 Timing of local elections. Provides that a locality may by ordinance shift the timing of the election of members of the local governing body from an even year to an odd year by extending the existing terms of local governing body members by one year. Such change may occur only after a public hearing and a majority vote of the governing body. Patron - Marshall

F HB672 Assistant attorneys for the Commonwealth; Compensation Board. Provides that the Compensation Board shall provide for employing at least one compensated assistant to the attorney for the Commonwealth in every county and city where the attorney for the Commonwealth devotes his full time to his duties and does not engage in the private practice of law. Under current law, the Compensation Board has discretion in determining if a county or city needs to employ any compensated assistants to the attorney for the Commonwealth.

Patron - Freitas

F HB683 Board of zoning appeals; appeal to general district court. Provides that in the case of an appeal from the board of zoning appeals of an order, requirement, decision, or determination of a zoning administrator, a person aggrieved by any such order, requirement, decision, or determination may file the petition with the clerk of the general district court that shall have jurisdiction to hear such appeal.

Patron - Leftwich

F HB710 Travel expenses; local officials. Provides that any travel expense of a local official, as defined in the bill, to be paid from public funds that is anticipated to exceed \$2,500 shall be subject to approval in advance by a vote of the local governing body in an open meeting. If the final travel expense exceeds the previously approved amount, such expense shall be reported to the governing body and noted in the meeting agenda or meeting minutes within 60 days of the determination.

Patron - Webert

F HB867 Local government employees; expression of certain opinions protected. Provides that an employee of a locality shall not be penalized by his employer for expressing his opinion regarding a current or proposed regulation, rule, policy, position, or other action or purpose of a public body at an open meeting of such public body when such employee is speaking on his own behalf. The bill excludes any speech that is unprotected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, including speech that (i) incites violence; (ii) is obscene, defamatory, or fraudulent; or (iii) discloses privileged and confidential information. The bill specifies that for purposes of this provision an employee of a locality does not include any person appointed to a position in a locality by an elected official or by a government body composed in whole or in part of elected officials.

Patron - Earley

F HB930 Zoning ordinances; adequate public facilities. Allows a locality to determine the timing of development by considering the adequacy of public facilities when making zoning decisions. The bill provides that a locality that makes a determination of inadequate facilities may reject or defer a rezoning application based solely on that determination. Patron - Earley

F HB1010 Siting of data centers; parks, schools, and residential areas. Requires that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center, as defined in the bill, be approved only for areas that are one-quarter mile or more from federal, state, or local parks, schools, and property zoned or used for residential use.

F HB1011 Disclosure in land use proceedings; statewide application. Alters certain land use disclosure requirements applicable to officials in any county with the urban county executive form of government (Fairfax County) by replacing "relationship of employee-employer, agent-principal, or attorney-client" with the broader phrase of "business or financial interest." The bill makes the same change to existing provisions that currently apply only to Loudoun County and applies the change statewide.

Patron - Lovejoy

Patron - Lovejov

F HB1034 Civil penalties for violations of zoning ordinance; short-term rentals. Allows any locality to adopt a uniform schedule of civil penalties for the violation of provisions of the zoning ordinance related to short-term rentals. The schedule of civil penalties shall not exceed (i) \$500 for the initial violation, (ii) \$1,000 for the second violation, or (iii) \$1,500 for the third or subsequent violation, with each day during which the violation is found to have existed constituting a separate offense. The bill provides that designation of a particular zoning ordinance violation for a civil penalty shall be in lieu of criminal sanctions, and except for any violation resulting in injury to persons, such designation shall preclude the prosecution of a violation as a criminal misdemeanor, unless such civil penalties total \$5,000 or more.

Patron - Bloxom

F HB1119 Local government powers; regulation of tobacco, nicotine, and hemp product retail sale locations. Permits localities to regulate by ordinance the location of retail sale locations established after July 1, 2024, that sell tobacco, nicotine, and hemp products. The bill provides that such ordinance may prohibit such retail sale locations within 1,000 linear feet of a public, private, or parochial school.

Patron - Seibold

HB1145 Arrest, summons, etc., quotas; prohibition; civil penalty. Provides that any person employed by a law-enforcement agency or any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers who implements a formal or informal quota for arrests made, summonses issued, traffic stops conducted, warnings given, or commercial motor vehicle safety inspections performed is subject to a \$10,000 civil penalty for each offense and if such formal or informal quota involves threats, intimidation, coercion, or modification of working conditions to subordinate officers, such employee is subject to a \$25,000 civil penalty for each offense. The bill also prohibits a law-enforcement agency or any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers from posting data regarding the number of arrests, summonses, traffic stops, warnings, or commercial motor vehicle safety inspections for the purpose of creating competition between officers with respect to arrests, summonses, traffic stops, warnings given, or commercial motor vehicle safety inspections. Current law prohibits formal and informal quotas for the number of arrests made and summonses issued within a designated period of time and allows agencies to use such information for any purpose other than as a quota.

Patron - Cordoza

# F HB1153 Benefits consortium for localities.

Authorizes the governing bodies of three or more cities, counties, or school boards to form a benefits consortium for the purpose of establishing a self-funded employee welfare benefit plan. Under current law, such governing bodies or school boards are authorized to form such a benefits consortium if they comprised the membership of a multiple employer welfare arrangement as of December 31, 2014. Such a benefits consortium is required to be a nonstock corporation established to operate a benefits plan. Each member of the benefits consortium is contractually liable for its allocated share of the consortium's liabilities, and the benefits consortium is exempt from taxation and from insurance regulations.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1162 Security camera monitoring by lawenforcement agencies. Provides that any law-enforcement
agency having jurisdiction over criminal law enforcement or
regulatory violations may establish a program to allow for the
monitoring or reviewing of security cameras, as defined in the
bill, for the purpose of tracking and reducing crime by such
law-enforcement agency. The bill requires that any lawenforcement agency establishing such program shall develop a
policy for how such security cameras will be monitored and
how such data from such security cameras will be used and
maintained.

Patron - Marshall

F HB1197 Planning districts; King George County. Moves King George County from Planning District 16 (George Washington Regional Commission) to Planning District 17 (Northern Neck Planning District Commission). The bill requires the Department of Housing and Community

Development to assist with this transition.

Patron - Kent

F HB1236 Local government actions related to comprehensive plans, local planning commissions, subdivision plats and site plans, and zoning ordinances; approval process. Makes several changes to local government land use approval processes, including (i) prohibiting use of the comprehensive plan as the basis, in whole or in part, for the disapproval of a site plan that is otherwise in conformity with duly adopted standards, ordinances, and statutes and (ii) allowing automatic approval of certain land use applications rather than

a right to petition the circuit court, as provided under current law, if a locality does not approve or disapprove the application within the required timeframe. The bill also reduces from 12 months to four months the time within which a locality must initially act upon certain proposed zoning ordinance amendments and requires a locality to act on all such proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance or map that it has previously disapproved within 45 days after an amended proposal has been resubmitted for approval.

Patron - Marshall

F HB1302 Election of certain governing bodies; conversion to single-member districts. Allows the governing body of a locality that has been subject to a court order imposing a remedial election system under voting rights laws to adopt an ordinance to convert one or more at-large members of such body to single-member districts. The bill provides that members of such governing body in office on the effective date of such ordinance shall complete their terms of office.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB1304 Required voting districts in certain cities. Requires every city with a population of 250,000 or greater to elect its council members by individual districts or wards, beginning with municipal elections held after January 1, 2025. The provisions of this bill supersede any contrary provisions of a city charter or any other provision of law.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB1356 Local planning commission; action on proposed plats, site plans, and development plans; residential use. Requires local planning commissions to use the same approval process for residential development projects as is currently required for commercial development projects. Patron - Owen

F HB1416 Funding for deputy sheriffs. Provides that the minimum number of deputies funded by the Compensation Board shall be one deputy per 1,500 persons or one deputy for every 25 square miles, whichever is greater. Under current law, the funding is fixed at one deputy per 1,500 persons only. The provisions of the bill apply to counties and cities without a police force.

Patron - Williams

F HB1459 Zoning ordinance and amendments thereto; special exceptions; appeal. Clarifies that a claim (i) challenging the procedures employed or (ii) stating a decision is void ab initio for any reason relating to a local governing body's final decision on a proposed zoning ordinance, or on an amendment of or special exception to such ordinance, only be filed within 30 days of such decision in a circuit court having jurisdiction of the land. The bill provides that the provisions of the bill are declarative of existing law and are effective retroactively to any decision made by a local governing body prior to July 1, 2024.

Patron - Owen

F HB1501 Cash proffers; development rights. Provides that cash payments proffered pursuant to § 15.2-2298, 15.2-2303, or 15.2-2303.1 may be used for the purpose of extinguishing development rights elsewhere in the locality if the development rights to be extinguished are greater than the development rights being granted and the extinguishing of those development rights results in a perpetual conservation easement. The bill also provides that cash payments proffered may be used to seek matching funds from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and the Virginia Farmland Preservation Fund.

Patron - Milde

F HB1514 Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority and Financing Fund established; report. Establishes the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority as a political subdivision charged with financing the construction of a sports and entertainment campus. The Authority is composed of nine members, six of whom are appointed by the Governor and three of whom are appointed by the governing body of the City of Alexandria. Each appointed member is subject to specific criteria for appointment. The bill authorizes the Authority to hire independent contractors, enter contracts, acquire property, borrow money, and exercise other similar powers and exempts it from the Personnel Act and the Public Procurement Act. Under the bill, the Authority may issue bonds with a maximum maturity date of 40 years.

The bill entitles the Authority to the following revenues: (i) sales tax revenues from construction and transactions on the campus, defined in the bill, but certain revenues that current law dedicates to transportation and education are excluded; (ii) all pass-through entity tax revenues and corporate income tax revenues from income generated by the company, defined in the bill, or any professional sports team or any affiliates as well as in the development and construction of the campus; and (iii) all personal income tax revenues from income generated through employment and business activity on the campus. It also authorizes the City of Alexandria to appropriate tax revenues to the Authority.

The revenues shall be deposited in the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority Financing Fund, created in the bill, from which the Authority will deposit revenues into priority accounts for Authority revenues, debt service, subordinate debt service, reserves, and capital expenditures and maintenance. If the Authority determines that all such accounts are sufficiently funded, the bill directs the Authority to issue the excess to the Commonwealth and the City of Alexandria if so provided for in any bond or financing agreements.

Patron - Torian

F HB1522 Location of assisted living facilities and group homes. Prohibits localities from allowing certain assisted living facilities and group homes with eight or fewer residents approved by the locality on or after July 1, 2024, to be located within one mile of a similar pre-existing assisted living facility or group home, provided such enforcement is in compliance with applicable state and federal fair housing laws. Patron - Higgins

F HB1533 Local zoning regulations related to mines; Planning District 8. Provides that localities in Planning District 8 (Northern Virginia) may establish standards and adopt zoning regulations related to mines and mineral mines that exceed standards and regulations adopted by the Director of the Department of Energy, including the prohibition of all mining and mineral mining activity in any area of the locality zoned for residential use.

Patron - Shin

# F HB1544 Southside Regional Recreation Authority.

Patron - Williams

F SB73 Photo-monitoring system for traffic signals; proof of violation; retired law-enforcement officials. Allows a locality to employ a retired sworn law-enforcement officer, as defined in the bill, to review photographs, microphotographs, videotape, or other recorded images produced by the locality's traffic light signal violation monitoring system or traffic control device violation monitoring system. The bill

allows such review to serve as prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.

Patron - Craig

SB288 Data centers; noise abatement. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall be approved only in accordance with certain notice and noise abatement requirements. The bill provides that residents within a half-mile radius of the parcel shall receive notice of the proposed data center and that the data center operator shall hold two neighborhood meetings. The bill requires a data center operator to design and build the data center to incorporate sound mitigation methods sufficient to prevent the sound levels emanating from the data center from exceeding the ambient noise levels that were observed in a baseline study, as determined by a third-party acoustic engineer. The bill also provides that upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy, and for five years thereafter, the data center operator shall conduct a noise study performed by a third-party acoustical engineer to document noise levels emanating from the data center measured at the property line of the nearest property to the data center property that is planned or zoned for residential land uses, or other noise sensitive use as reasonably determined by the locality, during peak operation of the data center mechanical equipment. The bill also provides that if the data center operator intends to use backup power generators on the parcel, the operator shall maintain a public website announcing the times when the generators will be in operation. Patron - Roem

F SB316 Conservation of trees; Town of Vienna. Allows the Town of Vienna, by ordinance, to require that a subdivision or development provide for the preservation or replacement of trees on the development site such that the minimum tree canopy 10 years after development is projected to meet specified coverage criteria. Under current law, the criteria apply to tree canopy coverage 20 years after development. *Patron - Salim* 

SB366 Local anti-rent gouging authority; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt anti-rent gouging provisions. The bill provides for notice and a public hearing prior to the adoption of such ordinance and specifies that all landlords who are under the ordinance may be required to give at least two months' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, described in the bill as the maximum amount a landlord can increase a tenant's rent during any 12-month period, in effect at the time of the increase. The bill sets such allowance as equal to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index or seven percent, whichever is less, states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year, and requires the locality to publish such allowance on its website by June 1 of each year. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from such ordinance. The bill also allows a locality to establish an anti-rent gouging board that will develop and implement rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance. Finally, the bill provides that a locality may establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in the ordinance.

Patron - Boysko

F SB409 Energy efficiency and climate standards; more stringent energy efficiency and climate requirements. Allows a locality by ordinance to adopt and require compliance with stretch codes, as defined in the bill, for the construction or rehabilitation of buildings within the locality that are in addition to or more stringent than those in

the Uniform Statewide Building Code, and use them as an alternative means of compliance with a locality's building requirements. The bill requires periodic review of the codes and allows the locality to make amendments.

Patron - Boysko

F SB478 Vacant building registration; Town of Waverly; civil penalty. Adds the Town of Waverly to the list of localities with the authority to require the owner of buildings that have been vacant for a continuous period of 12 months or more and that meet the definition of "derelict building" to register such buildings on an annual basis and to impose an annual registration fee not to exceed \$100 to defray the cost of processing such registration. Failure to register is punishable by a \$200 civil penalty and in some cases a \$400 civil penalty. This bill was incorporated into SB 48.

Patron - Aird

F SB524 Local government; installation of water-based fire protection systems in new townhouse construction. Permits a locality to allow the installation of automatic water-based fire protection systems in new townhouse construction. The bill provides that such ordinance shall require that the installation be completed in compliance with standards, requirements, and specifications for the installation of an automatic water-based fire protection system as prescribed by the National Fire Protection Association's NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems; NFPA 13R, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies; or NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes in accordance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB549 Travel expenses; local officials. Provides that any travel expense of a local official, as defined in the bill, to be paid from public funds, as defined in the bill, that is anticipated to exceed \$5,000 shall be subject to approval in advance by a vote of the local governing body in an open meeting. The bill specifies that if the final travel expense exceeds the previously approved amount, such expense shall be reported to the governing body and noted in the meeting agenda or meeting minutes within 60 days of the determination. The bill requires a local official to repay to the locality any travel expense that the governing body determines such local official misappropriated within 10 days and to furnish a copy of any receipts for such expense at the next public meeting. The bill allows a locality to adopt more stringent standards for local officials' travel expenses.

Patron - Perry

F **SB641** Certification of boiler and pressure vessel operators by localities. Repeals an existing statute that allows localities by ordinance to require certification of boiler and pressure vessel operators. *Patron - Craig* 

F SB652 Zoning ordinances; adequate public facilities. Allows a locality to determine the timing of development by considering the adequacy of public facilities when making zoning decisions. The bill provides that a locality that makes a determination of inadequate facilities may reject or defer a rezoning application based solely on that determination. Patron - Sturtevant

F SB656 Reimbursement of expenses incurred in responding to terrorism hoax incident, bomb threat, malicious activation of fire alarm, or false emergency communication to emergency personnel. Allows a locality that has an

ordinance requiring any person over 18 years of age convicted of false emergency communication to emergency personnel to reimburse such locality at the time of sentencing or in a separate civil action to bill a flat fee of \$2,500 or a minute-by-minute accounting of actual costs incurred. The bill also allows a locality that has an ordinance requiring any person under 18 years of age convicted of false emergency communication to emergency personnel to reimburse such locality at the time of sentencing or in a separate civil action to bill a flat fee of \$2,500 or a minute-by-minute accounting of actual costs incurred, not to exceed \$2,500. Current law allows a flat fee of \$250 or a minute-by-minute accounting of actual costs incurred, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.

Patron - Favola

SB669 Local economic development commitments. Provides that any economic development commitments that are affirmatively stated in a public meeting shall be binding, reflected in any agreement with the locality, and enforceable through a judicial relief action.

Patron - Stuart

SB715 Local review of zoning decisions. Clarifies that a locality may schedule regular reviews of previous zoning decisions in order to determine whether provisions of the zoning ordinance (i) continue to meet the general purpose of promoting the health, safety, or general welfare of the public and (ii) are compatible with changes in land use patterns.

Patron - Sturtevant

SB718 Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority and Financing Fund established; report. Establishes the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority as a political subdivision charged with financing the construction of a sports and entertainment campus. The Authority is composed of nine members, six of whom are appointed by the Governor and three of whom are appointed by the governing body of the City of Alexandria. Each appointed member is subject to specific criteria for appointment. The bill authorizes the Authority to hire independent contractors, enter contracts, acquire property, borrow money, and exercise other similar powers and exempts it from the Personnel Act and the Public Procurement Act. Under the bill, the Authority may issue bonds with a maximum maturity date of 40 years.

The bill entitles the Authority to the following revenues: (i) sales tax revenues from construction and transactions on the campus, defined in the bill, but certain revenues that current law dedicates to transportation and education are excluded; (ii) all pass-through entity tax revenues and corporate income tax revenues from income generated by the company, defined in the bill, or any professional sports team or any affiliates as well as in the development and construction of the campus; and (iii) all personal income tax revenues from income generated through employment and business activity on the campus. It also authorizes the City of Alexandria to appropriate tax revenues to the Authority.

The revenues shall be deposited in the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority Financing Fund, created in the bill, from which the Authority will deposit revenues into priority accounts for Authority revenues, debt service, subordinate debt service, reserves, and capital expenditures and maintenance. If the Authority determines that all such accounts are sufficiently funded, the bill directs the Authority to issue the excess to the Commonwealth and the City of Alexandria if so provided for in any bond or financing agreements.

Patron - Surovell

SB720 Sanctuary policies prohibited. Provides that no locality shall adopt any ordinance, procedure, or policy intended to restrict the enforcement of federal immigration laws. The bill also requires an official in charge of a correctional facility to transfer custody of certain persons to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement upon receipt of a detainer. Under current law, the official may make such trans-

Patron - McGuire

#### Carried Over

HB130 Constitutional officers; dual office holding; prohibited for deputies and other persons. Provides that the current prohibition on dual office holding that is applicable to constitutional officers also applies to deputies of such officers and any persons serving in such officer's absence until a special election to fill the vacancy is held.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

#### HB338 Siting of data centers; site assessment. Allows a locality, prior to any approval for the siting of a data

center, to perform a site assessment to examine the effect of the data center on water usage and carbon emissions within the locality.

Patron - Thomas

HB636 Siting of energy facilities; approval by State Corporation Commission. Establishes a procedure under which an electric utility or independent power provider (applicant) is able to obtain approval for a certificate from the State Corporation Commission for the siting of an energy facility rather than from the governing body of a locality. Under the bill, applicants are authorized to submit an application to the Commission if (i) the locality fails to timely approve or deny an application; (ii) the application complies with certain requirements for Commission approval, but a host locality denies the application; or (iii) the locality amends its zoning ordinance after it has notified the applicant that its requirements are compatible with the requirements for Commission approval, and the amendment imposes additional requirements that are more restrictive. The bill provides that an applicant who is issued a certificate by the Commission for an energy facility is exempt from obtaining approvals or permits, including any land use approvals or permits under the regulations and ordinances of the locality.

The bill applies to any solar energy facility with a capacity of 50 megawatts or more, any wind energy facility with a capacity of 100 megawatts or more, and any energy storage facility with a nameplate capacity of 50 megawatts or more and an energy discharge capability of 200 megawatt hours or more.

Patron - Sullivan

# HB646 Zoning; certified recovery residence.

Requires that a locality's zoning ordinances for all purposes shall consider a certified recovery residence in which individuals with substance use disorder reside as residential occupancy by a single family. The bill specifies that no conditions more restrictive than those imposed on residences occupied by persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption shall be imposed on such certified recovery residence.

Patron - Coyner

C HB721 Local anti-rent gouging authority; civil **penalty.** Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt anti-rent gouging provisions. The bill provides for notice and a public hearing prior to the adoption of such ordinance and specifies that all landlords who are under the ordinance may be required to give at least two months' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, described in the bill as the maximum amount a landlord can increase a tenant's rent during any

12-month period, in effect at the time of the increase. The bill sets such allowance as equal to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index or seven percent, whichever is less, states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year, and requires the locality to publish such allowance on its website by June 1 of each year. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from such ordinance. The bill also allows a locality to establish an anti-rent gouging board that will develop and implement rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance. Finally, the bill provides that a locality may establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in the ordinance.

Patron - Clark

C HB725 Counties, cities and towns; powers of local government; conveyance of real property; public hearing requirement. Adds to the list of exemptions from the requirement imposed upon localities to hold a public hearing prior to the disposition of real property owned by such locality the conveyance of any utility easement necessary to provide utilities to residential properties adjacent to property owned by the locality. Current law only excludes from such public hearing requirement (i) the leasing of real property to another public body, political subdivision, or authority and (ii) the conveyance of site development or utility easements related to transportation projects across public property.

Patron - Webert

C HB878 Purchase of development rights for affordable housing. Permits any local government to purchase development rights or accept the donation of development rights in an effort to preserve and provide affordable housing. The bill grants local governments the powers necessary to carry out the purchase of such development rights. The bill prohibits the conversion or diversion of such affordable housing once the development rights are purchased unless the local government determines that such diversion is essential to the development and growth of the locality and in accordance with the locality's comprehensive plan.

Patron - Bulova

C HB900 Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units. Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinances for single-family residential zoning districts accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, as defined in the bill, as a permitted accessory use. The bill requires a person to seek a permit for an ADU from the locality, requires the locality to issue such permit if the person meets certain requirements enumerated in the bill, and restricts the fee for such permit to \$100 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) dedicated parking for the ADU; (ii) lot sizes or setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling; (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling; and (iv) redundant water, sewer, or septic capacity for the ADU. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Srinivasan

C HB952 C-PACE loans; residential dwellings and condominiums. Removes an exclusion for residential dwellings with fewer than five dwelling units and condominium projects from certain requirements related to a voluntary special assessment lien that secures a loan for the initial acquisition and installation of clean energy, resiliency, or stormwater management improvements.

Patron - Lopez

C HB1054 Maintenance of vegetative growth on certain property. Provides that a locality may require the owner of property that (i) was formerly used as a golf course but where such use has been discontinued and (ii) abuts an area zoned for residential purposes to maintain the vegetative growth on the former golf course property in a manner that (a) prevents such property from becoming a detriment to the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the abutting residential area and (b) does not change the character of the former golf course property so as to be incompatible with the surrounding residential area. The bill further provides that whenever the locality deems it necessary, after reasonable notice as determined by the locality, the locality may have its agents or employees cut or maintain the vegetative growth, in which event the cost and expenses thereof shall be chargeable to and paid by the owner of such property and may be collected by the locality as taxes are collected. An enactment clause states that the provisions of the bill are declarative of existing law.

Patron - Knight

## C HB1070 Southwest Regional Recreation

Authority; powers. Provides for the Attorney General to provide legal services in civil matters upon the request of the executive director or board of directors of the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority. The bill also provides for the board of the Authority to adopt policies for the procurement of goods and services and requires such policies to incorporate certain provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act. In addition, the bill (i) makes the provisions of the Virginia Personnel Act and the policies of the Department of Human Resource Management applicable to employees of the Authority, (ii) authorizes the Director of the Department of General Services to lease vehicles and construction and forestry equipment to the Authority, and (iii) authorizes the Commissioner of Highways to lease construction or forestry vehicles to the Authority.

Patron - Morefield

C HB1093 Unfunded mandates; delay of implementation. Allows a county, city, or town, in its discretion, to delay implementing an unfunded mandate until the next fiscal year after the fiscal year in which any unfunded mandate became effective. The locality shall do so by ordinance that states with specificity the unfunded mandate that the locality seeks to delay implementing and the date on which the unfunded mandate shall become effective after the delay. The bill defines "unfunded mandate" as an act that imposes on a locality the responsibility of providing funding for new programs or increased levels of service under existing programs and for which the Commonwealth does not provide sufficient funding to cover the required costs of such new programs or increased services, whether by appropriation or other means.

Patron - Oates

C HB1122 Affordable housing; City of Richmond. Adds the City of Richmond to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable housing dwelling unit program.

Patron - Carr

C HB1225 County manager plan of government: powers Broadens several powers available to counties

ment; powers. Broadens several powers available to counties that have adopted the county manager plan of government by giving such counties the option of following general law rather than the provisions specified in this optional form of county government. The bill also allows for the direct election of the board chairman if approved by referendum, rather than having the board chairman chosen by other members of the county

board. Currently, only Arlington County has adopted the county manager plan of government. Patron - Hope

C HB1253 Affordable dwelling unit ordinances; accessible units. Provides that any locality that has adopted an affordable dwelling unit ordinance may require under such ordinance that a set percentage of the units built by a developer are compliant with the appropriate requirements of the American National Standards for Building and Facilities for Type A units or with any other standards adopted as part of regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development providing accessibility and usability for persons with a physical disability.

Patron - McClure

C HB1310 Zoning; civil penalties; commercial uses. Allows enhanced civil penalties for zoning violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses. The bill also requires that for any violation involving nonpermitted commercial uses, a person who admits liability shall be required to abate or remedy the nonpermitted commercial use violation within a period of time specified by the locality that is no less than 30 days but no more than 24 months from the date of admission of liability. Patron - Clark

C SB136 Prohibition on certain local government appointments. Prohibits a local governing body from appointing a spouse, child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, or grandparent of a governing body member as a member of any local government board, committee, or commission or as a member of a board of directors of a not-for-profit organization that receives funding from the locality.

Patron - Head

C SB163 Southwest Regional Recreation Authority; powers. Provides for the Attorney General to provide legal services in civil matters upon the request of the executive director or board of directors of the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority. The bill also provides for the board of the Authority to adopt policies for the procurement of goods and services and requires such policies to incorporate certain provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act. In addition, the bill (i) makes the provisions of the Virginia Personnel Act and the policies of the Department of Human Resource Management applicable to employees of the Authority and (ii) authorizes the Director of the Department of General Services to lease vehicles and construction and forestry equipment to the Authority.

Patron - Hackworth

SB171 Zoning; civil penalties; commercial uses. Allows enhanced civil penalties for zoning violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses. The bill also requires that for any violation involving nonpermitted commercial uses, a person who admits liability shall be required to abate or remedy the nonpermitted commercial use violation within a period of time specified by the locality that is no less than 30 days but no more than 24 months from the date of admission of liability. Patron - Craig

C SB200 Advertisement of legal notices; website. Allows a locality to advertise legal notices on the locality's website instead of, or in addition to, publishing such notices in a newspaper having general circulation in the locality. Patron - Diggs

SB284 Siting of data centers; impacts on resources and historically significant sites. Provides that any local government land use application required for the siting of a data center shall only be approved in areas where the data center will (i) have a minimal impact on historic, agricultural, and cultural resources and (ii) not be within one mile of a national park, state park, or other historically significant site.

Patron - Roem

C SB285 Siting of data centers; site assessment. Requires a locality, prior to any approval for the siting of a data center, to require disclosure of water and power usage at full build-out and perform a site assessment to examine the effect of the data center on water usage, the regional electric grid, and carbon emissions as well as any impacts on agricultural, historic, and cultural resources within the locality.

Patron - Roem

C SB304 Zoning; development and use of accessory dwelling units. Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinances for residential zoning districts accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, as defined in the bill, as a permitted accessory use. The bill requires a person to seek a permit for an ADU from the locality, requires the locality to issue such permit if the person meets certain requirements enumerated in the bill, and restricts the fee for such permit to \$250 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring rear or side setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling or consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Salim

SB305 Local prohibition or regulation of gaspowered leaf blowers; civil penalty. Provides that any locality may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The bill provides that the ordinance may include provisions for a civil penalty and that the funds from such civil penalties may be used by the locality to assist with the purchase of nonprohibited leaf blowers by residents and local businesses.

Patron - Salim

C SB371 Planning districts; King George County. Moves King George County from Planning District 16 (George Washington Regional Commission) to Planning District 17 (Northern Neck Planning District Commission). The bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to assist with this transition.

Patron - Stuart

**SB430** Residential development in certain areas; affordable housing. Provides that any type of residential use that is permitted in a locality shall be considered a conforming residential use on any parcel other than parcels zoned for (i) agriculture, (ii) conservation, or (iii) a different residential use. The bill states that no local ordinance shall require that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for a conforming residential use and that rights under existing zoning shall be considered vested pursuant to existing vesting provisions. The bill further provides that any residential development pursuant to the authority granted in the bill shall dedicate a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to housing affordable to households making at or below 120 percent of the area median income.

Patron - VanValkenburg

SB612 Reduction of local law enforcement budget prohibited; exception. Provides that no local governing body shall approve a budget that will reduce the total funds appropriated for local law-enforcement purposes from the preceding fiscal year except by unanimous vote of all members elected to the governing body.

Patron - McGuire

C SB697 Solar and energy facilities; local regulation. Prohibits a locality from including in an ordinance (i) limits on the total amount, density, or size of any ground-mounted solar facility or energy storage facility until such time that the total area under panels within the locality exceeds four percent of the total area within the locality or (ii) any prohibitions on the use of solar panels that comply with generally accepted national environmental protection and product safety standards, provided that such installation is in compliance with any provisions of a local ordinance that establishes criteria and requirements for siting.

Patron - VanValkenburg

**SB721** Local government actions related to comprehensive plans, local planning commissions, subdivision plats and site plans, and zoning ordinances; approval **process.** Makes several changes to local government land use approval processes, including (i) prohibiting use of the comprehensive plan as the basis, in whole or in part, for the disapproval of a site plan that is otherwise in conformity with duly adopted standards, ordinances, and statutes and (ii) allowing automatic approval of certain land use applications rather than a right to petition the circuit court, as provided under current law, if a locality does not approve or disapprove the application within the required timeframe. The bill also reduces from 12 months to four months the time within which a locality must initially act upon certain proposed zoning ordinance amendments and requires a locality to act on all such proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance or map that it has previously disapproved within 45 days after an amended proposal has been resubmitted for approval.

Patron - Mulchi

## **Courts Not of Record**

#### Passed

P HB172 Family or household member; definition; penalty. Adds to the definition of family or household member, for the purposes of definitions relating to juvenile and domestic relations district courts and multiple criminal and procedural statutes, an individual who is a legal custodian of a juvenile.

Patron - Hope

P HB266 Custodial interrogation of a child; failure to comply with section; inadmissibility of statement. Provides that if a law-enforcement officer knowingly fails to comply with existing law regarding parental notification and contact prior to a custodial interrogation of a child, any statements made by such child shall be inadmissible in any delinquency proceeding or criminal proceeding against such child, unless the attorney for the Commonwealth proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the statement was made knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily. Patron - Watts

PHB268 Juveniles; evidence of trafficking, sexual abuse, or rape by the alleged victim prior to or during the commission of the alleged offense; treatment and rehabilitation. Requires a juvenile and domestic relations district court, when determining whether to retain jurisdiction of a juvenile defendant during a transfer hearing, to consider any

evidence that such juvenile was a victim of felonious sexual assault or trafficking by the alleged victim prior to or during the commission of the alleged offense and that such alleged offense was a direct result of the juvenile being a victim of such felonious sexual assault or trafficking. The bill also requires that a study and report prior to a transfer hearing include any relevant information supporting an allegation that such juvenile was a victim of felonious sexual assault or trafficking by the alleged victim. The bill also creates a procedure for a juvenile to present such evidence in mandatory transfer cases that under current law require the juvenile and domestic relations district court to transfer the case to the circuit court and provides that upon a finding that the alleged offense was a direct result of the juvenile being a victim of such felonious sexual assault or trafficking, the juvenile and domestic relations district court can instead conduct a transfer hearing to determine whether to keep the case in juvenile court. The bill also creates a similar procedure allowing a juvenile to present such evidence in certain cases where current law requires the juvenile and domestic relations district court to transfer the case to circuit court if the attorney for the Commonwealth gives notice of an intent to proceed with such transfer. Also, in juvenile cases that are tried in circuit court, the bill allows the court to set aside a guilty verdict and instead render the juvenile delinquent if prior to the final order or within 21 days of such order, the court receives evidence that the juvenile was a victim of such felonious sexual assault or trafficking. Lastly, the bill states that it is the intent of the General Assembly that these juveniles be viewed as victims and provided treatment and services in the juvenile system.

Patron - Watts

PHB294 Protective order in case of family abuse; termination of temporary order of child support. Provides that when a court includes a temporary child support order with the issuance of a protective order in the case of family abuse, such temporary child support order shall terminate when a court determines child support in a subsequent proceeding or when the protective order expires, whichever occurs first. Current law requires that such temporary child support order terminate only after a court determines child support in a subsequent proceeding. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and the Committee on District Courts.

Patron - Ballard

P HB431 Pro tempore judicial appointments; criminal background checks; financial disclosure. Requires that prior to an appointment as a pro tempore judge, a person submit his fingerprints for a national and Virginia criminal history record search, submit to a search of the central registry maintained by the Department of Social Services for founded complaints of child abuse and neglect, and provide a written statement of economic interests. The bill prohibits any person with a criminal felony conviction from being appointed as a pro tempore judge.

Patron - Arnold

P HB772 Parental admission of minors for inpatient treatment. Clarifies that for the purposes of admission of a minor to a willing mental health facility for inpatient treatment, the finding required to be made by a qualified evaluator that the minor appears to have a mental illness serious enough to warrant inpatient treatment may include a finding of substance abuse and such inpatient treatment may be related to such mental illness, which may include substance abuse. The bill also specifies that a temporary detention order shall not be required for a minor 14 years of age or older who objects to admission to be admitted to a willing facility upon the application of a parent. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation

of the Virginia Commission on Youth. This bill is identical to SB 460.

Patron - Delaney

P HB803 Expungement of juvenile court records.

Provides that if a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent of a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, other than certain felony offenses specified in the bill committed when such juvenile was 14 years of age or older, the court records shall be destroyed when the juvenile has attained the age of 29. The bill provides that if a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent of one of the felony offenses specified in the bill committed when such juvenile was 14 years of age or older, the court records shall be retained. Under current law, the court records shall be retained in all instances when a juvenile was found guilty of a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult. The bill directs the clerk of the juvenile and domestic relations district court to expunge all records pursuant to the bill by July 1, 2027. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Rasoul

HB893 Standards for attorneys appointed to represent parents or guardians; child dependency cases; compensation; multidisciplinary law offices or programs; report. Requires the Judicial Council of Virginia, in conjunction with the Virginia State Bar, beginning July 1, 2026, to adopt standards for the qualification and performance of attorneys appointed to represent a parent or guardian of a child when such child is the subject of a child dependency case, as defined in the bill. The bill also requires the Judicial Council of Virginia, beginning July 1, 2026, to maintain a list of attorneys admitted to practice law in Virginia who are qualified to be appointed to represent indigent parents involved in a child dependency case. Prior to July 1, 2026, counsel must be appointed from the list of attorneys qualified to serve as guardians ad litem. The bill provides that beginning January 1, 2025, court-appointed counsel for a parent, guardian, or other adult in a child dependency case will be compensated in an amount no greater than \$330, or in a case for the termination of residual parental rights, \$680.

The bill authorizes the establishment of up to two multidisciplinary law offices or programs in localities, jurisdictions, or judicial districts that affirm they have met specified criteria for the purpose of representing parents in a child dependency court proceeding or in a child protective services assessment or investigation prior to such proceeding. During any calendar year that such an office or program is in effect for at least six months, the office or program must submit a report on program outcomes, expenses, recommendations, and other pertinent information to the Office of the Children's Ombudsman and the Chairmen of the House Committees for Courts of Justice and on Health and Human Services and Appropriations and the Senate Committees for Courts of Justice and on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations by November 1.

Patron - McClure

P HB934 Small claims court; representation of certain entities. Adds limited liability companies and other legal or commercial entities to those parties that may have representation by an owner, a general partner, an officer, a member, or an employee of such company or entity in small claims court. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P HB1264 Juvenile fines, costs, and fees; traffic infractions; judicial discretion. Provides that any court costs, fines, and fees assessed to a juvenile or his parent or guardian in circuit court and juvenile and domestic relations district

court related to prosecutions of traffic infractions are discretionary. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Shin

P HB1420 Juveniles; adjudication of delinquency. Specifies that a delinquent child is a child 11 years of age or older who has committed a delinquent act. Currently, there is no minimum age for a child to be adjudicated delinquent. The bill provides that if a juvenile younger than 11 years of age is found to have committed a delinquent act, the juvenile shall not be proceeded upon as delinquent; however, the court may make any orders of disposition authorized for a child in need of services or a child in need of supervision. The bill includes in the definition of "child in need of services" a child younger than 11 years of age who has committed a delinquent act.

Finally, the bill includes in the offense of causing or encouraging acts rendering children delinquent, abused, etc., any person 18 years of age or older, including the parent of any child, who willfully contributes to, encourages, or causes any act, omission, or condition that causes a child younger than 11 years of age to commit a delinquent act. Under current law, any person who commits such offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 23. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Watts

P SB23 Juveniles; adjudication of delinquency.

Specifies that a delinquent child is a child 11 years of age or older who has committed a delinquent act. Currently, there is no minimum age for a child to be adjudicated delinquent. The bill provides that if a juvenile younger than 11 years of age is found to have committed a delinquent act, the juvenile shall not be proceeded upon as delinquent; however, the court may make any orders of disposition authorized for a child in need of services or a child in need of supervision. The bill includes in the definition of "child in need of services" a child younger than 11 years of age who has committed a delinquent act. Finally, the bill includes in the offense of causing or encouraging acts rendering children delinquent, abused, etc., any person 18 years of age or older, including the parent of any child, who willfully contributes to, encourages, or causes any act, omission, or condition that causes a child younger than 11 years of age to commit a delinquent act. Under current law, any person who commits such offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to HB 1420. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Locke

P SB236 Requests for reports of aggregated, non-confidential case data; academic research. Allows a full-time faculty member of a baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to request for the purposes of academic research, provided that such academic research has been approved through such public institution's institutional review board, a report for aggregated, nonconfidential case data for garnishment, unlawful detainer, and warrant in debt actions in a general district court. The bill provides that such report may include street addresses and the amount of money claimed in the action. The bill also requires any faculty member requesting the data to take all steps necessary to protect the privacy and security of such data and that such data shall not be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hashmi

P **SB398** Protective orders; respondent to notify court of change of address. Requires the respondent against whom a protective order has been issued to notify the court in writing within seven days of any change of residence while

such order is in effect, provided that such order has been properly served upon the respondent. In a proceeding involving a preliminary protective order, the bill provides that the court may require the respondent to notify the court in writing within seven days of any change of residence while such preliminary protective order is in effect. The bill also provides that any failure of a respondent to make such required notification shall be punishable by contempt.

Patron - Perry

P **SB460** Parental admission of minors for inpatient treatment. Clarifies that for the purposes of admission of a minor to a willing mental health facility for inpatient treatment, the finding required to be made by a qualified evaluator that the minor appears to have a mental illness serious enough to warrant inpatient treatment may include a finding of substance abuse and such inpatient treatment may be related to such mental illness, which may include substance abuse. The bill also specifies that a temporary detention order shall not be required for a minor 14 years of age or older who objects to admission to be admitted to a willing facility upon the application of a parent. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth. This bill is identical to HB 772.

Patron - Marsden

#### Failed

F HB244 Protective order in case of family abuse; parents; minors. Prohibits the parent of a minor from filing a petition for a family abuse protective order against such minor, provided that the minor has not otherwise been emancipated pursuant to law.

Patron - Martinez

F HB295 Protective order in case of family abuse; parents; minors. Prohibits the parent of a minor from filing a petition for a family abuse protective order against such minor, or from filing as next friend on behalf of his minor child against another of his minor children, provided that the minor has not otherwise been emancipated pursuant to law. Patron - Martinez

F HB470 Petition for child in need of services or in need of supervision. Authorizes a guardian ad litem representing a child to file a petition for such child alleging he is in need of services or in need of supervision. The bill also provides that if an intake officer refuses to file a petition alleging that a child is in need of services or in need of supervision when such petition is sought by the parent or legal guardian of such child, he shall provide a written explanation that details the reasons for such refusal and shall provide information to such parent or legal guardian regarding any agency other than the court that can provide services for such child.

Patron - Martinez

F HB635 Juveniles; confidentiality of Department records; law-enforcement access; victim notification. Provides access to confidential Department of Juvenile Justice records to (i) any full-time or part-time employee of the Department of State Police or of a police department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof and who is responsible for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or motor vehicle laws of the Commonwealth having a need for juvenile offense history or identifying information of a juvenile and his family members, including juvenile names, parent or guardian names, addresses, dates of birth, photographs, and phone numbers, and (ii) with the exception of medical, psychiatric, and

psychological records and reports, any victim, as defined in existing law, when release of the confidential information is only to notify such victim of a juvenile's release from the custody of a local or regional juvenile detention center, community group home, residential care facility, mental health facility, secure alternative placement, or commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice for any offense such juvenile committed against such victim. This bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Obenshain

F HB717 Maximum number of judges in each judicial district. Increases from five to six the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Thirty-first Judicial District. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is incorporated into HB 310.

Patron - Torian

F HB835 Juvenile and domestic relations district courts; appointment of counsel or guardian ad litem; removal or appeal. Specifies that any attorney appointed to represent a child or parent, guardian, or other adult at a hearing in the juvenile and domestic relations district court shall continue representation upon removal or appeal to the circuit court and upon the juvenile and domestic relations court being divested of the right to enter any further decrees or orders to determine custody, guardianship, visitation, or support. Under current law, such continued representation is discretionary upon appeal to the circuit court.

Patron - Cousins

F HB1017 Discharge plans; portions provided to division superintendents in certain circumstances. Provides that prior to the discharge of any minor or individual who has been admitted to inpatient treatment and is a student at a public elementary or secondary school, if the facility deems that the discharge of such minor poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, only portions of the discharge plan related to the threat of violence or physical harm shall be provided to the division superintendent upon the completion of the discharge plan. Patron - Wilt

F HB1123 Maximum number of authorized judgeships in each judicial district. Increases from six to seven the number of authorized general district court judgeships and increases from five to seven the number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judgeships

Patron - Carr

in the Thirteenth Judicial District.

F HB1144 Children alleged to be abused or neglected; preliminary removal hearing; appointment of counsel for parent of such child. Provides that at a preliminary removal hearing in cases in which a child is alleged to have been abused or neglected, the court shall appoint an attorney-at-law to represent such child's parent, guardian, or other adult standing in loco parentis if the court determines that such parent, guardian, or other adult standing in loco parentis is indigent, unless he has waived his right to representation or otherwise employed counsel. Under current law, any such appointment is made at an adjudicatory hearing on such removal after a preliminary removal order is issued.

Patron - Cordoza

F SB208 Juveniles; confidentiality of Department records; law-enforcement access; victim notification. Provides access to confidential Department of Juvenile Justice records to (i) any full-time or part-time employee of the

Department of State Police or of a police department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof and who is responsible for the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or motor vehicle laws of the Commonwealth having a need for juvenile offense history or identifying information of a juvenile and his family members, including juvenile names, parent or guardian names, addresses, dates of birth, photographs, and phone numbers, and (ii) with the exception of medical, psychiatric, and psychological records and reports, any victim, as defined in existing law, when release of the confidential information is only to notify such victim of a juvenile's release from the custody of a local or regional juvenile detention center, community group home, residential care facility, mental health facility, secure alternative placement, or commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice for any offense such juvenile committed against such victim. This bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Diggs

F SB438 Juvenile detention home, group home, and residential care facility commissions; membership. Requires that members and alternate members of juvenile detention home, group home, or other residential care facility commissions have a background in law enforcement or corrections.

Patron - Suetterlein

SB444 School boards; placement in alternative education programs; disclosure of certain information in **delinquency cases.** Authorizes a court in which a disposition is entered or deferred in any proceeding where a student is charged with an offense that, pursuant to relevant law, is required to be disclosed to the superintendent of the school division in which the student is enrolled to, upon written request of any such division superintendent, provide a copy of the court order ordering any conditions upon such disposition or deferred disposition to such superintendent. The bill also provides that the division superintendent may, for any student charged with such offense and who is required to attend an alternative education program, request from the court, upon a showing of good cause, additional information that may be relevant to such student's placement in an alternative education program, including conditions that may have not been specified in the court order.

Patron - Durant

F SB502 Petitions in juvenile and domestic relations district court; parents; minors. Prohibits the parent of a minor residing in the same home as such parent from filing a petition for a family abuse protective order against such minor, provided that the minor has not otherwise been emancipated pursuant to law. The bill also authorizes the parent, guardian, or other person standing in loco parentis of a minor to file a petition for a child in need of services or in need of supervision with the clerk of the juvenile and domestic relations district court if an intake officer refuses to file such petition. Under current law, the decision by an intake officer to file such petition is final.

Patron - Surovell

F SB686 Maximum number of judges in each judicial district. Increases from five to six the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Thirty-first Judicial District. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is incorporated into SB 710.

Patron - McPike

## **Carried Over**

C HB765 Termination of parental rights; sexual abuse; clear and convincing standard; petition filed by other parent. Allows a parent to file a petition to terminate the parental rights of the other parent if the circumstances giving rise to such a petition allege that such parent engaged in conduct prohibited by relevant law relating to sexual abuse, whether or not the parent has been charged with or convicted of the alleged violation, and the child was conceived of such conduct.

The bill further requires the court to issue an order terminating the parental rights of a parent upon a finding, based on clear and convincing evidence, that (i) such parent engaged in the conduct prohibited by relevant law relating to sexual abuse, whether or not the parent has been charged with or convicted of the alleged violation, and the child was conceived of such conduct and (ii) termination of the parental rights of such parent is in the best interests of the child. The bill specifies that, if such parent is found by clear and convincing evidence to have engaged in the prohibited conduct resulting in the conception of such child, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that termination is in the best interest of the child, but no presumption shall be made by the court that one parent alone is contrary to the best interests of the child.

Patron - Delaney

C HB837 Recording of proceedings in district courts; juvenile and domestic relations district court. Allows an audio recording of proceedings in a juvenile and domestic relations district court to be made by a party or his counsel.

Patron - Cousins

C HB1263 Abolition of juvenile fines and fees; criminal offenses. Abolishes court costs, fines, and fees assessed to a juvenile or his parent or other persons responsible for his care in circuit court and juvenile and domestic relations district court related to prosecutions of criminal offenses.

C HB1385 School boards; placement in alternative education programs; disclosure of certain information in delinquency cases. Requires the clerk of any court in which a disposition is entered or deferred in any proceeding where a student is charged with an offense that, pursuant to relevant law, is required to be disclosed to the superintendent of the school division in which the student is enrolled to, upon request of any such division superintendent, provide additional information that may be relevant to such student's placement in an alternative education program, including the circumstances surrounding the disposition or deferred disposition and any conditions ordered in relation to a deferred disposition. If the student is not enrolled in school at the time the disposition is entered or deferred, the clerk is required to send the additional information to the division superintendent of the school in which he was enrolled at the time of the offense, upon request of such division superintendent.

Patron - Milde

C HB1492 Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia; work group to study trauma-informed training and education; report. Directs the Office of the Executive Secretary to convene a work group to make recommendations on the development, adoption, and implementation of trauma-informed training and education for judges, magistrates, and court personnel. The bill requires the work group to submit its recommendations by December 1,

2024, to the Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.

Patron - Cousins

C **SB481** Abolition of juvenile fines and fees; criminal offenses. Abolishes court costs, fines, and fees assessed to a juvenile or his parent or other persons responsible for his care in circuit court and juvenile and domestic relations district court related to prosecutions of criminal offenses. *Patron - Aird* 

C SB482 Expungement and sealing of juvenile court records. Provides for the sealing of juvenile court records in those instances where a juvenile was found guilty of a delinquent act that would be a felony if committed by an adult and such juvenile has attained the age of 18 years and three years have elapsed since the date of the last hearing in the case of such juvenile. Under current law, such records are open to the public. The bill also provides that any juvenile court records that may be expunged shall be expunged when the juvenile who is the subject of the records has attained the age of 18 years and three years have elapsed since the date of the last hearing in the case of such juvenile. Under current law, such juvenile shall have attained the age of 19 years and five years shall have elapsed since the date of the last hearing in the case of such juvenile.

Patron - Aird

C SB575 Discharge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools. Provides that, prior to the discharge of any minor admitted to inpatient treatment (i) who is a student at a public elementary or secondary school and (ii) for whom the facility deems (a) such discharge poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self and others or (b) additional educational services are needed, such facility is required to provide to the school's mental health professional or school counselor the portions of such discharge plan relevant to the threat of violence or harm or the necessary additional educational services. The bill requires such facility to, prior to providing any such portions of any minor's discharge plan, provide to the parent of such minor student reasonable notice of the types of information that would be included in any portions of the discharge plan being provided and of the parent's right to, upon written request, refuse the provision of any such information.

Patron - Obenshain

## **Courts of Record**

#### **Passed**

P HB243 Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; availability of complaint forms in courthouses. Requires that paper copies of any standardized form developed and utilized by the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission or by the Department of Magistrate Services in the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia for the filing of a complaint be made available to the public in the clerk's office in all state courts of the Commonwealth. The bill also requires that a sign be posted in all such courts, in a location accessible to the public, that notes the availability and location of such forms. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Martinez

P HB310 Maximum number of judges in each judicial district and circuit. Increases by one the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district

court judges in the Twentieth and Thirty-first Judicial Districts. The bill also increases by one the maximum number of authorized circuit court judges in the First, Ninth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-fifth Judicial Circuits. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and the Judicial Council of Virginia. This bill incorporates HB 154 and HB 717 and is identical to SB 710.

Patron - Hope

P HB653 Adoption of initial discretionary sentencing guideline midpoints; violent felony offenses. Removes certain felony offenses from the list of violent felony offenses for the adoption of initial discretionary sentencing guideline midpoints. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Coyner

P HB1249 Security for costs; suit or action by nonresident. Provides that in any plaintiff's suit or action by a nonresident of the Commonwealth, including a counterclaim plaintiff, cross-claim plaintiff, or third-party plaintiff, the court may order upon a motion made by a party to such suit or action and for good cause shown that such plaintiff must post security, in an amount not exceeding \$250, within 60 days of entry of such order. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Williams

P HB1396 Days of operation of clerks' offices; clerks' authority to close office. Allows the clerk of the circuit court of any county or city to close the clerk's office on (i) Christmas Eve; (ii) any day or portion of a day that the Governor declares as a holiday for state employees; and (iii) any day or portion of a day on which the Governor, Supreme Court, or Judicial Council authorizes state offices to be closed. Under current law, the clerk may only close the clerk's office once a judge authorizes such clerk to do so in these circumstances. This bill is identical to SB 736.

Patron - Hope

P **SB509** Court of Appeals; appeal of interlocutory orders. Provides that certain interlocutory orders shall not be appealable to the Court of Appeals unless the circuit court grants a party's motion to certify such order for interlocutory appeal.

Patron - Surovell

P SB710 Maximum number of judges in each judicial district and circuit. Increases by one the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Twentieth and Thirty-first Judicial Districts. The bill also increases by one the maximum number of authorized circuit court judges in the First, Ninth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-fifth Judicial Circuits. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and the Judicial Council of Virginia. This bill incorporates SB 686 and is identical to HB 310.

Patron - Deeds

P SB736 Days of operation of clerks' offices; clerks' authority to close office. Allows the clerk of the circuit court of any county or city to close the clerk's office on (i) Christmas Eve; (ii) any day or portion of a day that the Governor declares as a holiday for state employees; and (iii) any day or portion of a day on which the Governor, Supreme Court, or Judicial Council authorizes state offices to be closed. Under current law, the clerk may only close the clerk's office once a judge authorizes such clerk to do so in these circumstances. This bill is identical to HB 1396.

Patron - McDougle

#### Failed

F HB154 Maximum number of judges in each judicial circuit. Increases from four to five the maximum number of authorized circuit court judges in the Ninth Judicial Circuit. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and is incorporated into HB 310.

Patron - Green

F HB379 Sentencing guidelines; violent felony offenses; purchasing or selling of minors. Adds the crime of purchasing or selling of minors to the list of violent felony offenses.

Patron - Cherry

F HB414 Land records; recording and indexing

**fees.** Provides that no clerk of a circuit court shall assess separate recording and indexing fees for one document that contains two or more instruments that may serve independent legal purposes, including a record of a mortgage as a financing statement, unless the person presenting such document or instruments requests that such document or instruments be recorded and indexed in more than a single instance. The bill also provides that no recordation tax shall be required of a quitclaim deed between a grantor and grantee when no consideration has passed between the parties, provided that such quitclaim deed shows on its face that no consideration has passed.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB1228 Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission; court records; online access to case management systems. Provides that if a clerk of the circuit court provides secure remote access to nonconfidential court records, the clerk shall, by a signed agreement with the Director of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, provide secure remote access to such records to staff of the Commission. The bill clarifies that a clerk is not prohibited from providing online access to a case management system to any person designated by law to prepare sentencing guidelines.

The bill also requires the clerk of each circuit court to provide online access to a case management system that may include abstracts of case filings and proceedings in the circuit courts to the Commission for purposes related to the preparation of sentencing guidelines. The bill requires the Commission to ensure the confidentiality and security of the information obtained through such online access and prohibits the Commission from publishing personal or case identifying information. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission.

Patron - Hope

F HB1343 Civil jurisdiction of general district courts and circuit courts; transfer. Provides that while a matter is pending in general district court, upon motion of either the plaintiff or defendant seeking to increase the amount of the claim, the court is required to order a transfer to circuit court without requiring that the case first be dismissed or that the plaintiff suffer a nonsuit. Similarly, the bill provides that while a matter is pending in circuit court, upon motion of either the plaintiff or defendant seeking to decrease the amount of the claim, the court is required to order a transfer to general district court. Under current law, both of these provisions apply only to the motion of a plaintiff.

Patron - Batten

F HB1521 Civil cases; payment of jurors. Provides that jurors in all civil cases shall be paid by one or both of the parties at the discretion of the presiding judge. Under cur-

rent law, such payment is made by the political subdivision in which the summons is issued.

Patron - Higgins

#### **Carried Over**

C HB556 Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; membership; training requirements; Commission staff; JLARC study; report. Increases the membership of the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission (the Commission) from seven to nine members and reduces from 15 to 10 years the legal practice requirement of any member of the Commission. The bill further provides for staggered terms of the members of the Commission. The bill requires that members of the Commission complete a certain amount of education on judicial misconduct and correcting implicit bias.

The bill further directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to, by November 30, 2025, (i) review (a) procedures for reviewing complaints received and adjudicating complaints, (b) processes for determining whether to conduct informal or formal hearings, and (c) any informal or established rules used to determine disciplinary action imposed on a judge or justice and provide recommendations as to the codification and publication of any such procedures, processes, or rules; (ii) research sanctions not currently used in the Commonwealth, including suspension without pay, mandatory recusal from certain cases, and payment of costs and fees associated with investigations and whether such sanctions are used in other states and their efficacy; (iii) provide recommendations on establishing a conflict of interest policy and code of conduct for the Commission and its staff; and (iv) study the potential benefits of combining the Judicial Performance Evaluation program with the tasks of the Commission.

Patron - Hope

# **Crimes and Offenses Generally**

#### **Passed**

HB2 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; **penalty.** Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, or transfers an assault firearm, as that term is defined in the bill, and prohibits a person who has been convicted of such violation from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm for a period of three years from the date of conviction. The bill provides that an assault firearm does not include any firearm that is an antique firearm, has been rendered permanently inoperable, is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, or was manufactured before July 1, 2024. The bill also prohibits the sale of a large capacity ammunition feeding device, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill provides that any person who willfully and intentionally (i) sells an assault firearm to another person or (ii) purchases an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports, sells, barters, or transfers a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person younger than 21 years of age to import, sell, manufacture, purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm. This bill is identical to SB 2. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Helmer

P HB18 Hate crimes and discrimination; ethnic animosity; penalties. Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to safeguard all individuals within the Commonwealth from unlawful discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation because of such individual's ethnic origin and prohibits such discrimination. The bill also adds victims who are intentionally selected because of their ethnic origin to the categories of victims whose intentional selection for a hate crime involving assault, assault and battery, or trespass for the purpose of damaging another's property results in a higher criminal penalty for the offense. The bill also provides that no provider or user of an interactive computer service on the Internet shall be liable for any action voluntarily taken by it in good faith to restrict access to material that the provider or user considers to be intended to incite hatred on the basis of ethnic origin. This bill is identical to SB 7.

Patron - Helmer

P HB22 Manufacture, importation, sale, etc., of auto sears; prohibition; penalty. Prohibits the manufacture, importation, sale or offer to sell, possession, transfer, or transportation of an auto sear, defined in the bill as a device, other than a trigger activator, for use in converting a semi-automatic firearm to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. A violation is punishable as a Class 6 felony. The bill also provides for the forfeiture of any auto sear concealed, possessed, transported, or carried in violation of the prohibition. This bill is identical to SB 210.

Patron - Jones

P HB36 Abuse and neglect of children; causing or enabling child to gain possession of a firearm; penalty. Creates a Class 5 felony for any parent, guardian, or other person who is 18 years of age or older and is responsible for the care of a child under the age of 18 whose willful act or omission causes or enables that child to gain possession of a firearm (i) after having received notice of a preliminary determination, pursuant to relevant law, that such child poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or (ii) when such parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of the child knows or reasonably should know that such child has been charged with, either by warrant or petition, convicted of, or adjudicated delinquent of a violent juvenile felony. The bill provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution regarding knowledge of a preliminary threat determination if such person received notice that the threat assessment team concluded that the child does not indicate a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or that any case or review opened or conducted by that threat assessment team as a result of such preliminary determination has been closed. The bill also provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution if such person has received notice that any pending charge for a violent juvenile felony has been dismissed or a nolle prosequi has been entered. The bill provides an affirmative defense to prosecution if the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of a child caused or enabled such child to gain possession of a firearm while in a dwelling because of a reasonable belief that he or such child was in imminent danger of bodily injury. Lastly, the bill provides that the new offense is eligible for the enhanced earned sentence credits. This bill is identical to SB 44.

Patron - Willett

P HB46 Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person. Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member may transfer a firearm owned

by such prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that such person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm is 21 years of age or older and does not reside with the person who is subject to the protective order. Under current law, there is no requirement that such transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with such prohibited person. The bill also provides that such prohibited person who transfers, sells, or surrenders a firearm pursuant to the provisions of the bill shall inform the clerk of the court of the name and address of the transferee, the federally licensed firearms dealer, or the law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of such form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member shall be advised that a law-enforcement officer may obtain a search warrant to search for any firearms from such person if such law-enforcement officer has reason to believe that such person has not relinquished all firearms in his possession. This bill is identical to SB 47. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB77 Robbery. Conforms certain provisions of the Code referencing robbery to the degrees of robbery offenses established by Chapter 534 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I. These changes include: (i) limiting to the three higher degrees of robbery certain non-robbery crimes for which committing such crime with the intent to commit a robbery is an element of the offenses, (ii) limiting the types of robbery that are included in the definition of "acts of violence" to the two higher degrees of robbery, (iii) clarifying how robbery offenses will be scored on the sentencing guidelines, (iv) allowing persons convicted of the two lesser degrees of robbery to be eligible for conditional release if they are terminally ill and for the enhanced earned sentence credits, (v) allowing persons who are ineligible for parole as a result of being convicted of three certain enumerated offenses to be eligible for parole if convicted of an offense that would constitute robbery by presenting of firearms, and (vi) limiting the application of the three-strikes law to the two higher degrees of robbery and making persons convicted under the three-strikes law eligible for parole if one of the three convictions resulting in the mandatory life sentence would constitute one of the two lesser degrees of robbery. The bill leaves unchanged the current law making all degrees of robbery predicate criminal acts by adding the two lesser degrees of robbery to the definition of "predicate criminal act" and specifying the two higher degrees of robbery are included in the definition of "act of violence." The bill requires the changes made to the eligibility for conditional release of terminally ill prisoners and enhanced earned sentence credits apply retroactively if certain criteria are met. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Watts

P HB81 Common-law crime of suicide. Abolishes the common-law crime of suicide. Suicide is currently a common-law crime in Virginia, although there is no statutorily prescribed punishment. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and also requires the Bureau of Insurance of the State Corporation Commission to review the effect and implication of abolishing the common-law crime of suicide on insurance throughout the Commonwealth and submit its findings and any recommendations by November 1, 2024, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simon

HB161 Arrest, prosecution, and disciplinary or administrative procedures and penalties for individuals experiencing or reporting overdoses while incarcerated. Provides that no individual incarcerated in a local, regional, or state correctional facility shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for or disciplinary or administrative procedures or penalties related to the unlawful purchase, possession, or consumption of alcohol; possession of a controlled substance; possession of marijuana; procurement, sale, secretion, or possession of any chemical compound not lawfully received; intoxication in public; or possession of controlled paraphernalia if such individual seeks or obtains emergency medical attention for himself or another individual experiencing an overdose or is experiencing an overdose and another individual seeks or obtains emergency medical attention for him. The bill also provides that no correctional officer, deputy sheriff, or jail officer acting in good faith shall be found liable for false arrest if it is later determined that the person arrested was immune from prosecution or disciplinary procedures or penalties. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Seibold

HB173 Manufacture, import, sale, transfer, or possession of plastic firearms and unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms prohibited; penalties. Creates a Class 5 felony for any person who knowingly manufactures or assembles, imports, purchases, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening. The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to knowingly import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any completed or unfinished frame or receiver, unless the completed or unfinished frame or receiver (i) is deemed to be a firearm pursuant to federal law and (ii) is imprinted with a valid serial number. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 100. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Simon

PHB175 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range

of firearms, only in certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded. This bill is identical to SB 99. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simon

P HB183 Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is **present**; penalty. Requires any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present to store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. The bill provides that a violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill exempts (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm who carries such firearm on or about his person and (ii) the storage of antique firearms and provides that the lawful authorization of a minor to access a firearm is not a violation of the bill's provisions. The bill also requires firearm dealers to post a notice stating such firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. This bill is identical to SB 368. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simon

P HB267 Assault and battery; affirmative defense; penalty. Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution of a individual for assault and battery; affirmative

tion of an individual for assault or assault and battery of certain specified individuals for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six month mandatory minimum apply if such individual proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the individual's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or a neurodevelopmental disability, including a developmental disability or intellectual disability, such as autism spectrum disorder, as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association or (ii) the individual met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody order.

The bill provides that if such individual does not prove that his behaviors were a result of his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder but the evidence establishes that his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder otherwise contributed to his behaviors, the finder of fact may find the accused guilty of a misdemeanor assault or assault and battery. The bill also provides that such affirmative defense shall not be construed to allow an affirmative defense for voluntary intoxication. This bill is identical to SB 357. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Watts

P HB292 Drug Treatment Court Act; name change. Renames the Drug Treatment Court Act as the Recovery Court Act. The bill also directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to rename the state Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee as the Recovery Court Advisory Committee. This bill is identical to SB 725.

Patron - Ballard

PHB351 Firearm locking device required for purchase of a firearm; warning against accessibility to children; penalty. Requires any person who purchases a firearm to either (i) obtain or purchase from a licensed dealer a locking device for such firearm if a minor is present in such person's residence for 14 days or more in a calendar month or (ii) complete a certification statement on a form provided by the Department of State Police certifying that a minor is not present in such person's residence for 14 days or more in a calendar month, with exceptions enumerated in the bill. Accordingly,

the bill provides that it is unlawful for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any firearm to any person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer, unless (a) the firearm is accompanied by a warning, in conspicuous and legible type in capital letters printed on a separate sheet of paper included within the packaging enclosing the firearm, that firearms should be locked and kept away from children and that there may be civil and criminal liability for failing to do so and (b) the transferee (1) obtains or purchases a locking device for such firearm if a minor is present in such person's residence for 14 days or more in a calendar month or (2) completes the certification statement. A violation of either provision is a Class 3 misdemeanor. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Clark

P HB362 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2024, for the offense of assault and battery against an intimate partner or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 642. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - McClure

P HB452 First-time drug offenders. Provides that any person who has not previously been convicted of any felony drug offense under relevant law or under any substantially similar statute of the United States or of any state may be eligible for first-time drug offender disposition. Under current law, such disposition is limited to any person who has not been convicted of any criminal drug offense. This bill is identical to SB 362. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Callsen

**HB454** Carrying a firearm or explosive material within Capitol Square or building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exemptions; public institutions of higher education; penalty. Limits the exemption from the prohibition on the carrying of any firearm or explosive material within any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or agency thereof or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties that currently applies to any property owned or operated by a public institution of higher education to instead apply to any individual within a building owned or operated by a public institution of higher education who possesses a weapon as part of such public institution of higher education's curriculum or activities or as part of any organization authorized by such public institution of higher education to conduct its programs or activities within such building, as such uses are approved through the lawenforcement or public safety unit of such institution. This bill is identical to SB 383. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Callsen

HB466 Concealed handgun permits; reciprocity with other states. Provides that the Superintendent of State Police, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, shall determine whether states meet the statutory qualifications for Virginia to recognize the concealed handgun permit of a person from another state. Under current law, any out-of-state permit is recognized in the Commonwealth provided that (i)

the issuing authority provides the means for instantaneous verification of the validity of all such permits or licenses issued within that state, accessible 24 hours a day; (ii) the permit or license holder carries a photo identification issued by a government agency of any state or by the U.S. Department of Defense or U.S. Department of State and displays the permit or license and such identification upon demand by a law-enforcement officer; and (iii) the permit or license holder has not previously had a Virginia concealed handgun permit revoked. The bill also provides that a Virginia resident who has not been issued a valid resident concealed handgun permit may not use a concealed handgun or concealed weapon permit or license issued by another state to carry a concealed handgun in the Commonwealth.

The bill requires the Superintendent of State Police, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to review any agreements for reciprocal recognition that are in place with any other states as of July 1, 2024, to determine whether the requirements and qualifications of those states' laws are adequate to prevent possession of a permit or license by persons who would be denied a permit in the Commonwealth and revoke any reciprocity agreement or recognition of any states that do not meet such requirements or qualifications by December 1, 2024. The bill requires the Attorney General to provide a written explanation for any determination that a state's laws are adequate to prevent possession of such permit or license by persons who would be denied such permit in the Commonwealth. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Helmer

P HB523 Charitable gaming. Amends charitable gaming law to allow, as a condition of receiving a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming, certain organizations to use a predetermined percentage of its receipts for expenses related to the rental of real property where such real property is involved in the operation of the organization and used for lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes. The bill prohibits the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from promulgating electronic gaming regulations that prohibit (i) devices that display spinning, rotating, or rolling reels or animations or flashing lights; (ii) devices that accept vouchers; or (iii) the purchase and play of an electronic pull tab with a single press or touch of a button. This bill is identical to SB 344. Patron - Krizek

# **HB633** Forced labor or service; penalties.

Expands the offense of abduction to penalize any person who, by force, intimidation or deception, and without legal justification or excuse, obtains the labor or services of another, or seizes, takes, transports, detains or secretes another person or threatens to do so. The bill also expands the offense of receiving money for procuring a person to penalize any person who causes another to engage in forced labor or services or provides or obtains labor or services by any act as described in the offense of abduction. Lastly, the bill allows any person injured as a result of an abduction for the purposes of forced labor or services to commence a civil action for recovery of compensatory damages, punitive damages, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Cherry

P HB797 Demonstrated competence for a concealed handgun permit; firearms instructors and safety programs. Requires that any course, class, or training to demonstrate competence with a handgun as required to obtain a concealed handgun permit must include a live fire shooting exercise conducted on a range, including the expenditure of a minimum of 10 rounds of ammunition, and provides that no course, class, or training that does not include such live fire

shooting exercise meets the requirements to obtain a concealed handgun permit. The bill removes references to the National Rifle Association (the NRA) and the United States Concealed Carry Association from the Code that allow the organizations to certify ranges and instructors and for courses offered by them to serve as proof of demonstrated competence in firearms safety and training for the purpose of obtaining a concealed handgun permit or receiving training as a minor in the use of pneumatic guns. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Hope* 

PHB798 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm following an assault and battery or stalking violation; prohibition period; penalty. Prohibits a person who has been convicted of assault and battery, assault and battery of a family or household member, or stalking from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm. The prohibition expires five years after the date of conviction, at which point the person's firearm rights are restored, unless he receives another disqualifying conviction. A person who violates the provisions of the bill is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also extends from three years to five years the existing prohibition period for persons convicted of assault and battery of certain family or household members. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hope

P HB799 Concealed handgun permit applications; fingerprints required by local governments. Requires an applicant for a concealed handgun permit or a renewal of such permit to submit fingerprints as part of the application. The bill provides that any demonstrated administrative costs associated with such fingerprints taken shall be the responsibility of and shall be assessed to the applicant. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hope

P HB895 Violation of protective orders; venue. Allows a person to be prosecuted for a violation of a protective order charge in the jurisdiction where the party protected by the protective order resided at the time of such violation. This bill is identical to SB 211.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

PHB926 Unlawful dissemination or sale of images of another; penalty. Expands the current categories of images that are unlawful to disseminate or sell to include any videographic or still image that depicts another person whose genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast are not exposed but such videographic or still image is obscene, as defined in the bill.

The bill adds to the statute of limitations for the misdemeanor offense of unlawful creation of the image of another to provide that a prosecution shall be commenced within five years of the commission of the offense or within one year of the date the victim discovers the offense or, by the exercise of due diligence, reasonably should have discovered the offense, whichever is later. The bill creates the same statute of limitations for the offense of unlawful dissemination or sale of the image of another. Current law starts the statute of limitations for the offense of unlawful creation of the image of another upon the commission of the offense.

Patron - Shin

P HB928 Interference with commercial fishing vessels or activity; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly and intentionally interferes with or impedes the operation or commercial fishing activity,

defined in the bill, of a commercial fishing vessel within the territorial waters of the Commonwealth. The bill deems a person to be ineligible for any hunting or fishing license for a period of one year upon a first conviction of this offense and for a period of three years upon a second or subsequent conviction. The bill also requires any person convicted of a violation of this offense to complete boating safety education.

Patron - Kent

P HB991 Illegal gambling; exemptions. Exempts from the provisions of Code prohibiting illegal gambling the placement or operation of or communication to and from data center equipment in the Commonwealth associated with the hosting of lottery games duly authorized by another state or jurisdiction and regulated and operated consistent with and exclusively for the benefit of such state or jurisdiction, provided that wagering on such games is legally authorized in such other state or jurisdiction and the individuals wagering on such games are required by the laws or regulations of such other state or jurisdiction to be physically located within the geographic bounds of such other state or jurisdiction at the time the wager is initiated or placed. This bill is identical to SB 540

Patron - Maldonado

P HB1174 Purchase of certain firearms; age requirement; penalty. Prohibits any person under 21 years of age from purchasing a handgun or assault firearm, with exceptions for the purchase of an assault firearm by a law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, jail officer, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Virginia National Guard, or the National Guard of any other state. Accordingly, the bill prohibits a licensed dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory a handgun or assault firearm to any person under 21 years of age. A violation of either prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The bill also expands the definition of "assault firearm" as the term applies to criminal history record information checks. This bill is identical to SB 327. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Sickles

P HB1195 Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least five days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. This bill is identical to SB 273. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1256 Larceny offenses; venue. Allows grand larceny and embezzlement offenses to be prosecuted in any county or city where the victim of the larceny or embezzlement resides.

Patron - Kent

P HB1443 Trial by jury; contact with jurors after trial prohibited; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any defendant who knowingly and intentionally contacts, with the intent to harass, intimidate, or threaten, a juror regarding such juror's service as a juror after a jury trial. Patron - Davis

P HJ76 Study; JLARC; effects of gun violence on communities; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to conduct a two-year study of the social, physical, emotional, and economic effects of gun violence on communities across the Commonwealth.

Patron - Anthony

SB2 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, or transfers an assault firearm, as that term is defined in the bill, and prohibits a person who has been convicted of such violation from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm for a period of three years from the date of conviction. The bill provides that an assault firearm does not include any firearm that is an antique firearm, has been rendered permanently inoperable, is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, or was manufactured before July 1, 2024. The bill also prohibits the sale of a large capacity ammunition feeding device, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill provides that any person who willfully and intentionally (i) sells an assault firearm to another person or (ii) purchases an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports, sells, barters, or transfers a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person younger than 21 years of age to import, sell, manufacture, purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm. This bill is identical to HB 2. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Deeds

P SB7 Hate crimes and discrimination; ethnic animosity; penalties. Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to safeguard all individuals within the Commonwealth from unlawful discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation because of such individual's ethnic origin and prohibits such discrimination. The bill also adds victims who are intentionally selected because of their ethnic origin to the categories of victims whose intentional selection for a hate crime involving assault, assault and battery, or trespass for the purpose of damaging another's property results in a higher criminal penalty for the offense. The bill also provides that no provider or user of an interactive computer service on the Internet shall be liable for any action voluntarily taken by it in good faith to restrict access to material that the provider or user considers to be intended to incite hatred on the basis of ethnic origin. This bill incorporates SB 120 and is identical to HB 18.

Patron - Reeves

P SB44 Abuse and neglect of children; causing or enabling child to gain possession of a firearm; penalty. Creates a Class 5 felony for any parent, guardian, or other person who is 18 years of age or older and is responsible for the care of a child under the age of 18 whose willful act or omission causes or enables that child to gain possession of a firearm (i) after having received notice of a preliminary determination, pursuant to relevant law, that such child poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or (ii) when such parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of the child knows or reasonably should know that such child has been charged with, either by warrant or petition, convicted of, or adjudicated delinquent of a violent juvenile felony.

The bill provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution regarding knowledge of a preliminary threat determination if such person received notice that the threat assessment team concluded that the child does not indicate a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others or that any case or review opened or conducted by that threat assessment team as a result of such preliminary determination has been closed. The bill also provides that no person shall be subject to arrest or prosecution if such person has received notice that any pending charge for a violent juvenile felony has been dismissed or a nolle prosequi has been entered.

The bill provides an affirmative defense to prosecution if the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of a child caused or enabled such child to gain possession of a firearm while in a dwelling because of a reasonable belief that he or such child was in imminent danger of bodily injury. Lastly, the bill provides that the new offense is eligible for the enhanced earned sentence credits. This bill is identical to HB 36.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB47** Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person. Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member may transfer a firearm owned by such prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that such person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm is 21 years of age or older and does not reside with the person who is subject to the protective order. Under current law, there is no requirement that such transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with such prohibited person. The bill also provides that such prohibited person who transfers, sells, or surrenders a firearm pursuant to the provisions of the bill shall inform the clerk of the court of the name and address of the transferee, the federally licensed firearms dealer, or the law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of such form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because such person is subject to a protective order or has been convicted of an assault and battery of a family or household member shall be advised that a law-enforcement officer may obtain a search warrant to search for any firearms from such person if such law-enforcement officer has reason to believe that such person has not relinquished all firearms in his possession. This bill is identical to HB 46. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Favola

P SB95 Preliminary analysis of breath to determine alcoholic content of blood; failure to advise person of rights. Provides that if a police officer or a member of any sheriff's department fails to advise a person of his rights to refuse a preliminary breath test, any preliminary breath test sample shall not be admissible by the Commonwealth in any motion to suppress for the purpose of determining probable cause.

Patron - Stanley

P SB99 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range of firearms, only in certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded. This bill is identical to HB 175. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Ebbin

P **SB100** Manufacture, import, sale, transfer, or possession of plastic firearms and unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms prohibited; penalties. Creates a Class 5 felony for any person who knowingly manufactures or assembles, imports, purchases, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection

devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening. The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony.

The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to knowingly import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any completed or unfinished frame or receiver, unless the completed or unfinished frame or receiver (i) is deemed to be a firearm pursuant to federal law and (ii) is imprinted with a valid serial number. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 173. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Ebbin

P **SB210** Manufacture, importation, sale, etc., of auto sears; prohibition; penalty. Prohibits the manufacture, importation, sale or offer to sell, possession, transfer, or transportation of an auto sear, defined in the bill as a device, other than a trigger activator, for use in converting a semi-automatic firearm to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. A violation is punishable as a Class 6 felony. The bill also provides for the forfeiture of any auto sear concealed, possessed, transported, or carried in violation of the prohibition. This bill is identical to HB 22.

Patron - Perry

P **SB211** Violation of protective orders; venue. Allows a person to be prosecuted for a violation of a protective order charge in the jurisdiction where the party protected by the protective order resided at the time of such violation. This bill is identical to HB 895.

Patron - Perry

P SB258 Substantial risk orders; substantial risk factors and considerations. Provides various factors that a judge or magistrate must consider for the purpose of determining probable cause prior to issuing an emergency substantial risk order or a substantial risk order. The bill provides that such factors shall include whether the person who is subject to the order (i) committed any acts of violence or criminal offenses resulting in injury to himself or another person within the six months prior to the filing of the petition; (ii) made any threats or used any physical force against another person that resulted in injury within the six months prior to the filing of the petition; (iii) violated any provision of a protective order issued or was arrested for stalking within the six months prior to the filing of the petition; (iv) was convicted of any offense that would prohibit such person from possessing a firearm; (v) engaged in any conduct within the year prior to the filing of the petition that demonstrated a pattern of violent acts or threats to another person, including any acts or threats made against fam-

ily members, neighbors, coworkers, or toward schools or students or government buildings or employees; (vi) committed any acts of violence or criminal offenses against an animal within the six months prior to the filing of the petition; (vii) made any attempt or threat of suicide or any act, attempted act, or threat of self-harm that caused or may have caused serious bodily injury; or (viii) recently acquired a firearm or ammunition, with evidence of such recent acquisition provided by the petitioner. The bill also outlines various other factors that a judge or magistrate may consider for the purpose of issuing an emergency substantial risk order or a substantial risk order. The bill also provides that possession includes actual access or the potential to readily access a firearm for the purposes of finding if a person possesses a firearm or if such firearm shall be voluntarily relinquished. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Surovell

P SB273 Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least five days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. This bill incorporates SB 55 and SB 551 and is identical to HB 1195. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB327 Purchase of certain firearms; age requirement; penalty. Prohibits any person under 21 years of age from purchasing a handgun or assault firearm, with exceptions for the purchase of an assault firearm by a law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, jail officer, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Virginia National Guard, or the National Guard of any other state. Accordingly, the bill prohibits a licensed dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory a handgun or assault firearm to any person under 21 years of age. A violation of either prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The bill also expands the definition of "assault firearm" as the term applies to criminal history record information checks. This bill is identical to HB 1174. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Salim

P SB344 Charitable gaming. Amends charitable gaming law to allow, as a condition of receiving a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming, certain organizations to use a predetermined percentage of its receipts for expenses related to the rental of real property where such real property is involved in the operation of the organization and used for lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes. The bill prohibits the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from promulgating electronic gaming regulations that prohibit (i) devices that display spinning, rotating, or rolling reels or animations or flashing lights; (ii) devices that accept vouchers; or (iii) the purchase and play of an electronic pull tab with a single press or touch of a button. This bill is identical to HB 523.

Patron - Reeves

**P SB357** Assault and battery; affirmative defense; penalty. Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution of an individual for assault or assault and battery of certain specified individuals for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six month mandatory minimum apply if such individual proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the individual's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or a neurodevelopmental disability, including a developmental disability or intellectual disability, such as autism spectrum disorder, as defined in the most recent

edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association or (ii) the individual met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody

The bill provides that if such individual does not prove that his behaviors were a result of his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder but the evidence establishes that his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder otherwise contributed to his behaviors, the finder of fact may find the accused guilty of a misdemeanor assault or assault and battery. The bill also provides that such affirmative defense shall not be construed to allow an affirmative defense for voluntary intoxication. This bill is identical to HB 267. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Boysko

**SB362** First-time drug offenders. Provides that any person who has not previously been convicted of any felony drug offense under relevant law or under any substantially similar statute of the United States or of any state may be eligible for first-time drug offender disposition. Under current law, such disposition is limited to any person who has not been convicted of any criminal drug offense. This bill is identical to HB 452. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Ebbin

\$B363 Removing, altering, etc., serial number on firearm; selling, giving, etc., or possessing firearm with removed, altered, etc., serial number; penalties. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person, firm, association, or corporation to knowingly possess any pistol, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, or any other firearm, except for an antique firearm, that has a serial number that has been removed, altered, changed, destroyed, or obliterated in any manner. The bill also makes it a Class 6 felony for any person, firm, association, or corporation to knowingly sell, give, or distribute any pistol, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, or any other firearm, except for an antique firearm, that has a serial number that has been removed, altered, changed, destroyed, or obliterated in any manner. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Ebbin

SB364 Elections; protection of electors and election officials; penalties. Adds to the list of protected voters any current or former elector for President and Vice President of the United States and any person who is or has been a member of the State Board of Elections, the Commissioner of Elections, an employee of the Department of Elections, a member of a local electoral board, a general registrar, a deputy registrar, an employee in the office of the general registrar, or an officer of election. Protected voters are permitted by law to provide on the application for voter registration, in addition to the voter's residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth, which would be the address included on (i) lists of registered voters and persons who voted, (ii) voter registration records made available for public inspection, and (iii) lists of absentee voter applicants. The bill makes it a Class 5 felony to, by bribery, intimidation, threats, coercion, or other means in violation of election laws, willfully and intentionally hinder or prevent an election official or employee of an election official from administering elections. Under current law, it is only a Class 5 felony to hinder or prevent an officer of election at a location being used for voting from holding an election. The bill also makes it a Class 5 felony to commit such acts against an elector for President and

The bill creates a civil action for any election official, employee of an election official, or elector who is intimidated, threatened, or coerced by another person who thereby willfully

Vice President of the United States.

and intentionally hinders or prevents, or attempts to hinder or prevent, such official, employee, or elector from fulfilling his duty. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Ebbin

P SB367 Task Force on Fentanyl and Heroin **Enforcement established.** Creates the Task Force on Fentanyl and Heroin Enforcement whose purpose is to study ways to enhance the ability of law-enforcement officers throughout the Commonwealth to combat the illegal manufacturing, importation, and distribution of fentanyl, heroin, and other similar controlled substances. The bill requires the Task Force to meet at least annually and to report to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities and any recommendations.

Patron - DeSteph

P **SB368** Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present; penalty. Requires any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present to store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. The bill provides that a violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill exempts (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm who carries such firearm on or about his person and (ii) the storage of antique firearms and provides that the lawful authorization of a minor to access a firearm is not a violation of the bill's provisions. The bill also requires firearm dealers to post a notice stating such firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. This bill is identical to HB 183. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Boysko

SB383 Carrying a firearm or explosive material within Capitol Square or building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exemptions; public institutions of higher education; penalty. Limits the exemption from the prohibition on the carrying of any firearm or explosive material within any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or agency thereof or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties that currently applies to any property owned or operated by a public institution of higher education to instead apply to any individual within a building owned or operated by a public institution of higher education who possesses a weapon as part of such public institution of higher education's curriculum or activities or as part of any organization authorized by such public institution of higher education to conduct its programs or activities within such building, as such uses are approved through the lawenforcement or public safety unit of such institution. This bill is identical to HB 454. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Deeds

P SB394 Carnal knowledge and sexual battery; persons detained or arrested by a law-enforcement officer; confidential informants, pretrial defendants or posttrial offenders; penalty. Provides that an accused is guilty of carnal knowledge of a person serving as a confidential informant, defined in the bill, if he (i) is a law-enforcement officer; (ii) knows that such person is serving as a confidential informant for the law-enforcement agency where such officer is employed; and (iii) carnally knows, without use of force, threat, or intimidation, such confidential informant while such person is serving as a confidential informant or is expected to testify in a criminal case for which the confidential informant assisted the law-enforcement agency with its investigation. The

bill provides that such offense is a Class 6 felony. The bill also provides that an accused is guilty of sexual battery if he sexually abuses (a) a person detained or arrested by a law-enforcement officer and the accused is a law-enforcement officer, (b) a pretrial defendant or posttrial offender and the accused is an owner or employee of the bail company that posted the pretrial defendant's or posttrial offender's bond, or (c) a person serving as a confidential informant and the accused is a law-enforcement officer. Current law provides that sexual battery is a Class 1 misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class 6 felony for a third or subsequent offense.

Patron - Perry

P SB397 Gaming; posting of illegal gaming tip line information. Requires those legally authorized to sell Virginia lottery tickets or conduct charitable gaming, horse racing with pari-mutuel wagering, and casino gaming in the Commonwealth to post in a conspicuous place on their premises a sign that bears the toll-free telephone number and website of the illegal gaming tip line established and administered by the Office of the Gaming Enforcement Coordinator in the Department of State Police for members of the public to report concerns about, or suspected instances of, illegal gaming activities. This bill incorporates SB 348.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB469 Controlled substances; manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, etc.; adulterated or misbranded drugs; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person, except for permitted manufacturers, to possess, purchase, sell, give, distribute, or possess with intent to sell, give, or distribute an encapsulating machine or a tableting machine that manufactures, compounds, converts, produces, processes, prepares, or otherwise introduces into the human body a controlled substance. The bill makes it a Class 5 felony if such person knows, intends, or has reasonable cause to believe that such action will result in the unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance or counterfeit controlled substance that contains (i) a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act or (ii) a controlled substance analog as defined in relevant law.

The bill also makes it a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 10 nor more than 40 years for any person 18 years of age or older to knowingly allow a minor or a mentally incapacitated or physically helpless person of any age to be present during the manufacture or attempted manufacture of any substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl.

The bill also increases from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for violations related to adulterated or misbranded drugs and cosmetics.

Patron - Obenshain

P SB540 Illegal gambling; exemptions. Exempts from the provisions of Code prohibiting illegal gambling the placement or operation of or communication to and from data center equipment in the Commonwealth associated with the hosting of lottery games duly authorized by another state or jurisdiction and regulated and operated consistent with and exclusively for the benefit of such state or jurisdiction, provided that wagering on such games is legally authorized in such other state or jurisdiction and the individuals wagering on such games are required by the laws or regulations of such other state or jurisdiction to be physically located within the geographic bounds of such other state or jurisdiction at the time the wager is initiated or placed. This bill is identical to HB 991.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB642** Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household

member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2024, for the offense of assault and battery against an intimate partner or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill incorporates SB 319. This bill is identical to HB 362. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Perry

SB706 Drug Treatment Court Act; eligibility. Replaces the restriction that renders persons convicted of certain violent felonies or acts of violence within the preceding 10 years ineligible to participate in a drug treatment court with a restriction on participation if any of the following conditions apply: (i) the offender is presently charged with a felony offense or is convicted of a felony offense while participating in any drug treatment court where (a) the offender carried, possessed, or used a firearm or any dangerous weapon during such offense; (b) the death or serious bodily injury of any person occurred during such offense; or (c) the use of force against any other person besides the offender occurred during such offense or (ii) the offender was previously convicted as an adult of any felony offense that involved the use of force or attempted use of force against any person with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference.

Patron - Stuart

P SB725 Drug Treatment Court Act; name change. Renames the Drug Treatment Court Act as the Recovery Court Act. The bill also directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to rename the state Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee as the Recovery Court Advisory Committee. This bill is identical to HB 292.

Patron - Pillion

P **SB731** Production, publication, sale, financing, etc., of child pornography; penalty. Amends the definition of "child pornography" to include sexually explicit visual material that depicts a minor in a state of nudity or engaged in sexual conduct where such depiction is obscene and specifies that such minor does not have to actually exist.

Patron - Durant

# Failed

F HB11 Carrying concealed weapons; knives. Clarifies the types of knives that are prohibited from being carried in a concealed manner.

Patron - Ware

F HB12 Firearm locking device required for sale or transfer of handguns; child safety warning required; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any handgun to any person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer, unless the transferee is provided with a locking device for such handgun and the handgun is accompanied by a warning, in conspicuous and legible type in capital letters printed on a label affixed to the gun and on a separate sheet of paper included within the packaging enclosing the handgun, that handguns should be locked and kept away from children and that there

may be civil and criminal liability for failing to do so. The bill provides exceptions for law-enforcement and governmental agencies. This bill was incorporated into HB 158.

Patron - Jones

F HB16 Carrying a firearm or explosive material within Capitol Square and the surrounding area, into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth, etc.; exception for concealed handgun permit holders. Adds an exception for persons who have been issued a valid concealed handgun permit by the Commonwealth to the prohibition of carrying a firearm within Capitol Square and the surrounding area, any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof, or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties.

Patron - Garrett

F HB39 Contributing to the delinquency of a minor; sex offenders; penalty. Creates a Class 6 felony for any person 18 years of age or older who engages in consensual sexual intercourse or anal intercourse with or performs cunnilingus, fellatio, or anilingus upon or by a child 15 or older not his spouse, child, or grandchild while such person is required to register with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry.

Patron - Ware

F HB51 Prostitution; solicitation; penalties. Increases from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for a third or subsequent offense of solicitation of prostitution from an adult. The bill also makes it a Class 5 felony to solicit prostitution from any minor. Under current law, any person who solicits prostitution from a minor is guilty of a Class 6 felony if the minor is 16 years of age or older or a Class 5 felony if the minor is younger than 16 years of age. Finally, the bill increases the fines for certain offenses related to sex trafficking from \$100 to \$1,000 and from \$500 to \$2,500, respectively.

Patron - Taylor

HB113 Possession, purchase, or transportation of handgun by persons convicted of certain drug offenses and operating a boat or vehicle while intoxicated prohib**ited; penalty.** Provides that any person who within a five-year period has been convicted of two misdemeanor driving or boating while intoxicated offenses shall be ineligible to possess, purchase, or transport a handgun. The bill also provides that any person who within a three-year period has been convicted of two misdemeanor drug offenses shall be ineligible to possess a handgun. Under current law, such person who has been convicted of two misdemeanor drug offenses is ineligible to purchase or transport a handgun. The bill also provides that any person who is convicted of a second or subsequent offense for violating the prohibition on possessing, purchasing, or transporting a handgun following convictions of these offenses shall be given the opportunity to voluntarily relinquish any firearm in his possession.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB179 Consecutive terms of imprisonment. Eliminates the required imposition of mandatory consecutive sentences of imprisonment.

Patron - Gardner

F HB209 Organized retail theft; repeal. Repeals the crime of organized retail theft and the Organized Retail Crime Fund.

Patron - Martinez

HB280 Insurrections; elections; prohibition from serving in position of public trust; civil penalty. Prohibits any person from serving in any position of public trust within the Commonwealth for life if such person is convicted of certain offenses related to rioting and unlawful assembly or any substantially similar offense under the laws of the United States or any of its states or territories when such offense occurs (i) at a polling place, a voter satellite office, or any other location being used for voting or registration purposes; (ii) during the certification of an election; or (iii) at any other official proceeding related to an election. The bill provides that any person who violates such prohibition shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000, and such person shall also immediately resign from any such position of public trust such person holds. The bill authorizes the attorney for the Commonwealth and their assistants to enforce these provisions.

The bill defines "position of public trust" as any position in which a person performs work that involves a significant degree of public trust and confidence that such person will carry out the work in accordance with applicable laws, regulation, and guidelines. Such positions may involve policy making, major program responsibility, fiduciary responsibilities, or other duties demanding a significant degree of public trust and shall include positions in administering or conducting elections, public safety or public health, law enforcement, and education.

The bill also provides a procedure for any person prohibited from serving in any position of public trust within the Commonwealth to petition the circuit court of the jurisdiction in which he resides or, if the person is not a resident of the Commonwealth, the circuit court of any county or city where such person was last convicted of a disqualifying offense, for a restoration order that unconditionally authorizes his ability to serve in a position of public trust within the Commonwealth. Lastly, the bill provides that the attack on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, constitutes an insurrection, and the provisions of the bill shall apply to any person convicted of an offense in relation to such insurrection.

Patron - Helmer

F HB289 Carrying a concealed handgun with a permit; public parking lots. Provides that a concealed handgun permit holder may store his firearms or other weapons in a motor vehicle in a publicly or privately owned parking lot, traffic circle, or other means of vehicular ingress or egress to property that is open to the public regardless if such firearms or weapons are prohibited by the owner of such area.

Patron - Wiley

F HB298 Charitable gaming; use of proceeds. Allows a qualified organization to use a predetermined percentage of its receipts for those expenses relating to facility maintenance and upkeep, such as any rent or mortgage payment and utility expenses, and used for lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes.

Patron - Ballard

F HB389 Carrying a concealed handgun; permit not required. Allows any person who is otherwise eligible to obtain a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun without a permit anywhere he may lawfully carry a handgun openly within the Commonwealth. Patron - Griffin

F HB390 Carrying concealed handguns; protective orders. Authorizes any person 21 years of age or older who is not prohibited from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm and is protected by an unexpired protective order to carry a concealed handgun for 45 days after the protec-

tive order was issued. The bill provides that if the person issued the protective order applies for a concealed handgun permit during such 45-day period, such person will be authorized to carry a concealed handgun for an additional 45 days and be given a copy of the certified application, which shall serve as a de facto concealed handgun permit. The bill requires such person to have the order or certified application and photo identification on his person when carrying a concealed handgun and to display them upon demand by a law-enforcement officer; failure to do so is punishable by a \$25 civil penalty. *Patron - Griffin* 

F HB394 Capital murder; death penalty. Authorizes punishment by death for capital murder. The bill also provides that the Supreme Court of Virginia shall give priority to the review of cases in which the sentence of death has been imposed over other cases pending in the Court, and that the provisions of the bill are severable.

Patron - Griffin

F HB395 Enhanced concealed handgun permit.

Provides that any person 21 years of age or older who applies for a concealed handgun permit may elect to apply for an enhanced concealed handgun permit. The bill provides that such permit would allow a person who has been issued an enhanced concealed handgun permit to carry a firearm any place a law-enforcement officer may carry a firearm. The bill provides that to obtain such enhanced concealed handgun permit, a person must demonstrate competence with a handgun and such demonstration shall include a live fire shooting exercise conducted on a range with the expenditure of a minimum of 100 rounds of ammunition.

Patron - Griffin

F HB399 Punishment for conviction of second or subsequent misdemeanor larceny; penalties. Provides that any person convicted of a second larceny offense shall be confined in jail not less than 30 days nor more than 12 months and that for a third or any subsequent larceny offense, such person is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Griffin

F HB437 Manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, etc., of fentanyl; weight-based penalties. Creates a penalty structure based on the weight of fentanyl, its salts, isomers, or salts of its isomers, or of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, its salts, isomers, or salts of its isomers.

Patron - Arnold

HB439 Possession of controlled substances unlawful; second or subsequent conviction; mandatory **minimum.** Provides that the sentence of any person convicted of possession of any controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II of the Drug Control Act for (i) a second offense within less than five years shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 days and a mandatory minimum fine of \$500; (ii) a second offense within 10 years shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of 45 days and a mandatory minimum fine of \$500; (iii) three offenses within 10 years shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of 90 days and a mandatory minimum fine of \$500, unless the three offenses were committed within a five-year period, in which case the sentence shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of confinement for six months and a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000; and (iv) a fourth or subsequent offense within 10 years shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of one year and a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000.

The bill also provides that the driver's license of any person convicted of possession of any controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II of the Drug Control Act (a) may be suspended for a period of up to 30 days for the first offense and (b) shall be suspended for a period of 30 days for the second and subsequent offenses.

Patron - Arnold

F HB448 Marijuana presumption; driving or operating a motor vehicle, etc., while intoxicated; penalty. Establishes a presumption of intoxication if a person has a blood concentration equal to or greater than 0.004 milligrams of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol per liter of blood.

Patron - Obenshain

F HB450 Manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, etc., fentanyl; mandatory minimum. Provides that any person who (i) manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with intent to manufacture, sell, give or distribute fentanyl and (ii) does so within the geographic limits of any participating locality under the Opioid Abatement Authority shall upon conviction be imprisoned for not less than five nor more than 40 years, two years of which shall be a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment to be served consecutively with any other sentence, and be fined not more than \$500,000. Patron - Obenshain

F HB488 Sexual abuse of certain children; penalty. Raises the penalty for sexual abuse of a child who is 13 or 14 years of age from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Garrett

F HB545 Law-enforcement officers; Internet publication of personal information; exemption. Prohibits publication of the personal information of active and retired law-enforcement officers on the statewide geographic information system (GIS) if a request to redact such information is made by the officer to the entity that manages the GIS in the officer's locality. Current law prohibits the Commonwealth from publishing personal information on the Internet of public officials only if a petition has been granted by the circuit court. Patron - Walker

F HB553 Firearms-related offenses; mandatory minimum sentences; penalty. Increases from five to 10 years for a second or subsequent offense the mandatory minimum sentences for use or display of a firearm during the commission of certain felonies.

Patron - Obenshain

HB664 Abortion; born alive infant; treatment and care; penalty. Requires every health care provider licensed by the Board of Medicine who attempts to terminate a pregnancy to (i) exercise the same degree of professional skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life and health of a human infant who has been born alive following such attempt as a reasonably diligent and conscientious health care practitioner would render to any other child born alive at the same gestational age and (ii) take all reasonable steps to ensure the immediate transfer of the human infant who has been born alive to a hospital for further medical care. A health care provider who fails to comply with the requirements of the bill is guilty of a Class 4 felony and may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. The bill also requires every hospital licensed by the Department of Health to establish a protocol for the treatment and care of a human infant who has been born alive following an attempt to terminate a pregnancy and for the immediate reporting to law enforcement of any failure to provide such required treatment and care.

Patron - Freitas

F HB674 Selling, giving, or distributing a substance containing fentanyl; penalties. Provides that any person who sells, gives, or distributes a substance he knows contains two milligrams or more of any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, including its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, to another person without such person's knowledge that the substance sold, given, or distributed contains fentanyl is guilty of attempted murder of the first degree by poison. The bill also provides that if such sale, gift, or distribution results in the death of the other person from his use of the substance containing fentanyl, then the person who sold, gave, or distributed the substance is guilty of murder of the first degree by poison.

Patron - Obenshain

HB685 Selling, giving, or distributing fentanyl; **penalties.** Provides that any person who sells, gives, or distributes a substance he knows or should know contains two milligrams or more of any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, including its isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, to another person without such person's knowledge that the substance sold, given, or distributed contains fentanyl is guilty of attempted murder of the second degree. The bill also provides that if such sale, gift, or distribution results in the death of the other person from his use of the substance containing fentanyl, then the person who sold, gave, or distributed the substance is guilty of murder of the second degree. The bill also makes it a felony punishable by not less than five nor more than 40 years, three years of which are a mandatory minimum, and a fine not to exceed \$1 million for a person to transport into the Commonwealth by any means with intent to sell or distribute 100 milligrams or more of fentanyl.

Patron - Leftwich

Class 5 felony for any person to maliciously threaten eviction, loss of housing, property damage, or any financial loss with the intent to cause the complaining witness to engage in sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anilingus, anal intercourse, inanimate or animate object sexual penetration, or an act of sexual abuse and thereby engage in sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anilingus, anal intercourse, inanimate or animate object sexual penetration, or an act of sexual abuse. The bill also creates an unclassified felony punishable by not less than one nor more than 20 years and a fine of not more than \$100,000 for any adult who violates the provisions of the bill with a person younger than 18 years of age.

Patron - Walker

F HB752 Threats of death or bodily injury to persons on school property; penalty. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to orally make a threat to kill or do serious bodily injury to any person, regarding that person, while that person is (i) on the grounds or premises of any elementary, middle, or secondary school property; (ii) at any elementary, middle, or secondary school-sponsored event; or (iii) on a school bus, when the threat places the person who is the object of the threat in reasonable apprehension of death or serious bodily injury to himself.

Patron - Walker

F HB753 Smoking with a minor under the age of 15 present; penalty. Creates a Class 3 misdemeanor for any person who smokes, as defined in the bill, in the presence of a minor under the age of 15 and directly exposes such minor to secondhand smoke. The bill also allows a conviction for smoking in the presence of a minor or a conviction for smoking in a

vehicle with a minor present to be admissible in any proceeding in which it is alleged that a child is abused and neglected. Patron - Walker

F HB756 Carrying a firearm or explosive material into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exception for highway rest areas. Provides that the prohibition on carrying a firearm or explosive material in any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth shall not apply to any highway rest area.

Patron - Walker

HB768 Child victims and witnesses using twoway closed-circuit television; standard. Expands the age range during which a child may testify using two-way closedcircuit television in a criminal case to include any child younger than 18 years of age at the time of the trial. Under current law, an alleged victim must be 14 years of age or younger at the time of the alleged offense and 16 years of age or younger at the time of the trial to testify by two-way closed-circuit television, and a child witness must be 14 years of age or younger at the time of the trial to so testify. The bill also provides that the court may order that the testimony of a child be taken by two-way closed-circuit television if it finds that the child is unavailable to testify in open court in the presence of the defendant, the jury, the judge, and the public if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, based upon expert opinion testimony, that the child will suffer emotional trauma that is more than de minimis as a result of testifying in the defendant's presence and not the courtroom generally. Under current law, the court may order such testimony be taken by two-way closed-circuit television if there is a substantial likelihood, based upon expert opinion testimony, that the child will suffer severe emotional trauma from so testifying.

Patron - Delaney

F HB791 Pneumatic guns; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony to possess a pneumatic gun upon (i) the property of any child day center or public, private, or religious preschool or elementary, middle, or high school, including buildings and grounds; (ii) that portion of any property open to the public and then exclusively used for school-sponsored functions or extracurricular activities while such functions or activities are taking place; or (iii) any school bus owned or operated by any such school.

Patron - Henson

F HB850 Operation of a motor vehicle upon the highways of the Commonwealth after conviction; petition procedures. States that upon a conviction for involuntary manslaughter as a result of driving under the influence or maiming as a result of driving under the influence, the court shall order the person convicted not to operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of the Commonwealth. The bill provides that after five years have passed from the date of the conviction, the convicted person may petition the court that entered the conviction for the right to operate a motor vehicle upon the highways of the Commonwealth and upon consideration of such petition, the court may restore the right to operate a motor vehicle subject to such terms and conditions as the court deems appropriate, including terms set forth in relevant law.

The bill also includes all enumerated violations of driving under the influence for the offense of conduct punishable as involuntary manslaughter. Under current law, the only violations included are driving (i) while such person is under the influence of alcohol; (ii) while such person is under the influence of any narcotic drug or any other self-administered intoxicant or drug of whatsoever nature, or any combination of such drugs, to a degree that impairs his ability to drive or operate any motor vehicle, engine, or train safely; and (iii) while such

person is under the combined influence of alcohol and any drug or drugs to a degree that impairs his ability to drive or operate any motor vehicle, engine, or train safely. *Patron - Davis* 

F HB860 Removal of boundary or survey stake; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who intentionally or knowingly injures, removes, displaces, or destroys any boundary or survey stake, or any part thereof, erected to designate, locate, survey, or map any land boundary. Patron - Williams

F HB868 Computer trespass; elementary and secondary schools; school board; penalty. Makes it a Class 6 felony for the offense of computer trespass when such offense is committed against any elementary or secondary school or school board.

Patron - Earley

F HB869 Unlawful picketing or parading to obstruct or influence justice; penalty. Provides that any person who, with the intent of interfering with, obstructing, or impeding the administration of justice, or with the intent of influencing or intimidating in the discharge of his duty any judge, juror, witness, court officer, or court employee, pickets or parades in or near a residence occupied or used by such judge, juror, witness, court officer, or court employee is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also provides that the provisions regarding the issuance and service of summons in place of a warrant do not apply to such violations.

Patron - Earley

F HB956 Misdemeanor; maximum term of confinement. Reduces from 12 months to 364 days the maximum term of confinement in jail for a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Lopez

HB1016 Charitable gaming; definition of "organization." Modifies the definition of "organization" for the purposes of charitable gaming in the Commonwealth to include an organization that is exempt from income tax pursuant to § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that is a revitalization organization that is operated, and has always been operated, exclusively for the purposes of revitalizing the Downtown Harrisonburg Historic District as the economic and social hub of the City of Harrisonburg.

Patron - Wilt

F HB1026 Sex offenses prohibiting working on school property; penalty. Adds certain offenses involving children, including kidnapping, trafficking, sex crimes, and prostitution and commercial sex crimes, to the list of offenses that would prohibit an adult if convicted of such offense from working or engaging in any volunteer activity on property he knows or has reason to know is a public or private elementary or secondary school or child day center. A violation of any such offense is a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Wilt

F HB1030 Carrying a concealed handgun; permit not required. Allows any person who is otherwise eligible to obtain a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun without a permit anywhere he may lawfully carry a handgun openly within the Commonwealth. Patron - Freitas

F HB1042 Controlled substances; manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, etc.; adulterated or misbranded drugs; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any

person, except for permitted manufacturers, to possess, purchase, sell, give, distribute, or possess with intent to sell, give, or distribute an encapsulating machine or a tableting machine that manufactures, compounds, converts, produces, processes, prepares, or otherwise introduces into the human body a controlled substance. The bill makes it a Class 5 felony if such person knows, intends, or has reasonable cause to believe that such action will result in the unlawful manufacture of a controlled substance or counterfeit controlled substance that contains (i) a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or Schedule II of the Drug Control Act; (ii) cocaine, coca leaves, or any salt, compound, derivative, or preparation thereof as described in Schedule II of the Drug Control Act; or (iii) a controlled substance analog as defined in relevant law.

The bill also makes it a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than 10 nor more than 40 years for any person 18 years of age or older to knowingly allow a minor or a mentally incapacitated or physically helpless person of any age to be present during the manufacture or attempted manufacture of any substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl.

The bill also increases from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for violations related to adulterated or misbranded drugs and cosmetics.

Patron - Gilbert

F HB1086 Admission of evidence; evidentiary hearing; excluded persons. Exempts those persons whose presence, in the judgment of the court, would be supportive of the complaining witness or the accused and would not impair the conduct of a fair hearing from being excluded from evidentiary hearings for certain prosecutions.

Patron - Oates

HB1090 Prohibiting purchase or possession of tobacco products, etc.; persons under 21 years of age; civil penalties. Increases the civil penalty from \$100 to \$500 for a first violation, \$200 to \$1,000 for a second violation, and \$500 to \$2,500 for a third or subsequent violation by an individual or by a separate retail establishment that, for products other than a bidi, (i) sells to, distributes to, purchases for, or knowingly permits the purchase by any person less than 21 years of age, knowing or having reason to believe that such person is less than 21 years of age, any tobacco product, nicotine vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or hemp product intended for smoking or (ii) sells a tobacco product, nicotine vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or hemp product intended for smoking to any individual who does not demonstrate, by producing a driver's license or similar photo identification issued by a government agency, that the individual is at least 21 years of age.

Patron - Oates

HB1097 Felony homicide; certain drug offenses; penalty. Provides that a person is guilty of felony homicide, which constitutes second degree murder and is punishable by confinement of not less than five nor more than 40 years, if the underlying felonious act that resulted in the killing of another involved the manufacture, sale, gift, or distribution of a Schedule I or II controlled substance to another and such other person's use of the controlled substance results in his death. The bill provides that venue for a prosecution of this crime shall lie in the locality where the underlying felony occurred, where the use of the controlled substance occurred, or where death occurred. The bill also provides that if a person gave or distributed a Schedule I or II controlled substance only as an accommodation to another individual who is not an inmate in a community correctional facility, local correctional facility, or state correctional facility, or in the custody of an employee thereof, and not with intent to profit thereby from any consideration received or expected nor to induce the recipient of the controlled substance to use or become addicted to or dependent upon such controlled substance, he is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

Patron - Kilgore

F HB1102 Marijuana presumption; driving or operating a motor vehicle, etc., while intoxicated; penalty. Establishes a presumption of intoxication if a person has a blood concentration equal to or greater than 0.003 milligrams of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol per liter of blood. Patron - Walker

F HB1141 Nonresident concealed handgun permits. Provides that if the Department of State Police has not issued a nonresident concealed handgun permit nor determined that the applicant for such permit is disqualified within 90 days of receipt of the application for such permit, the Department shall immediately issue the permit. Current law does not specify a time limit for issuance of such permit or determination of disqualification. The bill retains the current requirement that if after issuance of the permit the permittee is found by the Department to be disqualified, the permit shall be revoked and the person shall return the permit after being so notified by the Department.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1143 Renaming child pornography as child sexual abuse material. Replaces all instances of "child pornography" in the Code with "child sexual abuse material." Patron - Cordoza

Assembly; obstruction of justice; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony to knowingly and willfully send, deliver or convey, or cause to be sent, delivered, or conveyed, to a current member of the General Assembly or his immediate family any threat to take the life of or inflict bodily harm upon a current member of the General Assembly or his immediate family, whether such threat be oral or written. The bill also provides that any person who without just cause knowingly obstructs any elected official in the performance of his duties as such or fails or refuses without just cause to cease such obstruction when requested to do so by such elected official is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1150 Live or recorded threats over public airways or by other means; penalty. Clarifies that, for the offense of using profane, threatening, or indecent language over public airways or by other methods, "over any telephone" includes any electronically transmitted communication producing a recorded or live visual or electronic message that is received or transmitted by cellular telephone or other wireless telecommunications device.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1184 Provision of abortion; abortion based on the sex or ethnicity of unborn child prohibited; penalties. Provides that, except in a medical emergency, a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse shall not perform, induce, or attempt to perform or induce an abortion unless such physician or advanced practice registered nurse who is to perform or induce the abortion has first confirmed that the abortion is not being sought on the basis of the sex or ethnicity of the unborn child and has documented these facts in the maternal patient's chart, as well as in a report to be filed with the State Health Commissioner within 15 days of the abortion. The bill further provides that any physician or advanced practice registered nurse performing such a prohibited abortion has committed an act of unprofessional conduct, that his license to

practice medicine or as an advanced practice registered nurse in the Commonwealth shall be suspended or revoked pursuant to the rules of unprofessional conduct, and that he is subject to a penalty of perjury for attesting to false information on the required report and a civil penalty.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1198 Fees for resident concealed handgun permits. Eliminates the fees that may be charged for the processing of an application for or issuing of a resident concealed handgun permit, including any costs associated with the clerk's consultation with law-enforcement agencies, which under current law is \$10; a fee not to exceed \$35 to the law-enforcement agency conducting the background investigation; and a fee not to exceed \$5 to the State Police to cover its costs associated with processing the application.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1202 Killing the fetus of another; manslaughter; penalties. Provides that any person who kills the fetus of another by an intentional act committed while in the sudden heat of passion upon reasonable provocation is guilty of voluntary manslaughter, which is punishable as a Class 5 felony. The bill also provides that any person who kills the fetus of another accidentally, contrary to the intention of the parties and while engaged in conduct so gross, wanton, and culpable as to show a reckless disregard for human life, is guilty of involuntary manslaughter, which is also punishable as a Class 5 felony.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1206 Obscene materials; restrictions on purchase, distribution, exhibition, or loan; exceptions; libraries and schools. Modifies the exceptions to restrictions on the purchase, distribution, exhibition, or loan of obscene materials by providing that schools supported by public appropriation are not subject to the exceptions and limiting the exception applicable to libraries supported by public appropriation only to obscene material that is available exclusively in a section of the library to which access is restricted by age.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1240 Sale of nicotine vapor product, alternative nicotine product, hemp product intended for smoking, or tobacco product; civil penalties. Increases the civil penalties for the sale, distribution, purchase for, or permitting of the purchase by persons less than 21 years of age and the sale to an individual who does not demonstrate he is at least 21 years of age of any nicotine vapor product, alternative nicotine product, hemp product intended for smoking, or tobacco product other than a bidi from \$100 to \$500 for a first violation, from \$200 to \$1,000 for a second violation, and from \$500 to \$2,500 for a third or subsequent violation.

Patron - Wilt

HB1276 Display of sexually explicit visual material to a child unlawful; penalty. Makes it a Class 6 felony to display sexually explicit visual material, as defined in relevant law, to a child under 13 years of age with the intent to entice, solicit, or encourage the child to engage in the fondling of the sexual or genital parts of another or the fondling of his sexual or genital parts by another, sexual intercourse, cunnilingus, fellatio, anilingus, anal intercourse, or object sexual penetration. Current law prohibits the display of child pornography, as defined in relevant law, to such child under 13 years of age.

Patron - Webert

F HB1299 Ignition interlock systems; penalty.

F HB1315 Elected officials; Internet publication of personal information; definition of public official. Adds to the definition of "public official" any elected official for the purposes of prohibiting the Commonwealth from publishing on the Internet the personal information of any public official if a court has ordered that such official's personal information is prohibited from publication and the official has made a demand in writing to the Commonwealth, accompanied by the order of the court, that the Commonwealth not publish such information. The bill provides that such written demand made by an elected official is effective for four years if such elected official continuously serves throughout the four-year period.

Patron - Walker

F HB1319 Disorderly conduct; penalty. Removes the prohibition on the applicability of the offense of disorderly conduct in public place to any elementary or secondary school student if the disorderly conduct occurred on the property of any elementary or secondary school, on a school bus, or at any activity conducted or sponsored by any elementary or secondary school.

Patron - Kent

F HB1321 Carrying a firearm or explosive material within Capitol Square and the surrounding area, into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth, etc.; exceptions for law-enforcement officers. Adds an exception for off-duty law-enforcement officers to the prohibition of carrying a firearm within any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties.

Patron - Wyatt

F HB1325 Criminal history record information check required for the transfer of certain firearms. Eliminates the requirement that firearms dealers must mail or deliver the written criminal history information record check consent to the Department of State Police on the last day of the week following the sale or transfer of any firearm.

Patron - Taylor

F HB1364 Abortion prohibited; exception; life of the mother; penalty. Provides that if any person administer to, or cause to be taken by a woman, any drug or other thing, or use means, with intent to destroy her unborn child, or to produce abortion or miscarriage, and thereby destroy such child, or produce such abortion or miscarriage at any point after conception of such unborn child, he is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor unless it is necessary for a licensed physician to terminate a human pregnancy or assist in the termination of a human pregnancy by performing an abortion or causing a miscarriage on any woman in order to save her life in the opinion of such physician so performing the abortion or causing the miscarriage.

Patron - Griffin

F HB1368 Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty. Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2024, shall as part of his sentence be forever prohibited from going, for the purpose of having any contact whatsoever with children who are not in his custody, within 100 feet of the premises of any area of a state park where he knows or has reason to know that children are present. A violation is a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Taylor

**HB1465** Interference with commercial fishing vessel; penalties. Provides that a person who comes within 50 feet of a commercial fishing vessel without the consent of the owner or person in charge of such vessel with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass the captain or crew of such vessel or interfere with the operations of such vessel is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill makes it a Class 6 felony to communicate to another person by any means any threat to (i) kill or do bodily injury to a person or persons engaged in the activity of commercial fishing on the waters of the Commonwealth or (ii) bomb, burn, destroy, or in any manner damage any commercial fishing vessel, and increases this penalty to a Class 5 felony if such threat places the captain or crew in reasonable apprehension of death or bodily injury. The bill makes it a Class 6 felony to intentionally or recklessly damage, injure, tamper with, deface, or destroy a commercial fishing vessel or any associated gear. The bill provides that a law-enforcement officer may, with or without a warrant, arrest any person for an alleged violation of these offenses and seize any motorboat, personal watercraft, or vessel used or employed in violation of these offenses and that such property seized is subject to forfeiture proceedings. The bill also deems a person to be ineligible for any hunting or fishing license for a certain period of time if such person is found guilty of an offense set out in the bill. Patron - Bloxom

F HB1471 Drug Treatment Court Act; name change. Renames the Drug Treatment Court Act as the Recovery Court Act. The bill also directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to rename the state Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee as the Recovery Court Advisory Committee.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

**HB1525** Unauthorized creation of image of another; AI-generated image; penalties. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who knowingly and intentionally creates any videographic or still image using artificial intelligence of any nonconsenting person if (i) that person is totally nude, performing sexual acts, clad in undergarments, or in a state of undress so as to expose the genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast and (ii) such videographic or still image appears to be or is intended to appear to be such nonconsenting person. The bill provides that if such nonconsenting person is under the age of 18, the offender is guilty of a Class 6 felony. Patron - Freitas

F HB1547 Alcohol safety action program; entry into program; fee. Increases from \$300 to \$400 the maximum fee a person may be required to pay when entering a court-ordered alcohol safety action program.

Patron - Wright

SB52 Felony homicide; certain drug offenses; penalty. Provides that a person is guilty of felony homicide, which constitutes second degree murder and is punishable by confinement of not less than five nor more than 40 years, if the underlying felonious act that resulted in the killing of another involved the manufacture, sale, gift, or distribution of a Schedule I or II controlled substance to another and (i) such other person's death results from his use of the controlled substance and (ii) the controlled substance is the proximate cause of his death. The bill provides that venue for a prosecution of this crime shall lie in the locality where the underlying felony occurred, where the use of the controlled substance occurred, or where death occurred. The bill also provides that if a person gave or distributed a Schedule I or II controlled substance only as an accommodation to another individual who is not an inmate in a community correctional facility, local correctional facility, or state correctional facility, or in the custody of an

employee thereof, and not with intent to profit thereby from any consideration received or expected nor to induce the recipient of the controlled substance to use or become addicted to or dependent upon such controlled substance, he is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

Patron - McDougle

F SB55 Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least three days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. This bill was incorporated into SB 273.

Patron - Salim

F SB56 Carrying a firearm or explosive material within Capitol Square and the surrounding area, into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth, etc.; exceptions for law-enforcement officers. Adds an exception for off-duty law-enforcement officers to the prohibition of carrying a firearm within any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof or any office where employees of the Commonwealth or any agency thereof are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties.

Patron - McDougle

F SB57 Carrying a concealed handgun onto the premises of any restaurant; penalty. Makes it a Class 2 misdemeanor for any person, except for active and qualified retired law-enforcement officers, to carry a concealed handgun onto the premises of any restaurant or club for which a license to sell and serve alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption has been granted by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. Under current law, a concealed handgun permit holder may carry a concealed handgun onto the premises of any restaurant or club that sells alcoholic beverages, but he is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor if he consumes an alcoholic beverage while on the premises.

Patron - Salim

F SB77 Punishment for conviction of fourth or subsequent misdemeanor larceny; penalty. Provides that any person convicted of a fourth or subsequent larceny offense, regardless of whether the prior convictions were misdemeanors or felonies, or any combination thereof, is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Peake

F SB82 Concealed handgun permit; concealed weapons permit. Changes the concealed handgun permit to a concealed weapons permit. The bill provides that a person who obtains a concealed weapons permit may carry such concealed weapons in any place where a person may carry a concealed handgun with a concealed handgun permit under current law. The expanded types of weapons that may be carried concealed are specified in the bill. The bill provides that any concealed handgun permit issued prior to July 1, 2024, shall include weapons other than handguns, as such weapons are specified in the bill, and shall be treated as a concealed weapons permit. Patron - McGuire

F SB120 Hate crimes and discrimination; ethnic animosity; penalties. Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to safeguard all individuals within the Commonwealth from unlawful discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation because of such individual's ethnic origin. The bill also adds victims who are intentionally selected because of their ethnic origin to the categories of vic-

tims whose intentional selection for a hate crime involving assault, assault and battery, or trespass for the purpose of damaging another's property results in a higher criminal penalty for the offense. The bill also provides that no provider or user of an interactive computer service on the Internet shall be liable for any action voluntarily taken by it in good faith to restrict access to material that the provider or user considers to be intended to incite hatred on the basis of ethnic origin. This bill was incorporated into SB 7.

Patron - Subramanyam

F **SB193** Fleeing from a law-enforcement officer; penalty. Removes the requirement that a law-enforcement officer have the immediate physical ability to place a person under arrest for the crime of fleeing from a law-enforcement officer. *Patron - DeSteph* 

F SB203 Firearms-related offenses; mandatory minimum sentences; penalty. Increases from five to 10 years for a second or subsequent offense the mandatory minimum sentences for use or display of a firearm during the commission of certain felonies.

Patron - Diggs

F SB221 Use, display, or concealment of firearm in committing certain felonies; penalty. Provides that a person is guilty of a separate felony if he carries about his person any pistol, shotgun, rifle, or other firearm that is hidden from common observation while committing or attempting to commit certain other felonies. The bill also increases from three to five years for a first offense and from five to 10 years for a second or subsequent offense the mandatory minimum sentences for use or display of a firearm during the commission of certain felonies.

Patron - DeSteph

F SB223 Unlawful picketing or parading to obstruct or influence justice; penalty. Provides that any person who, with the intent of interfering with, obstructing, or impeding the administration of justice, or with the intent of influencing or intimidating in the discharge of his duty any judge, juror, witness, court officer, or court employee, pickets or parades in or near a residence occupied or used by such judge, juror, witness, court officer, or court employee is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also provides that the provisions regarding the issuance and service of summons in place of a warrant do not apply to such violations. Patron - McGuire

F SB319 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm following an assault and battery against a person in a dating relationship with the alleged offender, penalty. Provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2024, for the offense of assault and battery against a person in a dating relationship, as defined in the bill, with the alleged offender or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill was incorporated into SB 642.

Patron - Salim

F SB348 Gaming; posting of illegal gaming tip line information. Requires those legally authorized to sell Virginia lottery tickets or conduct charitable gaming, horse racing with pari-mutuel wagering, and casino gaming in the Commonwealth to post in a conspicuous place on their premises a sign that bears the toll-free telephone number and website of the illegal gaming tip line established and administered by the

Office of the Gaming Enforcement Coordinator in the Department of State Police for members of the public to report concerns about, or suspected instances of, illegal gaming activities. This bill was incorporated into SB 397.

Patron - Reeves

F SB369 Maiming, killing, or poisoning companion animals; penalty. Makes it a Class 5 felony for any person to maliciously shoot, stab, or wound, or otherwise cause bodily injury to, or administer poison to or expose poison with intent that it be taken by, any companion animal of another, or do any of the foregoing acts to any companion animal of his own with intent to defraud any insurer of such animal. Under current law, such offenses are punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor for the first offense and a Class 6 felony for a second or subsequent offense provided certain conditions are met. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to do any of the foregoing acts with any of the aforesaid intents (i) to any companion animal unlawfully but not maliciously or (ii) to any fowl.

Patron - Ebbin

F SB384 Human smuggling; penalties. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person who, with the intent to obtain a pecuniary benefit, knowingly and with the intent to evade the immigration laws of the United States uses a motor vehicle, aircraft, watercraft, or other means of conveyance to transport another person in or through the Commonwealth and knows or should have known that such person being transported is likely to be exploited for the financial gain of another.

The bill provides that any person who commits human smuggling (i) in a manner that creates a substantial likelihood that the individual being smuggled will suffer serious bodily injury or death, (ii) by smuggling a child younger than 18 years of age at the time of the offense, or (iii) while knowingly possessing a firearm during the commission of the offense is guilty of a Class 3 felony.

The bill also provides that any person who commits human smuggling and as a direct result of the commission of the offense the individual being smuggled (a) became a victim of human trafficking, commercial sex trafficking, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault or (b) suffered serious bodily injury or death is guilty of a Class 2 felony.

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB442 Computer trespass; elementary and secondary schools; school board; penalty. Makes it a Class 6 felony for the offense of computer trespass when such offense is committed against any public, private, or religious elementary or secondary school or any school board.

Patron - Durant

F SB522 Purchase of firearms; demonstrated competence with a firearm or completion of a firearms safety or training course; penalty. Requires that a prospective purchaser of a firearm present proof that such prospective purchaser has demonstrated competence with a firearm or completed a firearms safety or training course, as specified in the bill, within the past five years.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB528 Crimes; offenses against the sovereignty of the Commonwealth; unfaithful delegates to a convention for proposing amendments held under Article V of the Constitution of the United States; penalties. Provides that a delegate or interim delegate to a convention for proposing amendments held under Article V of the Constitution of the United States may not vote or otherwise act beyond the authority granted in his commission, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill provides that a delegate or interim delegate who

exceeds the scope of his authority is guilty of a Class 5 felony. The bill also provides that any individual who knowingly bribes, threatens, intimidates, or unlawfully obstructs or attempts to bribe, threaten, intimidate, or unlawfully obstruct any delegate or interim delegate to the such convention is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB551 Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least two days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. This bill is incorporated into SB 273.

Patron - Deeds

SB559 Commercial sex trafficking, prostitution, etc.; penalties. Increases from a Class 4 felony to a Class 3 felony the penalties for the following crimes if a minor is not involved: (i) human trafficking; (ii) receiving money or other valuable thing for or on account of causing any person to engage in forced labor or services, concubinage, prostitution, or the manufacture of any obscene material or child pornography; (iii) receiving any money or other valuable thing from the earnings of any male or female engaged in prostitution; and (iv) commercial sex trafficking through the use of force, intimidation, or deception. The bill also increases from a Class 3 felony to a Class 2 felony the penalties for the following crimes if a minor is involved: (a) human trafficking; (b) receiving money or other valuable thing for or on account of causing any person to engage in forced labor or services, concubinage, prostitution, or the manufacture of any obscene material or child pornography; (c) receiving any money or other valuable thing from the earnings of any male or female engaged in prostitution; and (d) commercial sex trafficking.

Patron - McGuire

F SB583 Carrying a firearm or explosive material into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exception for highway rest areas. Provides that the prohibition on carrying a firearm or explosive material in any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth shall not apply to any highway rest area.

Patron - Diggs

SB602 Felony homicide; certain drug offenses; penalties. Provides that a person is guilty of felony homicide, which constitutes second degree murder and is punishable by confinement of not less than five nor more than 40 years, if the underlying felonious act that resulted in the killing of another involved the manufacture, sale, gift, or distribution of a Schedule I or II controlled substance to another person and such other person's use of the controlled substance results in his death, regardless of the time or place death occurred in relation to the commission of the underlying felony. The bill provides that venue for a prosecution of this crime shall lie in the locality where the underlying felony occurred, where the use of the controlled substance occurred, or where death occurred. The bill also provides that if a person gave or distributed a Schedule I or II controlled substance only as an accommodation to another individual who is not an inmate in a community correctional facility, local correctional facility, or state correctional facility, or in the custody of an employee thereof, and not with intent to profit thereby from any consideration received or expected nor to induce the recipient of the controlled substance to use or become addicted to or dependent upon such controlled substance, he is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

Patron - McGuire

**SB666** Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; state parks; penalty. Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2024, shall as part of his sentence be forever prohibited from going, for the purpose of having any contact whatsoever with children who are not in his custody, within 100 feet of the premises of any area of a state park where he knows or has reason to know that children are present. A violation is a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Diggs

SB690 Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program; fee. Raises from \$300 to \$350 the maximum fee that may be charged to a person required by the court to enter the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program upon conviction of certain offenses related to driving a motor vehicle or commercial vehicle while intoxicated, operating a boat while intoxicated, or refusing to have samples of breath taken for chemical tests to determine alcohol content of blood.

Patron - Obenshain

# **SB700** Prostitution; solicitation; penalties.

Increases from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for a third or subsequent offense of solicitation of prostitution from an adult. The bill also makes it a Class 5 felony to solicit prostitution from any minor. Under current law, any person who solicits prostitution from a minor is guilty of a Class 6 felony if the minor is 16 years of age or older or a Class 5 felony if the minor is younger than 16 years of age. Finally, the bill increases the fines for certain offenses related to sex trafficking from \$100 to \$1,000 and from \$500 to \$2,500, respectively.

Patron - Mulchi

#### Carried Over

C HB158 Firearm locking device required for sale or transfer of firearm; warning against accessibility to children; penalty. Makes it a Class 3 misdemeanor for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any firearm to any person other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer unless the transferee is provided with a locking device for that firearm and the firearm is accompanied by a warning, in conspicuous and legible type in capital letters printed on a separate sheet of paper included within the packaging enclosing the firearm, that firearms should be locked and kept away from children and that there may be civil and criminal liability for failing to do so. The bill provides exceptions for law-enforcement and governmental agencies. This bill incorporates HB 12. Patron - McClure

C HB270 Sale, transfer, etc., of certain firearms and firearm magazines; Virginia Firearm Buy-Back Program and Fund established; penalties. Provides that, unless otherwise prohibited by law, any person may import, sell, transfer, manufacture, or purchase an authorized rifle, defined in the bill, in accordance with the relevant provisions of law. The bill makes it a Class 6 felony for any person to import, sell, transfer, manufacture, or purchase a restricted rifle or largecapacity firearm magazine, both defined in the bill, with certain exceptions. The bill also provides that a person is civilly liable for injuries to person or property or wrongful death of another caused by a third party if it can be shown that the civil defendant sold or transferred a restricted rifle or large-capacity firearm magazine in violation of the provisions of the bill to the person who committed the crime resulting in such injury or death.

The bill also provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least three days have elapsed from the time the prospective purchaser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in the bill.

The bill also directs the Department of State Police to develop policies for the establishment of uniform standards for the creation of the Virginia Firearm Buy-Back Program. The bill clarifies that participation in the Program by a local lawenforcement agency is voluntary and also directs the Department to establish the Virginia Firearm Buy-Back Fund, a nonreverting fund to be used solely for the purposes of development and implementation of the Program.

Patron - Reid

C HB319 Firearms instructors and safety programs; National Rifle Association and United States Concealed Carry Association. Removes references to the National Rifle Association (the NRA) and the United States Concealed Carry Association from the Code that allow the organizations to certify ranges and instructors and for courses offered by them to serve as proof of demonstrated competence in firearms safety and training for the purpose of obtaining a concealed handgun permit or receiving training as a minor in the use of pneumatic guns. The bill also repeals authority for special license plates in support of the NRA.

Patron - Helmer

C HB527 Charitable Sports Raffle Act established; penalties. Establishes the Charitable Sports Raffles Act for the purpose of authorizing athletic event drawings, defined in the bill, to be conducted by affiliated nonprofit organizations that conduct such drawings in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The bill places limits on when and where an athletic event drawing may be held and requires the prize amount of any such drawing to be 50 percent of the total amount collected from the sale of the tickets. The bill requires the organization to donate a certain percentage of the remaining funds in accordance with Department regulations and imposes certain civil and criminal penalties for violations of the provisions of the

Patron - Krizek

C HB774 Alcohol safety action program; local administrative fee. Provides that any county, city, or town, or any combination thereof, that has established and operates an alcohol safety action program and supplements fees collected for the program pursuant to general law by more than 33 percent annually in order to fully fund the program may charge a local administrative fee of no more than \$100 to each person entering such program.

Patron - Herring

C HB927 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human **Resources**; work group; report. Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on procedures for requiring health care providers or facilities to report to a law-enforcement officer in order to initiate procedures for the issuance of a substantial risk order. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Shin

C HB1235 Carrying concealed handguns; protective orders. Authorizes any person 21 years of age or older who is not prohibited from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm and is protected by an unexpired protective order to carry a concealed handgun for 45 days after the protective order was issued. The bill provides that if the person issued the protective order applies for a concealed handgun permit during such 45-day period, such person will be authorized to carry a concealed handgun for an additional 45 days and be given a copy of the certified application, which shall serve as a de facto concealed handgun permit. During the period such person is authorized to carry a concealed handgun, the bill provides that the person may carry a handgun any place a law-enforcement officer may carry a firearm. The bill requires such person to have the order or certified application and photo identification on his person when carrying a concealed handgun and to display them upon demand by a lawenforcement officer; failure to do so is punishable by a \$25 civil penalty.

Patron - Zehr

C HB1424 Firearm purchases; permit to purchase a firearm required; penalties. Requires any person purchasing a firearm from a firearms dealer to present a valid permit issued by the Department of State Police that allows the holder to purchase a firearm. The bill prohibits a firearms dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory any firearm to any person until he has received such permit. The bill sets forth the procedures to apply for the permit and prohibits the permitting of any person who (i) is younger than 21 years of age; (ii) is prohibited from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm; (iii) within the two years prior to the date of application, has been convicted of any offense against a person that is an act of violence, force, or threat or a firearm-related offense that is punished as a Class 1 misdemeanor; (iv) is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance; (v) within the two years prior to the date of application, has not completed a firearms safety or training course or class offered to the public by a law-enforcement agency, institution of higher education, or private or public institution or organization or by a firearms training school utilizing instructors certified or approved by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and with a required curriculum, detailed in the bill; or (vi) for whom it would not be in the interest of the public health, safety, or welfare of the Commonwealth as determined by the Department of State Police for the person to obtain a permit because the person is found to be lacking in essential character or temperament necessary to be entrusted with a firearm. The bill provides that such permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance. The bill details reasons for revocation of a permit and provides that any person who fails to return a revoked permit to the Superintendent of State Police within five days' notice of revocation is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also states that any person who willfully and intentionally makes a materially false statement on the application form for a permit is guilty of a Class 5 fel-

Patron - Hope

C SB332 Misdemeanor; maximum term of confinement. Reduces from 12 months to 364 days the maximum term of confinement in jail for a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill contains technical amendments. The bill also requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to revise all labels on Sentencing Guidelines worksheets and instructions in the Sentencing Guidelines manual so that any conviction for an offense defined as a Class 1 misdemeanor or any other misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of 364 days of incarceration, as provided by the bill, shall be scored as if the maximum penalty were 12 months for the purposes of preparing and using the discretionary sentencing guidelines.

Patron - Salim

C SB571 Synthetic media; penalty. Expands the applicability of provisions related to defamation, slander, and libel to include synthetic media, defined in the bill. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to generate, create, or use or cause to be generated, created, or used any deceptive audio or visual media, defined in the bill, for the purpose of committing a criminal offense involving fraud. The bill creates a rebuttable presumption that such deceptive audio or visual media was generated or created for the purpose of committing such criminal offense if such deceptive audio or visual media is subsequently used as part of a plan or course of conduct to commit such criminal offense. The bill also authorizes the individual depicted in the deceptive audio or visual media to bring a civil action against the person who violates such prohibition to recover actual damages, reasonable attorney fees, and such other relief as the court determines to be appropriate. The bill directs the Attorney General to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the current enforcement of laws related to the use of deceptive audio or visual media, including deepfakes, and any further action needed to address the issue of such use in fraudulent acts.

Patron - Ebbin

**SB689** Exemptions to article; cruise ship gaming in the offshore waters of the Commonwealth.

Patron - Craig

C **SB694** Skill games; exceptions. Clarifies that skill games are a form of illegal gambling except where relevant Code provides otherwise.

Patron - Stanley

### **Criminal Procedure**

### Passed

PHB63 Criminal cases; request for a jury to ascertain punishment. Provides that an accused may withdraw a request for a jury to ascertain punishment up until the commencement of the sentencing proceeding. The bill also provides that counsel for either party shall have the right to examine jurors regarding the potential range of punishment regardless of whether the jury will ascertain punishment and that the court or counsel for either party may inform any person or juror during voir dire as to the potential range of punishment to ascertain if the person or juror can sit impartially in the guilt or sentencing phase of the case. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simon

P HB76 Foreman of grand jury; oaths of jurors and witnesses. Clarifies the oath of the foreman and other grand jurors. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia.

Patron - Watts

PHB78 Search warrants, subpoenas, court orders, or other process; menstrual health data prohibited. Prohibits the issuance of a search warrant, subpoena, court order, or other process for the purpose of the search and seizure or production of menstrual health data, as defined in the bill, including data stored on a computer, computer network, or other device containing electronic or digital information. This bill incorporates HB 1359 and is identical to SB 16.

Patron - Watts

P HB102 Compensation of court-appointed counsel. Raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. The bill also limits the fees charged for the cost of court-appointed counsel or public defender representation to persons determined to be indigent to an amount no greater than the amount such person would have owed if such fees had been assessed on or before June 30, 2024. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 356.

Patron - Reaser

P HB155 Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund; claims. Provides that in claims for an award under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund involving claims of sexual abuse of a minor where the conduct constitutes a felony, the passage of time shall not be a barrier to when the victim can file a claim. Under current law, such claim involving sexual abuse of a minor shall be filed within 10 years after the minor's eighteenth birthday. This bill is identical to SB 646.

Patron - Green

P HB246 Fines, restitution, forfeiture, penalties, other costs; criminal and traffic cases; itemized statement. Requires the clerk of the court to provide an itemized statement to any defendant convicted of a traffic infraction or a violation of any criminal law of the Commonwealth or of any political subdivision thereof, or found not innocent in the case of a juvenile, who is sentenced to pay a fine, restitution, forfeiture, or penalty or assessed any other costs in the circuit court or appropriate district court of his county or city at the time such fine, restitution, forfeiture, penalty, or other costs are assessed, or within a reasonable time after assessment. The bill requires the clerk to also provide an updated statement of the outstanding balances of any fines, forfeiture, and penalties, restitution and costs, or payment history upon request of the defendant. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Jones

P HB306 Appointment of counsel; public defenders; caseload exception. Exempts the public defender, in counties and cities where public defender offices are established, from providing defense services for indigent clients if the public defender, with the concurrence of the executive director of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission or his designee, determines that the public defender's current active caseload would preclude the public defender from providing adequate representation to new clients.

Patron - Ballard

P HB361 Dissemination of criminal history record information; Department of Social Services. Authorizes the Department of Social Services to obtain criminal history record information for the purpose of screening individuals as a condition of licensure, employment, volunteering, or providing services on a regular basis in a licensed child welfare agency or foster or adoptive home approved by a child-placing agency.

Patron - Simonds

P HB430 Bail; violation of conditions of release; report available to attorney for the Commonwealth and counsel of record. Requires that any report of a violation of any pretrial condition of release provided to the court shall be sent by the pretrial services agency to the attorney for the Commonwealth and the counsel of record for the accused or juve-

nile, or directly to the accused or juvenile if such person is not represented by counsel.

Patron - Arnold

P HB438 Written complaints; felony offenses. Provides that a written complaint is required for a felony offense, regardless of whether the complainant is a lawenforcement officer. Current law only requires a written complaint for any offense if the complainant is not a law-enforcement officer. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Arnold

HB612 Fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, and restitution; collection fees; assessment against incarcerated defendant; deferred payment agreement. Extends from 90 days without payment to 180 days without payment the period of delinquency necessary for an account to be included on the required monthly report of delinquent accounts made by the clerk of the circuit court and district court. The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 654. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Price

P HB614 Community service work in lieu of payment of fines and costs; work performed while incarcerated. Requires a court to establish a program and allow any person upon whom a fine and costs have been imposed to discharge all or part of the fine or costs by earning credits for the performance of community service work or work performed while incarcerated, defined in the bill as any work done on or after July 1, 2020, by a person confined in any penal or corrective institution of the Commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions who is paid a wage that is less than the Virginia minimum wage.

The bill requires such program be available during imprisonment in a local, regional, or state correctional facility. The bill provides that a person who is performing work while incarcerated shall be credited at the same rate as the community service work rate less any wages received. Under current law, a court is required to establish a program for providing an option for community service work in lieu of payment of fines and costs but offering such option is not mandatory. The bill also requires the local, regional, or state correctional facility to provide confirmation of the hours worked and the credits earned for such work upon request of any person who has performed work while incarcerated or his representative. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Price

P HB637 Substantial risk orders; training program. Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a Substantial Risk Order Training Program for the purposes of training law-enforcement agencies and other public institutions throughout the Commonwealth to use and implement the substantial risk order law. The bill states that the programming shall provide training regarding proper procedures to follow, the circumstances under which the law can be used, the benefits to public safety from proper use of the law, and the harm that may ensue from the law not being used when

lawfully available. The Program shall also include efforts to educate the public on and increase awareness of the substantial risk order law. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Sullivan

HB679 Quarters for magistrates; certain minimum standards for security and accessibility. Establishes certain minimum standards for ensuring security and accessibility in quarters for magistrates. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and is identical to SB 386. Patron - Leftwich

HB769 Multi-jurisdiction grand jury; elder **abuse crimes.** Adds the following to the list of crimes that a multi-jurisdiction grand jury may investigate: (i) financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult, (ii) financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult by an agent, and (iii) abuse and neglect of a vulnerable adult. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference. Patron - Delaney

HB824 Rate of fees; legal representation of **indigent defendant.** Limits the fees charged for the cost of court-appointed counsel or public defender representation to persons determined to be indigent to an amount no greater than the amount such person would have owed if such fees had been

assessed on or before June 30, 2024. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Cousins

HB838 Expungement of police and court records. Provides that for the purposes of expungement of police and court records the term "otherwise dismissed" means to render a legal action out of consideration in a different way or manner than a nolle prosequi or formal dismissal by the trial court. The bill specifies that the term "otherwise dismissed" also includes those circumstances when a person is charged with the commission of a crime, a civil offense, or any offense defined in relevant law and the initial charge is reduced or amended to another offense, including a lesser included offense or the same offense with a lesser gradient of punishment, so that such person is not convicted of the initial charge and may file a petition requesting expungement of the police and court records relating to the initial charge. The bill also provides that if a court finds that the continued existence and possible dissemination of information relating to an arrest may cause circumstances that constitute manifest injustice, including any hindrance to obtain employment, an education, or credit, it shall enter an order requiring the expungement of the police and court records. Under current law, a court shall enter an order of expungement when information relating to an arrest causes or may cause circumstances that constitute a manifest injustice to the petitioner. The bill also provides that when an initial charge has been reduced or amended to another offense for which reporting to the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) is still required pursuant to relevant law and an order of expungement is granted for the initial charge, the CCRE shall amend the original arrest but maintain the fingerprints collected from the original arrest. Except for the provisions regarding the circumstances that constitute manifest injustice, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Hope

HB857 Fines and costs; period of limitations on collection; deferred payment agreement. Changes the period of limitations for the collection of court fines and costs from within 60 years from the date of the offense or delinquency giving rise to imposition of such penalty if imposed by a circuit court or within 30 years if imposed by a general district court

to within 10 years from the date of the judgment whether imposed by a circuit court or general district court. The bill provides that upon the expiration of the period of limitations, no action shall be brought to collect the debt. The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. This bill is identical to SB 514. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hernandez

P HB896 Deferred or installment payment agreements; certain benefits. Provides that in any case in which a defendant owes fines and costs and where such defendant's sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, such defendant shall be exempt from making payments until he has another source of income and, if such defendant notifies the court that his sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, the case shall not be referred to collections. The bill also prohibits a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income from being considered an available resource in determining the length of time to pay under a deferred, modified deferred, or installment payment agreement and the amount of payments, if any. This bill is identical to SB 625. Patron - Hernandez

HB916 Substantial Risk Order Reporting System established. Requires the Department of State Police to establish a Substantial Risk Order Reporting System for the purpose of tracking and reporting substantial risk orders by locality and to publish such reports on a monthly basis and distribute them in an electronic format to the General Assembly and the Office of the Governor. The bill provides that the Department shall remove the names and other personal identifying information from the data before the reports are published. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Srinivasan

HB972 Prohibiting inquiry into the immigration status of defendant; notification of consequences. Requires that at the initial court hearing for any misdemeanor or felony, the court shall advise the defendant of the following: The outcome of criminal proceedings may have federal immigration and naturalization consequences. The bill also provides that no court or party shall inquire as to the immigration status of the defendant during any proceeding unless otherwise admissible. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Lopez

P HB1014 Public defender offices; City of Harrisonburg and County of Rockingham. Establishes a public defender office for the City of Harrisonburg and the County of Rockingham. Patron - Wilt

**HB1114** Penalties for failure to appear; exclusion. Excludes any person who is (i) incarcerated in any correctional facility or (ii) (a) detained in any state or federal facility or (b) in the custody of a law-enforcement officer at the time such person is required to appear before any court or judicial officer from the penalty for willful failure to appear before

any such court or judicial officer as required after such person

has been charged with any offense or convicted of any offense and execution of sentence is suspended.

Patron - Simon

P HB1217 Cell phone records; missing persons.

Provides that a court shall issue an order for disclosure of records or other information pertaining to a subscriber to or customer of a provider of electronic communication service or remote computing service, including a foreign corporation that provides such services, only if the investigative or law-enforcement officer shows that there is reason to believe the records or other information sought are relevant and material to the investigation of any critically missing person, as defined in relevant law.

Patron - Zehr

P HB1252 Limitation on sentence upon revocation of suspension of sentence; technical violations. Provides that when conducting a revocation hearing, the court shall consider at the same revocation hearing all alleged technical violations that occurred prior to such revocation hearing and have not been previously considered by the court. The bill also requires that when a defendant has been taken into custody for an alleged violation for which the court may impose not more than 14 days of active incarceration, the court shall adjudicate such violation within 14 days of the defendant being taken into custody. The bill states that if such violation is not adjudicated within 14 days of the defendant being taken into custody, the defendant shall be admitted to bail, unless (i) such defendant consents to being further detained while awaiting adjudication or sentencing or (ii) the Commonwealth has established, by clear and convincing evidence, that the defendant presents a significant risk of harm to himself or the community based on substance use disorder or serious mental illness and has been referred for residential treatment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the bill provides that no such defendant shall be held in custody awaiting adjudication of or sentencing on such alleged technical violation for longer than 30 days. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McClure

P HB1268 Eligibility for participation in community corrections alternative program; evaluation and diagnosis; referral to the Department of Corrections. Provides that a probation and parole officer may refer a defendant on probation to the Department of Corrections for evaluation and diagnosis to determine eligibility and suitability for participation in the community corrections alternative program prior to the approval of the court. Under current law, such referral may take place with the approval of the court. The bill also makes technical amendments.

Patron - Delaney

P HB1427 Fixing period of suspension of sentence; sexual battery; sexual abuse of a child under 15 years of age. Allows the court to fix the period of suspension of sentence for a period not to exceed three years for the offenses of sexual battery and sexual abuse of a child 13 years of age or older but under 15 years of age. Current law allows a court to fix the period of suspension for up to the maximum period for which the defendant might originally have been sentenced to be imprisoned.

Patron - Webert

P HB1435 Subpoenas; release of witness. Makes the provisions governing a release of a witness from a subpoena applicable to a subpoena issued at the request of a party or by or at the request of an attorney representing a party. Under current law, these provisions apply to the release of a

witness from an attorney-issued subpoena only. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Anthony

P HB1515 Discovery; electronic means; report.

Requires all attorneys for the Commonwealth to provide discovery materials for all courts to counsel of record for the accused by electronic means unless such material is prohibited from being distributed by law or impossible to provide by electronic means. The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to promulgate rules to implement this provision by July 1, 2026. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

The bill also requires the Executive Secretary of the Compensation Board, or a designee, to convene a work group to determine the costs associated with any changes in operations and technology infrastructure necessary to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill requires the Executive Secretary of the Compensation Board to provide an interim report to the General Assembly by November 30, 2024, and a final report to the General Assembly by August 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Srinivasan

P SB15 Reproductive health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes. Provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt or provision of or assistance with reproductive health care services within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that such limit on extradition shall not apply when the person who is subject to such demand for extradition by another state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Favola

P SB16 Search warrants, subpoenas, court orders, or other process; menstrual health data prohibited. Prohibits the issuance of a search warrant, subpoena, court order, or other process for the purpose of the search and seizure or production of menstrual health data, as defined in the bill, including data stored on a computer, computer network, or other device containing electronic or digital information. This bill is identical to HB 78.

Patron - Favola

P **SB20** Deferred dispositions; expungement. Clarifies that a charged dismissed after a deferred disposition that may be eligible for expungement upon agreement of all parties includes an original charge that was reduced or a charge that is dismissed after a plea or stipulation of the facts that would justify a finding of guilt.

Patron - Stuart

P **SB144** Nolle prosequi or dismissal prior to preliminary hearing; subsequent indictment. Provides that no person who was arrested on a warrant charging him with a felony offense shall be denied a preliminary hearing upon the question of whether there is probable cause to believe that he committed that offense and no indictment shall be returned in a court of record against any such person for such felony offense or any other offense arising out of the same facts and circumstances prior to such hearing unless such hearing is waived in writing by the accused.

The bill provides that, on motion of the defendant made within 21 days of service of any such indictment upon such defendant that is returned without a preliminary hearing, the court shall

stay prosecution in that court and remand the case to district court for a preliminary hearing. Upon conducting the preliminary hearing, the district court shall either (i) on a finding of probable cause, certify such indictment to the circuit court for further proceedings or (ii) if no probable cause is found, certify such finding to the circuit court, which shall dismiss such indictment with or without prejudice.

Lastly, the bill tolls the time period to try an accused upon remand of an indictment to the district court for a preliminary hearing and restarts such time period upon a finding of probable cause by the district court. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB321** Protected information in administrative and civil proceedings; newspersons engaged in journalism. Expands the protected information privilege for newspersons to administrative and civil proceedings. Under current law, a newsperson engaged in journalism shall not be compelled by the Commonwealth or a locality to testify about, disclose, or produce protected information, with certain exceptions, in criminal proceedings only.

Patron - Roem

## P SB334 Plea agreements; prohibited provisions.

Prohibits plea agreements and court orders executed or entered on or after July 1, 2024, from containing any provision that purports to waive, release, or extinguish a defendant's (i) rights under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution of Virginia; (ii) right to file a petition requesting expungement of the police records and the court records; or (iii) right to have criminal history record information and court records sealed. The bill provides that any such prohibited provision of a plea agreement or court order is void and unenforceable as against public policy.

The bill provides that such prohibition does not apply to any plea agreements, written agreements, or court orders entered into by a defendant and the Commonwealth (a) as a condition for participation in a specialty docket or (b) in a case involving a sexual offense where the victim is under 18 years of age.

The bill further provides that any waiver, release, or extinguishment of rights under the Fourth Amendment permissible by law shall be no longer than the period of supervised probation or post-release supervision imposed against the defendant; if the defendant is not placed on supervised probation or post-release supervision, it shall be no longer than the period of supersion of sentence or post-release incarceration imposed against such defendant. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Salim

P SB356 Compensation of court-appointed counsel. Raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel.

sel. Raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. The bill also limits the fees charged for the cost of court-appointed counsel or public defender representation to persons determined to be indigent to an amount no greater than the amount such person would have owed if such fees had been assessed on or before June 30, 2024. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 102.

Patron - Perry

P **SB386** Quarters for magistrates; certain minimum standards for security and accessibility. Establishes certain minimum standards for ensuring security and accessibility in quarters for magistrates. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and is identical to HB 679. *Patron - Deeds* 

P **SB424** Admission to bail; act of violence. Provides that a judicial officer who admits a person to bail who is charged with an act of violence shall notify the attorney for the Commonwealth for the jurisdiction in which such person's case is filed contemporaneously with such person's grant of bail or release. The bill provides that such notice may be made by facsimile or other electronic means.

Patron - McDougle

P SB504 Expungement of police and court

records. Provides that, for the purposes of expungement of police and court records, the term "otherwise dismissed" means to render a legal action out of consideration in a different way or manner than a nolle prosequi or formal dismissal by the trial court. The bill specifies that the term "otherwise dismissed" also includes those circumstances when a person is charged with the commission of a crime, a civil offense, or any offense defined in relevant law and the initial charge is reduced or amended to another offense, including a lesser included offense or the same offense with a lesser gradient of punishment, so that such person is not convicted of the initial charge and may file a petition requesting expungement of the police and court records relating to the initial charge. Under the bill, unless the subject of the criminal record requests otherwise, any person who files an appeal of a petition for an expungement that was denied shall be allowed to proceed under a pseudonym, and such designation shall apply in the trial court and on any appeal. The bill also allows for the expungement of any emergency or preliminary protective order that was attached or factually related to an expunged charge or offense, provided that a permanent protective order was not ordered as a result of such emergency or preliminary protective order. The bill also provides that if a court finds that the continued existence and possible dissemination of information relating to an arrest may cause circumstances that constitute manifest injustice, including any hindrance to obtain employment, an education, or credit, it shall enter an order requiring the expungement of the police and court records. Under current law, a court shall enter an order of expungement when information relating to an arrest causes or may cause circumstances that constitute a manifest injustice to the petitioner. The bill requires a business screening service, defined in the bill, to destroy all expunged records, as defined in the bill, and to follow reasonable procedures to ensure that it does not maintain or sell expunged records. The bill also provides that an indigent person may file a petition for expungement without the payment of fees and costs and can request court-appointed counsel, who shall be paid from the Sealing Fee Fund. Except for the provisions regarding the filing of an appeal under a pseudonym and the circumstances that constitute manifest injustice, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Surovell

P SB505 Limitation on sentence upon revocation of suspension of sentence; technical violations. Provides that, when conducting a revocation hearing, the court shall consider at the same revocation hearing all alleged technical violations that occurred prior to such revocation hearing and have not been previously considered by the court. The bill also requires that when a defendant has been taken into custody for an alleged violation for which the court may impose not more than 14 days of active incarceration, the court shall adjudicate such violation within 14 days of the defendant being taken into custody. The bill states that if such violation is not adjudicated within 14 days of the defendant being taken into custody, the defendant shall be admitted to bail, unless (i) such defendant consents to being further detained while awaiting adjudication or sentencing or (ii) the Commonwealth has established, by

clear and convincing evidence, that the defendant presents a significant risk of harm to himself or the community based on substance use disorder or serious mental illness and has been referred for residential treatment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the bill provides that no such defendant shall be held in custody awaiting adjudication of or sentencing on such alleged technical violation for longer than 30 days without his consent. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB514 Fines and costs; period of limitations on collection; deferred payment agreement. Changes the period of limitations for the collection of court fines and costs from within 60 years from the date of the offense or delinquency giving rise to imposition of such penalty if imposed by a circuit court or within 30 years if imposed by a general district court to within 10 years from the date of the judgment whether imposed by a circuit court or general district court. The bill provides that upon the expiration of the period of limitations, no action shall be brought to collect the debt.

The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. This bill is identical to HB 857. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Williams Graves

P SB625 Deferred or installment payment agreements; certain benefits. Provides that in any case in which a defendant owes fines and costs and where such defendant's sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, such defendant shall be exempt from making payments until he has another source of income and, if such defendant notifies the court that his sole financial resource is a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income, the case shall not be referred to collections. The bill also prohibits a Social Security benefit or Supplemental Security Income from being considered an available resource in determining the length of time to pay under a deferred, modified deferred, or installment payment agreement and the amount of payments, if any. This bill is identical to HB 896.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB637** Collections of fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, etc.; duty of attorneys for the Commonwealth; consultation with clerk. Requires that at least 30 days prior to the execution of a contract with a private attorney or private collection agency to undertake the collection of fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, and restitution, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall consult with the clerk of the circuit court.

Patron - Jordan

P SB646 Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund; claims. Provides that in claims for an award under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund involving claims of sexual abuse of a minor where the conduct constitutes a felony, the passage of time shall not be a barrier to when the victim can file a claim. Under current law, such claim involving sexual abuse of a minor shall be filed within 10 years after the minor's eighteenth birthday. This bill is identical to HB 155.

Patron - French

P SB654 Fines, costs, forfeitures, penalties, and restitution; collection fees; assessment against incarcerated defendant; deferred payment agreement. Extends from 90 days without payment to 180 days without payment the period of delinquency necessary for an account to be included on the required monthly report of delinquent accounts made by the clerk of the circuit court and district court.

The bill also provides that for any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine, cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge that such defendant is incarcerated for, or any other charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, the court shall enter such defendant into a deferred payment agreement for such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties. The bill requires the due date for such deferred payment agreement to be set no earlier than the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant received the longest period of active incarceration. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 612. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB696** Modification of sentence for marijuanarelated offenses. Creates a process by which persons convicted of certain felony offenses involving the possession, manufacture, selling, giving, distribution, transportation, or delivery of marijuana committed prior to July 1, 2021, who remain incarcerated or on community supervision on July 1, 2024, may receive an automatic hearing to consider modification of such person's sentence. The provisions of this bill sunset on July 1, 2027. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Williams Graves

### Failed

F HB167 Special grand juries. Directs a circuit court to impanel a special grand jury when an unarmed person is killed by a law-enforcement officer or a correctional officer, as those terms are defined in relevant law, to investigate and report on any condition that involves or tends to promote criminal activity and consider bills of indictment to determine whether there is sufficient probable cause to return each such indictment as a "true bill." The bill requires the court to appoint a special prosecutor for such special grand jury who may be present during the investigatory stage only when his presence is requested by the special grand jury and may interrogate witnesses provided the special grand jury requests or consents to such interrogation. The bill states that the attorney for the Commonwealth shall not be present during the investigatory stage or interrogate witnesses.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F HB260 Expungement of police and court records. Provides that for the purposes of expungement of police and court records the term "otherwise dismissed" means to render a legal action out of consideration in a different way or manner than a nolle prosequi or formal dismissal by the trial court. The bill specifies that the term "otherwise dismissed" also includes those circumstances when a person is charged with the commission of a crime, a civil offense, or any offense defined in relevant law and the initial charge is reduced or amended to another offense, including a lesser included offense or the same offense with a lesser gradient of punishment, so that such person is not convicted of the initial charge and may file a petition requesting expungement of the police and court records relating to the initial charge.

Patron - Hope

F HB303 Certification of ancillary traffic infractions and civil offenses. Allows the court to certify any ancillary traffic infraction or civil offense to the clerk of the circuit court upon certification of any felony offense, provided that the attorney for the Commonwealth and the accused consent to such certification. Current law only allows ancillary misdemeanor offenses to be certified.

Patron - Obenshain

HB400 Probation, revocation, and suspension of sentence; repeal. Repeals the limitations on the amount of active incarceration a court can impose as a result of a revocation hearing for a probation violation or violation of the terms and conditions of a suspended sentence. Under current law, there are limitations on the amount of active incarceration a court can impose for defined technical violations. The bill also removes limitations on the lengths of a period of probation and a period of suspension of a sentence that may be fixed by the court. Under current law, a court may fix the period of probation for up to the statutory maximum period for which the defendant might originally have been sentenced to be imprisoned and any period of supervised probation shall not exceed five years from the release of the defendant from any active period of incarceration, with some exceptions. The bill also makes changes to the time periods within which a court must issue process to notify the accused of a revocation hearing.

Patron - Griffin

F HB427 Admission to bail; rebuttable presumptions against bail. Creates a rebuttable presumption against bail for certain criminal offenses enumerated in the bill. The bill also requires the court to consider specified factors when determining whether the presumption against bail has been rebutted and whether there are appropriate conditions of release.

Patron - Arnold

HB482 Reports of certain arrests and convictions of school employees; timing; method. Requires any probation and parole officer who is supervising a person employed by a local school division in the Commonwealth, upon discovering that such supervised person has been arrested for or convicted of a felony offense or an equivalent offense in another state, to report such arrest or conviction to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the designated division safety official in the local school division in which such supervised person is employed as soon as practicable but no later than 48 hours after such arrest. Current law requires such report to be made as soon as practicable. The bill also removes the requirement to report certain arrests and convictions of school employees enumerated in law via fax to the fax number identified for the division superintendent or the designated division safety official, as the case may be. However, the requirements in current law to make such reports via certified mail and email are preserved.

Patron - Garrett

F HB493 Power to arrest on property of owner. Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, any agent of the Commonwealth is prohibited from entering the property of another to remove the owner of such property or a family member of such person from such property (i) without the consent of such owner or such owner's family member, unless such agent has probable cause to arrest for a felony violation of a criminal offense, or (ii) to enforce quarantine or other health policies.

Patron - Garrett

F HB520 Promise to appear after the issuance of a summons; issuance of summons instead of warrant in certain cases; nonviolent felonies. Provides that if any person refuses to give a written promise to appear after the issuance of a summons, the arresting officer shall give such person notice of the time and place of the hearing, note such person's refusal to give his written promise to appear on the summons, and forthwith release him from custody. Under current law, any person refusing to give such written promise to appear is required to be taken immediately by the arresting officer before a magistrate or other issuing officer having jurisdiction.

The bill also provides that a law-enforcement officer, at his discretion, may issue a summons instead of a warrant for certain felony offenses, described in the bill, if (i) in the judgment of the officer, the person charged will cease committing the illegal act; (ii) in the judgement of the officer, the person charged does not pose an immediate threat to public safety; and (iii) the person charged signs a written promise to appear at the time and place of the hearing. The bill prohibits a law-enforcement agency from creating a policy that requires or prohibits release for persons meeting such criteria.

Patron - Hope

F HB546 Law-enforcement officers; protected personal information. Provides that any law-enforcement officer who provides information relative to a criminal investigation or in proceedings preliminary to a criminal prosecution may refuse, unless ordered by a court, to disclose his residence address, home telephone number, or any personal information concerning his family. The bill also provides that any law-enforcement officer who testifies as a witness in a criminal case may refuse to disclose personal information concerning his family unless it is determined by the court that such evidence is relevant to the case.

Patron - Walker

F HB718 Law-enforcement officers; protected personal information. Provides that any full-time or part-time law-enforcement officer who provides information relative to a criminal investigation or in proceedings preliminary to a criminal prosecution may refuse, unless ordered by a court, to disclose his residence address, home telephone number, or any personal information concerning his family. The bill also provides that any full-time or part-time law-enforcement officer who testifies as a witness in a criminal case may refuse to disclose personal information concerning his family unless it is determined by the court that such evidence is relevant to the case.

Patron - Webert

F HB754 Service Member Sentencing Act. Creates the Service Member Sentencing Act to provide service members, defined in the bill, a service member sentencing option, defined in the bill, if such service member satisfies the eligibility criteria. The bill explains the process and procedures associated with a service member sentencing option. The bill also provides sentencing mitigation for service members that are not eligible for the service member sentencing option, including criteria for a judge to consider prior to sentencing a service member for a criminal offense. The bill requires the Department of Veterans Services to assist in facilitating the provision of the Act.

The bill also requires the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to create a form to track and report the number of service members receiving, successfully completing, failing, declining, and denied a service member sentencing option and sentencing mitigation; such information shall be categorized by race, ethnicity, gender, age, military discharge characterization, and offense type.

Patron - Walker

F HB826 Action of forfeiture; exemptions; courtimposed fine. Provides that no property subject to seizure, pursuant to relevant law, shall be forfeited unless the total value of such property in the aggregate is less than or equal to the value of the fine imposed by the court upon conviction for the offense related to the seizure of such property.

Patron - Garrett

F HB834 Petition for modification of a sentence; eligibility; procedures. Provides a process for a person serving a sentence for any conviction or a combination of any convictions who remains incarcerated in a state or local correctional facility or secure facility and meets certain criteria to petition the circuit court that entered the original judgment or order to (i) suspend the unserved portion of such sentence or run the unserved portion of such sentence concurrently with another sentence, (ii) place such person on probation for such time as the court shall determine, or (iii) otherwise modify the sentence imposed.

Patron - Cousins

F HB849 Limitation on sentence upon revocation of suspension of sentence; technical violations; penalty. Provides that a court may impose not more than 30 days of active incarceration upon a first technical violation of the terms and conditions of a suspended sentence or probation and may impose not more than 90 days of active incarceration for a second technical violation. Under current law, the court is prohibited from imposing active incarceration for a first technical violation and there is a presumption against imposing a sentence of a term of active incarceration; however, if the court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant committed the violation and he cannot be safely diverted from active incarceration through less restrictive means, the court may impose not more than 14 days of active incarceration. Patron - Davis

F HB851 Discovery; electronic means. Requires all attorneys for the Commonwealth to provide discovery materials for all courts to counsel of record for the accused by electronic means unless such material is prohibited from being distributed by law. The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to promulgate rules to implement this provision by January 1, 2025.

Patron - Davis

F HB1359 Search warrants; menstrual health data prohibited. Prohibits the issuance of a search warrant for the search and seizure of menstrual health data, as defined in the bill, stored on a computer, computer network, or other device containing electronic or digital information. This bill was incorporated into HB 78.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB1493 Reproductive health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes. Provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt of or assistance with reproductive health care services within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that such limit on extradition shall not apply when the person who is subject to such demand for extradition by another state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the

alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. This bill was incorporated into HB 1539.

Patron - Seibold

F HB1541 Magistrates; appointment and supervision.

Patron - Williams

F SB38 Admission to bail; rebuttable presumptions against bail. Creates a rebuttable presumption against bail for certain criminal offenses enumerated in the bill. The bill also requires the court to consider specified factors when determining whether the presumption against bail has been rebutted and whether there are appropriate conditions of release.

Patron - Peake

F SB67 Limitation on sentence upon revocation of suspension of sentence; technical violations. Provides that a court may impose a sentence of a term of active incarceration upon a first or second technical violation of the terms and conditions of a suspended sentence or probation, and may impose a term of not more than 14 days of active incarceration for a first technical violation and a term of not more than 30 days of active incarceration for a second technical violation. Under current law, a court shall not impose a term of any active incarceration upon a first technical violation and may impose a term of not more than 14 days of active incarceration for a second technical violation.

Patron - Peake

F SB265 Law-enforcement officers; protected personal information. Provides that any full-time or part-time law-enforcement officer who provides information relative to a criminal investigation or in proceedings preliminary to a criminal prosecution may refuse, unless ordered by a court, to disclose his residence address, home telephone number, or any personal information concerning his family. The bill also provides that any full-time or part-time law-enforcement officer who testifies as a witness in a criminal case may refuse to disclose personal information concerning his family unless it is determined by the court that such evidence is relevant to the case.

Patron - DeSteph

F SB531 Application for and issuance of order authorizing interception of communications; Superintendent of State Police. Allows the Superintendent of State Police or his designee, if the Superintendent so designates in writing, to apply to a judge of competent jurisdiction for an order authorizing the interception of wire, electronic, or oral communications. The bill adds commercial sex trafficking and racketeering to the list of offenses for which an order authorizing the interception of wire, electronic, or oral communications may be sought. The bill also provides that an application for an order authorizing the interception of a wire, electronic, or oral communication may be verified by the Chief Deputy Attorney General, as designated by the Attorney General.

Patron - Jordan

F SB639 Firearms; removal from persons posing substantial risk; penalties. Repeals the procedure by which any attorney for the Commonwealth or law-enforcement officer may apply to a general district court, circuit court, or juvenile and domestic relations district court judge or magistrate for an emergency substantial risk order to prohibit a person who poses a substantial risk of injury to himself or others from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm. The bill also

removes the substantial risk order registry for the entry of orders issued.

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB643 Penalties for failure to appear; contempt. Provides that any person (i) charged with a felony offense or misdemeanor offense or (ii) convicted of a felony offense or misdemeanor offense and execution of sentence is suspended who willfully fails to appear before any court or judicial officer as required may be punished for contempt. Under current law, such person is guilty of a Class 6 felony, if charged with a felony, or a Class 1 misdemeanor, if charged with a misdemeanor, for such a violation. The bill excludes from such penalty persons who are incarcerated or in the custody of a law-enforcement officer at the time such person is required to appear. The bill also eliminates a court's authority to punish summarily a contempt of court for willful failure to appear.

Patron - Aird

#### **Carried Over**

C HB847 Appointment of counsel for accused; felonies punishable by a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life. Provides that in any case in which an indigent defendant is charged with any felony punishable by a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life, the court shall appoint two competent, qualified, and experienced attorneys, one of whom shall be the public defender in a jurisdiction in which a public defender office is established, for the defendant. Under current law, the court is required to appoint two such attorneys in cases in which an indigent defendant is charged with a Class 1 felony. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference.

Patron - Davis

C SB278 Virginia Abortion Care and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act; reproductive and gender-affirming health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes; civil penalties. Establishes the Virginia Abortion Care and Gender-Affirming Health Care Protection Act. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth that all persons are entitled to provide, receive, and help others provide or receive abortion care and gender-affirming health care services not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth, and that such provision, receipt, and assistance is not diminished, chilled, or infringed by public or private actors.

The bill provides that no law-enforcement officer acting in the Commonwealth or employed by the Commonwealth or any of its localities or political subdivisions may investigate, arrest, or detain any person, seek the issuance of a warrant, or otherwise assist in or provide support for any investigation regarding either the provision or receipt of abortion care or gender-affirming care not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth or any person's menstrual health data. The bill creates a private right of action for any person who is aggrieved by such unlawful investigation to obtain an injunction or other equitable relief against such law-enforcement officer.

The bill also creates a private right of action for any person who sustains any injury, damages, or other harm resulting from another person who, under the law of a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, engages or attempts to engage in abusive litigation, as defined in the bill.

The bill also provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt of or assistance with protected health care activity, as defined in the bill, within the Commonwealth

unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth.

The bill provides that any subpoena under the Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act or any summons for a witness for another state in a criminal case shall include an attestation, made under penalty of perjury, stating whether the subpoena or summons seeks documents, information, or testimony related to the provision, receipt, attempted provision or receipt, assistance in the provision or receipt, or attempted assistance in the provision or receipt of protected health care activity, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Hashmi

**SB427** Petition for modification of a sentence; eligibility; procedures. Provides procedures for individuals serving a sentence for certain felony convictions or a combination of such convictions who remain incarcerated in a state or local correctional facility or secure facility and meet certain criteria to petition the circuit court that entered the original judgment or order to (i) suspend the unserved portion of such sentence or run the unserved portion of such sentence concurrently with another sentence, (ii) place such person on probation for such time as the court shall determine, or (iii) otherwise modify the sentence imposed. Depending on the type of conviction, the bill allows the court to grant a hearing on such petition after an individual has served at least 25 years for certain offenses, after 20 years for certain other offenses, and after 15 years for any other felony conviction not specified. The bill does not allow an individual convicted of a Class 1 felony to petition for modification of his sentence. The bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth and the victim to agree to hearing the petition in order for a court to conduct the hearing.

Patron - Deeds

C SB633 Court fines and fees; indigent defendant; waiver of fees. Provides that in any criminal or traffic case, the court may waive the assessment of certain fees specified in the bill, either wholly or in part, if the court determines the defendant to be indigent pursuant to relevant law and is unable to pay such fee. The bill provides that the court may make such determination upon motion of the defendant at any time prior to the entry of order for which such fee is assessed or final order has been entered.

Patron - Deeds

# **Domestic Relations**

#### **Passed**

P HB110 Surrogacy brokers; repeal of prohibition against. Repeals the statute prohibiting any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other entity from accepting compensation for recruiting or procuring surrogates or accepting compensation for otherwise arranging or inducing an intended parent and surrogate to enter into surrogacy contracts. Under current law, any violation of such prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB174 Marriage lawful regardless of sex, gender, or race of parties; issuance of marriage license. Provides that no person authorized to issue a marriage license shall deny the issuance of such license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of the parties. The bill also requires that such lawful marriages be recognized in the Commonwealth regardless of the sex, gender,

or race of the parties. The bill provides that religious organizations or members of the clergy acting in their religious capacity shall have the right to refuse to perform any marriage. This bill is identical to SB 101.

Patron - Henson

P HB194 Virginia Military Parents Equal Protection Act; Space Force; deployment. Adds members of the Space Force to the list of service members included in the definition of deploying parent or guardian for the purposes of the Virginia Military Parents Equal Protection Act. Patron - Martinez

P HB784 Entry or modification of child and spousal support orders; determination of support overages. Specifies that all orders directing or modifying the payment of spousal support where there are minor children whom the parties have a mutual duty to support and all orders directing the payment of child support shall contain a statement as to whether support overages exist and certain details about such overages.

Patron - Herring

P HB833 Child abuse and neglect; custody and visitation; possession or consumption of authorized substances. Provides that a child shall not be considered an abused or neglected child, and no person shall be denied custody or visitation of a child, based only on the fact that the child's parent or other person responsible for his care, or the person petitioning for custody or visitation of the child, possessed or consumed legally authorized substances. The bill directs the Board of Social Services to amend its regulations, guidance documents, and other instructional materials to ensure that such regulations, documents, and materials comply with, and that investigations and family assessments are conducted by local departments of social services in accordance with, the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 115. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Cousins

P HB994 Legal age for marriage. Establishes the legal age of marriage to be 18 years of age and eliminates the ability for a minor to be declared emancipated on the basis of the intent to marry.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P HB1126 Persons other than ministers who may perform rites of marriage; current Virginia members of Congress. Adds current Virginia members of the United States Senate or United States House of Representatives to the list of persons who may celebrate the rites of marriage anywhere in the Commonwealth without the necessity of bond or order of authorization.

Patron - Carr

P SB101 Marriage lawful regardless of sex, gender, or race of parties; issuance of marriage license. Provides that no person authorized to issue a marriage license shall deny the issuance of such license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of the parties. The bill also requires that such lawful marriages be recognized in the Commonwealth regardless of the sex, gender, or race of the parties. The bill provides that religious organizations or members of the clergy acting in their religious capacity shall have the right to refuse to perform any marriage. This bill is identical to HB 174.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB115 Child abuse and neglect; custody and visitation; possession or consumption of authorized sub-

stances. Provides that a child shall not be considered an abused or neglected child, and no person shall be denied custody or visitation of a child, based only on the fact that the child's parent or other person responsible for his care, or the person petitioning for custody or visitation of the child, possessed or consumed legally authorized substances. The bill directs the Board of Social Services to amend its regulations, guidance documents, and other instructional materials to ensure that such regulations, documents, and materials comply with, and that investigations and family assessments are conducted by local departments of social services in accordance with, the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 833. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Lucas

P SB175 Persons other than ministers who may perform rites of marriage; former statewide legislators and officials; clerk of a circuit court. Adds any (i) former member of the General Assembly; (ii) former Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General of the Commonwealth; or (iii) current or former clerk of a circuit court of the Commonwealth who is a resident of the Commonwealth to the list of persons who may perform the rites of marriage in the Commonwealth without the necessity of bond or order of authorization.

Patron - DeSteph

#### Failed

HB112 Adoption; parental placement and agency adoption. Makes various changes to statutes governing parental placement and agency adoptions. The bill authorizes a hospital to release a child to his adoptive parents when the birth parent has executed a health care power of attorney. The bill provides that when a juvenile and domestic relations district court enters an order waiving the consent of one or both birth parents who have failed, without good cause, to appear at a hearing to execute consent for which they were given proper notice and transferring custody of a child who has been in the physical care and custody of prospective adoptive parents, such adoption shall be considered a parental placement adoption. The bill also allows the juvenile and domestic relations court to find, even if a birth parent has been given proper notice and appears at a hearing to execute consent or withholds consent, that the consent of such birth parent is withheld contrary to the best interest of the child or is unobtainable. The bill also clarifies that the effect of an order of the juvenile and domestic relations district court accepting a birth parent's consent and finding that any applicable revocation period has expired is to terminate a consenting birth parent's residual parental rights. The bill provides that a juvenile and domestic relations court shall accept consent from an out-of-state birth parent. Under current law, a juvenile and domestic relations district court is required to request consent from an out-of-state court having jurisdiction over custody matters in the jurisdiction where a birth parent resides when such birth parent does not reside in the Commonwealth.

The bill adds licensed child-placing agencies and prospective adoptive parents to those with the authority to consent to surgical and medical treatment of certain minors, subject to certain requirements. The bill decreases from 45 to 10 days the time for which a hearing is required to be held upon the filing of a petition for the approval of an entrustment agreement by a local board of social services or a child welfare agency. The bill also makes technical amendments.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB346 Premarital agreements; enforcement. Provides that a premarital agreement executed on or after July 1, 2024, shall not be enforceable against a person who proves

that the other party to the agreement was convicted of criminal sexual assault of the person against whom enforcement is sought or a child of the parties.

Patron - Green

Patron - Reid

Patron - Delaney

#### Carried Over

C HB273 Divorce; cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment; divorce from bed and board. Eliminates the one-year waiting period for being decreed a divorce on the grounds of cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment by either party. The bill also repeals the provision allowing for a divorce from bed and board on the grounds of cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment. The provisions of the bill apply to suits for divorce filed on or after July 1, 2024.

HB766 Custody and visitation arrangements; best interests of the child; expert testimony; history of abuse. Requires a court to consider any history of family abuse, sexual abuse, child abuse, or an act of violence, force, or threat in determining best interests of a child for purposes of determining custody or visitation arrangements. Under current law, only such history that occurred no earlier than 10 years prior to the filing of a custody or visitation petition is required to be considered. The bill also requires that any expert evidence from a court-appointed or outside professional relating to any alleged abuse of a child subject to such petition shall only be admitted if such professional possesses demonstrated expertise and clinical experience in working with victims of the type of such abuse alleged that is not solely of a forensic nature. The bill further directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to provide mandatory judicial training on trauma-informed practices in proceedings involving domestic violence to magistrates and judges of the juvenile domestic relations district courts, general district courts, circuit courts, and the Court of Appeals of Virginia, the justices of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and court personnel.

C HB890 Best interests of the child; assuring frequent and continuing contact with both parents. Provides that, in determining the best interests of a child for purposes of custody and parenting time arrangements, upon request of either party, the court shall assure a minor child of frequent and continuing contact with both parents so as to maximize the amount of time the minor child spends with each parent. Patron - Earley

C HB1129 Grandparent; petition for visitation. Provides that in any case or proceeding in which a grandparent has petitioned the court for visitation with a minor grandchild, the court may consider whether (i) the marriage of the parents of such child has been dissolved, (ii) a parent of the child has abandoned such child, (iii) the child was born while the parents were not married, or (iv) a parent of the child has prevented the grandparent from visitation at any hearing in such a case or proceeding held to determine the best interest of the child. Patron - McQuinn

C HB1311 Divorce; cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment; divorce from bed and board. Eliminates the one-year waiting period for being decreed a divorce on the grounds of cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment by either party. The bill also repeals the provision allowing for a divorce from bed and board on the

grounds of cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment. The provisions of the bill apply to suits for divorce filed on or after July 1, 2024. *Patron - Clark* 

# C HB1481 Visitation; petition of grandparent.

Removes the provision providing that, in any case or proceeding in which a grandparent has petitioned the court for visitation with a minor grandchild, and a natural or adoptive parent of the minor grandchild is deceased or incapacitated, the grandparent who is related to such deceased or incapacitated parent shall be permitted to introduce evidence of such parent's consent to visitation with the grandparent, in accordance with the rules of evidence and that, if the parent's consent is proven by a preponderance of the evidence, the court may then determine if grandparent visitation is in the best interest of the minor grandchild.

Patron - Freitas

C SB519 Grounds for divorce; cruelty, abuse, desertion, or abandonment; waiting period. Eliminates the one-year waiting period for a divorce to be decreed on the grounds of cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, or willful desertion or abandonment.

Patron - Williams Graves

#### **Education**

#### **Passed**

P HB66 Public schools; fire drills; timing and frequency. Requires every public school to hold fire drills during the school session in accordance with the requirements of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code. Current law requires such fire drills to be conducted at least twice during the first 20 school days of each school session and at least twice more during the remainder of the school session.

Patron - Campbell

PHB98 Public secondary schools; satisfaction of physical education requirements; participation in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Permits each local school board to accept participation in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps as fulfillment of any physical education requirements applicable to students in grades nine through 12. Patron - Green

HB121 Board of Education; health education Standards of Learning; severe allergic reaction awareness training. Requires the Board of Education to include in the Standards of Learning for health education for grade nine and grade 10 an in-person or online severe allergic reaction awareness training that includes certain topics enumerated in the bill. The bill requires each school board to incorporate such severe allergic reaction awareness training into any health education instruction provided at grades nine and 10 beginning with the school year following the Board of Education's adoption of the revised Standards of Learning for health education for grades nine and 10 incorporating such severe allergic reaction awareness training and directs the Board to, in the intermediary time, develop and post on its website guidance documents for the purpose of making such severe allergic reaction awareness training available to school boards.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB131 Department of Education; learning needs dashboard. Requires the Department of Education to

continue to maintain until July 1, 2029, a learning needs dashboard that includes an interactive bar chart feature to compare annual pass rates and an interactive scatterplot feature to compare changes in pass rates between select years on history and social sciences, mathematics, reading, science, and writing Standards of Learning assessments on a statewide basis and for specific local school divisions, public elementary and secondary schools, and student subgroups.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P HB134 Department of Education; development of education materials relating to risks of opioids. Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with such stakeholders and experts as it deems necessary or appropriate, to develop and submit to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024, (i) age-appropriate and evidence-based education materials concerning the risks to health and safety that are posed by opioids and (ii) guidelines for school boards for incorporating such education materials into instructional programs for students enrolled in the local school division

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

HB168 Department of Education; resource document on supports and services for homeless students. Requires the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board a resource document containing guidance and best practices for providing the necessary supports and services to homeless students, including guidance and best practices relating to (i) decisions regarding whether and when such a student should remain enrolled in a school in a previous school division of residence, (ii) wrap-around supports and services for such students that include the parents when they are available and specific wrap-around supports and services for such students who may have experienced additional trauma prior to becoming homeless, and (iii) any other means by which such students can be best served and protected, particularly those homeless children and youths who are at risk of becoming victims of human trafficking.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

**HB187** Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average. Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 Regular Sessions of the General Assembly to propose funding for, and state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act enacted during any regular or special session of the General Assembly during 2025, 2026, or 2027 to fund, the Commonwealth's share of compensation supplement incentives for Standards of Quality-funded instructional and support positions sufficient to increase the average teacher salary in the Commonwealth to at least the national average teacher salary by the end of the 2026–2028 biennium and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement. This bill is identical to SB 104. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Clark

P HB215 Department of Education; development of Title IX and sexual harassment prevention training modules for students in the ninth and tenth grades. Requires the Department of Education to develop culturally appropriate, age-appropriate, and trauma-informed Title IX and sexual harassment prevention training modules concerning Title IX rights and protections, consent, and sexual harassment prevention and reporting and to make such training modules available to each school board for the education of ninth and tenth grade students. The bill requires the Department of Education to make such training modules available to each school

board by July 1, 2025, and to revise such training modules and make such revised training modules available to each school board by December 31 of each year thereafter. Finally, the bill requires each school board to adopt policies in accordance with the provisions of the bill beginning with the 2025–2026 school year. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Watts

P HB224 Public schools; teachers and other relevant personnel; mental health awareness training. Requires each teacher and other relevant personnel, as determined by the applicable school board, employed on a full-time basis to complete mental health awareness training that addresses the needs of youth populations that are at a high risk of experiencing mental health challenges and disorders in accordance with evidence-based best practices developed by the American Psychological Association. Current law requires such teachers and personnel to complete mental health awareness training but does not contain any requirements relating to the specific topics such training must address. The bill prohibits any of its provisions or any policy adopted in accordance with its provisions from being construed to permit biased or discriminatory treatment of any youth population deemed to be at a high risk of experiencing mental health challenges and disorders. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Henson

P HB253 School boards; meetings; public comment or citizen participation; enrolled students. Requires each school board to permit any student enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school in the local school division who provides acceptable proof of identification, if requested, and who signs up in accordance with the sign-up procedures for the respective school board meeting to submit oral comments during any public comment portion of such meeting, subject to the same reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions imposed by such school board on the expression of any other citizen participant in such meetings.

Patron - Cole

P HB269 Board of Education; Provisional (Career Switcher) License; special education. Requires the Board of Education to amend its relevant regulation to permit any career switcher who seeks a teaching endorsement prek through grade 12, including any career switcher who seeks a teaching endorsement in special education, to pursue a Provisional (Career Switcher) License through the career switcher alternate route to licensure program in accordance with all of the requirements set forth in such regulation, provided that the

the requirements set forth in such regulation, provided that the individual completes at least 60 percent of the endorsement requirements for special education general curriculum K-12 as part of Level I preparation and the remainder of such requirements as part of Level II and Level III preparation.

Patron - McQuinn

P HB281 Early childhood care and education; child day programs; use of office buildings; waiver of zoning requirements. Permits any locality to by ordinance provide for the waiver of any requirements for zoning permits for the operation of a child day program in an office building, as defined by the bill, provided that such facility satisfies the requirements for state licensure as a child day program. This bill is identical to SB 13.

Patron - Reaser

P HB355 School boards; employment verification; timing. Requires each school board to respond within 10 working days of receiving a request for employment verification of a former employee of the school board when such verification is sought by another school board. The bill defines

working day as every day except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal state and federal holidays. This bill is identical to SB 441. *Patron - Cole* 

P HB358 Voluntarily registered family day homes; safe sleep practices; checklist. Requires the Department of Education to update its Voluntary Registration Health and Safety Checklist for any voluntarily registered family day home to include safe sleep practices.

Patron - Simonds

HB398 Public elementary and secondary schools; student discipline; evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices. Prohibits, except in certain cases involving specific offenses enumerated in applicable law or in cases in which the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances, as defined by the Department of Education, exist, any public elementary or secondary school student from being suspended, expelled, or excluded from attendance at school without first considering at least one evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice such as community conferencing, community service, mentoring, a peer jury, peer mediation, positive behavioral interventions and supports, a restorative circle, or the Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports. The bill also requires the Department to add as part of the student behavior and administrative response collection required pursuant to relevant law the use of evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices as a behavioral intervention in order to evaluate the use and effectiveness of such practices. This bill is identical to SB 586. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - McQuinn

PHB407 Child Care Subsidy Program; categorical eligibility for certain families. Provides that any family that receives public assistance through Medicaid or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children shall be deemed to categorically satisfy income eligibility requirements to receive assistance through the Child Care Subsidy Program.

Patron - Hernandez

HB419 Early childhood care and education system; need-based and demand-based funding. Requires, for the purpose of addressing family demand and preferences for affordable, high-quality early childhood care and education services, state general funds to be provided to support the provision of services to families for early childhood care and education, as specified in the general appropriation act. The bill requires the Department of Education to report each year by November 15 on the projected general funds needed for the upcoming two fiscal years based on cost of quality rate per child in order to (i) maintain the current number of slots at early childhood care and education programs, (ii) increase the number of slots using a projected growth report, and (iii) increase the number of slots to fully accommodate parent demand and eliminate waitlists. The bill requires such projected general funds to be based on the annual per-child cost, determined as set forth in the bill, for the Virginia Preschool Initiative, the Mixed Delivery Program, and the Child Care Subsidy Program, the current eligibility criteria for such programs, and maximization of certain regularly recurring federal funds. The bill requires each regional entity established by the Board of Education pursuant to applicable law, each local school division, and each locality to annually indicate the number of slots needed, respectively, in the region for the Mixed Delivery Program, the local school division for the Virginia Preschool Initiative, and the locality for the Child Care Subsidy Program. The bill requires the Department of Education to (a) reallocate by July 1 any slots with available funding from the Child Care Subsidy Program and the Mixed Delivery Program, (b) make adjustments based on family preferences following the fall enrollment periods, and (c) first expend all current-year state general funds in providing funding for slots. This bill is identical to SB 54.

Patron - Bulova

PHB462 School Construction Program and Fund; career and technical education programs eligible. Clarifies that, for the purposes of eligibility to receive grants through the School Construction Fund and Program, "local school division" includes any joint or regional school established in accordance with relevant law and "public school buildings and facilities" or "public school buildings" include any building or facility used for career and technical education programs provided at any such joint or regional school. This bill is identical to SB 474.

Patron - Runion

Patron - Cohen

P HB498 School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of firearms in the household. Requires each local school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the local school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message within 30 calendar days succeeding the first day of each school year, of the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household, risks associated with improperly stored firearms, statistics relating to firearm-related accidents, injuries, and death among youth, and other tips and strategies. The bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. This bill is identical to SB 225. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

P HB501 School building evacuation plans, policies, and protocols; students with mobility impairments. Requires any divisionwide or public elementary or secondary school-specific school building evacuation plan, policy, or protocol to include provisions that seek to maximize the opportunity for students with mobility impairments to evacuate the school building alongside their non-mobility-impaired peers. Patron - Cohen

HB508 Department of Education; background checks for child day program employees and volunteers; dissemination of information in certain circumstances. Requires the Department of Education, upon receiving a written request for a written certification from an individual, to provide written certification to an entity designated by the Department that provides staffing for child day programs that such individual satisfies all requirements set forth in relevant law and is eligible to serve as an employee, temporary employee, or volunteer in a child day program. The bill further provides that (i) each such written certification shall also state the date by which the individual is required to complete a new background check in accordance with the periodic requirement for such background checks, (ii) no such written certification shall reveal the nature of any disqualifying barrier crime committed by or founded complaint of child abuse or neglect against the individual, and (iii) any such written certification may be shared among child day programs for the purpose of facilitating the creation and maintenance of a child day program substitute staff pool system.

Patron - Cohen

P HB536 Student bullying; definition; characteristics of victim. Adjusts the definition of "bullying" in the context of public education to specify that the real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and victim that is involved in the act of bullying includes such a power

93

imbalance on the basis of the membership of the victim in a group that is protected from discrimination pursuant to the Virginia Human Rights Act. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cole

P HB561 Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety; school safety audits; list of items required to be reviewed. Requires the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety to include specific technology systems in the list of items to be reviewed and evaluated in required annual school safety audits.

Patron - Askew

P HB571 Policies on parental notification of instructional material that includes sexually explicit content; scope and use. Provides that nothing in the law requiring the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board model policies for ensuring parental notification of any instructional material that includes sexually explicit content and requiring each school board to adopt policies that are consistent with but may be more comprehensive than such model policies or that is in such model policies or school board policies shall be construed to permit the censoring of books in any public elementary or secondary school. This bill is identical to SB 235. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Delaney

P HB583 Public school teachers; daily lunch breaks; data collection; report. Requires the Department of Education to annually collect and present in the Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions school-level and division-level data on the share of teachers that are provided each working day a lunch break of at least 30 minutes in length and unencumbered by any teaching or supervisory duties.

Patron - Simonds

P HB599 School boards; unexpended local funds; capital reserve fund permitted. Permits any school board, with the concurrence of the local governing body, to establish a capital reserve fund as a savings account into which it exclusively deposits the local operating funds that remain unexpended at the end of the year for future school division capital expenditures at no additional cost to local taxpayers, subject to certain conditions enumerated in the bill. Patron - Simonds

P HB603 Public elementary and secondary schools; health instruction, certain topics relating to mental health. Requires health instruction provided to elementary and secondary school students to include certain topics relating to mental health that are enumerated in the bill, including (i) general themes of social and emotional learning, including self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, relationship skills, and social awareness; (ii) signs and symptoms of common mental health challenges; and (iii) mental health wellness and healthy strategies for coping with stress and negative feelings, including conflict resolution skills. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Price

P HB615 Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board; purpose and duties; historically underrepresented students. Expands the purpose of the Virginia Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Advisory Board to include promoting the participation of historically underrepresented students, as defined in the bill, in primary and secondary schools in STEM education. The bill

expands the duties of the Board to effectuate this additional purpose. Finally, the bill increases from 16 to 23 the nonlegislative citizen membership of the Board and provides that the seven additional members be appointed by the chairmen of the Virginia African American Advisory Board, Virginia-Asian Advisory Board, Latino Advisory Board, Council on Women, Virginia LGBTQ+ Advisory Board, Office of New Americans Advisory Board, and Virginia Board for People with Disabilities, with each chairman appointing one member representing the population served by his advisory board subject to the approval of a majority of the members of his advisory board. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Price

P HB617 High school student-athletes; use of name, image, or likeness. Establishes rights, duties, and prohibitions relating to the use of the name, image, or likeness of high school student-athletes that are equivalent to those established in law for college student-athletes. The bill also requires the Department of Education to publish in a publicly accessibly format on its website information about laws that are applicable to any contract entered into by a student-athlete relating to compensation for the use of his name, image, or likeness. Patron - Price

P HB624 Public school staffing and funding; **National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program** and Fund; At-Risk Program; English language learner students. Renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund as the National Board Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund, expands eligibility for incentive grant awards from such Fund pursuant to such Program from solely teachers who have obtained national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to all public school staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification to cover certain costs of obtaining or maintaining such certification and all public school staff who have successfully obtained or maintained such certification, and permits certain teachers to apply for additional incentive grants pursuant to such Program and Fund. The bill also establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training. The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. Finally, the bill requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students based on each such student's English proficiency level, as established in the general appropriation act. This bill is identical to SB 105. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB625 Public education; community schools; Office of Community Schools at Department of Education; Community School Development and Implementation Planning Grant; state goal. Requires the Department of Education to establish the Office of Community Schools as an office within the Department for the purpose of supporting the development and growth of community schools throughout the Commonwealth in accordance with the Virginia Community School Framework and requires the Office to establish and administer the Community School Development and Imple-

mentation Planning Grant for the purpose of providing grants to school boards that seek to designate any school within the local school division as a community school to assist with the planning and implementation of such designation. The bill also establishes a state goal of prioritizing funding for such initiatives and grants to enable their expansion to serve the top 33 percent of public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth for highest identified student percentage, as defined in the bill, based on data from the immediately preceding school year. This bill is identical to SB 608. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rasoul

HB626 Public schools; certain local school divisions; youth and community violence prevention; Community Builders Pilot Program established; report. Establishes the Community Builders Pilot Program for the purpose of reducing youth involvement in behaviors that lead to gun violence and increasing community engagement among public school students by providing to students who are entering the eighth grade and enrolled in Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools opportunities during the school year after regular school hours and during the summer months for community engagement, workforce development, postsecondary education exploration, and social-emotional education and development. The bill provides that the school boards of Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools shall be responsible for the administration of the Program and are directed to collect data and report to the Governor and relevant committees of the General Assembly by November 1 of each year on the progress of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 484.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB632 Teacher licensure; universal licensure by reciprocity. Establishes universal licensure by reciprocity as a category of teacher licensure in the Commonwealth for teachers who hold a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that has been in force and in use by the individual as an employed teacher in a non-virtual classroom setting at a public or private elementary or secondary school for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time of application and meet other provisions set forth in the bill. The bill also permits the division superintendent rather than the Board of Education, as in current law, to issue a career and technical education teacher a provisional license to allow time for the teacher to attain the industry certification credential required by law. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education to compile, publicly post on its website, and update as necessary, data on teacher licensure standards and requirements for each state for the purposes of facilitating the determination of the compatibility of out-of-state teacher licenses with requirements for teacher licensure and licensure by reciprocity in the Commonwealth and increasing transparency of such licensure requirements. This bill is identical to SB 352. Patron - Rasoul

P HB647 Public education; student literacy measures. Clarifies several provisions of the Virginia Literacy Act (the Act), enacted during the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly and effective with the 2024-2025 school year, including (i) clarifying that the term "evidence-based literacy instruction" does not include practices that instruct students to gain meaning from print through the use of (a) three-cueing, which includes semantic, syntactic, and graphophonic cues; (b) meaning, structure, and visual cues; or (c) visual memory for word recognition; (ii) removing the option to use a literacy screener approved by the Department of Education for certain purposes enumerated in the Act; (iii) requiring the Department

to develop a list of core literacy curricula for students in kindergarten through grade five and supplemental instruction practices and programs and intervention programs for students in kindergarten through grade eight that consist of evidence-based literacy instruction aligned with science-based reading research; and (iv) requiring each divisionwide literacy plan to address how the local school board will align (a) core reading and literacy curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade five and (b) screening, supplemental instruction, and interventions for students in kindergarten through grade eight with evidence-based literacy instruction practices aligned with science-based reading research. This bill is identical to SB 624. *Patron - Coyner* 

P HB719 Public high schools; research-based hazing prevention instruction. Requires the Board of Education to develop Standards of Learning and curriculum guidelines for research-based hazing prevention instruction to be provided as a part of physical or health education instruction provided to students in grade nine or 10. The bill requires such hazing prevention instruction to include age-appropriate, extensive, and current education about hazing, including (i) examples of hazing; (ii) the dangers of hazing, including the consequences of alcohol intoxication; and (iii) school policies and laws related to hazing, including criminal penalties and bystander intervention. The bill requires such research-based hazing prevention instruction to be offered in-person but requires each school board to provide options for virtual participation for any student who is enrolled in an online or virtual physical or health education program. Finally, the bill requires each school board to provide such research-based hazing prevention instruction beginning with the school year following the Board's adoption of revised Standards of Learning for physical and health education for grades nine and 10 incorporating such research-based hazing prevention instruction and directs the Board to, in the intermediary time, develop and post on its website guidance documents for the purpose of making such research-based hazing prevention instruction available to local school boards. This bill is identical to SB 379. Patron - Reaser

P HB731 Teachers; renewable licenses; requirements; assessments. Requires the Board of Education to eliminate the requirement for any individual to take and receive a passing score on the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment as a condition of the initial award or renewal of a renewable license as a teacher in the Commonwealth. *Patron - Sewell* 

HB732 Public schools; opioid antagonist procurement, possession, and administration; school board employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal instruction; guidelines and requirements. Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans, policies, and procedures for (i) providing at each public secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 a program of instruction on opioid overdose prevention and reversal and for encouraging each student to complete such program of instruction prior to graduation; (ii) the procurement, placement, and maintenance in each public elementary and secondary school of a supply of opioid antagonists in an amount equivalent to at least two unexpired doses for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal; and (iii) the possession and administration of an opioid antagonist by any employee of the school board who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of an opioid antagonist, including policies (a) requiring each public elementary and secondary school to ensure that at least one employee is authorized by a prescriber

and trained and certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist, (b) for partnering with a program administered or approved by the Department of Health to provide such training and certification, and (c) for maintaining records of each such trained and certified employee. The bill provides for the disciplinary, civil, and criminal immunity of any employee of a public school, school board, or local health department, regardless of whether such employee was trained or certified in opioid antagonist administration, for any act or omission made in connection with the good faith administration of an opioid antagonist for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal during regular school hours, on school premises, or during a schoolsponsored activity, unless such act or omission was the result of gross neglect or willful misconduct. The bill requires each school board to adopt and each public elementary and secondary school to implement policies and procedures in accordance with the provisions of the bill and, in doing so, to utilize to the fullest extent possible programs offered by the Department of Health for the provision of opioid antagonist administration training and certification and opioid antagonist procurement. In addition, the bill modifies the school board employees who are authorized to administer opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist by a program administered or authorized by the Department of Health. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and requires each school board to implement the provisions of the bill by the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year. This bill is identical to SB 726.

Patron - Sewell

P HB739 Early childhood care and education; exemption from licensure for certain child day programs. Exempts from licensure by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day program that (i) serves only dependent children of military personnel and (ii) (a) is located on a military base or federal property or (b) is certified as a family child care provider by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides that any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or its agent, including an installation commander of a military base on which a child day program is located, may assume responsibility for approving or determining which children may be served by the program that is so exempted from licensure. This bill incorporates HB 146 and is identical to SB 702.

Patron - Sewell

P HB777 Enrollment of and provision of free public education for certain students; kinship care and foster care. Provides that in the event that a student in a kinship care arrangement moves into a different school division during the school year as a result of safely returning home, being emancipated, or transitioning to a new kinship care arrangement, such student shall be deemed to continue to reside in the previous school division of residence for the remainder of the school year for the purpose of tuition-free enrollment and attendance. The bill also provides that certain provisions of law relating to continuity of public school enrollment and attendance for students in foster care apply to a student who has transitioned out of foster care and whose custody has been transferred to the student's parent or prior legal guardian or who has been emancipated.

Patron - Callsen

P HB830 Department of Education; establishment of Farm to School Program Task Force. Requires the Department of Education to establish and appoint such members as it deems necessary or appropriate to the Farm to School

Program Task Force for the purpose of increasing student access throughout the Commonwealth to high-quality farm to school programs, defined in the bill as programs (i) whereby public schools purchase and feature prominently in school meals locally produced food or (ii) that involve experiential student learning opportunities relating to local food and agriculture, including school and community garden programs and local farm visits. The bill requires the Task Force to collaborate with local school boards, community-based organizations, farmers, relevant state and local agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to (a) assess existing farm to school programs within the Commonwealth to identify and disseminate to each local school board best practices for implementing and sustaining such programs, (b) establish and distribute to each local school board a guidance document for the establishment and operation of school garden programs, (c) provide information and resources to each local school board to assist it in leveraging grant funds to support farm to school programs, and (d) collect such data and make such policy recommendations to local school boards, the Board of Education, and the General Assembly as it deems appropriate. This bill is identical to SB

Patron - Cousins

P HB919 School boards; model memorandum of understanding; partnerships with certain mental health services providers; provision and expansion of virtual mental health services. Directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Medical Assistance Services, to develop, adopt, and distribute to each school board a model memorandum of understanding between a school board and a nationally recognized school-based telehealth provider that sets forth the parameters for the provision of mental health teletherapy by such provider to public school students enrolled in the local school division. Current law only requires the development, adoption, and distribution of a model memorandum of understanding between a school board and a public or private community mental health services provider. The bill also permits each school board to adopt policies and procedures to increase the accessibility of school-based mental health services for students enrolled in each school division who may not have access to mental health services otherwise by providing or expanding virtual mental health resources and establishing or expanding a partnership with (i) a public or private community mental health services provider that offers school-based teletherapy to students or (ii) a nationally recognized school-based telehealth provider that provides mental health teletherapy to students.

Patron - Srinivasan

P HB937 Student transportation; innovative alternatives to school buses. States that the intent of the General Assembly is that school boards encourage the implementation of innovative low-cost or no-cost alternatives to transporting students to and from school on school buses, including organizing or otherwise facilitating, encouraging, or supporting biking or walking school buses whereby groups of students ride bicycles or walk to and from school.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

HB958 Commission on Civic Education; model guidance on student participation in the work of local school boards. Requires the Commission on Civic Education, in conjunction with such stakeholders as it deems appropriate, to create and provide to each local school board no later than July 1, 2025, model guidance on the inclusion and involvement of students enrolled in the local school division in the work of the local school board, including model guidance on a process

and structure for adding a student representative to the local school board. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Lopez* 

PHB980 Institutions of higher education; students who report act of hazing or bullying experienced as result of report of act of hazing; on-campus mental and behavioral health support. Requires each public institution of higher education and nonprofit private institution of higher education to provide information about on-campus individuals or entities that are qualified to provide the appropriate ongoing mental and behavioral health support to any student who reports to the institution an act of hazing or an act of bullying experienced as the result of a report of an act of hazing. Patron - Tran

P HB1024 Department of Education; Virginia Preservice Training for Child Care Staff course; relevancy review. Requires the Department of Education to review its Virginia Preservice Training for Child Care Staff course for appropriateness based on the age range of children served by staff who are required to complete such course and to consider excluding portions of such course that are solely relevant to providing care for students in a certain age range for staff whose duties do not include the care of children in such age range.

Patron - Wilt

HB1039 Public elementary and secondary schools; possession and administration of undesignated glucagon; school board policies; donations. Permits any local school board to adopt and implement policies for the possession and administration of undesignated nasal or injectable glucagon in each public elementary or secondary school in the local school division, provided that such policies are consistent with the guidance outlined in the most recent revision of the Diabetes Management In School: Manual for Unlicensed Personnel published by the Department of Education and include guidance on several items enumerated in the bill. The bill also permits any public elementary or secondary school to maintain a supply of nasal or injectable glucagon in any secure location that is immediately accessible to any school nurse or other employee trained in the administration of nasal and injectable glucagon prescribed to the school by a prescriber. The bill requires any such school to ensure that such a supply consists of at least two doses. The bill permits any school nurse or other authorized employee who is trained in the administration of nasal and injectable glucagon consistent with the guidance outlined in the most recent revision of the Diabetes Management In School: Manual for Unlicensed Personnel published by the Department to administer nasal or injectable glucagon from undesignated inventory with parental consent and if the student's prescribed glucagon is not available on school grounds or has expired. The bill permits any school board to accept donations of nasal or injectable glucagon from a wholesale distributor of glucagon or donations of money from any individual to purchase nasal or injectable glucagon for the purpose of maintenance and administration in a public school in the local school division as permitted pursuant to the aforementioned provisions of the bill.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB1075 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Virginia Program established. Establishes Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Virginia Program for the purpose of promoting a comprehensive statewide initiative for encouraging preschool-age children to develop a love of reading and learning whereby one reading selection, as defined in the bill, is provided per month to each registered child from birth to age five in each participating county at no cost to the family of

such child. The bill requires the Program to contribute to local programs a 50 percent match of funds, if available, required of such local programs participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in the Commonwealth. The bill requires a non-profit entity dedicated to statewide early literacy advocacy to serve as the program administrator and be responsible for the development, implementation, and administration of the Program. The bill sunsets on January 1, 2029.

Patron - Coyner

P HB1076 Board of Education; through-year growth assessment system; alternatives during 2024-2026 school years. Requires the Board of Education to permit school boards to administer, during the 2024-2026 school years, assessments as alternatives to the through-year growth assessment system established by the Board, provided that any such alternative assessment is aligned to the Standards of Learning. This bill is identical to SB 435.

Patron - Rasoul

HB1087 Department of Education and Virginia Community College System; College and Career **Ready Virginia Program and Fund established.** Establishes the College and Career Ready Virginia Fund and requires the Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System to establish the College and Career Ready Virginia Program whereby each school board is required to offer each qualified high school student in the local school division access at the high school to the dual enrollment courses that are sufficient to complete the Passport Program and the Uniform Certificate of General Studies Program at a public institution of higher education at no cost to such students. The bill establishes several enumerated duties for the Department and the System in the administration of the College and Career Ready Virginia Program, including the establishment of a work group to make recommendations no later than November 1, 2024, on the incorporation of a career and technical education program of coursework into the College and Career Ready Virginia Program. This bill is identical to SB 627.

Patron - Coyner

Patron - Carr

HB1088 Board of Education; instructional materials on climate change and environmental literacy; model policies and procedures for selection. Requires the Board of Education to make available to each local school board instructional materials on climate change and environmental literacy that are based on and include peer-reviewed scientific sources. The bill requires the Board of Education to develop, adopt, and make available to each local school board model policies and procedures, based on peer-reviewed scientific sources, pertaining to the selection of instructional materials on climate change and environmental literacy, including a requirement for any such selected material to accurately portray changes in weather and climate patterns over time, the impacts of human activity on changes in weather and climate patterns, and the effects of climate change on people and resources. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

P HB1089 Special education and related ser-

vices. Makes several changes relating to special education and related services for children with disabilities in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, including requiring (i) the Department of Education to (a) develop, establish, review and update as necessary at least once every five years, and make available to each local school board an IEP writing, facilitation, tracking, and transfer system to be referred to as the Virginia IEP that includes, at a minimum, an IEP template component and a data system component and (b) develop and publish a data dashboard for the annual public reporting of

state-level, division-level, and school-level special education data; (ii) each local school board to designate a faculty member to serve as a special education parent/family liaison to be a resource to parents and families to understand and engage in the referral, evaluation, reevaluation, and eligibility process if they suspect that their child has a disability and in the IEP process; and (iii) the Parent Training and Information Center in the Commonwealth designated pursuant to relevant federal law to establish special education family support centers in eight distinct regions of the Commonwealth that shall each be staffed by a regional special education family liaison employed by such center, coordinate with the designated special education parent/family liaisons in the local school divisions in the region, develop and implement outreach and support to parents of children with disabilities in its region, and track and report to the State Parent Ombudsman for Special Education data on questions and concerns raised by parents. This bill is identical to SB 220.

Patron - Coyner

P HB1221 Health education; menstrual education instruction permitted. Permits each school board to provide a program of instruction on menstrual education as a part of any health education instruction offered at such grade level in grades four through eight as the school board deems appropriate.

Patron - Seibold

P HB1231 Department of Education; communication to local school boards; JROTC; legal obligations. Requires the Department of Education to notify each school board of any obligation imposed on the school board or any public school in the local school division pursuant to any federal law or regulation relating to student eligibility to participate in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs offered by any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States in public schools.

Patron - Higgins

P HB1247 Public school staffing ratios; teachers; English language learner students. Requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students based on each such student's English proficiency level, as established in the general appropriation act. This bill is identical to SB 272.

Patron - Maldonado

# P HB1277 Child care; background checks.

Allows applicants for employment and applicants to serve as volunteers to work in certain child day centers, family day homes, and family day systems pending the results of a full background check, provided that (i) the applicant has received qualifying results on a fingerprint-based background check through the Central Criminal Records Exchange or the Federal Bureau of Investigation and (ii) the applicant is supervised at all times by a person who received a qualifying result on a full background check within the past five years.

Patron - Laufer

P HB1279 Department of Health and Department of Education; school health entrance form. Requires the Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of Education, to examine the Department of Health's COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL HEALTH ENTRANCE FORM: Health Information Form/Comprehensive Physical Examination Report/Certification of Immunization and make such changes as they deem necessary to streamline such form, make it available in both digital and print formats, and make it more user-friendly for families, phy-

sicians, and other health care professionals while continuing to gather all of the information that is necessary to comply with relevant state laws relating to student health and immunization and school attendance.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1317 Public schools; transfer and management of scholastic records; disclosure of information in court notices; transfer of disciplinary records; require**ments.** Requires the superintendent of any school division to, upon receiving notification of the disposition in a delinquency case concerning a student who is not enrolled in such school division, forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division where such student is enrolled or where such student intends to enroll, as evidenced by the receipt of a request from the other school division for such student's scholastic records. Current law only permits the superintendent of any such school division to forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division in which the student is currently enrolled. The bill also requires a copy of the complete student disciplinary records of any student transferring from one school division to another to be transferred to the school division to which such student is transferring, upon request from such school division. This bill is identical to SB 443.

Patron - Cole

P HB1345 High school graduation requirements; satisfaction of certain course credits with workforce credentials; development and maintenance of list of accepted credentials. Requires the Board of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Community College System, Career and Technical Education directors, and industry partners, to develop and maintain a current, comprehensive, and uniform list of industry-recognized workforce credentials that students may take as a substitute for certain units of credit required for graduation, including such credentials that are accepted as substitutes for electives credits and credentials completed outside of regular school hours. The bill requires each school board to accept as a substitute for a required credit any credential listed as an accepted substitute for such required credit. The bill also requires any College and Career Access Pathways Partnership entered into between a school board and a comprehensive community college to specify, consistent with the list, industry-recognized credentials that are accepted as substitutes for certain credits required for high school graduation. Finally, the bill requires the Board, in establishing graduation requirements, to permit any student to substitute elective credits for completion of any industry-approved workforce credential that is included on the list as an accepted substitute for such credits. This bill incorporates HB 1009 and is identical to SB 199.

Patron - Anthony

P HB1451 Standards of Learning assessments; expedited retakes; eligibility. Directs the Board of Education to revise its regulations relating to student eligibility for an expedited retake of any Standards of Learning assessment, with the exception of the writing Standards of Learning assessments, to (i) provide that any student in grades three through 12 who scores in the 375 to 399 range, or an equivalent range on an alternative scoring scale, on a Standards of Learning assessment shall be eligible to retake such assessment on an expedited basis at least once prior to the next scheduled assessment administration and (ii) establish guidelines for and require each eligible student to complete prior to retaking any such assessment on an expedited basis a comprehensive remediation program based on such student's particular educational needs as identified by such student's assessment results. The bill requires the Board to implement such revised regulations

by January 1, 2025. The bill clarifies that the provisions of the bill shall not be construed to affect any of the Board's regulations or policies relating to student eligibility for an expedited retake of any Standards of Learning assessment prior to January 1, 2025.

Patron - Phillips

HB1473 Department of Education; development and distribution of fentanyl education and awareness informational one-sheet; requirements. Requires the Department of Education to develop, in collaboration with the Department of Health, a fentanyl education and awareness informational one-sheet designed to promote awareness of the dangers associated with and the prevalence of fentanyl and provide essential information on fentanyl overdose prevention and preparedness among high school-age students. The bill requires the Department of Education to make available to each school board and post in a publicly accessible location on its website such informational one-sheet and to annually review and update such informational one-sheet in collaboration with the Department of Health to ensure its currency and accuracy. The bill requires each public high school or secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 to annually distribute such informational one-sheet to each student in grades nine through 12 within the first two weeks of the school year. This bill incorporates HB 1007.

Patron - Clark

HB1477 Public schools; instructional time; competency-based education. Requires the Board of Education to provide local school boards maximum flexibility to waive existing instructional clock hour requirements by developing alternative instructional time models in accordance with the Board's regulations and guidelines relating to instructional time waivers. The bill directs the Board, when revising its regulations and adopting Standards of Accreditation, to provide flexibility for school boards to develop programs that provide for acceleration, remediation, and multiple pathways to graduation that permit students to demonstrate competency at different rates. The bill also requires the Board to update, by December 1, 2024, its Guidelines for Graduation Requirements: Local Alternative Paths to Standard Units of Credit (Alternatives to the 140-Clock-Hour Requirement) to include guidance regarding (i) waiver pathway options to allow students time within the school day to complete work-based learning opportunities; (ii) advanced learning opportunities focused on problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and citizenship skills; (iii) content that provides technical knowledge, skills, and competency-based applied learning; (iv) a method for approving alternative programs, including dual enrollment courses as specified in the bill; (v) other instructional time models adopted to meet instructional hour requirements through a variety of learning modalities; and (vi) offering instructional and learning opportunities including innovative, advanced, and enrichment programs for the full school year. Finally, the bill requires the Board to submit to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2024, a report on its progress in implementing the provisions of the bill. This bill incorporates HB 663 and HB 1081.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB1504 Board of Education; guidelines on school-connected overdose policies; response and parental notification. Requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies to aid local school boards in the implementation of such policies. The bill requires such guidelines to include (i) a model action plan for each school board to follow

in responding to any school-connected overdose, including communicating and coordinating with the Department of Education and the applicable law-enforcement liaison or the local law-enforcement agency that employs such school division's school resources officers, and (ii) criteria for issuing parental notification to ensure sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals and compliance with any applicable law, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information. This bill is identical to SB 498. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Seibold

P SB5 STEM+C Competition Team Grant Program established. Establishes the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Computing (STEM+C) Competition Team Grant Program to encourage interest in STEM+C-related subject areas and support STEM+C-related extracurricular team-building activities in public schools in the Commonwealth by providing grants for use in establishing or supporting STEM+C competition teams.

Patron - Stanley

P **SB13** Early childhood care and education; child day programs; use of office buildings; waiver of zoning requirements. Permits any locality to by ordinance provide for the waiver of any requirements for zoning permits for the operation of a child day program in an office building, as defined by the bill, provided that such facility satisfies the requirements for state licensure as a child day program. This bill is identical to HB 281.

Patron - Favola

P SB54 Early childhood care and education system; need-based and demand-based funding. Requires, for the purpose of addressing family demand and preferences for affordable, high-quality early childhood care and education services, state general funds to be provided to support the provision of services to families for early childhood care and education, as specified in the general appropriation act. The bill requires the Department of Education to report each year by November 15 on the projected general funds needed for the upcoming two fiscal years based on cost of quality rate per child in order to (i) maintain the current number of slots at early childhood care and education programs, (ii) increase the number of slots using a projected growth report, and (iii) increase the number of slots to fully accommodate parent demand and eliminate waitlists. The bill requires such projected general funds to be based on the annual per-child cost, determined as set forth in the bill, for the Virginia Preschool Initiative, the Mixed Delivery Program, and the Child Care Subsidy Program, the current eligibility criteria for such programs, and maximization of certain regularly recurring federal funds. The bill requires each regional entity established by the Board of Education pursuant to applicable law, each local school division, and each locality to annually indicate the number of slots needed, respectively, in the region for the Mixed Delivery Program, the local school division for the Virginia Preschool Initiative, and the locality for the Child Care Subsidy Program. The bill requires the Department of Education to (a) reallocate by July 1 any slots with available funding from the Child Care Subsidy Program and the Mixed Delivery Program, (b) make adjustments based on family preferences following the fall enrollment periods, and (c) first expend all current-year state general funds in providing funding for slots. This bill is identical to HB 419.

Patron - Locke

P **SB60** Department of Education; guidelines for individualized education program teams relating to certain

**age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate instruction; availability and posting.** Requires the Department of Education to make available to each school board and post on its website by the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year the guidelines established in accordance with relevant law for individualized education program (IEP) teams to use in developing IEPs for children with disabilities relating to the need for age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate instruction. *Patron - Favola* 

P SB104 Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average. Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 Regular Sessions of the General Assembly to propose funding for, and state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act enacted during any regular or special session of the General Assembly during 2025, 2026, or 2027 to fund, the Commonwealth's share of compensation supplement incentives for Standards of Quality-funded instructional and support positions sufficient to increase the average teacher salary in the Commonwealth to at least the national average teacher salary by the end of the 2026–2028 biennium and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement. This bill is identical to HB 187. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lucas

SB105 Public school staffing and funding; **National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program** and Fund; At-Risk Program; English language learner students. Renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund as the National Board Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund, expands eligibility for incentive grant awards from such Fund pursuant to such Program from solely teachers who have obtained national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to all public school staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification to cover certain costs of obtaining or maintaining such certification and all public school staff who have successfully obtained or maintained such certification, and permits certain teachers to apply for additional incentive grants pursuant to such Program and Fund. The bill also establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training. The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. Finally, the bill requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students based on each such student's English proficiency level, as established in the general appropriation act. This bill incorporates SB 127, SB 128, SB 187, SB 227, SB 228, and SB 609 and is identical to HB 624. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lucas

P **SB142** Public school teachers; licensure requirements; one-year local eligibility license; alternate routes and flexibility. Requires the Board of Education to include in its teacher licensure regulations provisions authorizing each school board, upon recommendation of the division superintendent or the school board and in accordance with the criteria set forth in the bill, to issue a one-year, nonrenewable

local eligibility license that is only valid within the issuing school division to any individual who (i) received a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education, (ii) has experience or training in a subject or content area as the school board and division superintendent may deem appropriate for the applicable teaching position or endorsement area, and (iii) is not seeking to provide instruction in special education or eligible for collegiate professional or postgraduate professional licensure. The bill establishes several requirements, criteria, and conditions relating to a local eligibility license. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2030. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Ruff

P SB199 High school graduation requirements; satisfaction of certain course credits with workforce credentials; development and maintenance of list of accepted credentials. Requires the Board of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Community College System, Career and Technical Education directors, and industry partners, to develop and maintain a current, comprehensive, and uniform list of industry-recognized workforce credentials that students may take as a substitute for certain units of credit required for graduation, including such credentials that are accepted as substitutes for electives credits and credentials completed outside of regular school hours. The bill requires each school board to accept as a substitute for a required credit any credential listed as an accepted substitute for such required credit. The bill also requires any College and Career Access Pathways Partnership entered into between a school board and a comprehensive community college to specify, consistent with the list, industry-recognized credentials that are accepted as substitutes for certain credits required for high school graduation. Finally, the bill requires the Board, in establishing graduation requirements, to permit any student to substitute elective credits for completion of any industry-approved workforce credential that is included on the list as an accepted substitute for such credits. This bill is identical to HB 1345.

Patron - Diggs

P SB220 Special education and related services. Makes several changes relating to special education and related services for children with disabilities in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, including requiring (i) the Department of Education to (a) develop, establish, review and update as necessary at least once every five years, and make available to each local school board an IEP writing, facilitation, tracking, and transfer system to be referred to as the Virginia IEP that includes, at a minimum, an IEP template component and a data system component and (b) develop and publish a data dashboard for the annual public reporting of state-level, division-level, and school-level special education data; (ii) each local school board to designate a faculty member to serve as a special education parent/family liaison to be a resource to parents and families to understand and engage in the referral, evaluation, reevaluation, and eligibility process if they suspect that their child has a disability and in the IEP process; and (iii) the Parent Training and Information Center in the Commonwealth designated pursuant to relevant federal law to establish special education family support centers in eight distinct regions of the Commonwealth that shall each be staffed by a regional special education family liaison employed by such center, coordinate with the designated special education parent/family liaisons in the local school divisions in the region, develop and implement outreach and support to parents of children with disabilities in its region, and track and report to the State Parent Ombudsman for Special Education data on questions and concerns raised by parents. This bill is identical to HB 1089.

Patron - Favola

SB225 School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of firearms in the household. Requires each local school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the local school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message within 30 calendar days succeeding the first day of each school year, of the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household, risks associated with improperly stored firearms, statistics relating to firearm-related accidents, injuries, and death among youth, and other tips and strategies. The bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. This bill is identical to HB 498. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Pekarsky

P SB235 Policies on parental notification of instructional material that includes sexually explicit con**tent; scope and use.** Provides that nothing in the law requiring the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board model policies for ensuring parental notification of any instructional material that includes sexually explicit content and requiring each school board to adopt policies that are consistent with but may be more comprehensive than such model policies or that is in such model policies or school board policies shall be construed to permit the censoring of books in any public elementary or secondary school. This bill is identical to HB 571.

Patron - Hashmi

P SB272 Public school staffing ratios; teachers; English language learner students. Requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students based on each such student's English proficiency level, as established in the general appropriation act. This bill is identical to HB 1247.

Patron - Hashmi

SB283 Free school meals; stakeholder work group; report. Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in coordination with the Secretary of Education, to convene a stakeholder work group to study the estimated impact of offering free school meals to students statewide, identify options for reducing or eliminating student and school meal debt, and make recommendations on options for leveraging other programs funded at the state and federal levels for the provision of student school meals. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Education Funding by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Roem

P SB314 Department of Education; establishment of Farm to School Program Task Force. Requires the Department of Education to establish and appoint such members as it deems necessary or appropriate to the Farm to School Program Task Force for the purpose of increasing student access throughout the Commonwealth to high-quality farm to school programs, defined in the bill as programs (i) whereby public schools purchase and feature prominently in school meals locally produced food or (ii) that involve experiential student learning opportunities relating to local food and agriculture, including school and community garden programs and local farm visits. The bill requires the Task Force to collaborate with local school boards, community-based organizations, farmers, relevant state and local agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to (a) assess existing farm to school programs within the Commonwealth to identify and disseminate to each

local school board best practices for implementing and sustaining such programs, (b) establish and distribute to each local school board a guidance document for the establishment and operation of school garden programs, (c) provide information and resources to each local school board to assist it in leveraging grant funds to support farm to school programs, and (d) collect such data and make such policy recommendations to local school boards, the Board of Education, and the General Assembly as it deems appropriate. This bill is identical to HB 830.

Patron - Roem

P SB352 Teacher licensure; universal licensure by reciprocity. Establishes universal licensure by reciprocity as a category of teacher licensure in the Commonwealth for teachers who hold a valid out-of-state teaching license with full credentials and without deficiencies that has been in force and in use by the individual as an employed teacher in a non-virtual classroom setting at a public or private elementary or secondary school for at least three years prior to and is in force at the time of application and meet other provisions set forth in the bill. The bill also permits the division superintendent rather than the Board of Education, as in current law, to issue a career and technical education teacher a provisional license to allow time for the teacher to attain the industry certification credential required by law. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education to compile, publicly post on its website, and update as necessary, data on teacher licensure standards and requirements for each state for the purposes of facilitating the determination of the compatibility of out-of-state teacher licenses with requirements for teacher licensure and licensure by reciprocity in the Commonwealth and increasing transparency of such licensure requirements. This bill is identical to HB 632.

Patron - Peake

P SB379 Public high schools; research-based hazing prevention instruction. Requires the Board of Education to develop Standards of Learning and curriculum guidelines for research-based hazing prevention instruction to be provided as a part of physical or health education instruction provided to students in grade nine or 10. The bill requires such hazing prevention instruction to include age-appropriate, extensive, and current education about hazing, including (i) examples of hazing; (ii) the dangers of hazing, including the consequences of alcohol intoxication; and (iii) school policies and laws related to hazing, including criminal penalties and bystander intervention. The bill requires such research-based hazing prevention instruction to be offered in-person but requires each school board to provide options for virtual participation for any student who is enrolled in an online or virtual physical or health education program. Finally, the bill requires each school board to provide such research-based hazing prevention instruction beginning with the school year following the Board's adoption of revised Standards of Learning for physical and health education for grades nine and 10 incorporating such research-based hazing prevention instruction and directs the Board to, in the intermediary time, develop and post on its website guidance documents for the purpose of making such research-based hazing prevention instruction available to local school boards. This bill is identical to HB 719.

Patron - Boysko

SB420 Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Visitors; membership; powers and duties; meetings. Expands the total membership of the Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind from 11 to 15 members by increasing the number of nonlegislative citizen members from seven to 11. The bill provides that of the 11 nonlegislative citizen members, two shall be parents of current students at the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, of

whom (i) one is the parent of a student who is deaf or hard of hearing and one is the parent of a student who is vision impaired and (ii) one represents the Eastern region of the Commonwealth and one represents the Western region of the Commonwealth; two shall be representatives of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind Alumni Association who are deaf or hard of hearing; and two shall be representatives of the Alumni Association who are vision impaired. Under current law, the requirements for the parent representatives are less specific and there is only one representative of the Alumni Association. The bill also amends the powers and duties of the Board of Visitors to include supervising the superintendent, other officers, and the faculty of the school. The bill provides that, in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, any notice of a meeting of the Board of Visitors shall state whether public comment will be received and, if so, the approximate point at which it will be received. The bill requires that at each meeting at which public comment will be received each interested individual is allotted three minutes to speak and prohibits limiting that allotted time without adequate notice prior to the date of the meeting. The bill also requires the Board of Visitors to meet no less than four times each year. Current law provides that the Board of Visitors shall meet no more than four times each year. Finally, the bill defines the terms "deaf," "hard of hearing," and "vision impaired."

Patron - Head

P SB433 Board of Education; develop and adopt policies relating to supporting Students with Limited and/or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE). Directs the Board of Education to develop and adopt policies relating to supporting Students with Limited and/or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE students) in staying in and graduating from, or otherwise completing, high school in the Commonwealth and to develop formulas for calculating high school drop-out rates and graduation rates in the Commonwealth that do not include any SLIFE student who dropped out if such student had not yet been enrolled in a public high school in the Commonwealth for at least two semesters.

Patron - Suetterlein

P SB435 Board of Education; through-year growth assessment system; alternatives during 2024-2026 school years. Requires the Board of Education to permit school boards to administer, during the 2024-2026 school years, assessments as alternatives to the through-year growth assessment system established by the Board, provided that any such alternative assessment is aligned to the Standards of Learning. This bill is identical to HB 1076.

Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB441** School boards; employment verification; timing. Requires each school board to respond within 10 working days of receiving a request for employment verification of a former employee of the school board when such verification is sought by another school board. The bill defines working day as every day except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal state and federal holidays. This bill is identical to HB 355. *Patron - Durant* 

P SB443 Public schools; transfer and management of scholastic records; disclosure of information in court notices; transfer of disciplinary records; requirements. Requires the superintendent of any school division to, upon receiving notification of the disposition in a delinquency case concerning a student who is not enrolled in such school division, forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division where such student is enrolled or where such student intends to enroll, as evidenced by the receipt of a request from the other school division for such student's scho-

lastic records. Current law only permits the superintendent of any such school division to forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division in which the student is currently enrolled. The bill also requires a copy of the complete student disciplinary records of any student transferring from one school division to another to be transferred to the school division to which such student is transferring, upon request from such school division. This bill is identical to HB 1317.

Patron - Durant

P SB474 School Construction Program and Fund; career and technical education programs eligible. Clarifies that, for the purposes of eligibility to receive grants through the School Construction Fund and Program, "local school division" includes any joint or regional school established in accordance with relevant law and "public school buildings and facilities" or "public school buildings" include any building or facility used for career and technical education programs provided at any such joint or regional school. This bill is identical to HB 462.

Patron - Obenshain

SB484 Public schools; certain local school divisions; youth and community violence prevention; Community Builders Pilot Program established; report. Establishes the Community Builders Pilot Program for the purpose of reducing youth involvement in behaviors that lead to gun violence and increasing community engagement among public school students by providing to students who are entering the eighth grade and enrolled in Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools opportunities during the school year after regular school hours and during the summer months for community engagement, workforce development, postsecondary education exploration, and social-emotional education and development. The bill provides that the school boards of Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools shall be responsible for the administration of the Program and are directed to collect data and report to the Governor and relevant committees of the General Assembly by November 1 of each year on the progress of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 626.

Patron - Aird

**SB498** Board of Education; guidelines on school-connected overdose policies; response and parental **notification.** Requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies to aid local school boards in the implementation of such policies. The bill requires such guidelines to include (i) a model action plan for each school board to follow in responding to any school-connected overdose, including communicating and coordinating with the Department of Education and the applicable law-enforcement liaison or the local law-enforcement agency that employs such school division's school resources officers, and (ii) criteria for issuing parental notification to ensure sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals and compliance with any applicable law, rules, or regulations relating to the disclosure and protection of a minor's personal, confidential, or otherwise sensitive information. This bill is identical to HB 1504. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P SB586 Public elementary and secondary schools; student discipline; evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices. Prohibits, except in certain cases involving specific offenses enumerated in applicable law or in cases in which the division superintendent or his designee finds that

aggravating circumstances, as defined by the Department of Education, exist, any public elementary or secondary school student from being suspended, expelled, or excluded from attendance at school without first considering at least one evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice such as community conferencing, community service, mentoring, a peer jury, peer mediation, positive behavioral interventions and supports, a restorative circle, or the Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports. The bill also requires the Department to add as part of the student behavior and administrative response collection required pursuant to relevant law the use of evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices as a behavioral intervention in order to evaluate the use and effectiveness of such practices. This bill is identical to HB 398. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Pekarsky* 

P **SB608** Public education: community schools: Office of Community Schools at Department of Education; Community School Development and Implementation Planning Grant; state goal. Requires the Department of Education to establish the Office of Community Schools as an office within the Department for the purpose of supporting the development and growth of community schools throughout the Commonwealth in accordance with the Virginia Community School Framework and requires the Office to establish and administer the Community School Development and Implementation Planning Grant for the purpose of providing grants to school boards that seek to designate any school within the local school division as a community school to assist with the planning and implementation of such designation. The bill also establishes a state goal of prioritizing funding for such initiatives and grants to enable their expansion to serve the top 33 percent of public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth for highest identified student percentage, as defined in the bill, based on data from the immediately preceding school year. This bill is identical to HB 625. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

\$B624 Public education; student literacy measures. Clarifies several provisions of the Virginia Literacy Act (the Act), enacted during the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly and effective with the 2024-2025 school year, including (i) clarifying that the term "evidence-based literacy instruction" does not include practices that instruct students to gain meaning from print through the use of (a) three-cueing, which includes semantic, syntactic, and graphophonic cues; (b) meaning, structure, and visual cues; or (c) visual memory for word recognition; (ii) removing the option to use a literacy screener approved by the Department of Education for certain purposes enumerated in the Act; (iii) requiring the Department to develop a list of core literacy curricula for students in kindergarten through grade five and supplemental instruction practices and programs and intervention programs for students in kindergarten through grade eight that consist of evidencebased literacy instruction aligned with science-based reading research; and (iv) requiring each divisionwide literacy plan to address how the local school board will align (a) core reading and literacy curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade five and (b) screening, supplemental instruction, and interventions for students in kindergarten through grade eight with evidence-based literacy instruction practices aligned with science-based reading research. This bill is identical to HB 647.

Patron - Lucas

Patron - Aird

P SB627 Department of Education and Virginia Community College System; College and Career Ready Virginia Program and Fund established. Establishes the College and Career Ready Virginia Fund and requires the

Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System to establish the College and Career Ready Virginia Program whereby each school board is required to offer each qualified high school student in the local school division access at the high school to the dual enrollment courses that are sufficient to complete the Passport Program and the Uniform Certificate of General Studies Program at a public institution of higher education at no cost to such students. The bill establishes several enumerated duties for the Department and the System in the administration of the College and Career Ready Virginia Program, including the establishment of a work group to make recommendations no later than November 1, 2024, on the incorporation of a career and technical education program of coursework into the College and Career Ready Virginia Program. This bill is identical to HB 1087.

Patron - Lucas

P SB702 Early childhood care and education; exemption from licensure for certain child day programs. Exempts from licensure by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day program that (i) serves only dependent children of military personnel and (ii) (a) is located on a military base or federal property or (b) is certified as a family child care provider by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides that any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or its agent, including an installation commander of a military base on which a child day program is located, may assume responsibility for approving or determining which children may be served by the program that is so exempted from licensure. This bill incorporates SB 75 and is identical to HB 739.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB707 Public middle schools and high schools; student organizations; career and technical education organizations permitted. Permits each public middle school and high school to establish career and technical education student organizations, regardless of whether such school offers career and technical education courses.

Patron - Subramanyam

SB726 Public schools; opioid antagonist procurement, possession, and administration; school board employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal instruction; guidelines and requirements. Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans, policies, and procedures for (i) providing at each public secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 a program of instruction on opioid overdose prevention and reversal and for encouraging each student to complete such program of instruction prior to graduation; (ii) the procurement, placement, and maintenance in each public elementary and secondary school of a supply of opioid antagonists in an amount equivalent to at least two unexpired doses for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal; and (iii) the possession and administration of an opioid antagonist by any employee of the school board who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of an opioid antagonist, including policies (a) requiring each public elementary and secondary school to ensure that at least one employee is authorized by a prescriber and trained and certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist, (b) for partnering with a program administered or approved by the Department of Health to provide such training and certification, and (c) for maintaining records of each such trained and certified employee.

The bill provides for the disciplinary, civil, and criminal immunity of any employee of a public school, school board, or local health department, regardless of whether such employee was

trained or certified in opioid antagonist administration, for any act or omission made in connection with the good faith administration of an opioid antagonist for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal during regular school hours, on school premises, or during a school-sponsored activity, unless such act or omission was the result of gross neglect or willful misconduct. The bill requires each school board to adopt and each public elementary and secondary school to implement policies and procedures in accordance with the provisions of the bill and, in doing so, to utilize to the fullest extent possible programs offered by the Department of Health for the provision of opioid antagonist administration training and certification and opioid antagonist procurement.

In addition, the bill modifies the school board employees who are authorized to administer opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist by a program administered or authorized by the Department of Health. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and requires each school board to implement the provisions of the bill by the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year. This bill incorporates SB 387 and is identical to HB 732.

Patron - Pillion

## Failed

F HB10 High school graduation requirements; passing score on select questions from the U.S. Naturalization Test. Requires the Board of Education, in establishing high school graduation requirements, to require, except in the case of a high school student whose individualized education program indicates otherwise, each high school student to take and correctly answer at least 70 percent of the questions on a test composed of at least 50 but not more than 60 of the questions on the civics portion of the U.S. Naturalization Test in order to graduate high school with a standard or advanced studies diploma, provided that such student may take such test at any time during grades nine through 12 and as many times during such period as necessary to achieve the minimum 70 percent passing score.

Patron - Ware

F HB13 High school graduation requirements; passing score on select questions from U.S. Naturalization Test. Requires the Board of Education, in establishing high school graduation requirements, to require, except in the case of a high school student whose individualized education program indicates otherwise, each high school student to take and correctly answer at least 70 percent of the questions on a test composed of at least 25 but not more than 50 of the questions on the civics portion of the U.S. Naturalization Test in order to graduate high school with a standard or advanced studies diploma, provided that such student may take such test at any time during grades nine through 12 and as many times during such period as necessary to achieve the minimum 70 percent passing score.

Patron - Ware

F HB17 Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic programs. Prohibits public schools from joining an organization governing interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) receives home instruction; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress for two consecutive academic years; (iii) is in compliance with immunization requirements; (iv) is entitled to free tuition in a public school; (v) has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur

who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. The bill provides that no local school board is required to establish a policy to permit students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. The bill permits reasonable fees to be charged to students who receive home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, and equipment. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029. Patron - Garrett

**HB65** Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic programs. Prohibits public schools from joining an organization governing interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) receives home instruction; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress for two consecutive academic years; (iii) is in compliance with immunization requirements; (iv) is a person of school age for whom public school is free; (v) has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. The bill provides that no local school board is required to establish a policy to permit students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. The bill permits reasonable fees to be charged to students who receive home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, and equipment.

Patron - Campbell

Patron - Green

F HB72 Public schools; threat assessment teams; duties; annual meeting with chief law-enforcement officer of locality or a designee from the local law-enforcement agency. Requires the threat assessment team established by the division superintendent for each public elementary or secondary school to meet at least annually on school grounds with the chief law-enforcement officer of the locality or a designee from the local law-enforcement agency to determine potential safety hazards or points of vulnerability on such grounds or in the school building and to discuss and promote active shooter prevention and natural disaster preparedness.

F HB83 Comprehensive community colleges and school boards; dual enrollment agreements; parameters. Requires dual enrollment agreements between comprehensive community colleges and school boards to permit any student to complete an associate degree, the Passport Program, or a one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies from a compre-

year Uniform Certificate of General Studies from a comprehensive community college concurrent with a high school diploma or high school equivalency program. Current law requires such agreements to specify options for students to complete an associate degree, the Passport Program, or a one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies from a comprehensive community college concurrent with a high school diploma.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

HB146 Early childhood care and education; publicly funded providers; exemption from licensure for certain child day programs. Excepts military child care fee assistance or any child care subsidy paid by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States from the federal funds that would otherwise render a child day program as a "publicly funded provider," as that term is defined and used in relevant law relating to early childhood care and education. The bill also exempts from licensure by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day program that (i) serves only dependent children of military personnel and (ii) (a) is located on a military base or federal property or (b) is certified as a family child care provider by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides that any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or its agent, including an installation commander of a military base on which a child day program is located, may assume responsibility for approving or determining which children may be served by the program that is so exempted from licensure. This bill was incorporated into HB 739.

Patron - Tata

F HB166 Department of Education; guidance and resources; composting programs in local school divisions. Requires the Department of Education to develop, post in a publicly accessible format and location on its website, and make available to any school board, upon request, guidance and resources relating to the establishment of local experiential learning programs on the composting of organic material, including food waste, for sustainable purposes such as horticulture or micro-farming, including guidance and resources on available grants and other sources of funding for such programs.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

HB222 Child day centers operated by religious institutions; exemption from licensure by Superintendent of Public Instruction. Exempts fully from the statutory requirement to be licensed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day center that is operated or conducted under the auspices of a religious institution that (i) has tax exempt status as a nonprofit religious institution in accordance with § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or (ii) owns and exclusively occupies real property that is exempt from local taxation. Under current law, such child day centers are exempt from licensure but are still subject to several enumerated requirements. The bill, however, preserves the requirement for such child day centers to conduct background checks for employees and volunteers and prohibits the employment or service at such child day centers of any such individual who has been convicted of any barrier crime as defined in relevant law or who is the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect.

Patron - Orrock

F HB271 Public secondary schools; naloxone procurement, possession, and administration; school board employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal instruction; guidelines and requirements. Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans and policies for each secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 relating to opioid overdose prevention and reversal, including: (i) the procurement, storage, and maintenance of at least two unexpired doses of naloxone at each such secondary school; (ii) the possession and administration of naloxone by school board employees authorized to and trained and certified in the administration of naloxone and the

employment of at least one such school board employee at each such secondary school; and (iii) the development and implementation of an opioid overdose prevention and reversal program of instruction to be completed by each student as a part of the high school graduation requirements.

The bill also requires each local school board to place at least two doses of naloxone in every public secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 in the local school division and to provide replacement doses as necessary. The bill requires each such secondary school to, pursuant to the policies developed by the Department of Health and the Department of Education, (a) ensure that at least one faculty or staff member is authorized to and trained and certified in the administration of naloxone and (b) provide an opioid overdose prevention and reversal program of instruction to be completed by each student as a high school graduation requirement.

In addition, the bill modifies the school board employees who are authorized to administer naloxone or other opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of naloxone by an organization authorized by DBHDS to provide such training and certification. Current law limits such authorization to school nurses or school board employees contracted by a school board to provide school health services.

Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and for the Department of Education to submit such guidelines to the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by January 1, 2025. The bill requires such guidelines and policies to be implemented by each school board by the beginning of the 2026–2027 school year.

Patron - Reid

F HB284 Board of Education; criteria for initial renewable teacher licensure for certain individuals. Requires the Board of Education to issue an initial renewable license as a teacher to any applicant who (i) is enrolled in an accredited education preparation program at an institution of higher education in the Commonwealth; (ii) is recommended for such licensure by the dean of such education preparation program; (iii) has attempted, unsuccessfully, to obtain a qualifying score on the communication and literacy assessment prescribed by the Board; (iv) meets all other requirements for such license; and (v) meets any other criteria for the issuance of such license in such circumstances as may be established by the Board of Education.

Patron - Thomas

HB365 Department of Education and Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; work group; regional workforce development and child care initiative in Southwest Virginia; report. Requires the Department of Education and the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to jointly establish and appoint such members as such departments deem appropriate to a work group to monitor the implementation of the regional workforce development and child care initiative being implemented by the United Way of Southwest Virginia, the Wellspring Foundation of Southwest Virginia, Food City, and the Town of Abingdon in Abingdon and in four other locations throughout the surrounding region. The bill requires such work group to monitor the extent to which such initiative achieves its stated goals, including in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, teacher training, and access to child care, and to report its findings and any associated recommendations for the replication of such initiative in other regions of the Commonwealth to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Commerce and Energy, the House Committee on Education, the House Committee on General Laws, the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than November 1, 2025.

Patron - Martinez

**HB411** Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic and intramural extracurricular programs. Prohibits public schools from joining an organization governing interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) receives home instruction; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress for two consecutive academic years; (iii) is in compliance with immunization requirements; (iv) is entitled to free tuition in a public school; (v) has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. The bill provides that no local school board is required to establish a policy to permit students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. The bill permits reasonable fees to be charged to students who receive home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, and equipment. The bill also requires each school board to adopt a policy to permit any student who receives home instruction and who resides in the local school division to participate in any intramural extracurricular program that is offered to public school students in the same grade level, subject to any reasonable conditions that the school board may establish for such participation such as conditions relating to fees, prerequisites, or space availability. Patron - Griffin

F HB475 Child care; background checks. Allows applicants for employment and applicants to serve as volunteers to work in certain child day centers, family day homes, and family day systems pending the results of a full background check, provided that (i) the applicant has received qualifying results on a fingerprint-based background check through the Central Criminal Records Exchange or the Federal Bureau of Investigation and (ii) the applicant is supervised at all times by a person who received a qualifying result on a full background check within the past five years.

Patron - Coyner

F HB495 Board of Education; Standards of Quality; Standards of School Safety. Requires the Board of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety and such other stakeholders as it deems appropriate, to establish pursuant to regulation the Standards of School Safety for the purpose of assessing school safety in each local school division in the Commonwealth and each school building therein based on such objective, quantifiable measures of safety as the Board deems appropriate. The bill requires the Board to incorporate compliance with the Standards of School Safety as a school and school division accountability measure for the purposes of the Standards of Accreditation.

Patron - Garrett

F HB497 Public secondary schools; naloxone procurement, possession, and administration; school board

employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal training program; guidelines and **requirements.** Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans and policies for each secondary school relating to opioid overdose prevention and reversal, including: (i) the procurement, storage, and maintenance of at least two unexpired doses of naloxone at each such secondary school; (ii) the possession and administration of naloxone by school board employees; (iii) the requirement that each faculty and staff member employed at each secondary school complete training and certification in the administration of naloxone; (iv) the development and implementation of an opioid overdose prevention and reversal training program to be completed by each secondary school student by grade 10; and (v) the provision of disciplinary immunity for a student who, on school grounds and during regular school hours, has been found in possession of naloxone or has administered naloxone in the event of a lifethreatening opioid overdose, provided that such student has completed the opioid overdose prevention and reversal training program and is 16 years of age or older.

The bill contains provisions requiring each local school board and each secondary school to implement the applicable provisions of the bill. The bill also modifies the individuals who are authorized to administer naloxone or other opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of naloxone by an organization authorized by DBHDS to provide such training and certification and to include any student enrolled at a public secondary school who has completed and received certification through the opioid overdose prevention and reversal training program and is 16 years of age or older. Current law limits such authorization to school nurses or school board employees contracted by a school board to provide school health services. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and for the Department of Education to submit such guidelines to the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by January 1, 2025. The bill requires such guidelines and policies to be implemented by each school board by the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

Patron - Cohen

F HB506 Teachers for Tomorrow Grant Program established. Requires the Department of Education, with such funds as may be appropriate for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, to establish and administer the Teachers for Tomorrow Grant Program whereby any school board may apply for a grant in an amount up to \$250,000, to be awarded on a competitive basis, with which to expose and attract high school students in the local school division to careers in teaching through curricula, courses, and hands-on experiential learning opportunities, which may include early opportunities to earn course credit at an institution of higher education or take and pass assessments required for licensure as a teacher in the Commonwealth. Patron - Cohen

F HB507 Careers in Law Enforcement Incentive Grant Program established. Requires the Department of Education, with such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, to establish and administer the Careers in Law Enforcement Incentive Grant Program whereby any school board may apply for a grant in an amount up to \$250,000, to be awarded on a competitive basis, with which to offer courses relating to criminal jus-

tice or law enforcement in at least one public high school in the local school division.

Patron - Cohen

F HB547 Internet Safety Advisory Council; school boards; Internet safety education program. Extends from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2025, the sunset date for the Internet Safety Advisory Council. The bill requires each school board to adopt policies requiring all elementary and secondary schools in the local school division to provide an Internet safety education program to each student in grades three through 12 at least once each school year.

Patron - Walker

HB618 Department of Education; review physical accessibility challenges in public schools; report. Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with each school board, the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities, and such other stakeholders as it deems appropriate, to review the extent to which (i) public elementary and secondary school buildings and grounds in the Commonwealth present physical accessibility challenges and barriers for individuals with disabilities, including challenges and barriers that may prevent such individuals from fully participating in school activities; (ii) such schools have begun or plan to address and eliminate such challenges and barriers; and (iii) state agencies can assist such schools to address and eliminate such challenges and barriers and fully comply with all applicable state and federal laws. The bill requires the Department of Education to report its findings and any associated recommendations to the Board, the Governor, the General Assembly, and each local school board no later than November 1, 2024.

Patron - Price

HB654 Board of Education: creation and maintenance of Virginia Parent Data Portal. Requires the Board of Education, on or before July 1, 2025, to create and maintain the Virginia Parent Data Portal that, among other things, (i) displays individualized student assessment data on all statesupported assessments, defined in the bill, (a) in a format that shows both current and cumulative data over time and (b) within 45 days of a state-supported assessment window closing for each state-supported assessment; (ii) provides (a) a description of the purpose of each state-supported assessment, (b) an explanation of how to interpret student data on each state-supported assessment, (c) a comparison of a student's performance on each state-supported assessment with the performance of the student's school, the student's school division, and the Commonwealth, and (d) guidance to support parents in understanding and addressing the specific academic needs of their students; (iii) is viewable from a mobile device in addition to a desktop computer; (iv) leverages existing school division user management to restrict user access to students and their parents; and (v) is compatible with each local school division's existing student information system to enable direct integration of state-supported assessment data into local school division parent portals.

The bill requires the Board and the Department of Education to develop professional development for principals and teachers in encouraging and supporting parents to engage with, interpret, and use student assessment data available through the Portal to support their student's learning and requires each school board to annually provide such professional development to principals and teachers.

Patron - Coyner

F HB659 Board of Education; open school enrollment policies; guidance on best practices. Requires the Board of Education to develop and make available to each

school board guidance on best practices relating to open school enrollment, including on several topics enumerated in the bill. *Patron - Ballard* 

F HB663 School Divisions of Innovation; regulatory exemptions; clock hours of instruction. Requires the Board of Education's regulations relating to the designation of School Divisions of Innovation to require the local school board in the local school division so designated to be exempted, pursuant to a plan of innovation, from the regulatory requirement for a student to successfully complete 140 clock hours of instruction in order to earn a standard or verified unit of credit. This bill was incorporated into HB 1477. Patron - Tata

HB667 Virginia Education Success Account **Program established.** Permits the parents of qualified students, defined in the bill, to apply for a one-year, renewable Virginia Education Success Account that consists of an amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the school division in which the qualified student resides, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid and any per pupil share of state special education funding for which the qualified student is eligible. The bill permits the parent of the qualified student to use the moneys in such account for certain qualified expenses of the qualified student, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks at a private elementary school or secondary school that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill also contains provisions relating to program and account administration by the Department of the Treasury and a third party that serves as program administrator pursuant to a contract with the Department of the Treasury.

Patron - Freitas

HB669 Dangers and victims of communism; recognition; Standards of Learning and programs of **instruction.** Requires the Governor to annually issue a proclamation setting the seventh day of November as Victims of Communism Day and requiring such day to be suitably observed in each public elementary and secondary school in the Commonwealth as a day honoring the approximately 100 million individuals who have fallen victim to communist regimes around the world and to be suitably observed by a public exercise in the Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor may designate in such proclamation. The bill also requires the Board of Education to include in the history and social science Standards of Learning in grades six through 12 and each school board to emphasize in its Standards-aligned program of instruction in grades six through 12 the study of the dangers of communism.

Patron - Freitas

HB670 Sage's Law; minor students experiencing gender incongruence; parental notification of certain expressions and requests and parental permission for certain plans required; parental care. Requires each public elementary or secondary school principal or his designee to (i) as soon as practicable, inform at least one parent of a minor student enrolled in such school if such minor (a) expresses to any individual who is employed in such school that such minor is experiencing gender incongruence, as defined in the bill, or (b) requests that any such employee participate in social affirmation of such minor's gender incongruence or the transition of such minor to a sex or gender different from the minor's biological sex while at school and (ii) request and receive permission from at least one parent of a minor student enrolled at such school prior to the implementation at such school of any plan concerning any gender incongruence experienced by such

minor, including any counseling of such minor at school. Any such plan shall include provision for parental participation to the extent requested by the parent. The bill also clarifies, in the definition of the term "abused or neglected child," that in no event shall referring to and raising the child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex, including related mental health or medical decisions, be considered abuse or neglect. *Patron - Freitas* 

HB686 School meals; availability at no cost to students. Provides that each school board shall require each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division to participate in the federal National School Lunch Program and the federal School Breakfast Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) as provided in relevant law, if applicable, and to make lunch and breakfast available to any student who requests such a meal at no cost to the student, unless the student's parent has provided written permission to the school board to withhold such a meal from the student. The bill also requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast and lunch served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast and one lunch per student per school day, and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. The bill contains provisions directing each school board to adopt policies and procedures aimed at maximizing access to federal funds available for the cost of participating in school breakfast and lunch programs and maximizing determinations of student eligibility for federal free or reduced cost meal reimbursements rates and participation in CEP. The bill also lowers the minimum identified student percentage for a school to be eligible to participate in CEP from 40 to 25 percent in accordance with the updated federal CEP regulations (7 C.F.R. §; 245.9(f)(3)(i)). The bill also requires the Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretary of Finance, to convene a stakeholder work group to study and make recommendations on ways to avoid or mitigate the impact of offering statewide free school breakfast and lunches on other statefunded programs and to submit a report on such findings and recommendations by January 15, 2025, to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education. The bill also repeals provisions of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program and to school meal debt that are rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill. Patron - Bennett-Parker

HB702 Public school funds; state share for basic aid; basic aid and supplemental basic aid payment limit. Removes the cap on an adjustment of the state share of aid provided to a school division, which limited such adjustment to the sum of the basic aid payment and any supplemental basic aid payment appropriated to such locality by the 2007 Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Webert

F HB706 Public secondary schools; public institutions of higher education; Internet safety education required; report. Requires the Board of Education to develop and approve objectives for Internet safety education at the middle and high school grade levels to be required of all students in grades six through 12, and to provide for the infusion of such objectives in the relevant Standards of Learning and in career and technical education. The bill also requires the Board, in consultation with the Internet Safety Advisory Council or another appropriate entity, to develop a model curriculum for such Internet safety education. The bill requires each public secondary school to provide instruction on Internet safety education in accordance with the educational objectives and model curriculum developed by the Board. The bill also requires each

public institution of higher education to provide instruction on the principles of Internet safety as a part of an existing general education course, a first-year orientation program, or another appropriate program or course and directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to encourage private institutions of higher education to provide instruction on the principles of Internet safety.

Patron - Webert

HB708 National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund; eligibility; incentive grant awards. Renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund as the National Board Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund, expands eligibility for incentive grant awards from such Fund pursuant to such Program from solely teachers who have obtained national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to (i) all public school staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification to cover certain costs of obtaining or maintaining such certification and (ii) all public school staff who have successfully obtained or maintained such certification. The bill also declares as eligible for an annual incentive grant award in the amount of \$7,500 all public school staff who have obtained or maintained such certification. Current law declares as eligible for an annual incentive grant award of \$5,000 in the first year and \$2,500 in each subsequent year all teachers who have obtained or maintained such certification.

Patron - Maldonado

F HB757 Board of Education; model policies on parental review of instructional material; local adoption. Requires the Board of Education to adopt and distribute to each school board model policies requiring any instructional material used in any public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth to be open for inspection during normal business hours by the parents of students enrolled in the relevant public school, regardless of the copyright status of any such material. The bill requires each school board to adopt policies that are consistent with such model policies adopted by the Board.

Patron - Walker

HB761 Public school funding; certain calculations; certain support services positions; programs for at**risk students.** Places several parameters on Standards of Quality funding calculations performed by the Department of Education, including (i) requiring the Department, when calculating the cost of salaries under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions that is provided as part of the state share of basic aid pursuant to the general appropriation act; (ii) requiring the Department, when estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for instructional and support positions under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff; and (iii) prohibiting the Department from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of rebenchmarking the direct aid to public education budget. The bill also amends Standard of Quality 2 by (a) including in the definition of "support services position" any central office clerical position that is not otherwise set forth in such definition and (b) establishing the At-Risk Program, defined in the bill as any state funding provided for programs of prevention, intervention, or remediation or pursuant to the at-risk add-on, the statewide voluntary pupil/teacher ratio and class size reduction program, or the Standards of Learning Algebra Readiness Initiative for the purpose of supporting programs for students who are educationally at risk. The bill requires (1) the determination of the amount of state funding for which a school division is eligible pursuant to such At-Risk Program to be based on the school division's identified student percentage, defined in the bill as the fraction, expressed as a percentage, that results from dividing the number of identified students enrolled in a school division by the total number of students enrolled in such school division weighted by the factor between 1.2 and 1.6 that is set forth in the general appropriation act, and (2) such funding to be distributed as follows: 60 percent on a flat per-student rate and 40 percent on a variable rate set out in the general appropriation act based on the concentration of poverty in the school division. *Patron - Delaney* 

F HB767 Public elementary and secondary schools; compulsory attendance policies and procedures; educational neglect defined. Revises the policies and procedures relating to addressing the nonattendance or nonenrollment of a child subject to compulsory education requirements by expanding the definition of "abused or neglected child" to include educational neglect and, therefore, requiring any teacher, attendance officer, or other person employed by such child's school, to report such neglect to the appropriate authority in accordance with pertinent law. The bill defines "educational neglect" as the failure or refusal to provide necessary education for a child who is subject to compulsory attendance in accordance with relevant law and is enrolled in a public school and has missed 10 percent or more of the academic

excused and unexcused absences, or (ii) failing or refusing to enroll a child in any school who is not otherwise exempt from school attendance if (a) such failure or refusal to enroll continues after the school notifies and institutes proceedings against the parent and (b) the time elapsed between the institution of proceedings and the continued noncompliance to date exceeds 10 percent of the academic year.

year, including by (i) causing or allowing the child to become chronically absent, defined as any student who has missed 10

percent or more of the academic year for any reason, including

Patron - O'Quinn

HB825 Public school funding; At-Risk Program established. Establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at risk, including prevention, intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to Standard 1 (§; 22.1-253.13:1); teacher recruitment programs and incentives; Dropout Prevention; community and school-based truancy officer programs; Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID); Project Discovery; programs for English language learners; the hiring of additional school counselors, testing coordinators, and licensed behavior analysts; and programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training and requires a portion of the state funding provided for such At-Risk Program to be allocated to school divisions on a flat per-student percentage rate set out in the general appropriation act and a portion of such funding to be allocated to school divisions on a variable rate set out in the general appropriation act based on the concentration of poverty in the school division.

Patron - Cousins

F HB828 Public school staffing ratios; teachers; English language learner students. Requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support divisionwide ratios of English language learner students in average daily membership to full-time equivalent teaching positions as follows: (i) for each English language learner identified as proficiency level one, one position per 25 students; (ii)

for each English language learner identified as proficiency level two, one position per 30 students; (iii) for each English language learner identified as proficiency level three, one position per 40 students; and (iv) for all other English language learners, one position per 50 students. Current law requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support one such teaching position per 50 English language learner students, regardless of the identified English proficiency level of such students.

Patron - Cousins

**HB853** Department of Education; uniform system of discipline for disruptive student behavior. Requires the Department of Education to establish, within its regulations governing student conduct, and each school board to adhere to, a uniform system of discipline for disruptive behavior and the removal of a student from a class that includes, among other things, (i) criteria for teachers to remove disruptive students from their classes, including a requirement for a teacher to remove a disruptive student from a class if the disruptive behavior is violent and a requirement to implement a threestrike system for nonviolent disruptive behavior whereby a teacher is required to remove a student from a class if the student repeats or continues the nonviolent disruptive behavior after the teacher provides two warnings to the student; (ii) a prohibition against holding a teacher liable for taking reasonable actions or utilizing reasonable methods to control a physically disruptive or violently disruptive student; and (iii) appropriate exceptions and modifications for children with disabilities based on the unique needs of each such student.

Patron - Obenshain

F HB929 Public high school students; civics benchmark assessment. Requires the Board of Education to develop and make available to each school board a civics benchmark assessment and requires each school board to require each public high school student enrolled in the local school division, except in the case of a public high school student whose individualized education program indicates otherwise, to take such assessment at least once during grades nine through 12. The bill requires the Board to annually report to the Governor and the General Assembly the state-level and school division-level student results on such benchmark assessment in order to aid decision-making regarding any policy changes that may be necessary to improve student learning in civics.

Patron - Shin

**HB931** Public high school students; economics education and financial literacy; benchmark assessment. Requires the Board of Education to develop and make available to each school board an economics education and financial literacy benchmark assessment and requires each school board to require each public high school student enrolled in the local school division, except in the case of a public high school student whose individualized education program indicates otherwise, to take such assessment at least once during grades nine through 12. The bill requires the Board to annually report to the Governor and the General Assembly the state-level and school division-level student results on such benchmark assessment in order to aid decision-making regarding any policy changes that may be necessary to improve student learning in the relevant subject matter areas. Patron - Shin

F HB936 Public school buildings; indoor air quality standards. Establishes several enumerated requirements for school boards to ensure indoor air quality in each public school building in the local school division, including (i) identifying a designated individual to oversee the establish-

ment of and adherence to a preventive maintenance schedule for the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system in each such building and the implementation of the use of general or local exhaust ventilation in areas of each such building where housekeeping and maintenance activities involve the use of equipment or products that could reasonably be expected to result in hazardous chemical or particulate exposures, among other things; (ii) controlling microbial and fungal contamination in each such building by promptly repairing water intrusion that can promote microbial or fungal growth; (iii) ensuring indoor air quality during renovation and remodeling or new construction in various ways; and (iv) keeping school building system maintenance records. The bill also requires the Department of Education to establish and administer a school board employee complaint and resolution process relating to indoor air quality in public school buildings. Patron - LeVere Bolling

F HB963 Department of Education; survey; excess food donation; best practices. Requires the Department of Education to survey each school board to determine (i) whether it has an existing policy or practice relating to the donation of excess food, as that term is defined in relevant law, from public elementary or secondary schools in the local school division to local food banks or shelters that serve meals or otherwise provide food to individuals in need and (ii) if so, how such policy or practice is implemented and the impact that it has on the local community. The bill requires the Department of Education, after completing such survey, to compile in a guidance document or Superintendent's Memo and distribute to each school board a list of resources and best practices on the subject of excess food donation.

F HB979 School board duties; appointment and employment of division superintendents; oversight. Requires each school board to appoint, employ, and provide oversight for a division superintendent and provides that nothing in the Code of Virginia or the regulations of the Board of Education shall be construed to prohibit the school board from providing such oversight.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

Patron - Earley

F HB984 Early childhood care and education; expansion of Head Start program availability at comprehensive community colleges; work group. Requires the Department of Education and the Virginia Community College System to convene a stakeholder work group to evaluate and provide recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by October 1, 2024, on expanding the availability of Head Start programs at comprehensive community colleges. Patron - Tran

HB1007 Department of Education; development and distribution of fentanyl education and awareness informational one-sheet; requirements. Requires the Department of Education to develop, in collaboration with the Department of Health, a fentanyl education and awareness informational one-sheet designed to promote awareness of the dangers associated with and the prevalence of fentanyl and provide essential information on fentanyl overdose prevention and preparedness among high school-age students. The bill requires the Department of Education to make available to each school board and post in a publicly accessible location on its website such informational one-sheet and to annually review and update such informational one-sheet in collaboration with the Department of Health to ensure its currency and accuracy. The bill requires each public high school or secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 to annually distribute such informational one-sheet to each student in grades nine through 12 within the first two weeks of the school year. This bill was incorporated into HB 1473.

Patron - Lovejoy

HB1009 High school graduation requirements; satisfaction of certain course credits with workforce credentials; development and maintenance of list of accepted credentials. Requires the Board of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Community College System, to develop and maintain a current, comprehensive, and uniform list of industry-recognized workforce credentials that students may take as a substitute for certain units of credit required for graduation, including such credentials that are accepted as substitutes for (i) laboratory science credits or (ii) electives credits. The bill provides that such list uniformly applies across each local school division and that each school board is required to accept as a substitute for a required credit any credential listed as an accepted substitute for such required credit. The bill also requires any College and Career Access Pathways Partnership entered into between a school board and a comprehensive community college to specify, consistent with the list, industry-recognized credentials that are accepted as substitutes for certain credits required for high school graduation. Finally, the bill requires the Board, in establishing graduation requirements, to permit any student to substitute (a) three standard units of credit and one verified credit in laboratory science or (b) credits for electives for completion of any industry-approved workforce credential that is included on the list as an accepted substitute for such credits. This bill was incorporated into HB 1345.

Patron - Lovejoy

F HB1020 High school family life education curricula; programs on crime of sexual extortion. Requires any high school family life education curriculum offered by a local school division to incorporate age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention of the crime of sexual extortion.

Patron - Wilt

HB1046 School boards; parental notification of certain threats, behavior, and unlawful acts; panic **alarms.** Requires, within four hours of receiving notification of (i) a preliminary determination by the threat assessment team that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self or others; (ii) threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the school; or (iii) unlawful acts committed on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity that involve the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, homicide, criminal sexual assault, or trespassing, each division superintendent to notify the parent of each student enrolled in the relevant school of such threat, threatening or aberrant behavior, or unlawful act. The bill requires each school board to equip each public elementary and secondary school building in the local school division with at least one panic alarm that adheres to nationally recognized industry standards, including the standards of the National Fire Protection Association and Underwriters Laboratories, and is installed by a licensed and qualified professional. The bill defines "panic alarm" as a silent security system by which the user manually activates a device that sends a non-audible signal to the local law-enforcement agency that indicates a school security emergency, including a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation, that requires immediate response and assistance from such agency.

Patron - Batten

F HB1048 School-connected overdoses; policies relating to parental notification and response; require-

ments. Requires each division superintendent or his designee to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose, defined as any verified overdose that occurs on school premises during or after regular school hours or during school-sanctioned activities whether on or off school premises, within 24 hours of learning of the overdose and to include in such notification as much information as is known about the circumstances surrounding the overdose. The bill requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines for school-connected overdose response and parental notification policies, including (a) a model action plan for each school board to follow in responding to the overdose, including communicating and coordinating with the Department of Education and the local law-enforcement liaison or local law-enforcement agency that employs the school resource officers for such school division, and (b) criteria for issuing the parental notification to ensure sensitivity to the privacy interests of any affected individuals.

Patron - Batten

HB1079 College partnership laboratory schools; Early College Model Program established. Establishes the Early College Model Program whereby any public institution of higher education may establish a college partnership laboratory school in which each enrolled high school student earns, at no cost to the student, an associate degree or a bachelor's degree concurrently with a high school diploma. Under the bill, provisions of existing law relating to the establishment of college partnership laboratory schools apply to such schools established pursuant to the Program but with certain conditions and exceptions, including (i) requiring a college partnership laboratory school established pursuant to the Program to be administered and governed by the Department of Education and (ii) prohibiting any enrolled student from being charged tuition for the college courses in which the student is dually enrolled and requiring the college partnership laboratory school to receive the statewide average share of Standards of Quality per pupil state funding, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid, for each student enrolled in such school to support the instruction of each such student in the fall and spring semesters.

Patron - Coyner

## F HB1081 Public schools; instructional time.

Makes several changes relating to student instructional time in public elementary and secondary schools, including (i) defining "instructional hour" for the purpose of minimum annual instructional hour requirements; (ii) establishing several provisions and requirements relating to the enrollment of part-time students in public elementary and secondary schools; (iii) requiring the Board of Education to adopt rules for approving alternative programs for which course credit may be granted for the purpose of satisfying high school graduation requirements to any student who completes such course and masters the course content by demonstrating at least 80 percent of the competencies required by course standards, regardless of time, place, or pace; and (iv) permitting school boards that govern school divisions of innovation to adopt instructional time models that allow students to personalize the pace of learning and accelerate their learning based on the mastery of course content by demonstrating at least 80 percent of the competencies required by course standards, regardless of time, place, or pace. This bill was incorporated into HB 1477.

Patron - Coyner

F HB1094 Department of Education; school boards; student online activity; data collection, monitoring, and restrictions. Requires the Department of Education to establish, and each school board to adhere to, (i) requirements relating to the collection of data on student online activity and

the monitoring of student online activity by school boards and school board employees, including requirements to disclose to the parents of enrolled students what student online activity is tracked and monitored on school or personal devices on school property and what data on student online activity is being collected on school or personal devices and (ii) a requirement to set the most restrictive age-appropriate limits on student access to social media platforms, YouTube and other video platforms, and search engines and other search features on school devices and permit the parents of each enrolled student to waive such limits for their child by submitting a written request to the school division. The bill also requires the Department to establish and distribute to each school board a template that each such school board is required to use to (a) make certain disclosures to the parents of enrolled students relating to student online activity tracking or monitoring and the collection of data on such activity and (b) permit the parents of each enrolled student to opt their child out of any such tracking, monitoring, or collection.

Patron - Oates

HB1120 K-12 schools and institutions of higher education; student participation in women's sports; civil cause of action. Requires each interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public school, or any other school that is a member of the Virginia High School League, or by a public institution of higher education to be expressly designated as one of the following based on the biological sex of the students who participate on the team or in the sport: (i) males, men, or boys; (ii) females, women, or girls; or (iii) coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males and females. The bill prohibits any such team or sport that is expressly designated for females from being open to students whose biological sex is male. The bill also provides that in the event of a dispute as to the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on any interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport that is expressly designated for males or females, such student may establish biological sex by presenting to the school or institution a signed physician's statement that attests to such student's biological sex based solely on (a) the student's internal and external reproductive anatomy; (b) the student's normal endogenously produced levels of testosterone; and (c) an analysis of the student's genetic makeup.

The bill prohibits any government entity, licensing or accrediting organization, or athletic association or organization from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation, or taking any other adverse action against any such school or institution of higher education based on a violation of the provisions of the bill and creates a cause of action for any school or institution of higher education that suffers harm as a result of a violation of the bill. Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for any student who suffers harm as a result of a knowing violation of a provision of the bill by a school or institution or as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a school, institution, athletic association, or organization.

Patron - Oates

F HB1148 School boards; employment of counsel. Clarifies that any school board, whether elected or appointed, may employ the attorney for the Commonwealth or other counsel to advise it concerning any legal matter or to represent it, any member thereof, or any school official in any legal proceeding to which the school board, member, or official may be a party when such proceeding is instituted by or against it or against the member or official by virtue of his actions in connection with his duties as such member or official.

Patron - Cordoza

HB1152 Teacher compensation; at or above national average; various annual salary adjustments. Requires that public school teachers be compensated at a rate that is at or above the national average for each step or level on a years of experience-based pay scale. Under current law, compensation at such rate is aspirational, and such aspirational rate is silent on compensation variations based on experience. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. The bill also provides that (i) effective for the 2024-2025 school year, each teacher in each school division, Academic Year Governor's School, and Regional Alternative Education Program shall be awarded a cost-of-living compensation adjustment in an amount or percentage to be determined in the general appropriation act and (ii) effective beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, state funding shall be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act in a sum sufficient to fund a 12 percent annual increase for teacher salaries in each school division, Academic Year Governor's School, and Regional Alternative Education Program.

Patron - Cordoza

Patron - Scott, P.A.

HB1164 Education Excellence for All Program established. Permits the parents of qualified students, defined in the bill, to apply for a one-year, renewable Education Excellence for All Savings Account, defined in the bill, that consists of an amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the school division in which the qualified student resides, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid and any per pupil share of state special education funding for which the qualified student is eligible. The bill permits the parent of the qualified student to use the moneys in such account for certain qualified expenses of the qualified student, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks at a private elementary school or secondary school that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill also contains provisions relating to program and account administration by the Department of the Treasury and a third party that serves as program administrator pursuant to a contract with the Department.

F HB1212 Standards of Learning assessments; virtual assessment administration; students with Individualized Education Programs; conditions and availability.

alized Education Programs; conditions and availability. Requires the Board of Education to offer virtual assessment administration as an alternative method of Standards of Learning assessment administration for any student with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) who meets the criteria established by the Board to demonstrate achievement of the Standards of Learning. The bill provides that such virtual assessment administration shall be available at the option of such student and such student's parent subject to the final determination of such student's IEP team as to the virtual setting and conditions appropriate for such student. The bill further permits the Board to adopt policies providing for such virtual assessment administration as an alternative for any student who does not receive special education or does not have an IEP, provided that such alternative is equally available to any such student subject to through-year growth assessment requirements. Finally, the bill requires the Board to develop guidance to implement the provisions of the bill by January 1, 2025.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1216 Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program. Establishes the Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program (the Program) to provide matching funds to employers in order to incentivize employers to contribute to

the child care costs of their employees. The Program shall be administered by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (the Foundation). To participate in the Program, an employer shall agree to make child care contributions to the eligible mixed-delivery provider on behalf of the employee and shall provide any other information deemed necessary by the Foundation. To the extent funds are available, the Foundation shall issue a state match directly to such eligible mixed-delivery provider or to a third-party administrator. Program funds shall be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; however, the Foundation is encouraged to prioritize awards to small businesses.

Education

Patron - McClure

F HB1218 Public schools; guidelines and policies regarding school-connected overdoses; parental notification; response and prevention. Directs the Board of Education to develop and distribute to each local school board guidelines on policies and procedures relating to school-connected overdose response and prevention. The bill requires each school board to notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose within 24 hours of such overdose occurring and permits each school board to provide such notification through telephone, email, or other methods of notification, provided that such method of notification is consistent with the guidelines developed by the Board. Finally, the bill directs each school board to fully implement the provisions of the bill by the 2024-2025 school year.

Patron - Higgins

F HB1219 School boards; school resource officers; employment; participation in development and review of school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans. Requires each school board to (i) seek, to the maximum extent practicable, to employ school resource officers in each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division in accordance with the memorandum of understanding entered into with the local lawenforcement agency and (ii) include school resource officers employed in the local school division in the development and annual review of its written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan.

Patron - Higgins

HB1229 Elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education; student participation in sports; access to restrooms and changing rooms. Requires each interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public school, or any other school that is a member of the Virginia High School League, or by a public institution of higher education to be expressly designated as one of the following based on biological sex: (i) males, men, or boys; (ii) females, women, or girls; or (iii) coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males, men, or boys and females, women, or girls. The bill prohibits any such team or sport that is expressly designated for females, women, or girls from being open to students whose biological sex is male. The bill creates a civil cause of action for any student that suffers harm as a result of a knowing violation of a provision of the bill by a school or institution or as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a school, institution, athletic association, or organization. The bill also limits access to any restroom or changing room that is capable of being accessed by more than one individual at one time in any public elementary or secondary school building or building owned or controlled by any public institution of higher education exclusively to individuals of the same biological sex.

Patron - Higgins

**HB1230** Certain school board employees; possession of firearms on school property. Permits any school board to authorize any school board employee to possess a firearm on school property, in addition to those individuals expressly authorized to possess such a firearm as otherwise provided in statute, provided that any school board employee so authorized by the school board receives advanced firearms training in accordance with criteria established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop and distribute to each local school board such criteria no later than August 1, 2024.

Patron - Zehr

HB1260 Public elementary and secondary school students; parents' bill of rights established. Establishes, consistent with § 1-240.1 of the Code of Virginia, several enumerated rights for the parents of each public elementary or secondary school student in the Commonwealth, including the right to review any books, curricula, or instructional materials being taught or made available to their child and the right to be notified of any situation that directly affects their child's safety at school.

Patron - Higgins

HB1283 Students with individualized education programs or Section 504 Plans; emergency protocol and guide. Requires a protocol for individualized accommodations and supports during emergency situations at school and a step-by-step guide on how to execute such protocol to be included in each individualized education program implemented for a public school student with a disability in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and in each Section 504 Plan implemented for a public school student in accordance with § 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and provided to all of such student's teachers for implementation.

Patron - Willett

HB1296 Virginia Education Success Account Program established. Establishes the Virginia Education Success Account Program whereby the parents of qualified students, defined in the bill, who reside in school divisions in which the school board has, by majority vote, affirmed its participation in the program, may apply for a one-year, renewable Virginia Education Success Account that consists of an amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the school division in which the qualified student resides, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid and any per pupil share of state special education funding for which the qualified student is eligible. The bill permits the parent of the qualified student to use the moneys in such account for certain qualified expenses of the qualified student, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks at a private elementary school or secondary school that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill also contains provisions relating to program and account administration by the Department of the Treasury and a third party that serves as program administrator pursuant to a contract with the Department of the Treasury.

Patron - Griffin

HB1326 Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program established; incorporation into National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund. Establishes the Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program, incorporates such program into the existing National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund and

renames such fund as the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program Fund, and permits such fund to be used to award incentive grants to school psychologists employed in the public schools of the Commonwealth obtaining national certification from the National Association of School Psychologists consisting of an initial state-funded award of \$5,000 and a subsequent award of \$2,500 each year for the life of the certificate.

Patron - Taylor

112

HB1353 Establishment of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Commission; report. Establishes the 16-member Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Commission as an advisory commission in the executive branch of state government for the purpose of advising the Board of Education on the implementation of educational standards regarding Asian or Asian American and Pacific Islander contributions, culture, history, heritage, and language. The bill requires annual reports on the Commission's interim activities and work to the Governor and General Assembly and has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Martinez

HB1383 Public schools; transfer and management of scholastic records; disclosure of information in court notices; transfer of disciplinary records; require**ments.** Requires the superintendent of any school division to, upon receiving notification of the disposition in a delinquency case concerning a student who is not enrolled in such school division, forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division where such student is enrolled or where such student intends to enroll, as evidenced by the receipt of a request from the other school division for such student's scholastic records. Current law only permits the superintendent of any such school division to forward such notification to the superintendent of the school division in which the student is currently enrolled. The bill also requires a copy of the complete student disciplinary records of any student transferring from one school division to another to be transferred to the school division to which such student is transferring, upon request from such school division.

Patron - Milde

HB1384 School boards; teachers; terms of employment; employment verification; requirement. Requires each school board to provide written verification of employment within 10 days of receipt of any request for employment verification from a former employee of the school board.

Patron - Milde

HB1516 Health education and family life education; certain videos and animations relating to human development inside the uterus. Requires health education instruction to include an oral, written, or digital lesson, lecture, or presentation about human biology relating to pregnancy and human development inside the uterus, including (i) a high-definition ultrasound video, at least three minutes in duration, showing the development of the brain, heart, sex organs, and other vital organs in early fetal development and (ii) a highquality, computer-generated rendering or animation showing the process of fertilization and every stage of human development inside the uterus, noting significant markers in cell growth and organ development for each significant marker of pregnancy until birth. The bill requires any family life education curriculum or similar curriculum offered by a local school division that includes any oral, written, or digital lesson, lecture, or presentation about sexual activity and pregnancy in the context of student health or healthy relationships to also include such a video and rendering or animation.

Patron - Earley

F HB1528 Celeste's Law; school boards; bathroom check policy required. Requires each school board to develop and adopt a policy that requires an employee in each public elementary and secondary school, including any school resource officer or any school security officer employed in such school, to check no less frequently than once every 30 minutes during normal school hours each restroom facility in each such building to ensure the safety of each student present in such facility.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1540 The Virginia African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous Education Advisory Board; establishment.

Patron - Shin

SB27 Public School Trades Incentive Fund and **Program; established.** Establishes the Public School Trades Incentive Fund (the Fund) and the Public School Trades Incentive Program (the Program) for the purpose of providing grants on a competitive basis from the Fund to any school board that seeks to (i) restore high school programs that teach students skilled trades that lead to earning industry-recognized certifications or credentials or (ii) create or restore middle school programs that encourage and recruit students to participate in high school programs that teach students skilled trades that lead to earning industry-recognized certifications or credentials. The bill requires the Department of Education to administer the Program and to establish such rules and procedures relating to applications and awards as it deems appropriate, provided that the Department considers and gives appropriate weight to certain criteria for grantees. The bill requires any grantee to use Program funds only for equipment.

Patron - Stanley

F SB28 School boards; powers and duties; policies regarding cell phones and other handheld communication devices. Permits each school board to develop and implement a policy to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and other handheld communication devices during regular school hours.

Patron - Stanley

**SB37** Sage's Law; minor students experiencing gender incongruence; parental notification of certain expressions and requests and parental permission for certain plans required; parental care. Requires each public elementary or secondary school principal or his designee to (i) as soon as practicable, inform at least one parent of a minor student enrolled in such school if such minor (a) expresses to any individual who is employed in such school that such minor is experiencing gender incongruence, as defined in the bill, or (b) requests that any such employee participate in social affirmation of such minor's gender incongruence or the transition of such minor to a sex or gender different from the minor's biological sex while at school and (ii) request and receive permission from at least one parent of a minor student enrolled at such school prior to the implementation at such school of any plan concerning any gender incongruence experienced by such minor, including any counseling of such minor at school. Any such plan shall include provision for parental participation to the extent requested by the parent. The bill also clarifies, in the definition of the term "abused or neglected child," that in no event shall referring to and raising the child in a manner consistent with the child's biological sex, including related mental health or medical decisions, be considered abuse or neglect.

Patron - McGuire

SB68 Elementary and secondary schools; athletics; participation in female sports; civil cause of action. Requires each public elementary or secondary school and each private elementary or secondary school that competes in sponsored athletic events against such public schools to designate all interscholastic athletic teams and intramural athletic teams sponsored by such school based on biological sex as follows: (i) for "males," "men," or "boys"; (ii) for "females," "women," or "girls"; or (iii) as "coed" or "mixed" if such team is open to participation by (a) "males," "men," or "boys" and (b) "females," "women," or "girls." The bill prohibits any student whose biological sex is male and who has not physically transitioned to female prior to puberty from participating on any school athletic team or squad designated for "females, "women," or "girls." Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for students and schools that suffer harm as a result of a violation of the provisions of the bill, provided that such action is initiated within two years of the harm occurring.

SB75 Early childhood care and education; publicly funded providers; exemption from licensure for certain child day programs. Excepts military child care fee assistance or any child care subsidy paid by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States from the federal funds that would otherwise render a child day program as a "publicly funded provider," as that term is defined and used in relevant law relating to early childhood care and education. The bill also exempts from licensure by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day program that (i) serves only dependent children of military personnel and (ii) (a) is located on a military base or federal property or (b) is certified as a family child care provider by a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides that any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or its agent, including an installation commander of a military base on which a child day program is located, may assume responsibility for approving or determining which children may be served by the program that is so exempted from licensure. This bill was incorporated into SB 702.

Patron - Durant

SB76 Child day centers operated by religious institutions; exemption from licensure by Superintendent of Public Instruction. Exempts fully from the statutory requirement to be licensed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any child day center that is operated or conducted under the auspices of a religious institution that (i) has tax exempt status as a nonprofit religious institution in accordance with § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or (ii) owns and exclusively occupies real property that is exempt from local taxation. Under current law, such child day centers are exempt from licensure but are still subject to several enumerated requirements. The bill, however, preserves the requirement for such child day centers to conduct background checks for employees and volunteers and prohibits the employment or service at such child day centers of any such individual who has been convicted of any barrier crime as defined in relevant law or who is the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect.

Patron - Durant

F **SB83** Home instruction; parents; criteria. Removes the four enumerated criteria—holding a high school diploma, being a teacher of qualifications prescribed by the Board of Education, providing the child with a program of

study or curriculum that may be delivered through a correspondence course or distance learning program or in any other manner, or providing evidence of the ability to provide an adequate education for the child—by which a parent is permitted to provide home instruction for his school-age child. The bill does not affect the requirement for such a parent to annually provide a description of the home instruction curriculum before the school year begins and evidence of the child's academic progress after the school year ends.

Patron - McGuire

SB84 Students who receive home instruction; participation in interscholastic programs. Prohibits public schools from joining an organization governing interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) receives home instruction; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress for two consecutive academic years; (iii) is in compliance with immunization requirements; (iv) is entitled to free tuition in a public school; (v) has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. The bill provides that no local school board is required to establish a policy to permit students who receive home instruction to participate in interscholastic programs. The bill permits reasonable fees to be charged to students who receive home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, and equipment. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029. Patron - McGuire

F SB127 Public school staffing ratios; school counselors; specialized student support positions. Decreases from one to 325 to one to 250 the ratio of full-time equivalent school counselors required to be employed by each local school board per student enrolled in the local school division. The bill also increases the number of specialized student support positions required to be employed by each local school board from at least three to at least four such positions per 1,000 students in the local school division. Such specialized student support positions include school social workers, school psychologists, school nurses, licensed behavior analysts, licensed assistant behavior analysts, and other licensed health and behavioral positions. This bill was incorporated into SB 105.

Patron - VanValkenburg

**SB128** Public school funding; certain calculations. Places several parameters on Standards of Quality funding calculations performed by the Department of Education, including (i) requiring the Department, when calculating the cost of salaries under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions that is provided as part of the state share of basic aid pursuant to the general appropriation act; (ii) requiring the Department, when estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for instructional and support positions under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff; (iii) prohibiting the Department from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of rebenchmarking the direct aid to public education budget; and

(iv) requiring the Department to utilize a three-year average of the most recently available data to calculate the composite index of local ability-to-pay for each school division. This bill was incorporated into SB 105.

Patron - VanValkenburg

F SB139 Board of Education; high school graduation; alternative pathways to the advanced studies diploma and associated diploma seals. Directs the Board of Education to establish two pathways to the advanced studies high school diploma, and associated diploma seals for students who successfully follow and demonstrate excellence on such pathways: one pathway that requires advanced coursework in a career and technical education field but does not require coursework in world language and another pathway that requires advanced coursework in world language but does not require coursework in a career and technical education field. The bill requires such pathways and associated diploma seals to become effective for the 2025–2026 school year and to be available to any student, regardless of the school year during which the student enters ninth grade.

Patron - Carroll Foy

SB161 Board of Education; high school graduation; alternative pathway to advanced studies diploma and associated diploma seal; career and technical education. Directs the Board of Education to establish an alternative pathway to the advanced studies high school diploma and an associated diploma seal for students who successfully follow and demonstrate excellence on such pathway, that requires advanced coursework in a career and technical education field but does not require coursework in laboratory science. Under current law, one computer science course credit may count as one of the laboratory science course credits required for an advanced studies high school diploma but there is no pathway to an advanced studies diploma that does not require any laboratory science coursework. The bill requires such pathway and associated diploma seal to become effective for the 2025-2026 school year and to be available to any student, regardless of the school year during which the student enters ninth grade. Patron - McGuire

F SB187 Department of Education; plan to revise special education staffing requirements; report. Directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and any other individuals with expertise in special education as the Department of Education deems appropriate, to develop a plan for revised special education staffing requirements that addresses staffing needs of individual school divisions and the needs of students who receive special education and aims to improve special education teacher recruitment and retention. The bill requires the Department of Education to submit a report on such plan to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2024. This bill was incorporated into SB 105. Patron - Subramanyam

F SB227 Public school funding; certain calculations; certain support services positions; programs for atrisk students. Places several parameters on Standards of Quality funding calculations performed by the Department of Education, including (i) requiring the Department, when calculating the cost of salaries under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include facilities staff and transportation staff salaries in the calculation of any cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions that is provided as part of the state share of basic aid pursuant to the general appropriation act; (ii) requiring the Department, when estimating the cost of any compensation supplement for

instructional and support positions under the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include and estimate the cost of such a compensation supplement for facilities staff; (iii) prohibiting the Department from applying any cap on inflation rate adjustments to non-personal cost categories during the biennial process of rebenchmarking the direct aid to public education budget; and (iv) requiring the Department to utilize a three-year average of the most recently available data to calculate the composite index of local ability-to-pay for each school division. The bill also amends Standard of Quality 2 by (a) including in the definition of "support services position" any central office clerical position that is not otherwise set forth in such definition, (b) requiring a per-pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on to be provided for English language learner and special education students, (c) requiring, in addition to the positions supported by basic aid, state funding, pursuant to the general appropriation act, to be provided to cover the actual average school division cost to educate children with disabilities, and (d) establishing the At-Risk Program, defined in the bill as any state funding provided for programs of prevention, intervention, or remediation or pursuant to the at-risk add-on for the purpose of supporting programs for students who are educationally at risk. The bill requires (1) the determination of the amount of state funding for which a school division is eligible pursuant to such At-Risk Program to be based on the school division's identified student percentage, defined in the bill as the fraction, expressed as a percentage, that results from dividing the number of identified students enrolled in a school division by the total number of students enrolled in such school division, weighted by the factor of 1.5, and then adjusted by the addition of a percentage that corrects for undercounting English language learner students as identified students and (2) such funding to be distributed as follows: 60 percent on a flat per-student rate and 40 percent on a variable rate set out in the general appropriation act based on the concentration of poverty in the school division. This bill was incorporated into SB 105. Patron - Hashmi

F SB228 Public school funding; English language learner students and children with disabilities. Requires, in addition to the positions supported by basic aid, state funding, pursuant to the general appropriation act, to be provided to cover (i) the actual average school division cost to educate children with disabilities and (ii) a per-pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on for English language learner and special education students. This bill was incorporated into SB 105.

Patron - Hashmi

SB264 Department of Education; school boards; student online activity; data collection, monitoring, and restrictions. Requires the Department of Education to establish reporting expectations for school divisions that collect student online activity data and provides that if no school within a school division does so, the school board, upon submission of written documentation to the Department stating that no school within the school division collects student online activity data, shall be deemed to have satisfied such reporting expectations. The reporting expectations include: (i) making certain disclosures to parents, including what online activity is being tracked, monitored, and collected when using school devices on school property and what types of student online activity or online activity data would create an alert; (ii) including in the school division's acceptable use policy for the Internet that student online activity is being tracked and data collected; (iii) providing, to the extent available for the school division, parents the ability to access any collected student online activity data; (iv) notifying the parent of a student for whom an alert is created or an action taken on such student's online activity or associated data before the student is notified,

except as provided in the bill; (v) prohibiting the inclusion of student online activity data in a student's permanent record except in the most severe cases, as defined, set forth, and made publicly available by the Department. The bill requires the Department to create and distribute to each school board (a) a template for making the required parental disclosures and (b) best practices for deleting student online activity data.

Patron - Craig

F SB380 School board policies; alternative educational opportunities. Requires each school board to create a process allowing a qualified student, as defined in the bill, to access funding set aside for alternative educational opportunities, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that the school boards must also determine if an alternative educational program qualifies as a means to earn class credit or satisfy a graduation requirement.

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB385 Study; Board of Education; work group on the use of artificial intelligence technology in education; report. Requires the Board of Education, in collaboration with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on guidelines for the use and integration of AI technology in education in public elementary and secondary schools and public institutions of higher education. The bill requires the work group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Department of Education, the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Pekarsky

SB387 Public elementary and secondary schools; policies and requirements relating to naloxone. Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans and policies for each public elementary and secondary school relating to opioid overdose prevention and reversal, including (i) the procurement, storage, and maintenance of at least two unexpired doses of naloxone at each such school; (ii) the possession and administration of naloxone by school board employees; and (iii) providing, pursuant to the provisions of the bill, immunity from any disciplinary action or civil or criminal liability to any employee of a public elementary or secondary school who, regardless of whether such employee was trained and certified in the administration of naloxone, in good faith administers naloxone for opioid overdose reversal to any individual who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid overdose, except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

The bill modifies the list of individuals who are authorized to administer naloxone or other opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of naloxone by an organization authorized by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to provide such training and certification. Current law limits such authorization to school nurses or school board employees contracted by a school board to provide school health services.

Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and directs the Department of Education to submit such guidelines to relevant committees of the General Assembly by January 1, 2025. The bill requires such guidelines and policies to be implemented by each school board by the beginning of the

2026–2027 school year. This bill was incorporated into SB 726.

Patron - Pekarsky

F SB407 Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact.

Enters the Commonwealth into the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact, the purpose of which is to facilitate the mobility of teachers across the member states, with the goal of supporting teachers through a new pathway to licensure. The Compact is presently in effect, as it has reached the enactment threshold of 10 state members.

Patron - Durant

SB421 Foster Child Scholarship Program; established. Establishes the Foster Child Scholarship Program (the Program), to be administered by the Department of Education, for the purpose of providing school-age children in foster care the option to attend the participating public or private school of their caregiver's choice. The bill provides that any student is eligible to participate in the Program who (i) is a foster child, (ii) resides in a school division in the Commonwealth, (iii) is subject to compulsory attendance requirements, and (iv) is entering kindergarten or was eligible to enroll at a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth during the semester immediately preceding the semester or term for which the child's parent initially applies for the Program or who is entering kindergarten. The bill provides that the caregiver of any eligible student may apply for the Program and, upon approval of such application, receive an annual scholarship, through quarterly disbursements into such eligible student's Foster Child Scholarship Account (FCSA), for the purposes of paying for education-related expenses, as set forth in the bill, at the participating school of the caregiver's choice in which the eligible student enrolls under the Program. The bill contains provisions relating to (a) the Department's powers and duties in administering the Program, including establishing and implementing policies and procedures for reviewing and approving applications, conducting public awareness campaigns, establishing procedures for audit and review of FCSAs and of participating schools, and establishing procedures and requirements for the management of and disbursing of funds into FCSAs; (b) the duties of participating schools in the Program relating to the acceptance of eligible students participating in the Program; (c) requirements for the division superintendent of each school division to report each year to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to report each year to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, on data relating to participation in the Program by eligible students and participating schools; and (d) the conditions and limitations to which caregivers of eligible students must agree in order to participate in the Program.

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB434 Public schools; instructional time.

Makes several changes relating to student instructional time in public elementary and secondary schools, including (i) defining "instructional hour" for the purpose of minimum annual instructional hour requirements; (ii) establishing several provisions and requirements relating to the enrollment of part-time students in public elementary and secondary schools; (iii) requiring the Board of Education to adopt rules for approving alternative programs for which course credit may be granted for the purpose of satisfying high school graduation requirements to any student who completes such course and masters the course content by demonstrating at least 80 percent of the competencies required by course standards, regardless of time, place, or pace; and (iv) permitting school boards that govern school divisions of innovation to adopt instructional time mod-

els that allow students to personalize the pace of learning and accelerate their learning based on the mastery of course content by demonstrating at least 80 percent of the competencies required by course standards, regardless of time, place, or pace. *Patron - Suetterlein* 

SB533 Education Excellence for All Program established. Permits the parents of qualified students, defined in the bill, to apply for a one-year, renewable Education Excellence for All Savings Account, defined in the bill, that consists of an amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the school division in which the qualified student resides, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid and any per pupil share of state special education funding for which the qualified student is eligible. The bill permits the parent of the qualified student to use the moneys in such account for certain qualified expenses of the qualified student, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks at a private elementary school or secondary school that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill also contains provisions relating to

program and account administration by the Department of the

Treasury and a third party that serves as program administrator

pursuant to a contract with the Department.

Patron - Jordan

F SB552 Public schools; open school enrollment policies and guidance. Requires the Board of Education to develop and make available to each school board by August 1, 2024, model policies and guidance relating to open school enrollment detailing certain conditions, limitations, and procedures relating to the open enrollment process and nonresident students, defined as any student who is enrolled in a school within such student's school division but outside of the attendance area in which he resides pursuant to an open enrollment policy. The bill requires each school board to establish and implement policies to provide for open enrollment in accordance with the model policies and guidelines developed by the Board. Current law permits, but does not require, each school board to establish and implement policies providing for open enrollment.

Patron - Peake

SB558 School choice educational savings accounts. Permits the parents of qualified students to apply to the Department of Education for a renewable school choice education savings account, consisting of a monetary amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the resident school division in which the qualified student resides, from which the parent of such student may use the funds to make education-related qualifying expenditures, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks and instructional materials, at (i) a private elementary or secondary school located in the Commonwealth, (ii) certain nonpublic online learning programs, and (iii) institutions of higher education and requires the Department of Education to establish certain policies, procedures, and processes relating to the savings accounts. The bill defines the term "qualified student" to provide for the annual expansion of the students who are eligible to receive savings accounts, from including for the 2024–2025 school year only students who meet a limited set of criteria and gradually expanding to declare eligible for the 2028–2029 school year and each year thereafter any student who (a) is deemed to reside in a school division in the Commonwealth, (b) for whom compulsory attendance is required pursuant to relevant law, (c) is eligible to enroll in a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth, and (d) is entering kindergarten or was

enrolled at and attended a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth during the two semesters immediately preceding the semester for which the child's parent initially applies for a savings account. The bill contains several provisions relating to the terms and conditions to which the parent of any qualified student is required to agree to receive a savings account, requirements relating to renewal of savings accounts and the management of funds remaining when accounts are closed or become inactive, and the consequences of noncompliance with the terms and conditions. The bill also provides that the Department of Education shall be responsible for the administration of the savings accounts, including (1) making quarterly disbursements in the appropriate amount to each savings account and managing retained savings; (2) developing informational materials for interested parents relating to the savings accounts; and (3) developing policies and procedures relating to the administration and management of the savings accounts, the application process, quarterly reviews and annual audits of each savings account, and addressing incidents of intentional and substantial misrepresentation, fraud, or noncompliance in relation to expenditures from savings accounts.

Patron - DeSteph

SB609 Public school funding; At-Risk Program established. Establishes the At-Risk Program, defined in the bill as any state funding provided for programs of prevention, intervention, or remediation or pursuant to the at-risk add-on for the purpose of supporting programs for students who are educationally at risk. The bill requires (i) the determination of the amount of state funding for which a school division is eligible pursuant to the At-Risk Program to be based on the school division's identified student percentage, defined in the bill as the fraction, expressed as a percentage, that results from dividing the number of identified students enrolled in a school division by the total number of students enrolled in such school division, weighted by the factor of 1.5, and then adjusted by the addition of a percentage that corrects for undercounting English language learner students as identified students and (ii) such funding to be distributed as follows: 60 percent on a flat per-student rate and 40 percent on a variable rate set out in the general appropriation act based on the concentration of poverty in the school division. The bill provides that any school division that would have received more state funds for the at-risk add-on and programs of prevention, intervention, or remediation than it would pursuant to the consolidation of such state funding sources under the At-Risk Program established in the bill shall be held harmless and shall not have its share of such state funding reduced, effective for the 2024-2025 school year through the 2026–2027 school year. This bill was incorporated into SB 105.

Patron - Aird

**SB723** K-12 schools and institutions of higher education; student participation in women's sports; civil cause of action. Requires each interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public school, or any other school that is a member of the Virginia High School League, or by a public institution of higher education to be expressly designated as one of the following based on the biological sex of the students who participate on the team or in the sport: (i) males, men, or boys; (ii) females, women, or girls; or (iii) coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males and females. The bill prohibits any such team or sport that is expressly designated for females from being open to students whose biological sex is male. The bill also provides that in the event of a dispute as to the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on any interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport that is expressly designated for males or females, such

student may establish biological sex by presenting to the school or institution a signed physician's statement that attests to such student's biological sex based solely on (a) the student's internal and external reproductive anatomy; (b) the student's normal endogenously produced levels of testosterone; and (c) an analysis of the student's genetic makeup.

The bill prohibits any government entity, licensing or accrediting organization, or athletic association or organization from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation, or taking any other adverse action against any such school or institution of higher education based on a violation of the provisions of the bill and creates a cause of action for any school or institution of higher education that suffers harm as a result of a violation of the bill. Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for any student who suffers harm as a result of a knowing violation of a provision of the bill by a school or institution or as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a school, institution, athletic association, or organization

Patron - Mulchi

### **Carried Over**

C HB41 Standards of Learning; programs of instruction; civics education; instruction on local government. Requires the Board of Education to include in the Standards of Learning for Virginia and United States Government for grade 12 and requires each school board to provide as a part of any Virginia and U.S. Government course or civic education course offered to students in grade 12 instruction on local government, including instruction on the types of localities in the Commonwealth and the structure and functions of local governments in the Commonwealth. The bill also requires the Board to consider in its criteria for awarding a diploma seal for excellence in civics education and understanding of the state and federal constitutions and the democratic model of government the successful completion of government or civics courses that include instruction on the structures and functions of local government.

Patron - Green

C HB181 Public school staffing ratios; school counselors. Decreases from one to 325 to one to 250 the ratio of full-time equivalent school counselors required to be employed by each local school board per student enrolled in the local school division.

Patron - Feggans

C HB328 Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact. Enters the Commonwealth into the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact, the purpose of which is to facilitate the mobility of teachers across the member states, with the goal of supporting teachers through a new pathway to licensure. The Compact is presently in effect, as it has reached the enactment threshold of 10 state members.

Patron - Glass

C HB347 School board employees; civil cause of action against principals, division superintendents, and school boards for workplace injuries. Permits any school board employee who suffers bodily injury in the course of his employment on school board property after notifying the appropriate school principal, division superintendent, or school board that a working condition or situation was reasonably likely to lead to such bodily injury to bring a civil cause of action in a court of competent jurisdiction for appropriate relief, including damages, against any such school principal, division superintendent, or school board that acted negligently,

recklessly, or willfully in failing to remedy the condition or situation that led to such bodily injury.

Patron - Green

HB359 Public school funding; nonpersonal cost categories; federal fund deduction methodology; support services. Requires the Department of Education, (i) in calculating nonpersonal costs in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to include the costs associated with leased facilities and work-related employee travel and (ii) in calculating the deduction of federal funds in the Standards of Quality funding formula, to examine actual school division spending on support costs as a percentage of actual school division spending on all public education costs, with certain exceptions such as food service. The bill also requires support services positions, which includes positions in each local school division that the school board deems necessary for the efficient and cost-effective operation and maintenance of its public schools, to be funded based on a calculation of prevailing costs and prohibits such positions from being subject to any method of funding calculation that caps the number of funded support services positions based on a ratio of such positions to students enrolled in the local school division.

Patron - Simonds

C HB360 Superintendent of Public Instruction; duties; fixed and actual school staffing ratios. Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to biennially calculate, compare, and report to the Board of Education and the General Assembly the differences between the fixed staffing ratios in the Standards of Quality funding formula and the actual staffing ratios in local school divisions in the Commonwealth so that such fixed staffing ratios can be regularly adjusted as needed to more closely approximate such actual staffing ratios. Patron - Simonds

C HB372 Department of Education; Child Care Implementation and Substitute Employee Pool Grant Program established. Requires the Department of Education, with such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, to establish and administer the Child Care Implementation and Substitute Employee Pool Grant Program whereby any (i) existing child day program provider or group of such providers may apply for a grant, on a competitive basis, for the establishment of a substitute employee pool that, notwithstanding the provisions of relevant law relating to the disclosure of the results of background checks, enables such provider or providers to ensure efficient and effective staffing with qualified employees or (ii) prospective child day program may apply for a grant, on a competitive basis, to cover costs associated with implementing such program.

Patron - Martinez

C HB386 Public school staffing ratios; specialized student support positions. Increases the number of specialized student support positions required to be employed by each local school board from at least three to at least four such positions per 1,000 students in the local school division. Such specialized student support positions include school social workers, school psychologists, school nurses, licensed behavior analysts, licensed assistant behavior analysts, and other licensed health and behavioral positions.

Patron - Hernandez

C HB408 Child Care Subsidy Program vendors; basis for periodic reimbursement. Requires the Department of Education to periodically reimburse child care providers that are vendors through the Child Care Subsidy Program on the basis of authorized child enrollment but provides that if any

such enrolled child is absent from the provider for 10 or more days during one month, the Department shall periodically reimburse such provider on the basis of such child's attendance.

Patron - Hernandez

HB485 School boards; employee criminal history records checks and applications; penalty for noncom**pliance.** Clarifies that certain school board employees who are (i) employed in an in-person or remote capacity or some combination thereof or (ii) fully licensed, provisionally licensed, or unlicensed are subject to the requirements in existing law to undergo a criminal history records check and a search of the registry of founded complaints of child abuse and neglect and to disclose certain criminal history information at the employment application stage and upon arrest. The bill provides that in the event that any school board fails or refuses to perform its duty to require any employee to undergo a criminal history records check as set forth in relevant law, each individual member of such board is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and his position on such school board shall be deemed vacant. Patron - Garrett

C HB500 Standards of Quality; Standards of Learning assessments; development and administration of assessments; assessments in languages other than English; **requirements.** Requires the Board of Education to develop all Standards of Learning assessments using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, as defined in the bill. The bill also requires the Board to develop and implement policies providing for the development and administration of all Standards of Learning assessments in languages other than English that are identified as being present to a significant extent in the participating student population. The bill requires such policies to provide that each local school board provide appropriate accommodations on such assessments for eligible students who are English language learners, including providing for administration of such assessments for any student who is an English language learner in grades three through eight who has been identified as having limited English proficiency and has participated in an English language proficiency program for no more than a total of three school years. The bill provides, however, that each local school board, on the recommendation of English language learner faculty that any such student has not yet reached sufficient English proficiency, may provide on an individual case-by-case basis for the administration of any such Standards of Learning assessment in one of such top three languages other than English for a period that does not exceed two additional consecutive years. The provisions of the bill are required to be implemented by the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

Patron - Cohen

HB535 Division of Early Childhood Care and Education; Department of Education; comprehensive review of certain findings and recommendations relating to the quality of early childhood care and education in the **Commonwealth; report.** Requires the Division of Early Childhood Care and Education of the Department of Education, in consultation with the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation and such other stakeholders as it deems appropriate, to (i) conduct a comprehensive review of the findings and recommendations contained in the 2017 report of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, Improving Virginia's Early Childhood Development Programs, to determine what barriers, gaps, and deficiencies continue to exist in the provision of high-quality early childhood education and care in the Commonwealth, with a particular focus on gaps and deficiencies in the ongoing monitoring of Virginia Preschool Initiative program quality, including the collection and analysis of data

relating to outcomes and kindergarten readiness, and (ii) report its findings and any associated policy recommendations to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

C HB563 Board of Education; procedure for adjusting grievances; definition of "classified instructional support staff." Requires the Board of Education, for the purpose of its regulations that establish the procedure for adjusting grievances, to define "classified instructional support staff" to mean any nonlicensed teacher, both nonexempt and exempt, who is employed in a local school division and involved in classroom instruction and any other full-time or part-time employee who works more than 90 days total in a 200-day school year and to include teaching assistants, long-term substitutes, site-based substitutes, temporary teachers, and other nonlicensed instructors who substitute in the place of licensed teachers.

Patron - Askew

C HB564 Public schools: classified instructional support staff; competitive compensation; biennial review. Declares that it is a goal of the Commonwealth that its classified instructional support staff, defined in the bill as any individual who works more than 90 days total in a 200-day school year as a substitute for a licensed teacher, be compensated at a rate that is competitive in order to provide a quality education in the absence of a licensed teacher. The bill requires the Department of Education to conduct a biennial review of the compensation for classified instructional support staff and to consider the Commonwealth's compensation for classified instructional support staff relative to the national average teacher salary and report the results of such review to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Board of Education by June 1 of each odd-numbered year. Patron - Askew

C HB573 Student safety and discipline; certain reports to school principals and division superintendents; form and scope. Requires local law-enforcement authorities to prepare in writing and provide to the principal or his designee and the division superintendent a report on (i) any suspected offense, offense for which any charge has been filed, or offense that is subject to investigation that was committed or is suspected to have been committed by a student enrolled at the school if the offense would be (a) a felony if committed by an adult, (b) a violation of the Drug Control Act and occurred on a school bus, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity, or (c) an adult misdemeanor involving certain enumerated incidents and (ii) whether the student is released to the custody of his parent or, if 18 years of age or older, is released on bond. The bill requires division superintendents to report all such incidents to the Department of Education in an annual report that is made available to the public. Current law does not require such reports to be in writing and only applies to student offenses but does not specify whether such reports are required to be made for student offenses that are suspected, charged, or subject to investigation.

Patron - Henson

C HB582 Public high schools; personnel; career coach required. Requires each school board to employ at least one career coach in each public high school in the local school division whose duties are required to include assisting students with securing internships, externships, and credentialing opportunities as required by the Profile of a Virginia Graduate, providing students with information on apprenticeship programs, and connecting students to career opportunities. The bill provides that each such individual shall be employed in

addition to and not as a replacement for the required school counselor positions, specialized student support positions, or support services positions.

Patron - Simonds

C HB627 Early childhood care; Child Care Subsidy Program expansion; provision of free child care to certain child care provider employees. Requires the Child Care Subsidy Program, established pursuant to applicable regulations, to be expanded to assist employees of any licensed child care provider in the Commonwealth with the costs of child care by providing any such employee who meets the eligibility criteria set forth in the bill child care at no cost to and with no copayment required of such employee. The bill directs the Board of Education to adopt any regulations and the Department of Education to implement any policies and procedures necessary for the implementation and administration of the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

C HB675 Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind; authority to establish campus police department. Permits the Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind to establish a campus police department, in compliance with the provisions of law relating to campus police departments established by institutions of higher education, and to employ campus police officers therein.

Patron - Runion

C HB677 Superintendent of Public Instruction; employment of certified school library specialists. Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to employ in the Department of Education at least one certified school library specialist who fulfills several duties enumerated in the bill, including providing leadership and technical assistance with the implementation and use of information literacy skills to support student achievement for local school divisions, Department staff, and other stakeholders and directing the implementation of state and national school library standards and consulting with and providing technical assistance to local school divisions relating to such standards.

Patron - Simonds

C HB696 Establishment of recovery high schools; authorization in certain Superintendent's regions. Authorizes any school board that governs a school division located in Superintendent's Region 2, 4, or 7 to establish a recovery high school in the relevant school division as a year-round high school (i) for which enrollment is open to any high school student who resides in the relevant Superintendent's region and is in the early stages of recovery from substance use disorder or dependency and (ii) for the purpose of providing such students with the academic, emotional, and social support necessary to make progress toward earning a high school diploma and reintegrating into a traditional high school setting. Patron - Tata

C HB842 Schools boards; pupil transportation; alternatives. Expands the availability of allowable alternatives to traditional school bus transportation services relating to the transportation of students to and from school or school-related activities, including permitting any school board of a school division for which providing transportation by school bus is not cost effective to use a portion of its transportation funding to provide a grant to any parent of a student who provides student transportation to and from school, subject to certain conditions enumerated in the bill.

Patron - Austin

HB882 Department of Education; model policy on student cell phone use during instructional time; local adoption. Requires the Department of Education to develop, adopt, and distribute to each school board a model policy whereby public elementary and secondary school students are prohibited from possessing or using personal cell phones or other personal handheld communication devices during instructional time at school. The bill requires the Department, in developing and adopting such model policy, to seek to balance the interests of students' academic achievement, cognitive development, safety, and general well-being and permits the Department to include appropriate exceptions in extraordinary circumstances such as emergency situations or situations involving the need to contact the student's parents. The bill requires each school board to develop and adopt a policy that is consistent with such model policy adopted by the Department. Patron - Earley

C HB977 Expeditious resolution of complaints relating to certain student transportation safety issues. Requires each locality and the Department of Transportation, as applicable, to expeditiously respond to and assist in the resolution of, to the maximum extent practicable, any complaint received by or on behalf of any public elementary or secondary school student relating to such student's safety on the streets, roads, sidewalks, and crosswalks surrounding school property as such student arrives to or departs from school and permits, for the purposes of complying with such requirement, any school board to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the locality or the Department, as applicable, for the establishment of a protocol or the designation of an ombudsman for the resolution of such complaints.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

**HB1029** Certain school divisions: cost-savings agreements; requirements. Removes the limitation on any school board that enters into certain cost-savings agreements with a school board that governs a contiguous school division for the consolidation or sharing of educational, administrative, or support services and thus qualifies for adjustment of state share of basic aid computed annually on the basis of the composite index of local ability-to-pay of such contiguous school division that caps such adjusted basic aid payment at an amount equal to the basic aid payment appropriated to such locality by the 2007 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also permits, notwithstanding the requirement set forth in relevant law that a school division has 65 percent or more of its local taxes coming from real estate taxes in order for the school board that governs such school division to be eligible to enter into such cost-savings agreements with a contiguous school division, the Bath County School Board to enter into such costsavings agreements with the Augusta County School Board, provided that all other conditions and limitations set forth in relevant law apply to any such agreement.

Patron - Runion

C HB1033 Cost of competing adjustment; eligibility; certain school boards. Provides that the Accomack County School Board and the Northampton County School Board are eligible to receive the cost of competing adjustment to salaries for instructional and support positions as part of the state share of basic aid pursuant to the general appropriation act.

Patron - Bloxom

C HB1051 Public education; dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment; high school graduation. Makes several changes relating to graduation from a public high school in the Commonwealth, including (i) eliminating the

requirement for a student to complete one virtual course in order to graduate from high school and (ii) specifying that various options and requirements relating to earning career and technical education credentials for the purpose of satisfying high school graduation requirements are required to be high-demand career and technical education credentials. The bill also defines and thereby distinguishes the concepts of dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment in the context of high school students' participation in college-level coursework and requires the agreements for postsecondary attainment between school boards and comprehensive community colleges to specify the credit available for dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment courses.

Patron - Batten

C HB1091 Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education; recommendations, guidelines, and best practices for incorporation of career and technical education into public elementary school curricula; report. Requires the Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education established by the Board of Education to develop and submit to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024, recommendations, guidelines, and best practices for the incorporation of career and technical education into public elementary school curricula.

Patron - Oates

HB1375 Early childhood care and education; publicly funded providers. Provides that any locality wishing to participate in the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) must submit a proposal by May 15 of each year identifying a lead VPI agency responsible for developing a local plan for the delivery of preschool services to at-risk children. A local match based on the composite index of local ability to pay is required to fund such a proposal. The proposal must include the number of at-risk four-year-olds and three-year-olds to be served and eligibility criteria for participation. Upon acceptance, the Department will disburse state VPI funds to the lead VPI agency in such localities, which may be used with local matching funds to provide preschool education, health services, social services, parental involvement services, and transportation. The Department must establish academic standards for VPI programs that prepare students to successfully enter kindergarten. Full day VPI programs must operate for a minimum of five and a half instructional hours per day, while half day VPI programs operate for a minimum of three instructional hours per day. The bill requires the Department of Education to collect information from VPI and the Mixed Delivery Grant Program to compile a comprehensive report on the use of state funds, including the number of slots and funding allocated to each local program or provider and the number of slots that have been filled. The bill codifies the Child Care Subsidy Program, which is currently established pursuant to regulations of the Board of Education, for the purpose of assisting families who meet certain eligibility criteria with the cost of child care provided by approved vendors. The bill requires the Child Care Subsidy Program to be overseen by the Department of Education and permits the Department to contract with state and local agencies to administer the Program. The bill requires the Department and Board of Education, as applicable, to establish rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards for the Program. The bill also codifies the Mixed Delivery Grant Program, which is currently established pursuant to the general appropriation act, for the purpose of awarding grants on a competitive basis to local public entities that enter into partnerships with local private early childhood care and education entities and other community organizations, as applicable, to provide, under the direction and leadership of a lead agency identified in the grant proposal, high-quality care and education, either

part time or full time, for at-risk infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children who reside in the locality. The bill requires the Mixed Delivery Grant Program to be administered by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation in partnership with the Department of Education and, consistent with any provisions relating to the Program in the general appropriation act, requires the Foundation and the Department to establish policies, procedures, and standards for the Program.

Patron - Gardner

SB72 Board of Education; creation and maintenance of Virginia Parent Data Portal. Requires the Board of Education, on or before July 1, 2025, to create and maintain the Virginia Parent Data Portal that, among other things, (i) displays individualized student assessment data on all state-supported assessments, as that term is defined in the bill, (a) in a format that shows both current and cumulative data over time and (b) within 45 days of a state-supported assessment window closing for each state-supported assessment; (ii) provides a description of the purpose of each state-supported assessment, an explanation of how to interpret student data on each statesupported assessment, and a comparison of a student's performance on each state-supported assessment with the performance of the student's school, the student's school division, and the Commonwealth; (iii) is viewable from a mobile device in addition to a desktop computer; and (iv) provides functionality to enable school division personnel to manage and restrict user access to students and their parents.

The bill requires the Board and the Department of Education to provide certain guidance and technical assistance to local school divisions on professional development for principals and teachers in parent engagement on and interpretation of student assessment data available through the Portal and requires each school board to annually provide high-quality professional development to principals and teachers on such topics.

The bill satisfies the reenactment requirement of Chapter 652 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023.

Patron - McPike

SB96 Special education; Parental Behavior Technician Registration and Participation Pilot Program; established. Establishes the Parental Behavior Technician Registration and Participation Pilot Program (the Pilot Program), to be developed and administered by the Board of Education in collaboration with the Department of Health and the Advisory Board on Behavioral Analysis, for the purpose of assisting parents of students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) with becoming a registered behavior technician (RBT) in order to provide assistance to their children both in the classroom as a volunteer under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst or other qualified Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) individual and outside the classroom in the home environment. The bill provides that the Pilot Program shall assist any eligible parent, defined as any parent of a child with ASD who is enrolled in a public school in the Commonwealth and receives special education, by (i) providing assistance, resources, and support to any eligible parent in meeting the requirements to receive an RBT credential and (ii) coordinating with the school board of the school division in which the child of an RBT-credentialed parent is enrolled to set up a volunteer position for the parent to provide assistance as an RBT in his child's special education program under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst or other qualified ABA individual. The bill provides that funds appropriated for the at-risk add-on or for support services from basic school aid, pursuant to relevant law, may be used to fund the Pilot Program. Finally, the bill requires the Board of Education to report annually to the Governor and the Generally Assembly by October 1 of each year for the duration of the Pilot Program on the progress

of the Pilot Program. The provisions of the bill expire on July 1, 2027.

Patron - Stanley

C SB170 Board of Education; out-of-school time programs; exemptions from licensure; conditions and requirements. Exempts from licensure any out-of-school time program that (i) serves only school-age children; (ii) operates primarily after or before regular school hours, during the summer, or at times when school is not normally in session; (iii) is offered for the purpose of promoting expanded childhood learning and enrichment, child and youth development, or educational, recreational, or character-building activities; and (iv) receives and maintains Board of Education certification to operate without a license.

The bill provides that any Board-certified, license-exempt outof-school time program that fails to comply with the conditions set forth in the bill shall receive from the Superintendent notice of such noncompliance with an explanation that if such noncompliance is not resolved within a reasonable period of the time, as determined by the Board, the Superintendent may, at his discretion, deny, suspend, or revoke such program's certification and require it to be licensed.

Patron - Craig

C SB181 Public elementary and secondary schools; cardiac emergency response plans required; grant program established. Requires each public elementary or secondary school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan (CERP) that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual who is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds and, in the event that such school has an athletic department or organized athletic program, while attending or participating in an athletic practice or event. The bill requires each such CERP to integrate nationally recognized evidence-based core elements such as those recommended by the American Heart Association guidelines and to integrate certain provisions and guidelines, including those relating to establishing a cardiac emergency response team, activating such team in response to a sudden cardiac event, and integrating the CERP into the local community's emergency medical services response protocols. The bill also requires, with such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, the Department to establish and administer the CERP Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants, on a competitive basis, to any public elementary or secondary school to assist such school in the development or implementation of its CERP or in the purchase or funding of activities or equipment that further promotes CERP preparedness, giving priority to certain high-need schools. Patron - Rouse

SB395 Public elementary and secondary schools; student athletes; pre-participation mental health **assessment required.** Provides that no public elementary or secondary school student is permitted to be a participant on or try out for any school athletic team or squad with a predetermined roster, regular practices, and scheduled competitions with other elementary or secondary schools unless such student has submitted to the school principal a signed report from a licensed physician, licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or licensed physician assistant acting under the supervision of a licensed physician attesting that such student has, within the preceding 365 days, received both a physical examination and a mental health assessment. Current law only requires that the signed report attest that any such student has received a physical examination within the preceding 12 months. The bill prohibits any public elementary or secondary school from becoming a member of any organization or entity

that regulates or governs interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation any student who has satisfied the requirements for eligibility in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The provisions of the bill other than the requirement for the Board of Education to convene a work group have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. *Patron - Pekarsky* 

C SB431 Schools boards; pupil transportation; alternatives; requirements. Expands the availability of allowable alternatives to traditional school bus transportation services relating to the transportation of students to and from school or school-related activities.

The bill expands the entities with whom and the purposes for which a school board may enter into agreements to provide transportation of pupils to include other school boards and comprehensive community colleges for the purposes of transporting students to and from concurrent or dual enrollment programs, career and technical education programs, joint and regional schools, and college partnership laboratory schools. The bill permits any school board to (i) provide, or contract with a privately operated entity to provide, for the purpose of transporting students to and from schools on a regularly scheduled basis a vehicle designed (a) to carry between 11 and 15 passengers, (b) as a specific type of school bus, in accordance with relevant federal and state laws and regulations, and (c) to carry nine passengers or fewer and (ii) in accordance with the provisions set forth in the bill, adopt a resolution to utilize alternative transportation providers, coordinators, and management services to supplement traditional school bus service. The bill requires any vehicle provided or obtained pursuant to clause (i) to comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and undergo scheduled and random inspections by the Department of State Police. The bill establishes requirements for the contents of police reports relating to any school transportation-related accident to account for the use of alternative modes of school transportation to supplement traditional school bus service. The bill contains provisions prohibiting any school board from hiring, employing, or entering into any agreement with any person for the purposes of operating any vehicle to transport students unless such person meets certain requirements, including those requirements specific to persons who operate school busses.

Finally, the bill permits any school board of a school division for which providing transportation by school bus is not cost effective to use a portion of its transportation funding to provide a grant to any parent of a student who provides student transportation to and from school and establishes several conditions in relation to such provision, including directing the Board to adopt policies and procedures relating to the award of such grants.

Patron - Suetterlein

**SB440** Employment of school protection officers in public schools. Permits any local law-enforcement agency to employ in any public elementary or secondary school in the local school division, pursuant to an agreement with the local school board, a school protection officer, defined in the bill as a retired law-enforcement officer hired by the local law-enforcement agency on a part-time basis to provide limited law-enforcement and security services to public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth. The bill requires each such school board and local law-enforcement agency to enter into a memorandum of understanding that sets forth the powers and duties of school protection officers. The bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish compulsory training standards for school protection officers and requires the collection of certain data relating to the activities of such officers.

Patron - Durant

C SB445 Veterans and active duty members of the Armed Forces; teachers; credit for service. Requires each local school board to give any veteran or active duty member of any of the Armed Forces of the United States or the Commonwealth who it employs as a teacher in the local school division credit for any time served in any such forces in determining such teacher's step on the local school division's teacher salary scale.

Patron - Durant

C SB468 Certain school divisions; cost-savings agreements; requirements. Removes the limitation on any school board that enters into certain cost-savings agreements with a school board that governs a contiguous school division for the consolidation or sharing of educational, administrative, or support services and thus qualifies for adjustment of state share of basic aid computed annually on the basis of the composite index of local ability-to-pay of such contiguous school division that caps such adjusted basic aid payment at an amount equal to the basic aid payment appropriated to such locality by the 2007 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also permits, notwithstanding the requirement set forth in relevant law that a school division has 65 percent or more of its local taxes coming from real estate taxes in order for the school board that governs such school division to be eligible to enter into such cost-savings agreements with a contiguous school division, the Bath County School Board to enter into such costsavings agreements with the Augusta County School Board, provided that all other conditions and limitations set forth in relevant law apply to any such agreement.

Patron - Obenshain

C SB518 Public high schools; personnel; college and career specialist required. Requires each school board to employ at least one college and career specialist, as defined in the bill, in each public high school in the local school division. The bill provides that each such individual shall be employed in addition to and not as a replacement for the required school counselor positions, specialized student support positions, or support services positions.

Patron - Williams Graves

C SB563 Department of Education; Virginia Community College System; regional career and technical education program. Directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Virginia Community College System, the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, the Board of Education, the school board and division superintendent of Tazewell County Public Schools, and representatives of the governing boards of comprehensive community colleges located in Tazewell County and contiguous counties to study the feasibility of and make recommendations on developing a plan for establishing a regional career and technical education program for all students in grade levels six through 12 who reside in Planning District 2.

Patron - Hackworth

C SB619 Public elementary and secondary schools; compulsory attendance policies and procedures; educational neglect defined. Revises the policies and procedures relating to addressing the nonattendance or nonenrollment of a child subject to compulsory education requirements by expanding the definition of "abused or neglected child" to include educational neglect and, therefore, requiring any teacher, attendance officer, or other person employed by such child's school, to report such neglect to the appropriate authority in accordance with pertinent law. The bill defines "educational neglect" as the failure or refusal to provide necessary education for a child who is subject to compulsory attendance

in accordance with relevant law and is enrolled in a public school and has missed 10 percent or more of the academic year, including by (i) causing or allowing the child to become chronically absent, defined as any student who has missed 10 percent or more of the academic year for any reason, including excused and unexcused absences, or (ii) failing or refusing to enroll a child in any school who is not otherwise exempt from school attendance if (a) such failure or refusal to enroll continues after the school notifies and institutes proceedings against the parent and (b) the time elapsed between the institution of proceedings and the continued noncompliance to date exceeds 10 percent of the academic year.

Patron - Pillion

## **Elections**

## **Passed**

P HB26 Voter identification; accepted forms of identification; private entities licensed or certified by certain state agencies. Adds to the list of accepted forms of identification for purposes of voting a valid identification card that contains a photograph of the voter and is issued by any private entity that is licensed or certified, in whole or in part, by the Department of Health, Department of Social Services, Department of Medical Assistance Services, or Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Reid

P HB55 Primary elections; candidates for nomination; withdrawal of candidacy resulting in unopposed primary; primary cancellation and nomination procedure. Provides that if a person who is a candidate for nomination by a political party at a primary election and who appears on the ballot for such election withdraws his candidacy on or after the forty-fourth day before but prior to the Tuesday immediately preceding the primary election, and the result of such withdrawal is one remaining candidate who is now unopposed, the remaining candidate will be declared the party's nominee for the office sought and the primary election will be canceled. The bill requires the notice of withdrawal to be signed and notarized and to be submitted to the general registrar, who then transmits it to the local electoral board and the State Board of Elections along with a certification that the remaining candidate is now unopposed for nomination. The State Board is required to declare the remaining candidate to be the nominee within one calendar day of receiving such notice, and the local electoral board is then required to petition the circuit court for the cancellation of the primary election. Finally, the bill directs the State Board to prescribe procedures for canceling a primary election, including instructions for locking and securing voting systems, disposition of marked and unmarked absentee ballots, and voter notification. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 131.

Patron - Wright

P HB69 Vacancies in elected local offices; interim appointments; notice requirement. Requires the local governing body or elected school board making an interim appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of such body or board to hold a public meeting at least seven days prior to making such appointment. The bill specifies that at such meeting, the body or board shall announce the names of all persons being proposed for the interim appointment and shall make

available for inspection each person's resume and any other materials required by the body or board.

Patron - Bulova

PHB90 Elections; candidates for office; conduct of primaries; declaration of candidacy. Provides that the declaration of candidacy include a statement that if the signer's name appears on the primary ballot and he is not nominated then his name is not to be printed on the ballots for that office in the succeeding general election. This bill is identical to SB 109.

Patron - McNamara

**HB111** Electors for President and Vice President; binding of electors; vacancies. Provides that an elector who is selected by the state convention of any political party and who, at the convening of the electors after the election, refuses to present a ballot, presents an unmarked ballot, or presents a ballot marked in violation of his oath stating that he would, if elected, cast his ballot for the candidates for President and Vice President nominated by the party that selected the elector, or as the party may direct in the event of the death, withdrawal, or disqualification of the party nominee, is deemed to vacate the office of elector. The bill provides that the other electors present shall immediately fill such vacancy in the same manner as a vacancy due to an elector's death or failure or inability to attend. The bill applies the same provisions to electors who are named in a petition of qualified voters not constituting a political party. The bill contains technical amendments that consolidate into a single chapter the provisions of Title 24.2 relating to presidential electors. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Sullivan

HB265 Removal of public officers from office; petition requirements; procedure. Requires the signatures collected on a petition for removal of certain public officers to be collected within 90 days of the first signature being collected and provides that no signatures gathered after such period shall count toward the required number. The attorney for the Commonwealth is required to request that the court dismiss the petition, and the court is required to do so, if the factual or legal allegations made by the petition are not materially different than the factual or legal allegations set forth in a previously filed petition or litigated in a trial pursuant to a previously filed petition that was against the same subject and that was dismissed with prejudice or that did not result in the subject's removal from office at trial. The bill also provides that, in proceedings to remove a public officer from office, if the attorney for the Commonwealth who would be responsible for reviewing a removal petition and determining whether valid grounds for removal exist or for representing the Commonwealth at a removal proceeding has a conflict of interest or is otherwise unavailable, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia shall appoint an alternate attorney for the Commonwealth. Lastly, the bill provides that discovery shall not be permitted prior to a determination that the petition states valid grounds to proceed to trial. This bill was vetoed by the Governor

Patron - Simon

P HB441 Assistance for certain voters outside of the polling place; definition of "person with a disability"; training. Amends the definition of "person with a disability" for purposes of the Elections title to mean any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of his major life activities or who has a record of such impairment. The bill provides that any qualified voter who is a person with a disability shall be eligible for assistance outside of the polling place and makes technical amendments for con-

sistency. The bill requires the training required for all officers of election to include specific training on voting outside of a polling place and directs the Department of Elections to incorporate into guidance documents for election officials the processes and procedures for voting outside of the polling place, including best practices for providing assistance for voters with disabilities. This bill is identical to SB 605.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

HB623 Rights of voters; covered practices; civil cause of action; standing, jurisdiction, and venue. Provides that, in addition to voters who are members of a protected class and the Attorney General, any organization whose membership includes voters who are members of a protected class or any organization whose mission, in whole or in part, is to ensure voting access shall be entitled to institute a civil cause of action for alleged violations of certain laws related to the rights of voters. The bill provides that the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond shall have jurisdiction over such actions and such actions shall be subject to expedited pretrial and trial proceedings and receive an automatic calendar preference. The bill allows the governing body of any county or city to establish, by ordinance, a plan each year for the number and location of voter satellite offices and the dates and hours of operation of such satellite offices for all elections to be held in the county or city that year. The bill also adds to the definition of "covered practice" any change that reduces the number of voter satellite offices in a locality or reduces the number of days or the hours of operation of a voter satellite office in a locality or that deviates from the plan established by the governing body each year. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Price

P HB730 Campaign finance; independent expenditure reports; electronic filing required. Requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 692.

Patron - Sickles

HB904 Voter registration; list maintenance activities; cancellation procedures; required record matches; required identification information; data standards. Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections for list maintenance purposes and requires the Department, upon receiving any such list, to do an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters and determine the confidence score for any match. Matches with a confidence score of at least 80 are transmitted to the appropriate general registrars. The bill prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to annually review all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source, and to include the results of such review in its annual report to the Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to cancelling a voter's record regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is canceled, a cancellation record must be created, and that such records are public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the National Voter Registration Act. The bill includes numerous technical amendments for organizational purposes. This bill is identical to SB 300. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Price* 

HB939 Elections administration; certain activities or conduct prohibited at polling places applicable to locations for absentee voting in person; prohibited possession of firearm within 100 feet of certain locations. Clarifies that the provisions of law prohibiting certain activities or conduct in and around a polling place shall also apply to locations where absentee voting in person is available. The bill also prohibits any person, with certain exceptions, from (i) knowingly carrying any firearm and (ii) knowingly doing so within 100 feet of the entrance of a polling place, the building used by the local electoral board to meet to ascertain election results, the building used to conduct a recount of an election, and other additional locations used for voting-related and electionsrelated activities. Under current law, this prohibition applies within 40 feet of such entrances. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Shin

P HB940 Elections administration; change to location of polling place, additional notice requirement. Requires notice of a change in the location of a polling place to be posted, to the extent practicable, at the location last used for such polling place on the day of the first primary election and first general election conducted in the new location. This notice is required to include information on how voters may find their polling place.

Patron - Shin

P HB943 Voter registration; protected voter status; elections officials. Adds to the list of protected voters any person serving as a member of a local electoral board, a general registrar, a deputy registrar or employee in an office of a general registrar, or an officer of election. Protected voters are permitted by law to provide on the application for voter registration, in addition to the voter's residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth to be included on (i) lists of registered voters and persons who voted, (ii) voter registration records made available for public inspection, and (iii) lists of absentee voter applicants. Patron - Shin

HB989 Elections administration; duties of the Department of Elections; required election and voter participation information on the Internet. Requires the Department of Elections to provide information for voters on its website, including (i) the role of and contact information for the State Board of Elections, the Department of Elections, local electoral boards, and general registrars and (ii) information about absentee voting, polling hours, Virginia's voter identification requirements and acceptable forms of identification, the casting of ballots, and a means for voters to find their polling place. The bill requires such website to allow a voter to review his current voter registration information and voting history. The bill also requires that the Department provide a version of its website in which all parts are translated into any language that is spoken by a language minority group, including that any page linked to a translated page also be translated. Patron - Tran

PHB998 Local electoral boards; certification and abstract of results; deadline. Extends the deadline for local electoral boards to meet after an election for the purpose of certifying the election results and submitting the abstract of results to the State Board of Elections from seven days after the date of the election to 10 days after such date. Patron - Anthony

P HB1003 Elections; precincts and polling places; notice of changes mailed at least 30 days prior to election. Requires notice of any adopted change in an election district, precinct, or polling place to be mailed to all registered voters subject to such change at least 30 days prior to the next election. Currently, such notice must be mailed at least 15 days prior.

Patron - Anthony

P HB1177 Voter registration; list maintenance; data sharing; requiring membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). Requires the Commissioner of Elections to apply for, enter into, and maintain membership for the Commonwealth in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). This bill is identical to SB 606. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Sickles

P HB1330 Absentee voting; persons confined awaiting trial or for conviction of a misdemeanor. Provides that any registered voter who is confined while awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a misdemeanor may vote by absentee ballot and requires the institution or facility in which such voter is confined to (i) provide the means and opportunity for such voter to complete and submit a timely application for an absentee ballot and to properly mark his absentee ballot and (ii) ensure such voter's marked absentee ballot is returned in accordance with law.

Patron - Ward

P HB1346 Elections; campaign finance; exemptions for candidates for certain offices; directors of soil and water conservation districts. Provides that a candidate for director of a soil and water conservation district may also seek an exemption from the requirement that he designate a separate campaign depository by certifying that (i) he has not and will not contribute any money to his own campaign and (ii) he has not and will not expend any money in the course of the campaign. The bill also provides that a candidate for local office or for director of a soil and water conservation district applying for a general exemption is exempt from having to make special reports for certain large pre-election contributions. This bill is identical to SB 577.

Patron - Bloxom

P HB1408 Voter satellite offices; standards and guidelines for determining number and location. Directs the Department of Elections to develop standards and guidelines for local governing bodies to utilize when determining the number of voter satellite offices to be established in a county or city for a general election and the relative locations of such satellite offices. The bill specifies that such standards and guidelines must take into account the county's or city's registered voter population and the density and distribution of such population within the county or city and must include a recommended minimum number of voter satellite offices for the 14-day and 30-day periods immediately preceding a general election. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Srinivasan

P HB1534 Elections; challenges to voter or voter's registration; challenges to candidate qualifications or eligibility. Eliminates the process by which any voter could challenge, in a polling place on the day of an election, the right of any other voter to cast a ballot. The bill also eliminates the process by which any three voters could challenge a voter's registration before the general registrar; such challenges may still be made by filing a petition with the circuit court of the county or city where the voter is registered. The bill also

requires challenges to a person's eligibility to appear on the ballot on the basis that such person did not meet all qualifications or fulfill all requirements for candidacy to be made at least 60 days before the date of the election. Candidates who are nominated at a primary election cannot be later challenged on the basis of facts that were present prior to the primary election and could have been raised in a challenge to such candidate's eligibility for the primary ballot. Any challenge to a candidate's qualifications or eligibility shall be made by filing a petition with the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, which shall have jurisdiction over such proceedings. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Sickles

P SB109 Elections; candidates for office; conduct of primaries; declaration of candidacy. Provides that the declaration of candidacy include a statement that if the signer's name appears on the primary ballot and he is not nominated then his name is not to be printed on the ballots for that office in the succeeding general election. This bill is identical to HB 90.

Patron - Suetterlein

SB131 Primary elections; candidates for nomination; withdrawal of candidacy resulting in unopposed primary; primary cancellation and nomination procedure. Provides that if a person who is a candidate for nomination by a political party at a primary election and who appears on the ballot for such election withdraws his candidacy on or after the forty-fourth day before but prior to the Tuesday immediately preceding the primary election, and the result of such withdrawal is one remaining candidate who is now unopposed, the remaining candidate will be declared the party's nominee for the office sought and the primary election will be canceled. The bill requires the notice of withdrawal to be signed and notarized and to be submitted to the general registrar, who then transmits it to the local electoral board and the State Board of Elections along with a certification that the remaining candidate is now unopposed for nomination. The State Board is required to declare the remaining candidate to be the nominee within one calendar day of receiving such notice, and the local electoral board is then required to petition the circuit court for the cancellation of the primary election. Finally, the bill directs the State Board to prescribe procedures for canceling a primary election, including instructions for locking and securing voting systems, disposition of marked and unmarked absentee ballots, and voter notification. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 55. Patron - Ruff

P **SB165** Elections; candidates for office; petition of qualified voters; start date. Clarifies the date from which valid signatures for petitions of qualified voters can be collected for persons seeking to become candidates in certain elections.

Patron - Reeves

P SB196 Voter registration; list maintenance data standards; challenges to a voter's registration. Prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to conduct an annual review of all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities in the preceding 12-month period for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source and to include the results of such review in its annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list mainte-

nance activities. Lastly, the bill removes provisions allowing general registrars to adjudicate challenges to a voter's registration, reserving such process to the courts. The bill includes technical amendments. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB300 Voter registration; list maintenance activities; cancellation procedures; required record matches; required identification information; data standards. Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections for list maintenance purposes and requires the Department, upon receiving any such list, to do an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters and determine the confidence score for any match. Matches with a confidence score of at least 80 are transmitted to the appropriate general registrars. The bill prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to annually review all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source, and to include the results of such review in its annual report to the Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to cancelling a voter's record regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is canceled, a cancellation record must be created, and that such records are public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the National Voter Registration Act. The bill includes numerous technical amendments for organizational purposes. This bill is identical to HB 904. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rouse

SB428 Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report. Clarifies the requirements for conducting elections using ranked choice voting and requires the results for elections conducted by ranked choice voting to be reported along with other results reported on election night, except that such results must clearly be identified as preliminary and based on the first rankings in a ranked choice voting election. The bill provides that final tabulation for an election is required to be conducted on the same day as other results are canvassed by the local electoral board. The bill specifies that ranking data is required to be made publicly available by the Department of Elections and requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill specifies that risk-limiting audits of elections conducted using ranked choice voting are limited to the first choice rankings reported on voting systems and provides that, while risk-limiting audits of elections conducted using ranked choice voting may be requested by localities, no such election may be included in any random drawing required to satisfy the general requirements for risk-limiting audits nor shall a risk-limiting audit of such election count toward satisfying any such general requirements. The bill specifies that the State Board is required to produce generalized voter education materials on ranked choice voting and is also permitted to create and modify recount procedures to the extent necessary to accommodate a recount of an election. Finally, the bill directs the Department to review the testing and approval framework for voting equipment in the Commonwealth and to submit a report of such review no later

than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB577 Elections; campaign finance; exemptions for candidates for certain offices; directors of soil and water conservation districts. Provides that a candidate for director of a soil and water conservation district may also seek an exemption from the requirement that he designate a separate campaign depository by certifying that (i) he has not and will not contribute any money to his own campaign and (ii) he has not and will not expend any money in the course of the campaign. The bill also provides that a candidate for local office or for director of a soil and water conservation district applying for a general exemption is exempt from having to make special reports for certain large pre-election contributions. This bill is identical to HB 1346.

Patron - Obenshain

**SB605** Assistance for certain voters outside of the polling place; definition of "person with a disability" training. Amends the definition of "person with a disability" for purposes of the Elections title to mean any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of his major life activities or who has a record of such impairment. The bill provides that any qualified voter who is a person with a disability shall be eligible for assistance outside of the polling place and makes technical amendments for consistency. The bill requires the training required for all officers of election to include specific training on voting outside of a polling place and directs the Department of Elections to incorporate into guidance documents for election officials the processes and procedures for voting outside of the polling place, including best practices for providing assistance for voters with disabilities. This bill is identical to HB 441.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB606 Voter registration; list maintenance; data sharing; requiring membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). Requires the Commissioner of Elections to apply for, enter into, and maintain membership for the Commonwealth in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). This bill is identical to HB 1177. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB692** Campaign finance; independent expenditure reports, electronic filing required. Requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 730.

Patron - Perry

## Failed

F HB40 Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee to personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or

holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's child care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections. *Patron - Simon* 

F HB43 Assistance for certain voters outside of the polling place; definition of disability. Expands the definition of disability for purposes of providing assistance outside of a polling place to voters with disabilities to include any permanent or temporary disability. Under current law, the disability is limited to a permanent or temporary physical disability. Patron - Thomas

F HB44 Absentee voting; absentee voting in person; available beginning 30 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to 30 days before the election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to the election. Patron - Green

**HB56** Voter registration by political party affiliation; partially closed primary elections. Adds party affiliation, beginning January 1, 2025, to the information that an applicant is asked to provide when registering to vote. The applicant may indicate that he is an independent. The bill specifies that voters registered prior to January 1, 2025, will be designated as independent unless they provide a political party affiliation to the general registrar. Voters may change their political party affiliation or independent status by written notice at any time before the registration records are closed prior to an election. The bill also provides that voters who are on the permanent absentee voter list will receive primary ballots for the political party with which they are registered as affiliated. Finally, the bill requires the state party chairman of each political party to file written notice with the State Board of Elections by January 31 of each year stating the rules adopted by the duly constituted authorities of the state political party for participation in the party's primaries to be held from April 1 of that year through March 31 of the following year. Patron - Wright

F HB79 Elections; times for special elections; held on the same day as a primary election. Permits a special election to be held on the same day as a primary election. Patron - Campbell

F HB126 Candidates for office; persons entitled to have name printed on ballot, required reports. Provides that a person who fails to file at least one of the campaign finance reports required by law to be filed in an election year by July 20 is not entitled to have his name printed on the ballot at the general election for the office sought.

Patron - Watts

F HB176 Elections; form of ballot; party identification of candidates; constitutional offices. Provides that any candidate for a constitutional office who is nominated by a political party or at a primary election shall be identified on the ballot by the name of his political party. Currently, only candidates for federal, statewide, and General Assembly offices are

so identified. The constitutional offices are those of the treasurer, sheriff, attorney for the Commonwealth, clerk of court, and commissioner of the revenue.

Patron - Gardner

F HB185 Candidates for office; challenges to qualifications or eligibility; timeliness. Requires challenges to a person's eligibility to appear on the ballot on the basis that such person did not meet all qualifications or fulfill all requirements for candidacy to be made at least 60 days before the date of the election. Candidates who are nominated at a primary election cannot be later challenged on the basis of facts that were present prior to the primary election and could have been raised in a challenge to such candidate's eligibility for the primary ballot.

Patron - Simon

F HB190 Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates. Prohibits candidates, campaign committees, and political committees from soliciting or accepting contributions from any public utility, as defined in the bill, and prohibits any public utility or any political committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution.

Patron - Cole

F HB254 Elections; form of ballot; party identification of candidates. Provides that any candidate nominated by a political party or at a primary election shall be identified on the ballot by the name of his political party. Currently, only candidates for federal, statewide, and General Assembly offices are so identified.

Patron - Sullivan

HB393 Elections; election reform. Requires that the general register of each locality publish on the official website of the locality (i) monthly, a list of all registered voters added to or removed from each precinct in the locality including a reason for each change; (ii) on the first day on which the registration records are closed for any election, a list of all the qualified voters registered to vote in each precinct participating in the election; (iii) after the election, a list of all persons who voted for each precinct participating in the election; and (iv) within seven days of any application for or receipt or use of any money, grants, property, or services given by a private individual, nongovernmental entity, or federal government entity, a notice of such activity. The bill requires a registered voter to provide a reason for being absent or unable to vote at his polling place on election day in order to receive an absentee ballot to vote by mail. Registered voters offering to vote absentee in person are similarly required by the bill to provide a reason. The bill provides that an applicant for an absentee ballot is required to receive an absentee ballot by mail and to vote absentee in person before the second Saturday immediately preceding an election. The bill also repeals the permanent absentee voter list and limits the special annual application to those voters with an illness or disability. Provisions of the Code providing for the establishment of drop-off locations for the return of absentee ballots are repealed. The bill requires that all absentee ballots sent in compliance with applicable state and federal law be received by the close of polls on election day. The bill provides that only members of a uniformed service, as defined in relevant law, persons who are residing temporarily outside of the United States, and spouses or dependents of such members or persons are entitled to register to vote after the close of registration records in person up to and including the day of the election. Under current law, any person who is qualified to register to vote is entitled to register to vote after the close of registration records up to and including the day of the election. The bill also requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide voter photo identification cards containing the voter's photograph and signature free of charge to those voters who do not have another valid form of identification. The bill eliminates provisions allowing for the use of ranked choice voting in the Commonwealth. The use of central absentee precincts is also eliminated. All returned absentee ballots are required to be held in their return envelopes until they are distributed on election day to the precinct in which the absentee voter resides for counting.

Patron - Griffin

F HB413 Elections; form of ballot; party identification of candidates; constitutional offices. Provides that any candidate for a constitutional office who is nominated by a political party or at a primary election shall be identified on the ballot by the name of his political party. Currently, only candidates for federal, statewide, and General Assembly offices are so identified. The constitutional offices are those of the treasurer, sheriff, attorney for the Commonwealth, clerk of court, and commissioner of the revenue.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB417 Vacancies in elected local offices; timeliness of special election to fill vacancy. Provides that when a vacancy occurs in an elected local office that is subject to a ward-based or district-based residency requirement, the election to fill such vacancy shall be ordered and held within 365 days of the vacancy occurring.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB429 Elections; form of ballot; party identification of candidates; constitutional offices. Provides that any candidate for a constitutional office who is nominated by a political party or at a primary election shall be identified on the ballot by the name of his political party. Currently, only candidates for federal, statewide, and General Assembly offices are so identified. The constitutional offices are those of the treasurer, sheriff, attorney for the Commonwealth, clerk of court, and commissioner of the revenue.

Patron - Arnold

F HB433 State legislative districts; how districts numbered. Sets out the manner of numbering to be followed when establishing the Senate and House of Delegates districts pursuant to Article II, Section 6-A of the Constitution of Virginia and relevant state law.

Patron - Arnold

F HB463 Polling places; prohibited activities or conduct; application to locations for absentee voting in person. Clarifies that the provisions of law prohibiting certain activities or conduct in and around a polling place also apply to offices of the general registrar, voter satellite offices, and drop-off locations during the period that absentee voting in person is available.

Patron - Runion

F HB465 Election administration; deputy general registrars; recommended number. Requires the State Board of Elections to adopt guidance for determining the recommended number of deputy registrars to serve in a county or city based on the size of the county's or city's population as of the most recent decennial census and prohibits a local electoral

board from setting a number in excess of such recommendation. The bill allows for additional deputy registrars to be appointed if the local electoral board determines that a greater number than the State Board's recommended number for a county's or city's population is needed and the local governing body approves such number. The bill also requires the Department of Elections to convene a work group no later than July 1, 2024, to advise and collaborate with the State Board on the development of such guidance and directs the work group to complete its work and make public such guidance no later than December 1, 2024. The provisions of the bill other than the requirement for the Department to convene the work group have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Runion

F HB490 Electors for President and Vice President; method of allocating electoral votes. Revises the process by which the Commonwealth's electoral votes are allocated among the slates of presidential electors. The bill provides that the qualified voters of the Commonwealth will choose 11 of the Commonwealth's 13 electors for President and Vice President, with each voter voting for one elector for the congressional district in which he is qualified to vote. The candidates for President and Vice President receiving the highest number of votes cast in a congressional district are allocated the one electoral vote for that congressional district. The candidates for President and Vice President who represent the political party of the Governor serving at the time are allocated the two electoral votes for the Commonwealth at large.

Patron - Garrett

HB629 Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee to personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's child care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections.

Patron - Cherry

F HB643 Campaign fundraising; legislative sessions; enforcement of civil penalty. Provides that violations of the prohibition on campaign fundraising during legislative sessions are to be reported to the Attorney General who shall initiate civil proceedings to enforce the civil penalty currently assessed for such violations. The bill provides that in the case of an alleged violation by the Attorney General, the State Board of Elections shall request the Supreme Court of Virginia to appoint outside counsel to receive such violation report and such outside counsel shall be responsible for initiating civil proceedings to enforce the civil penalty.

Patron - Cherry

F HB750 Candidates for office; electronic petitions. Allows for the collection of signatures by electronic means, requires the State Board of Elections to prescribe candidate petitions forms in both paper and electronic formats, and provides formal requirements for signatures on electronic petitions. The bill also makes technical amendments to provide uniformity in requirements for such petitions.

Patron - Walker

HB796 Elections; absentee voting; electronic ballot return. Requires that the Department of Elections establish an electronic transmission system through which a military or overseas voter or voter with a disability may request, receive, and return a ballot. The bill also requires a general registrar to offer an applicant for an absentee ballot who indicates that he will require assistance to vote the option to have a blank absentee ballot, the form for the envelope for returning the marked ballot, and instructions sent to him by electronic transmission. A voter with a disability who receives a ballot by electronic transmission may print and return the ballot or may return the ballot by electronic transmission if the voter affirms that he is an individual who, regardless of any other disability, (i) is blind; (ii) has a visual impairment or perceptual or reading disability that cannot be improved to give visual function substantially equivalent to that of a person who has no such impairment or disability and so is unable to read or mark a ballot to substantially the same degree as a person without an impairment or disability; or (iii) is otherwise unable, through physical disability, to hold, mark, or manipulate a ballot or to focus or move the eyes to the extent that would be normally required for reading or marking a ballot. Additionally, the bill requires a general registrar to send any voter who indicates that he will require assistance due to a disability a voter assistance form. Under current law, voters who opt to receive a ballot marking tool are not sent a voter assistance form. The bill also allows a military or overseas voter who requested and received ballot materials by electronic transmission to return the ballot by electronic transmission in circumstances where another more secure method, such as returning the ballot by mail, is not available or feasible.

Patron - Hope

HB841 Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report. Allows elections for any local or constitutional office to be conducted by ranked choice voting. Under current law, only elections of members of a county board of supervisors or a city council are allowed to be conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also clarifies requirements for conducting elections using ranked choice voting and requires results for elections conducted by ranked choice voting to be reported along with other results reported on election night, except that such results must clearly be identified as preliminary and based on the first rankings in a ranked choice voting election. The bill provides that final tabulation for an election for a local or constitutional office that is not shared by more than one county or city is required to be conducted on the same day as other results are canvassed by the local electoral board and that final tabulation for and election for a local or constitutional office that is shared by more than one county or city is required to be conducted at a centralized facility under the supervision of the Department of Elections. The bill specifies that ranking data is required to be made publicly available by the Department and requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also limits a risk-limiting audit of an election conducted using ranked choice voting to the first choice rankings reported on voting systems. Finally, the bill directs the Department to review the

testing and approval framework for voting equipment in the Commonwealth and submit a report of such review no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Hope

HB874 Campaign finance; campaign contribution limits; civil penalty. Prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$20,000 to any one candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$10,000 to any one candidate for the House of Delegates in any one election cycle. The bill does not place any limits on in-kind contributions to such candidates from political party committees. The bill establishes thresholds for any candidates making contributions to their own campaign in excess of \$400,000 in a race for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, or the Senate of Virginia or \$200,000 in a race for House of Delegates. The bill also prohibits persons from making any single contribution, or any combination of contributions, that exceeds \$10,000 to any one political committee in any calendar year. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill may equal up to two times the excess contribution amounts.

Patron - Bulova

F HB932 Absentee voting; absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to 14 days before the election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to the election. Patron - Earley

F HB942 Polling places and voter satellite offices; prohibited locations. Prohibits the placement of a polling place or a voter satellite office within a police station or sheriff's office, but permits the placement in a public building that houses multiple offices that include a police station or sheriff's office.

Patron - Shin

F HB1023 Polling places; prohibited activities or conduct; application to locations for absentee voting in person. Clarifies that the provisions of law prohibiting certain activities or conduct in and around a polling place also apply to offices of the general registrar, voter satellite offices, and dropoff locations during the period that absentee voting in person is available.

Patron - Wilt

HB1045 Elections; campaign finance; Public Campaigns Program and Fund established; tax check-off. Establishes the Public Campaigns Program within the Department of Elections for the purpose of providing matching payments of public money to participating candidates receiving qualified small-dollar contributions of less than \$250. The bill requires participating candidates to agree to abide by contribution limits and limits on the use of public matching payments in addition to agreeing to participate in public debates. Under the bill, matching payments are made from the Public Campaigns Fund, which is funded by an option on Virginia tax returns to direct a contribution of \$40 from an individual filer, or \$80 dollars for joint filers, to the Fund. The bill requires the Department to conduct audits of elections involving Program participants and to make a report to the General Assembly on the status of the Program generally.

Patron - Simon

F HB1149 Removal of elected and certain appointed local officers by courts; Governor. Allows the

Governor to petition the circuit court to remove from office any local elected officer or local officer who has been appointed to fill a local elective office due to certain issues related to neglect of duty or criminal convictions. Under current law, this process is initiated only by a voter petition.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1170 Elections; conduct of election; provisional voting procedures; type of identification to be noted. Requires officers of election to note on the green envelope used for persons voting provisionally the specific type of identification presented by the voter. Current law only requires officers to note whether or not identification was presented.

Patron - Wachsmann

HB1171 Absentee voting; processing absentee ballots returned before election day; processing upon receipt. Requires the general registrars to complete the initial processing of absentee ballots that are returned before election day within three business days of receipt. Under current law, registrars are directed to mark the date of receipt in the voter's record and examine the ballot envelope to verify completion of the required voter affirmation when an absentee ballot is returned but are not subject to a deadline for doing so.

Patron - Wachsmann

F HB1172 Absentee voting; voter satellite offices; minimum number required. Requires that absentee voting in person be available in the office of the general registrar and in any voter satellite office that the governing body of any county or city chooses to establish. Localities with a population of 50,000 or more are required to establish at least one voter satellite office to be in operation for the duration of the period during which absentee voting in person is available. Under current law, the governing body of any county or city, regardless of its population, is authorized to establish as many voter satellite offices as it deems necessary.

Patron - Sickles

HB1176 Elections; voter identification containing photograph required; who may register up to and including the day of the election; absentee voting application requirements; absentee voting in person availability; **return of absentee ballots.** Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote and provides that a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. The bill repeals a provision that would permit any person who is qualified to register to vote to do so in person up to and including the day of the election and limits the persons who are entitled to register to vote after the close of registration records to members of a uniformed service on active duty, persons who are residing temporarily outside of the United States, and their spouses and dependents. The bill limits the period during which absentee voting in person is available from 45 days preceding the date of the election to the 14 days preceding the date of the election. The bill requires that absentee ballots returned by mail be returned to the office of the general registrar by the close of polls on election day and be postmarked on or before the Saturday preceding the date of the election. The bill eliminates the use of drop-off locations for the return of absentee ballots. The bill requires absentee ballot applications to contain the last four digits of the applicant's social security number.

Patron - Wyatt

F HB1189 Elections; conduct of election; ascertainment of results; random hand count audits. Requires the electoral board of each locality to randomly select one polling

place within its jurisdiction in which votes were cast using a voting system for a full hand count audit.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1200 Absentee voting in person; available beginning on the fourteenth day prior to election; hours of operation. Limits absentee voting in person to the two weeks immediately preceding an election. During these two weeks, the bill requires that absentee voting in person be available Monday through Saturday, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1222 Assistance for certain voters outside of the polling place; definition of disability. Expands the definition of disability for purposes of providing assistance outside of a polling place to voters with disabilities to include developmental disabilities.

Patron - Higgins

F HB1238 Local electoral boards; certification and abstract of results; deadline. Extends the deadline for local electoral boards to meet after an election for the purpose of certifying the election results and submitting the abstract of results to the State Board of Elections from seven days after the date of the election to 10 days after such date.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1358 Elections; requirements for precincts; waiver for split precinct or precinct below the minimum size. Allows a governing body granted a waiver to administer a split precinct or directed to establish a precinct with fewer than the minimum number of registered voters to continue to use such a precinct for any election until such time as the governing body makes changes to any precinct boundaries within the locality or the waiver is withdrawn by the State Board. Under current law, such a waiver is limited to the year in which it is granted.

Patron - Kent

HB1360 Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee to personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's child care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections. Patron - Convirs-Fowler

airon - Convirs-Fowler

F HB1439 Voter registration by political party affiliation; partially closed primary elections. Adds party

affiliation, beginning January 1, 2025, to the information that an applicant is asked to provide when registering to vote. The applicant may indicate that he is an independent. The bill specifies that voters registered prior to January 1, 2025, will be designated as independent unless they provide a political party affiliation to the general registrar. Voters may change their political party affiliation or independent status by written notice at any time before the registration records are closed prior to an election. The bill also provides that voters who are on the permanent absentee voter list will receive primary ballots for the political party with which they are registered as affiliated. Finally, the bill requires the state party chairman of each political party to file written notice with the State Board of Elections by January 31 of each year stating the rules adopted by the duly constituted authorities of the state political party for participation in the party's primaries to be held from April 1 of that year through March 31 of the following year. Patron - Wiley

HB1441 Voter registration; proof of citizenship. Requires any person applying to register to vote to provide proof of his United States citizenship. The bill provides that the general registrars shall reject any voter registration application not accompanied by one of the proofs of citizenship enumerated in the bill. Under the provisions of the bill, any person who is registered in the Commonwealth on July 1, 2024, shall be deemed to have provided satisfactory proof of citizenship and shall not be required to submit proof of citizenship so long as the person remains registered in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Wiley

HB1529 General registrars; term of office and exception from general early retirement provisions. Extends the term of office of general registrars from four years to eight years beginning on July 1, 2029, and extends the term of any general registrar serving on the effective date of the bill until June 30, 2029. The bill also provides that, in making an appointment of a general registrar, there shall be a presumption that an incumbent general registrar seeks to continue in office unless such general registrar notifies the electoral board in writing to the contrary. The bill adds general registrars to the list of officers who are exempted from general early retirement provisions and may obtain normal retirement benefits when they are involuntarily separated from service and have 20 or more years of creditable service.

Patron - Cordoza

HB1530 Elections; administration; chief deputy and other deputy registrars. Requires that each locality have one chief deputy registrar. The bill requires any chief deputy registrar serving on a full-time basis to be paid not less than 60 percent of the salary paid to the general registrar. The bill requires that any chief deputy registrar of a locality whose population is greater than 10,000 serve on a full-time basis and gives the general registrar in a locality whose population is 10,000 or less the authority to determine whether the chief deputy registrar serves on a full-time basis. The bill gives general registrars in all localities the authority to determine whether any other deputy registrar serves on a full-time or part-time basis and the authority to determine the terms of deputy registrars, including the chief deputy registrar. Under current law, requirements for employees in a registrar's office are determined on the basis of a population of 15,500 or less or more than 15,500 and some of the determinations are made by the electoral board rather than by the general registrar.

Patron - Cordoza

HB1532 Relating to voter registration; list of registered voters and persons voting at elections. Requires

the Department of Elections to provide digital lists of all registered voters and of persons who voted at any primary, special, or general election held in the four preceding years at no cost and manually prepared paper lists at actual cost to certain persons. Under current law such lists are provided at a reasonable price.

**Elections** 

Patron - Griffin

SB32 Voter registration; verification of social security numbers; provisional registration status. Requires the general registrar to verify that the name, date of birth, and social security number provided by an applicant on the voter registration application match the information on file in the Social Security Administration database or other database approved by the State Board of Elections before registering such applicant. If the information provided by the applicant does not match the information on file in such database, the applicant (i) is provisionally registered to vote and notified as to what steps are needed to be fully registered to vote and (ii) is permitted to vote by provisional ballot but such ballot shall not be counted until the voter presents certain information. The bill also requires the general registrar to verify annually no later than August 1 that the name, date of birth, and social security number in the registration record of each registered voter in the registrar's jurisdiction match the information on file with the Social Security Administration or other database approved by the State Board and, in accordance with current law, to initiate the cancellation of the registration of any voter whose registration record information does not match the database information. The State Board is authorized to approve the use of any government database to the extent required to enable each general registrar to carry out the provisions of the bill and to promulgate rules for the use of such database. The Department of Elections is required to provide each general registrar access to the Social Security Administration database and any other database approved by the State Board. The Department is further required to enter into any agreement with any federal or state agency to facilitate such access. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Peake

SB42 Absentee voting; availability of absentee **voting in person.** Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to the three-week period immediately preceding an election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning on the forty-fifth day prior to an election. Patron - Peake

SB45 Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot. Patron - Peake

SB78 Campaign advertisements; independent expenditures; electioneering communications; disclaimer **requirements.** Broadens the scope of disclaimer requirements for campaign advertisements to include electioneering communications, as defined in the bill, and messages advocating for the passage or defeat of a referendum. The bill also requires an advertisement that is an independent expenditure or that expressly advocates for the passage or defeat of a referendum to contain a disclaimer providing the names of the advertisement sponsor's three largest contributors. The bill also requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing.

Patron - Favola

F SB81 Elections; voter identification; identification containing a photograph required. Requires presentation of a form of identification containing a photograph in order to vote. The bill repeals the provisions of law permitting a voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification to vote after signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements, that he is the named registered voter he claims to be. Instead, the bill provides that such voter is entitled to cast a provisional ballot.

Patron - McGuire

F SB92 Voter registration; registering in person up to the day of the election. Provides that any person who is qualified to register to vote is only entitled to register in person up to the day of the election at the office of the general registrar in the locality in which such person resides. Under current law, such persons are also entitled to register to vote on the day of the election in the precinct in which they reside.

Patron - Peake

F SB107 Campaign finance; fundraising during special sessions prohibited. Prohibits campaign fundraising by a member of the General Assembly or statewide official on any day the General Assembly is scheduled to meet during a special session. Currently, such campaign fundraising is prohibited only during regular sessions of the General Assembly. Patron - Suetterlein

**SB147** Election administration; deputy general registrars; recommended number. Requires the State Board of Elections to adopt guidance for determining the recommended number of deputy registrars to serve in a county or city based on the size of the county's or city's population as of the most recent decennial census and prohibits a local electoral board from setting a number in excess of such recommendation. The bill allows for additional deputy registrars to be appointed if the local electoral board determines that a greater number than the State Board's recommended number for a county's or city's population is needed and the local governing body approves such number. The bill also requires the Department of Elections to convene a work group no later than July 1, 2024, to advise and collaborate with the State Board on the development of such guidance and directs the work group to complete its work and make public such guidance no later than December 1, 2024. The provisions of the bill other than the requirement for the Department to convene the work group have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Patron - Head

F SB167 Elections; candidates; declaration of candidacy for primary and write-in votes. Provides that the declaration of candidacy include a statement that if the signer's name appears on the primary ballot and he is not nominated then his name is not to be printed on the ballots for that office in the succeeding general election. The bill also provides that, at all elections except primary elections, no write-in vote for any person for any office whose name has appeared on the ballot in a primary election for the same office in the same year will be counted.

Patron - Reeves

F SB224 Voter registration; cancellation of registration by voter convicted of a felony; notice prior to cancellation. Requires the general registrar to mail a notice to all persons known by him to have been convicted of a felony prior to canceling any such person's voter registration. The bill spec-

ifies that such notice shall inform the person of the report from the Department of Elections based on information received from the Central Criminal Records Exchange indicating his felony conviction and allow such person to submit evidence that his right to vote has been restored within 14 days of the date the notice was mailed. The bill requires the general registrar to cancel the registration of such person who does not respond within 14 days.

Patron - Rouse

F SB301 Campaign finance; appeal of penalties. Provides for an appeal process for any person or committee assessed a civil penalty under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act of 2006. Upon petition, the State Board of Elections may provide relief to the petitioner for good cause shown. Such relief may include forgiveness of all or a portion of an assessed civil penalty, the retroactive extension of a deadline, or other appropriate remedy.

Patron - DeSteph

F SB303 Elections; voting equipment and systems; State Board approval process; printed receipt for cast ballot. Requires voting systems approved by the State Board of Elections to produce a printed receipt for each voter who has cast a ballot that shows the date and time the voter's ballot was cast, the voter's number corresponding to the order in which ballots were cast, and a list of all the voter's selections on the ballot as recorded by the voting system.

Patron - Stuart

F SB326 Campaign finance; prohibited contributions to candidates. Prohibits candidates, campaign committees, and political committees from soliciting or accepting contributions from any public utility, as defined in the bill, and prohibits any public utility or any political committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution.

Patron - Roem

## **Carried Over**

C HB276 Campaign advertisements; independent expenditures; electioneering communications; disclaimer requirements. Broadens the scope of disclaimer requirements for campaign advertisements to include election-eering communications, as defined in the bill, and messages advocating for the passage or defeat of a referendum. The bill also requires an advertisement that is an independent expenditure or that expressly advocates for the passage or defeat of a referendum to contain a disclaimer providing the names of the advertisement sponsor's three largest contributors. The bill also requires independent expenditure reports to be filed electronically. Current law allows such reports to be filed either electronically or in writing.

Patron - Helmer

C HB363 Disqualification from office under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; affidavit of eligibility for candidates for elective office; removal from office for current officeholders. Provides that any person who is found to have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States or to have given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof shall be disqualified from holding any office of the Commonwealth or of its governmental units in accordance with Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Persons holding office who are so disqualified may be removed by a writ of quo warranto, except that a member of the General Assembly may be removed by the house in which

he sits. The bill requires any candidate for any elective office to submit an affidavit of eligibility attesting that such candidate is eligible to hold elective office under Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Patron - Reid

C HB375 Presidential electors; National Popular Vote Compact. Enters Virginia into an interstate compact known as the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote. Article II of the Constitution of the United States gives the states exclusive and plenary authority to decide the manner of awarding their electoral votes. Under the compact, Virginia agrees to award its electoral votes to the presidential ticket that receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The compact goes into effect when states cumulatively possessing a majority of the electoral votes have joined the compact. A state may withdraw from the compact; however, a withdrawal occurring within six months of the end of a President's term shall not become effective until a President or Vice President has qualified to serve the next term.

Patron - Helmer

C HB440 Elections; candidates for office; electronic filing of forms, petitions, and notifications with Department of Elections. Requires the Department of Elections to develop and implement an online filing system to accept any form, petition, or notification filed by electronic means by a party official or candidate. The bill requires the State Board of Elections to develop standards for the electronic preparation, production, submission, and transmittal of all forms required of party officials and candidates. The bill also requires the State Board to prescribe all candidate and party forms in both paper and electronic formats. The bill allows for the collection of petition signatures by electronic means and provides formal requirements for signatures on electronic petitions. The bill makes technical amendments to provide uniformity in requirements for all such electronic filings. Patron - Cole

C HB565 Voter registration; registration of Department of Motor Vehicles customers; automatic update. Provides that the information gathered by the Department of Motor Vehicles for a person who indicates that he is already registered to vote is to be automatically transmitted to the Department of Elections for the purpose of updating an existing voter registration record. Under current law, a person must be presented with the option to decline to have his information transmitted to the Department of Elections before such information may be transmitted.

Patron - Askew

C HB658 Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report. Allows elections for any local or constitutional office to be conducted by ranked choice voting. Under current law, only elections of members of a county board of supervisors or a city council are allowed to be conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also clarifies requirements for conducting elections using ranked choice voting and requires results for elections conducted by ranked choice voting to be reported along with other results reported on election night, except that such results must clearly be identified as preliminary and based on the first rankings in a ranked choice voting election. The bill provides that final tabulation for an election for a local or constitutional office that is not shared by more than one county or city is required to be conducted on the same day as other results are canvassed by the local electoral board and that final tabulation for and election for a local or constitutional office that is shared by more than one county or city is required to be conducted at a centralized facility under the supervision of the Department of Elections. The bill specifies that ranking data is required to be made publicly available by the Department and requires the State Board of Elections to provide standards and to approve vote tabulating software for use with existing voting systems in elections conducted by ranked choice voting. The bill also limits a risk-limiting audit of an election conducted using ranked choice voting to the first choice rankings reported on voting systems. Finally, the bill directs the Department to review the testing and approval framework for voting equipment in the Commonwealth and submit a report of such review no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Cole

C HB694 Elections; absentee voting; counting ballots prior to the close of polls. Allows officers of election at a central absentee precinct to begin ascertaining and recording the number of votes cast by absentee ballots at any time after noon on the day of the election. Under current law, absentee ballots that are counted by hand may be tallied, but not counted, at any time after noon on the day of the election, and no ballot totals for any absentee ballots shall be ascertained until after polls close. The bill also clarifies that vote totals for absentee ballots cast in person on voting systems cannot be determined until the day of the election. The bill also requires that general registrars begin processing absentee ballots on the fourteenth day prior to the day of the election. Under current law such processing is not required until the seventh day prior to the day of the election.

Patron - O'Quinn

C HB742 State Board of Elections; appointment of Commissioner of Elections. Provides for the appointment of the Commissioner of Elections to be made by the State Board of Elections; currently, the Governor makes such appointment. The appointment or removal of a Commissioner shall require an affirmative vote of four of the five members of the Board. The Commissioner shall be subject to confirmation and reconfirmation by the General Assembly every four years. If the Board fails to make or communicate an appointment of a Commissioner by the end of the term, the bill provides that the Commissioner serving at such time shall be deemed to be reappointed and shall be subject to reconfirmation at the next regular session. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - O'Quinn

C HB907 Elections; voting equipment and systems; State Board approval process; printed receipt for cast ballot. Requires voting systems approved by the State Board of Elections to produce a printed receipt for each voter who has cast a ballot that shows the date and time the voter's ballot was cast, the voter's number corresponding to the order in which ballots were cast, and a list of all the voter's selections on the ballot as recorded by the voting system.

Patron - Kent

C HB941 Absentee voting in person; voter satellite offices; establishment on the campus of certain public institutions of higher education. Requires, for any general election, at least one voter satellite office to be established on the campus of any baccalaureate public institution of higher education that has more than 3,000 enrolled students. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to report each year to the State Board of Elections the number of enrolled students, as defined by the bill, at each baccalaureate public institution of higher education and requires the State Board to use this number to determine which institutions meet the enrollment threshold for requiring an on-campus voter sat-

ellite office for the general election held the following year. The governing body of a county or city where a baccalaureate public institution of higher education meeting the enrollment threshold is located, or the general registrar serving such county or city, shall collaborate with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to select a location for the establishment and operation of a voter satellite office on such institution's campus. The location selected shall be within the student activity center on the institution's campus, unless such placement creates an undue burden on the operation of such institution, in which case the location selected shall be centrally located on the institution's campus.

Patron - Shin

C HB1314 Elections; political campaign advertisements; advertisements sponsored by a person or political committee that is not a party committee.

C HB1490 Absentee voting in person; voter satellite offices; days and hours of operation. Authorizes the governing body of any county or city establishing voter satellite offices for absentee voting in person to prescribe, by ordinance, the dates and hours of operation for such offices. The bill prohibits any reduction in the dates or hours of operation of such offices to be enacted within 60 days of any general election.

Patron - Reaser

C SB270 Elections; presidential primaries; ranked choice voting. Allows political parties to hold presidential primaries using ballots that allow a voter to rank such party's candidates in his order of choice. The bill includes a reenactment clause.

Patron - Subramanyam

C SB315 Voter registration; registration of Department of Motor Vehicles customers, automatic update. Provides that the information gathered by the Department of Motor Vehicles for a person who is already registered to vote is to be automatically transmitted to the Department of Elections for the purpose of updating an existing voter registration record name or address change and to return a voter to active status from inactive status, as appropriate. Under current law, a person must be presented with the option to decline to have his information transmitted to the Department of Elections before such information may be transmitted.

Patron - Salim

SB377 Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds; complaints, hearings, civil penalty, and advisory opinions. Prohibits any person from converting contributions to a candidate or his campaign committee to personal use. Current law only prohibits such conversion of contributions with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill provides that a contribution is considered to have been converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense that would exist irrespective of the person's seeking, holding, or maintaining public office but allows a contribution to be used for the ordinary and accepted expenses related to campaigning for or holding elective office, including the use of campaign funds to pay for the candidate's child care expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity. The bill provides that any person subject to the personal use ban may request an advisory opinion from the State Board of Elections on such matters. The bill directs the State Board of Elections to adopt emergency regulations similar to those promulgated by the Federal Election Commission to implement the provisions of the bill and to publish an updated summary of Virginia campaign finance law

that reflects the State Board of Elections' and Attorney General's guidance on the provisions of such law that prohibit the personal use of campaign funds and any new regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elections.

Patron - Boysko

C SB406 Elections; political campaign advertisements; advertisements sponsored by a person or political committee that is not a party committee. Prohibits any person from printing or circulating unofficial sample ballots unless they (i) are not printed on white paper, (ii) include the words "sample ballot," (iii) include the statement: "Paid for by [Name of the sponsor as defined by § 24.2-956.1]," and (iv) include the statement "Authorized by [Name of political party]" or "Not authorized by a political party."

Patron - Durant

## **Eminent Domain**

## Failed

F HB735 Eminent domain; offer to sell to former owner. Provides that a former owner may enter into a contractual agreement or agree to a contractual provision waiving his right to receive an offer of sale from a condemnor. Under current law, any agreement or provision waiving such right is void and unenforceable.

Patron - Sewell

# Financial Institutions and Services

#### Passed

P HB648 Contracts assigning rights to inheritance funds; legal rate of interest. Provides that any contract entered into on or after July 1, 2024, pursuant to which a person receives a cash advance for assigning to a company or other entity a portion of such person's rights to receive inheritance funds from a will in a pending probate matter shall be considered a loan and any additional funds such person is obligated to pay under the terms of the contract shall be considered interest. The bill provides that such contract shall be subject to the legal rate of interest.

Patron - Coyner

HB692 Financial institutions; reporting financial exploitation of elderly or vulnerable adults. Permits a financial institution to allow an elderly or vulnerable adult, as defined in the bill, to submit and periodically update a list of trusted persons whom such financial institution or financial institution staff, as defined in the bill, may contact in the case of the suspected financial exploitation of such adult. The bill also permits a financial institution to conduct a training to instruct its staff on how to identify and report the suspected financial exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable adult internally at such financial institution, to a designated trusted contact, and to various other authorities. The bill directs the Bureau of Financial Institutions of the State Corporation Commission to develop and publish guidelines for such training by January 1, 2026. The bill provides that no financial institution staff that have received such training shall be liable in any civil or administrative proceeding for disclosing the suspected

financial exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable adult pursuant to the bill's provisions if such disclosure was made in good faith and with reasonable care. The bill provides that no financial institution that has provided such training shall be liable for any such disclosure by financial institution staff. This bill is identical to SB 174.

Patron - Maldonado

P SB166 Financial institutions; certain payments required electronically. Requires any financial institution that initiates an electronic fund transfer as payment for the sale to a consumer of a security issued by such financial institution to make available to the consumer the option of completing any payment of principal, interest, dividend, or other distribution related to the security via an electronic fund transfer.

Patron - Reeves

P SB174 Financial institutions; reporting financial exploitation of elderly or vulnerable adults. Permits a financial institution to allow an elderly or vulnerable adult, as defined in the bill, to submit and periodically update a list of trusted persons whom such financial institution or financial institution staff, as defined in the bill, may contact in the case of the suspected financial exploitation of such adult. The bill also permits a financial institution to conduct a training to instruct its staff on how to identify and report the suspected financial exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable adult internally at such financial institution, to a designated trusted contact, and to various other authorities. The bill directs the Bureau of Financial Institutions of the State Corporation Commission to develop and publish guidelines for such training by January 1, 2026. The bill provides that no financial institution staff that have received such training shall be liable in any civil or administrative proceeding for disclosing the suspected financial exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable adult pursuant to the bill's provisions if such disclosure was made in good faith and with reasonable care. The bill provides that no financial institution that has provided such training shall be liable for any such disclosure by financial institution staff. This bill is identical to HB 692.

Patron - Favola

## **Carried Over**

C HB343 Financial institutions; regulation of money transmitters; penalty. Replaces existing state law regulating money transmitters with comprehensive provisions aimed at standardizing the regulation of money transmitters across the 50 states. The bill includes provisions for the licensure of money transmitters, supervision and implementation by the State Corporation Commission, acquisition of control of a licensee, mandatory disclosures, reporting and records requirements, authorized delegates, mandatory disclosures, prudential standards, and enforcement.

Patron - Cole

C HB373 Financial institutions; reporting financial exploitation of elderly or vulnerable adults. Permits a financial institution, as defined in the bill, to allow an elderly or vulnerable adult, as defined in the bill, to submit and periodically update a list of trusted persons whom such financial institution or financial institution staff, as defined in the bill, may contact in the case of suspected financial exploitation of such adult. In such a case, the bill also allows a financial institution or financial institution staff to convey such suspicion to one or more certain individuals, provided that the recipient of such conveyance is not the suspected perpetrator of financial exploitation. The bill provides that a financial institution or

financial institution staff shall be immune from any criminal, civil, or administrative liability for any act taken or omission made in accordance with the bill's provisions.

Patron - Feggans

## **Fire Protection**

### **Passed**

P HB852 Local government ordinances related to fire departments; billing on behalf of volunteer fire departments. Provides that the governing body of any county, city, or town in which a fire department or fire company is established may make such ordinances in relation to the powers and duties of such fire departments or fire companies as it deems proper, including billing on behalf of volunteer fire departments for the provision of emergency medical services. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Williams

#### Failed

HB484 Statewide Fire Prevention Code; State Fire Marshal; consumer fireworks; penalties. Authorizes the use of consumer fireworks in the Commonwealth and distinguishes by definition consumer fireworks from display fireworks and permissible fireworks. The bill defines "consumer fireworks" as small fireworks devices (i) containing restricted amounts of pyrotechnic composition designed primarily to produce visible or audible effects by combustion and (ii) complying with certain federal regulations regarding composition and labeling. The bill also provides that the storage and transportation of consumer fireworks are to be considered the same hazard class as the storage and transportation of 1.4G explosives under the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) and Uniform Statewide Building Code. The bill excludes from the provisions of the SFPC, unless prohibited by a local ordinance, (a) the sale of permissible or consumer fireworks; (b) any person using, igniting, or exploding permissible or consumer fireworks on residential or agricultural property with the consent of the owner of such property; or (c) such permissible or consumer fireworks when they are being transported from a locality where they were legally obtained to a locality where they are legally permitted. Current law only excludes sale of permissible fireworks or the use of such fireworks on private property. The bill also directs 10 percent of the sales and use tax revenue generated by the local sales and tax use on the sale of consumer or permissible fireworks to be allocated to a special fund used solely for providing funding for first responders, as defined in the bill. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Garrett

HB1245 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; recruitment and development of volunteer firefighters; work group. Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group to study the recruitment and development of volunteer firefighters with a specific focus on providing training to volunteer fire departments, volunteer fire companies, and volunteer firefighters in a cost-efficient and effective manner and to identify and recommend eliminating any barriers to the recruitment and development of volunteer firefighters.

Patron - Zehr

### **Carried Over**

C HB492 Department of Fire Programs; statewide contract language for procurement of fire and emergency medical services apparatuses and equipment; work group; report. Directs the Department of Fire Programs, the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services, and the Department of General Services to establish a work group to prepare statewide contract language for the procurement of fire and emergency medical services apparatuses and equipment. The bill requires the Department of Fire Programs to report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Virginia Fire Services Board and State EMS Advisory Board on or before October 1, 2024, and to make such report available to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology, upon request.

Patron - Garrett

C HB1049 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; work group to study recruitment and professional development of firefighters and emergency medical services personnel; report. Requires the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, to convene a work group to (i) study the recruitment and professional development of firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, (ii) make recommendations to ensure the uniformity of training for firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, and (iii) examine whether the state regulation of firefighters and emergency medical services personnel should be consolidated under a single secretariat and if a new secretariat should be created to oversee such regulation. The bill requires the work group to submit a report to the relevant General Assembly committees by November 1, 2024.

C SB648 Fire and Emergency Medical Services Grant Fund; funding for fire and emergency medical services. Increases the vehicle registration fee used to provide support for emergency medical services from \$4.25 to \$6.25 for each pickup or panel truck and each motor vehicle. The bill also creates the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Grant Fund to provide funding (i) to increase the number of firefighters and emergency medical services personnel to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate assistance and (ii) to purchase heavy apparatus necessary for fire and emergency medical services.

Patron - Perry

Patron - Batten

# Fisheries and Habitat of the Tidal Waters

#### Passed

P HB596 Fisheries Innovation for Sustainable Harvest Fund established. Establishes the Fisheries Innovation for Sustainable Harvest Fund for the purposes of supporting and promoting the economic growth and development of Virginia's seafood economy. The Fund shall be administered by the Marine Resources Commission for the sole purpose of supporting and promoting the economic growth and development of Virginia's seafood economy while enhancing the sustainability of Virginia's marine fisheries resources through the

awarding of grants, revolving loans, or other financial tools. The bill provides that the Commercial Fishing Advisory Board shall advise the Commission on expenditures from the Fund. This bill is identical to SB 464.

Patron - Askew

P SB464 Fisheries Innovation for Sustainable Harvest Fund established. Establishes the Fisheries Innovation for Sustainable Harvest Fund for the purposes of supporting and promoting the economic growth and development of Virginia's seafood economy. The Fund shall be administered by the Marine Resources Commission for the sole purpose of supporting and promoting the economic growth and development of Virginia's seafood economy while enhancing the sustainability of Virginia's marine fisheries resources through the awarding of grants, revolving loans, or other financial tools. The bill provides that the Commercial Fishing Advisory Board shall advise the Commission on expenditures from the Fund. This bill is identical to HB 596.

Patron - Stuart

## Failed

F HB1151 Marine Resources Commission; use of a photo monitoring system; Dandy Point Landing. Allows the Marine Resources Commission to place and operate a photo monitoring device, as defined in the bill, at Dandy Point Landing facility in the City of Hampton for the purpose of safety monitoring on state-owned property.

Patron - Cordoza

F SB267 Local wetlands boards; permit application approval. Changes the standard for approval of a wetlands permit application from three members of a five-member wetlands board or four members of a seven-member wetlands board to a simple majority of those board members present and voting. The bill also changes the standard for approval of a coastal primary sand dune permit application from three members of a five-member wetlands board or four members of a seven-member wetlands board to a simple majority of a quorum of such board. The bill requires certain localities to amend the related ordinances to conform to the provisions of the bill no later than January 1, 2025.

F SB268 Marine Resources Commission; permits; public notice. Requires the Commissioner of Marine Resources to ensure that for any project under consideration for a Commission-issued permit the Commission sends public notice electronically to any business, residence, or civic organization that has requested to be added to the Commission's public notice email list.

Patron - DeSteph

Patron - DeSteph

F SB269 General oyster-planting ground leases; riparian assignments; Marine Resources Commission. Directs the Marine Resources Commission to not issue or renew any private leases for general oyster-planting grounds in the Commonwealth on or after July 1, 2024, and to promulgate regulations to conform to the provisions of the bill. The bill returns any general oyster-planting grounds that are unassigned or currently leased by the Commission to public oyster rocks, beds, and shoals that are unassignable to any person for private use but does not curtail the length of time remaining on existing leases.

Patron - DeSteph

F **SB275** Marine Resources Commission; certain permits in the Lynnhaven River and its tributaries prohib-

**ited.** Prohibits the Marine Resources Commission from issuing any permit for any floating oyster cage in a water column, rack-and-bag, or other similar apparatus for oyster aquaculture in the Lynnhaven River or its tributaries.

Patron - DeSteph

## **Carried Over**

C HB19 Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Marine Resources Commission; study of ecology, fishery impacts, and economic importance of Atlantic menhaden; report. Directs the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in collaboration with the Marine Resources Commission and certain stakeholders, as provided in the bill, to conduct a three-year study of the ecology, fishery impacts, and economic importance of the Atlantic menhaden population in the waters of the Commonwealth. The bill requires VIMS to provide a report on its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources no later than October 1, 2027.

Patron - Ware

C HB1520 Virginia Institute of Marine Science; review the cumulative surface water intake effects on aquatic fauna in the Chesapeake Bay; report. Directs the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to review the feasibility of studying cumulative impacts of surface water intakes on aquatic fauna and water quality in Virginia's rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. VIMS is required to report whether the study may be conducted and, if so, report the total amount of funding necessary to conduct the study to the Governor by October 1, 2024.

Patron - Kent

C SB730 Nonliving shoreline stabilization structures; regulations; Marine Resources Commission. Directs the Marine Resources Commission to promulgate regulations regarding the types of repairs or maintenance to nonliving shoreline stabilization structures in existence prior to July 1, 2020, that are exempt from or require permits.

Patron - Surovell

## **General Assembly**

#### **Passed**

P HB114 Health Insurance Reform Commission; membership. Adds two legislative members to the Health Insurance Reform Commission. The bill requires one such member to be a member of the House Committee on Appropriations who is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and one to be a member of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations who is appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. This bill is a recommendation of the Health Insurance Reform Commission.

Patron - Ware

P HB200 Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes; sunset. Extends from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2026, the sunset date of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.

Patron - Krizek

PHB212 MEI Project Approval Commission; board-level gender and diversity requirements. Requires the MEI Project Approval Commission to consider, prior to recommending approval of any major employment and investment (MEI) project, a board diversity disclosure statement submitted by the business seeking incentives. The Commission is required to consider (i) whether such statement specifies the number and percentage of diverse directors who identify as female or as representing a national, racial, ethnic, indigenous, or cultural minority in the country of the business's principal executive offices and (ii) whether the business commits to annually updating and submitting such statement. This bill is identical to SB 393. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Watts

P HB374 Virginia Minority Business Commission; report; sunset. Establishes the 13-member Virginia Minority Business Commission in the legislative branch of government for the purpose of promoting the growth and competitiveness of Virginia minority-owned businesses. The bill provides that the Commission sunsets on July 1, 2028.

Patron - Feggans

P HB607 Virginia Commission to End Hunger established; report. Establishes the Virginia Commission to End Hunger. The bill states that the purpose of the Commission is to develop an action plan every two years for ending hunger in the Commonwealth, review the progress of such plan, and ensure cross-collaboration among government entities and community partners toward the goal of ending hunger in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Price

P HB807 Behavioral Health Commission; membership. Changes the composition of the Behavioral Health Commission by increasing from two to three the number of House appointees who are required to be members of the House Committee on Appropriations. This bill is identical to SB 125.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB839 American Revolution 250 Commission; membership and staffing. Amends the membership of the American Revolution 250 Commission to allow for the appointment of ex officio members who are directors of historic homes, historic sites, or National Park Service sites or former legislative members of the Commission. The bill also provides for staff of the Commission to serve as the Commission's fiscal agent. This bill is identical to SB 117.

Patron - Austin

P HB1199 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; staff; authority to appoint, employ, and remove. Authorizes the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) to appoint, employ, and remove an executive director and such other persons as it deems necessary and determine their duties and fix their salaries or compensation within the amounts appropriated therefor. The bill removes the provision that directs the Division of Legislative Services to provide staff support to JCOTS.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1210 Health Insurance Reform Commission; assessment of certain legislation. Requires the Health Insurance Reform Commission, whenever the Chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce or the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor requests that the Commission assess a legislative measure containing a mandated health insurance benefit or provider, to complete its assessment and

submit a report for each such request within 24 months. This bill is identical to SB 132.

Patron - Hayes

P SB117 American Revolution 250 Commission; membership and staffing. Amends the membership of the American Revolution 250 Commission to allow for the appointment of ex officio members who are directors of historic homes, historic sites, or National Park Service sites or former legislative members of the Commission. The bill also provides for staff of the Commission to serve as the Commission's fiscal agent. This bill is identical to HB 839.

Patron - Locke

P **SB125** Behavioral Health Commission; membership. Changes the composition of the Behavioral Health Commission by increasing from two to three the number of House appointees who are required to be members of the House Committee on Appropriations. This bill is identical to HB 807.

Patron - Favola

P SB132 Health Insurance Reform Commission; assessment of certain legislation. Requires the Health Insurance Reform Commission, whenever the Chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce or the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor requests that the Commission assess a legislative measure containing a mandated health insurance benefit or provider, to complete its assessment and submit a report for each such request within 24 months. This bill is identical to HB 1210.

Patron - Head

P SB393 MEI Project Approval Commission; board-level gender and diversity requirements. Requires the MEI Project Approval Commission to consider, prior to recommending approval of any major employment and investment (MEI) project, a board diversity disclosure statement submitted by the business seeking incentives. The Commission is required to consider (i) whether such statement specifies the number and percentage of diverse directors who identify as female or as representing a national, racial, ethnic, indigenous, or cultural minority in the country of the business's principal executive offices and (ii) whether the business commits to annually updating and submitting such statement. This bill is identical to HB 212. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Pekarsky

P SB439 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; analysis of blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in the Commonwealth; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) to conduct an analysis of blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in the Commonwealth and the creation of a Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Commission. JCOTS shall submit a report of its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology no later than December 1, 2024.

Patron - Salim

## Failed

F HB132 Virginia Minority Business Commission; report; sunset. Establishes the 13-member Virginia Minority Business Commission in the legislative branch of government for the purpose of promoting the growth and com-

petitiveness of Virginia minority-owned businesses. The bill provides that the Commission sunsets on July 1, 2026.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

HB283 Secretary of the Commonwealth; ad hoc committee to evaluate executive and legislative collegial bodies. Requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to convene an ad hoc committee for the purpose of studying and evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of collegial bodies within the executive and legislative branches and to develop uniform standards for the establishment and operation of such bodies. The Governor shall appoint three nonlegislative citizen members who have previously served as gubernatorial appointees on executive branch collegial bodies. The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall appoint two Delegates and one nonlegislative citizen member who has previously served as a legislative appointee on a collegial body, and the Senate Committee on Rules shall appoint two Senators and one nonlegislative citizen member who has previously served as a legislative appointee on a collegial body. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall serve as the committee's chairman. Patron - Scott, P.A.

**HB911** Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council; staffing; annual audit of certain disclosure forms; lobbyist registration and reporting; civil penalties. Provides for an annual audit of the Statement of Economic Interests disclosure forms filed by members of the General Assembly to ensure the completeness and material accuracy of the information disclosed. The bill directs the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council to appoint and employ an executive director; currently, the Division of Legislative Services employs the executive director and provides additional staff assistance. Additional staff required pursuant to the bill includes at least one experienced lawyer and at least one experienced auditor or investigator. The bill also increases the civil penalty for certain violations related to filing such disclosure forms and prohibits any such penalty from being paid using funds contributed to or received by a candidate or his campaign committee or by any political committee. Lastly, the bill brings the reporting period and deadline for lobbyists' disclosures into alignment with the schedule for filing disclosures required pursuant to the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act and the General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act.

Patron - Shin

F HB1303 General Assembly members; administrative and legislative assistants. Removes the obsolete title of secretary and replaces it with administrative assistant for the purposes of employment of staff for officers and members of the General Assembly. The bill also clarifies the distinction between administrative assistants, who are hired by the House and Senate Clerks, and legislative assistants, who are hired by each member of the General Assembly.

Patron - Herring

F HB1480 Virginia-Ireland Advisory Board established; report. Creates the Virginia-Ireland Advisory Board to advise the Governor and General Assembly on ways to improve economic and cultural links between Virginia and Ireland, with a focus on the areas of commerce and trade, art and education, and general government. The bill requires the Board to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly.

Patron - O'Quinn

F SB527 General Assembly; intergovernmental affairs; delegates to a convention for proposing amendments held under Article V of the Constitution of the

United States. Provides for the selection by the General Assembly of delegates to attend a convention for proposing amendments held under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. The bill grants the General Assembly the power to recall delegates, appoint new delegates, and convene an advisory committee to oversee the conduct of delegates. The bill provides that delegates must take an oath to adhere to the instructions of the General Assembly.

Patron - Sturtevant

SB695 Virginia Crime Commission; surveillance technology; report. Adds to the powers and duties of the Virginia Crime Commission (the Commission) the power to conduct an annual study on surveillance technology, defined in the bill, utilized by local and state law-enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth, including (i) the technology's potential impact on privacy rights and civil liberties, with particular attention to potential disparate impacts on different communities and populations; (ii) the technology's effectiveness for law or regulatory enforcement purposes, and the likelihood that evidence collected through such technology will be considered inadmissible in a court of competent jurisdiction; (iii) the potential for the misuse of the technology or any data that is collected through the use of such technology and safeguards to prevent such misuse; (iv) existing laws and regulations governing the technology and whether additional legislation is necessary to regulate its use; and (v) any recommendation as to whether technology utilized by a locality should be implemented throughout the Commonwealth. The bill provides that the Commission shall submit a report of its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee for Courts of Justice, the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, and the Governor within six months of beginning the study and shall make such report available to the public on the website of the Commission.

Patron - Peake

#### Carried Over

C HB1031 Commission on Legislature Modernization; report. Establishes the Commission on Legislature Modernization in the legislative branch for the purpose of studying the operation and functionality of the General Assembly and identifying ways to make the legislature more effective, efficient, responsive, reflective, and transparent on behalf of all Virginians. The Commission will consist of 17 members, which shall include 9 legislators, 6 nonlegislative citizen members, and 2 ex officio members. The Commission shall be convened for a period of two years, every 10 years in the year ending in four, and shall terminate after the submission of its final report to the General Assembly at the end of its second

Patron - Bennett-Parker

C HB1316 Virginia State Crime Commission; benefits of violence interrupters; impact of barrier crime statutes; report. Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission, in consultation with stakeholders, to assess (i) the benefits of violence interrupters and (ii) the impact barrier crimes statutes have on the recruitment and retention rates of violence interrupters in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Crime Commission to report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and the House Committee for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2024.

#### Patron - Ward

#### **General Provisions**

#### Passed

P HB517 Official emblems and designations; state pollinator; European honey bee. Designates the honey bee (Apis mellifera) as the official state pollinator. The bill contains a technical amendment. Patron - Hope

P HB711 Bonds for public institutions of higher learning; emergency. Authorizes issuance of bonds in an amount up to \$124,285,000 for revenue-producing capital projects at James Madison University, Virginia State University, and The College of William and Mary in Virginia. The bill contains an emergency clause and is identical to SB 599. Patron - Torian

P HB1338 Courthouse and website posting of **notices.** Provides that if any notice, summons, order, or other official document of any type is required to be posted pursuant to a provision of the Code on or at the front door of a courthouse or on a public bulletin board at a courthouse, it shall constitute compliance with this requirement if such document is (i) posted on the public government website of the locality served by the court or the website of any court, court clerk, sheriff, or commissioner of accounts of the locality or (ii) posted with such other documents at or near the principal public entrance to the courthouse in a location that is conspicuous to the public and approved by the chief judge of the circuit in which the courthouse is situated. Under current law, the document must be posted on either the public government website of the locality served by the court or the website of the circuit court clerk. Patron - Hope

P **SB495** RPS eligible sources; falling water generation facilities. Provides that, notwithstanding contrary provisions of law, any falling water generation facility, as defined in the bill, located in the Commonwealth and commencing commercial operations prior to July 1, 2024, shall be considered a renewable energy portfolio standard eligible source. Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB599** Bonds for public institutions of higher learning; emergency. Authorizes issuance of bonds in an amount up to \$124,285,000 for revenue-producing capital projects at James Madison University, Virginia State University, and The College of William and Mary in Virginia. The bill contains an emergency clause and is identical to HB 711. Patron - Lucas

#### Failed

**HB6** Time zone of the Commonwealth. Provides that the Commonwealth shall observe Eastern Daylight Time (Eastern Standard Time, advanced one hour) year-round upon the enactment by Congress of a law allowing states to observe Eastern Daylight Time year-round.

Patron - McNamara

HB404 Abortion; use of public funds prohibited. Provides that no agency of the Commonwealth shall enter into any contract with or make any grant of public funds, as defined in the bill, to any entity or any affiliate of any entity that provides abortion services or operates a facility at which abortion services are provided. The bill also repeals provisions authorizing the Board of Health to use state general funds

appropriated to the Department of Health to pay the cost of abortions for women who otherwise meet the financial eligibility criteria for services through the state plan for medical assistance services in cases in which (i) a pregnancy occurs as a result of rape or incest that is reported to a law-enforcement or public health agency or (ii) a physician certifies in writing that he believes the fetus will be born with a gross and totally incapacitating physical deformity or with a gross and totally incapacitating mental deficiency.

Patron - Griffin

F HB1274 Official emblems and designations; cat; domestic shorthair. Designates the domestic shorthair as the official cat of the Commonwealth.

Patron - Krizek

F **SB601** Capital outlay plan. Updates the six-year capital outlay plan for projects to be funded entirely or partially from general fund-supported resources.

Patron - Lucas

#### Health

#### **Passed**

P HB93 Alpha-gal syndrome; Board of Health; reportable disease list. Directs the Board of Health to adopt regulations to include alpha-gal syndrome on the list of diseases that shall be required to be reported in accordance with the Code of Virginia. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Wachsmann

P HB204 Maternal Mortality Review Team; membership. Adds a representative of the Department of Corrections and a representative of the State Board of Local and Regional Jails, both appointed by the Governor, to the membership of the Maternal Mortality Review Team.

Patron - Simonds

PHB220 Water facilities; staffing; licensed operators. Requires sewage treatment works, classified waterworks, and classified water treatment facilities to employ a licensed operator. The bill establishes a protocol for responding to an unexpected vacancy of the licensed operator position. The bill also permits remote monitoring of the facility by the licensed operator upon a demonstration of sufficient technology for the remote operator to adequately monitor the waterworks or treatment facility and manage onsite operators.

Patron - Orrock

P HB252 Sickle cell disease; statewide registry; collection of sickle cell disease case information; penalties; notification; annual report. Creates a statewide registry of sickle cell disease patients to be maintained by the State Health Commissioner. The bill establishes: (i) standards and selection criteria for the collection of sickle cell disease information; (ii) penalties for unauthorized use of data from such registry; and (iii) notice requirements for patients whose personal identifying information has been submitted to such registry. The bill allows patients diagnosed with sickle cell disease to self-report information to the sickle cell disease registry. Under the bill, a patient has the right to opt out of having his information reported to the statewide sickle cell disease registry. The bill also directs the Commissioner to submit an annual report of the information obtained from the sickle cell disease registry to the

Governor and the General Assembly by November 1 of each year.

Patron - Cole

P HB255 Adult wellness screening; sickle cell disease or sickle cell trait. Provides that every adult resident of the Commonwealth may be offered screening tests for sickle cell disease or the sickle cell trait and requires that the health care professional in charge of an adult's annual health examination provide education and appropriate counseling regarding the results of any such test that is performed.

Patron - Mundon King

P HB291 Long-term services and supports screening; expedited screening; screening exemption; emergency. Modifies existing provisions regarding the required long-term services and supports screening under the state plan for medical assistance services by creating greater flexibility for how screenings are completed under certain circumstances. Under the bill, any individual receiving inpatient services in an acute care hospital discharged to a nursing facility for skilled care only is not required to be screened prior to discharge from the hospital unless the individual requests the screening. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 24 and contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Cherry

P HB353 Hospitals; emergency departments; licensed physicians. Requires any hospital with an emergency department to have at least one licensed physician on duty and physically present at all times. Current law requires such hospitals to have a licensed physician on call, though not necessarily physically present on the premises, at all times. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025 and is identical to SB 392.

Patron - Hope

P HB354 Public pools; regulations. Directs the Board of Health to adopt regulations governing swimming pools and other water recreational facilities operated for public use, including swimming pools and other water recreational facilities operated in conjunction with a tourist facility or health spa. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hope

P HB435 Law-enforcement officers; exposure to bodily fluids; petition to the general district court by local attorney for the Commonwealth. Allows a local attorney for the Commonwealth allows a local attorney for the Commonwealth in the county or city in which such exposure occurred to file a petition for an order requiring testing and disclosure of test results on behalf of a law-enforcement officer when a law-enforcement officer is directly exposed to the bodily fluid of a person in a manner that may, according to the then-current guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, transmit human immunodeficiency virus or hepatitis B or C viruses and such person refuses to submit to testing. Current law limits who may file a petition to the exposed law-enforcement officer or his employer.

Patron - Arnold

P HB514 Advisory Council on Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome; sunset. Extends from July 1, 2020, to July 1, 2028, the sunset of the Advisory Council on Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated

with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome.

Patron - Hope

P HB570 Prescription Drug Affordability Board established; drug cost affordability review. Establishes the Prescription Drug Affordability Board for the purpose of protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth and other stakeholders within the health care system from the high costs of prescription drug products. The bill requires the Board to meet in open session at least four times annually, with certain exceptions and requirements enumerated in the bill. Members of the Board are required to disclose any conflicts of interest, as described in the bill. The bill also creates a stakeholder council for the purpose of assisting the Board in making decisions related to drug cost affordability. The bill tasks the Board with identifying prescription, generic, and other drugs, as defined in the bill, that are offered for sale in the Commonwealth and, at the Board's discretion, conducting an affordability review of any prescription drug product. The bill lists factors for the Board to consider that indicate an affordability challenge for the health care system in the Commonwealth or high out-ofpocket costs for patients. The bill also provides that any person aggrieved by a decision of the Board may request an appeal of the Board's decision and that the Attorney General has authority to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill provides that the Board shall establish no more than 12 upper payment limit amounts annually between January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2028.

The bill requires the Board to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly twice annually, beginning on July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. Provisions of the bill shall apply to state-sponsored and state-regulated health plans and health programs and obligate such policies to limit drug payment amounts and reimbursements to an upper payment limit amount set by the Board, if applicable, following an affordability review. The bill specifies that Medicare Part D plans shall not be bound by such decisions of the Board.

The bill also requires the nonprofit organization contracted by the Department of Health to provide prescription drug price transparency to provide the Board access to certain data reported by manufacturers. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to SB 274. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Delaney

P HB577 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; slot-retention requests; Developmental Disability waivers; sunset. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend their regulations to allow for support coordinators to request and subsequently obtain approval of consecutive waiver slot-retention requests for a period of up to 365 calendar days for individuals who have been assigned a Developmental Disability waiver slot. Current regulations allow for four consecutive 30-day slot-retention extensions. The bill sunsets on June 30, 2026, and is identical to SB 610.

Patron - Runion

P HB592 Department of Health; emergency regulations related to prescription drug price transparency; effective period; emergency. Directs that the emergency regulations 12VAC5-219, promulgated by the Department of Health pursuant to Chapter 304 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, shall remain in effect until the promulgation of final regulations. The bill requires such effective

period to be retroactive to January 1, 2024, and contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Sickles

P HB609 Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. This bill is identical to SB 237. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Price

P HB649 Vital records; birth certificates; adoption; members of the military. Directs the State Registrar to expedite issuance of a new birth certificate upon receipt of certain documentation for a person born in the Commonwealth if at least one adoptive parent is an active duty or retired member of the military or military reserves. The bill directs the court decreeing the adoption to deliver such records to the State Registrar no later than five business days from such decree. This bill is identical to SB 325.

Patron - Covner

P HB729 Long-term services and support screening; PACE programs; emergency. Allows qualified staff of programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) to conduct the required long-term services and supports screening in accordance with requirements established by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. Under the bill, when a screening team determines that it is unable to complete a long-term services and supports screening within 30 days, or an individual requests enrollment in a PACE program, the screening team shall decide which entity can most expeditiously conduct the screening. Under the bill, qualified staff of a PACE program shall conduct the screening if the screening team determines that it is the most expeditious option. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to SB 620.

Patron - Sickles

P HB763 Board of Health; hospital regulations; use of smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures. Requires the Board of Health to amend its regulations to require that every hospital where surgical procedures are performed adopt a policy requiring the use of a smoke evacuation system for all planned surgical procedures. The bill defines "smoke evacuation system" as smoke evacuation equipment and technologies designed to capture, filter, and remove surgical smoke at the site of origin and to prevent surgical smoke from making ocular contact or contact with a person's respiratory tract. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and is identical to SB 537.

Patron - Delaney

P HB781 Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. The bill directs the Task Force to conclude its work by December 1, 2025. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023. The bill incorporates HB 169. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Herring

P HB820 Department of Medical Assistance Services; annual review of medication and treatment for sickle cell disease; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to conduct an annual review of all medications and forms of treatment for sickle cell disease, and services for enrollees with a diagnosis of sickle cell disease, that are eligible for coverage under the state plan for medical assistance services. The bill requires the Department to report its findings and recommendations by November 15 each year to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health and to the Joint Commission on Health Care.

Patron - Mundon King

P HB831 Chief Medical Examiner; Maternal Mortality Review Team; work group; expansion plan; report. Directs the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Maternal Mortality Review Team to convene a work group to expand the work of the Maternal Mortality Review Team. The bill directs the work group to develop criteria and procedures related to the collection of maternal morbidity data. The bill specifies that the Maternal Mortality Review Team's expansion plan shall include certain plans for data collection, data review, and development and implementation of policies and recommendations. The work group is required to report its findings and provide its plan to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by July 1, 2026.

Patron - Cousins

**HB908** Department of Medical Assistances Services; financial eligibility standards for certain waivers providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the financial eligibility standards for individuals receiving services under the Family and Individual Support Waiver, Community Living Waiver, and Building Independence Waiver (the DD Waivers). The bill requires the Department, when determining financial eligibility for the DD Waivers, to disregard any Social Security Disability Insurance income above the maximum monthly Supplemental Security Income as determined by the U.S. Social Security Administration; however, such Social Security Disability Insurance income shall not be disregarded for purposes of determining an individual's patient pay obligation. The bill also requires the Department to (i) analyze the implications of such amendments to the financial eligibility standards for individuals under the DD waivers, which shall include a determination of the costs and the number of individuals who would benefit from such amendments and (ii) report its findings to the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 676.

Patron - Shin

P HB1318 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waivers to eliminate the requirement that in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide

such services to the Medicaid member. This bill incorporates HB 1282.

Patron - Cole

P HB1423 Department of Medical Assistance Services; publication of information related to home care services. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to annually publish on its website the average hourly payment rates for home care services for each type of service provided. The bill also requires the Department to publish the total number of Medicaid-paid home care claims and the number of Medicaid enrollees who received home care services in the prior year.

Patron - Cole

P HB1431 Alternative onsite sewage systems; approval of treatment units. Requires the Department of Health to approve treatment units for alternative onsite sewage systems if they meet certain NSF/ANSI standards or certain testing requirements.

Patron - Hodges

HB1499 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; Virginia Health Care Career and Technical Training and Education Fund created; psychological practitioner defined; educational requirements for nursing **faculty.** Modifies the enabling legislation for the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority by adding four additional ex officio members to the Authority's Board of Directors, adding setting priorities for and managing graduate medical education programs to the duties of the Authority, specifying additional recipients of the Board's biennial report, and authorizing the Authority to partner with other agencies and institutions to obtain and manage health workforce data. The bill establishes the Virginia Health Care Career and Technical Training and Education Fund. The bill directs the Board of Nursing to add or remove certain educational requirements for members of the nursing faculty in specified nursing education programs and establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner, as defined by the bill. The bill directs the Board of Nursing and the Board of Psychology to adopt regulations to implement relevant provisions of the bill to be effective no later than January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 155.

Patron - Willett

Patron - Henson

P HJ26 Uterine Fibroids Awareness Month. Designates July, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Uterine Fibroids Awareness Month in Virginia.

P SB24 Long-term services and supports screening; expedited screening; screening exemption; emergency. Modifies existing provisions regarding the required long-term services and supports screening under the state plan for medical assistance services by creating greater flexibility for how screenings are completed under certain circumstances. Under the bill, any individual receiving inpatient services in an acute care hospital discharged to a nursing facility for skilled care only is not required to be screened prior to discharge from the hospital unless the individual requests the screening. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 291 and contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Locke

P SB59 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid Works access and utilization work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services

to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study and make recommendations to improve access to and successful utilization of the federal Medicaid Works program. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2024. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Disability Commission.

Patron - Favola

SB155 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; Virginia Health Care Career and Technical Training and Education Fund created; psychological practitioner defined; educational requirements for nursing faculty. Modifies the enabling legislation for the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority by adding four additional ex officio members to the Authority's Board of Directors, adding setting priorities for and managing graduate medical education programs to the duties of the Authority, specifying additional recipients of the Board's biennial report, and authorizing the Authority to partner with other agencies and institutions to obtain and manage health workforce data. The bill establishes the Virginia Health Care Career and Technical Training and Education Fund. The bill directs the Board of Nursing to add or remove certain educational requirements for members of the nursing faculty in specified nursing education programs and establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner, as defined by the bill. The bill directs the Board of Nursing and the Board of Psychology to adopt regulations to implement relevant provisions of the bill to be effective no later than January 1, 2025. This bill is identical to HB 1499.

Patron - Head

P **SB237** Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. This bill is identical to HB 609. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Hashmi* 

P SB250 Department of Medical Assistance Services; remote ultrasound procedures; remote fetal nonstress tests. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to modify the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision allowing for payment under certain conditions for remote ultrasound procedures and remote fetal nonstress tests.

Patron - Hashmi

**P SB274** Prescription Drug Affordability Board established; drug cost affordability review. Establishes the Prescription Drug Affordability Board for the purpose of protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth and other stakeholders within the health care system from the high costs of prescription drug products. The bill requires the Board to meet in open session at least four times annually, with certain exceptions and requirements enumerated in the bill. Members of the Board are required to disclose any conflicts of interest, as described in the bill. The bill also creates a stakeholder council for the purpose of assisting the Board in making decisions related to drug cost affordability. The bill tasks the Board with identifying prescription, generic, and other drugs, as defined in the bill, that are offered for sale in the Commonwealth and, at the Board's discretion, conducting an affordability review of any prescription drug product. The bill lists factors for the Board to consider that indicate an affordability challenge for the health care system in the Commonwealth or high out-ofpocket costs for patients. The bill also provides that any person aggrieved by a decision of the Board may request an appeal of the Board's decision and that the Attorney General has authority to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill provides that the Board shall establish no more than 12 upper payment limit amounts annually between January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2028.

The bill requires the Board to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly twice annually, beginning on July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. Provisions of the bill shall apply to state-sponsored and state-regulated health plans and health programs and obligate such policies to limit drug payment amounts and reimbursements to an upper payment limit amount set by the Board, if applicable, following an affordability review. The bill specifies that Medicare Part D plans shall not be bound by such decisions of the Board.

The bill also requires the nonprofit organization contracted by the Department of Health to provide prescription drug price transparency to provide the Board access to certain data reported by manufacturers. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to HB 570. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Deeds

P SB277 State Health Services Plan Task Force; certificate of public need; recommendations. Directs the Board of Health to convene the State Health Services Plan Task Force to make recommendations on expedited review of projects subject to certificate of public need requirements. Patron - Hashmi

P SB325 Vital records; birth certificates; adoption; members of the military. Directs the State Registrar to expedite issuance of a new birth certificate upon receipt of certain documentation for a person born in the Commonwealth if at least one adoptive parent is an active duty or retired member of the military or military reserves. The bill directs the court decreeing the adoption to deliver such records to the State Registrar no later than five business days from such decree. This bill is identical to HB 649.

Patron - Roem

P **SB392** Hospitals; emergency departments; licensed physicians. Requires any hospital with an emergency department to have at least one licensed physician on duty and physically present at all times. Current law requires such hospitals to have a licensed physician on call, though not necessarily physically present on the premises, at all times. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025 and is identical to HB 353.

Patron - Pekarsky

P SB537 Board of Health; hospital regulations; use of smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures. Requires the Board of Health to amend its regulations to require that every hospital where surgical procedures are performed adopt a policy requiring the use of a smoke evacuation system for all planned surgical procedures. The bill defines "smoke evacuation system" as smoke evacuation equipment and technologies designed to capture, filter, and remove surgical smoke at the site of origin and to prevent surgical smoke from making ocular contact or contact with a person's respiratory tract. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and is identical to HB 763.

Patron - Bagby

P SB610 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; slot-retention requests; Developmental Disability waivers; sunset. Directs the Department of Medical

Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend their regulations to allow for support coordinators to request and subsequently obtain approval of consecutive waiver slot-retention requests for a period of up to 365 calendar days for individuals who have been assigned a Developmental Disability waiver slot. Current regulations allow for four consecutive 30-day slot-retention extensions. The bill sunsets on June 30, 2026, and is identical to HB 577.

Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB620** Long-term services and support screening; PACE programs; emergency. Allows qualified staff of programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) to conduct the required long-term services and supports screening in accordance with requirements established by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. Under the bill, when a screening team determines that it is unable to complete a long-term services and supports screening within 30 days, or an individual requests enrollment in a PACE program, the screening team shall decide which entity can most expeditiously conduct the screening. Under the bill, qualified staff of a PACE program shall conduct the screening if the screening team determines that it is the most expeditious option. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to HB 729.

Patron - Pillion

SB676 Department of Medical Assistances Services; financial eligibility standards for certain waivers providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the financial eligibility standards for individuals receiving services under the Family and Individual Support Waiver, Community Living Waiver, and Building Independence Waiver (the DD Waivers). The bill requires the Department, when determining financial eligibility for the DD Waivers, to disregard any Social Security Disability Insurance income above the maximum monthly Supplemental Security Income as determined by the U.S. Social Security Administration; however, such Social Security Disability Insurance income shall not be disregarded for purposes of determining an individual's patient pay obligation. The bill also requires the Department to (i) analyze the implications of such amendments to the financial eligibility standards for individuals under the DD waivers, which shall include a determination of the costs and the number of individuals who would benefit from such amendments and (ii) report its findings to the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 908.

Patron - Ebbin

#### Failed

F HB8 Medical Ethics Defense Act established. Establishes the right of a medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer not to participate in or pay for any medical procedure or service that violates such medical practitioner's, health care institution's, or health care payer's conscience, as those terms and conditions are defined in the bill. The bill provides protections for medical practitioners who disclose violations of the bill or report violations of laws or ethical guidelines for the safe provision of any medical procedure or

service. The bill also provides a private right of action for any party harmed by violations of the bill.

Patron - Ware

F HB37 Loan repayment programs; mental health professionals. Creates a loan repayment program for persons who have worked as mental health professionals in the Commonwealth for at least five years.

Patron - Clark

F HB52 Alkaline hydrolysis; registration; regulations. Establishes a registration requirement for alkaline hydrolysis providers. The bill defines alkaline hydrolysis and adds alkaline hydrolysis and hydrolyzed remains to statutes dealing with cremation and cremains. The bill grants the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers the power to regulate and inspect alkaline hydrolysis providers and their operations. The bill requires the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers to consult with the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Health, and representatives of wastewater treatment facilities and funeral service associations to promulgate regulations related to alkaline hydrolysis.

Patron - Taylor

F HB87 Board of Health; hospital regulations; patient drug testing. Requires the Board of Health to amend its regulations to require hospitals to test patients who are presenting with overdose symptoms for fentanyl and to test for fentanyl, marijuana, amphetamines, opioids, and phencyclidine as a part of any routine drug screening administered to a patient.

Patron - Green

Patron - Watts

F HB127 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek to modify the program rules for 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to disregard Social Security Disability Insurance in calculating eligibility for 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers.

HB137 Emergency medical services regulations; police dogs. Requires the State Board of Health to promulgate regulations, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to provide emergency treatment to police dogs injured in the line of duty and for the transportation of such police dogs by emergency medical services vehicles to veterinary care facilities equipped to provide emergency treatment to such dogs.

Patron - Campbell

F HB169 Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023. This bill was incorporated into HB 781.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F HB177 Department of Medical Assistance Services; reimbursement rates for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to assess and make recommendations related to reimbursement rates for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. The bill requires the work group to report its recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Gardner

F HB239 Advisory Council on Sickle Cell Disease; established; report. Establishes the Advisory Council on Sickle Cell Disease to advise the State Health Commissioner on the efforts to improve awareness of sickle cell disease and the needs of individuals with sickle cell disease. The bill requires the Board of Health to report annually by December 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding its activities and recommendations.

Patron - McQuinn

F HB241 Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers; licensure; regulation. Authorizes the Board of Health to license prescribed pediatric extended care centers. The bill establishes the scope of services offered by such centers and requirements for operation, management, staffing, facilities, and maintenance and directs the Board to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - McQuinn

F HB278 State plan for medical assistance services; fertility preservation treatments; genetic material misuse; penalty. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for coverage of fertility preservation for individuals diagnosed with cancer who need treatment for that cancer that may cause a substantial risk of sterility or iatrogenic infertility, as defined in the bill, including surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy. The bill also establishes that it is a Class 3 felony for a health care provider to provide assisted conception treatment to a patient and use the health care provider's own gamete without the written consent of the patient.

Patron - Helmer

HB480 Simon's Law; health care; life-sustaining treatment for minors; exceptions. Requires a physician to obtain the written permission from at least one parent or legal guardian of a minor, defined in the bill as an unemancipated individual who is younger than 18 years of age and not under juvenile court supervision or on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States, before instituting a Do Not Resuscitate order or similar physician's order. The bill creates an exception for when a physician is unable to contact a parent or legal guardian of such minor within 72 hours of the initial contact attempt. The bill also prevents a physician from interfering with such parent's or legal guardian's efforts to obtain other medical opinions, hindering or delaying the necessary measures to facilitate a transfer of such minor to another medical facility, or refusing to continue providing life-sustaining treatment to such minor when such a transfer is imminent. Under the bill, such parent or legal guardian maintains all rights to determine whether life-sustaining treatment and cardiopulmonary resuscitation are used on such minor unless a court of law or equity determines that there is destruction of the circulatory system, respiratory system, and the entire brain. A parent or legal guardian may also request disclosure of the physician's policies involving cardiopulmonary resuscitation and life-sustaining treatment.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

# F HB584 Stillbirth Support Grant Program. Establishes the Stillbirth Support Grant Program for the purpose of providing grants to individuals who delivered a stillborn child, as defined by the bill, to assist with out-of-pocket

costs associated with such delivery. Under the bill, an application for such a grant must be submitted within the same calendar year as such delivery of a stillborn child occurs.

Patron - Mundon King

HB593 Department of Medical Assistance Services; establishment of neurobehavioral and neurorehabilitation facilities; waiver services for individuals with traumatic brain injuries and neurocognitive disorders; work group. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to add neurobehavioral and neurorehabilitation facilities to support individuals with traumatic brain injuries and neurocognitive disorders by January 1, 2025. The bill also directs the Department to submit an amendment to the state plan for medical assistance services to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to modify its existing 1915(c) waiver or seek a new 1915(c) waiver as necessary to receive federal approval to administer home and community-based services for qualifying individuals with traumatic brain injuries or neurocognitive disorders as defined by the Department no later than January 1, 2026. The bill gives the Department authority to promulgate emergency regulations for the neurobehavioral and neurorehabilitation facilities and the traumatic brain injury waiver upon approval. The bill requires the Department to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to provide updates on the progress and the implementation of the neurobehavioral and neurorehabilitation facilities and the traumatic brain injury services waiver.

Patron - Sickles

F HB594 State plan for medical assistance services; certified community health workers; work group. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment for services provided by certified community health workers. The bill directs the Department to convene a work group of stakeholders to design the certified community health worker services benefit and to seek federal approval through a state plan amendment to implement the benefit.

Patron - Sickles

HB622 State plan for medical assistance services; violence prevention services benefit; work group. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for violence prevention services, defined in the bill, provided by a qualified violence prevention professional to an individual who receives medical treatment for an injury sustained as a result of community violence, defined in the bill, who is determined by a health care provider to be at risk of repeat injury or retaliation. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group to advise the Board on the design and implementation of the violence prevention services benefit and specifies that the work group include representatives from the Department and violence intervention programs, medical providers, survivors of community violence, and other members as deemed appropriate by the Department. The bill requires the Department to post on its website the date upon which violence

prevention services may be provided and billed pursuant to the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Price

F HB665 Immunizations; authority of the Commissioner of Health; religious exception. Exempts a person, including a parent or guardian on behalf of a child, who objects to administration of a vaccine on religious grounds from mandatory immunization requirements issued by the Commissioner of Health during an epidemic. Currently, exemption from mandatory immunization requirements during an epidemic is available only to those persons to whose health the administration of a vaccine would be detrimental, as certified in writing by a licensed physician.

Patron - Freitas

F HB689 Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; protocol; information; training. Requires the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to take certain actions upon the finding that an individual died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), defined in the bill. The bill directs the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to publish information on SUDEP and a SUDEP death investigation form on its website. Additionally, the bill requires the Chief Medical Examiner and local medical examiners to complete training in the investigation of SUDEP on a triennial basis. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Seibold

F HB691 Transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment; pilot program. Directs the Department of Veterans Services to establish a pilot program to make electroencephalogram (EEG) combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment available for military members, veterans, first responders, law-enforcement officers, and certain agents of federal agencies and family members of the aforementioned individuals. The bill requires the Department to establish regulations for administration of the pilot program.

Patron - Feggans

HB970 Comprehensive children's health care coverage program. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to establish a program to provide state-funded comprehensive health care coverage for individuals in the Commonwealth who (i) are under 19 years of age, (ii) are not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, and (iii) but for their immigration status would be eligible for medical assistance services through the Commonwealth's program of medical assistance services established pursuant to Title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act. The bill also requires the Department to ensure that all program information is made available in a manner that is accessible to individuals with limited English proficiency and individuals with disabilities through the provision of language access services, including oral interpretation and written translations, free of charge and to ensure that information obtained by the program remains confidential and is not disclosed for any purpose not related to the administration of the program or any purpose related to civil immigration enforcement unless the subject of the information consents to such disclosure or the requesting agency presents a valid judicial order, subpoena, or warrant.

The bill also requires the Department to (a) establish a work group composed of individuals with direct and lived experience with the program eligibility criteria established by the bill and individuals with experience conducting outreach to individuals who are eligible for the program established by the bill to advise and assist the Department in carrying out marketing and outreach activities required by the bill and (b) seek all federal waivers and other approvals necessary to maximize federal

financial participation in the cost of carrying out the program established by the bill.

Patron - Tran

F HB982 State plan for medical assistance services; adult hearing screenings; audiological examinations; hearing aids. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for all medically necessary (i) adult hearing screenings; (ii) audiological examinations; (iii) initial purchases or replacements of hearing aids, up to \$1,500 per year; and (iv) hearing aid batteries, up to 60 batteries per year.

Patron - Tran

F HB997 Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team established; penalty; report. Establishes the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team to develop and implement procedures to ensure that fetal and infant deaths occurring in the Commonwealth are analyzed in a systematic way. The bill requires the Team to compile triennial statistical data regarding fetal and infant deaths and to make such data available to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Health. The bill provides that information and records obtained or created by the Team and portions of meetings of the Team at which individual fetal and infant deaths are discussed shall be confidential.

Patron - Anthony

HB1021 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; waiver usage flexibility for local commu**nity services boards.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to amend their regulations to allow local community services boards the discretion to convert allocated Community Living waivers to Family and Individual Support waivers and Building Independence waivers if the Community Living waivers are not being utilized and will not be utilized in the foreseeable future. The bill requires DMAS to seek any necessary federal approvals to effectuate this modification through the submission of a state plan for medical assistance services amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Patron - Wilt

F HB1052 Department of Health; local government; alternative and conventional onsite sewage systems. Requires localities to review the Department of Health's database prior to notifying the owners of an alternative or conventional onsite sewage system about their maintenance responsibility.

Patron - Batten

HB1059 Hospital price transparency; private right of action; patient payment disputes; noncompliance; **prohibition of debt collection.** Allows patients, if a hospital is not in compliance with hospital price transparency laws on the date that an elective procedure, test, or service is provided to a patient by the hospital, and the noncompliance is related to such elective procedure, test, or service, to bring an action, individually or jointly, against the hospital to recover payment of the price of the elective procedure, test, or service. Under the bill, if a hospital is found not in compliance with hospital price transparency laws under such circumstances, the hospital is liable for the price of the elective procedure, test, or service provided; an additional equal amount as liquidated damages; interest accruing from the date the elective procedure, test, or service was provided; and reasonable attorney fees and costs. If a hospital is found not in compliance with hospital price transparency laws under such circumstances, the hospital is liable for an amount equal to triple the amount of the price of the elective procedure, test, or service and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Helmer

HB1064 Department of Medical Assistance Services; establishment of neurobehavioral science unit; waiver services for individuals with traumatic brain injury and neurocognitive diagnoses; work group. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek authority through the state plan for medical assistance services to implement a neurobehavioral science unit and to submit an amendment to the state plan for medical assistance services to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to receive federal approval to administer neurorestorative and rehabilitative services for qualifying individuals with traumatic brain injury and neurocognitive diagnoses. The bill authorizes the Department to promulgate emergency regulations to implement the neurobehavioral science unit and the traumatic brain injury and neurocognitive diagnoses services waiver upon approval and directs the Department to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to provide updates on the progress and the implementation of the neurobehavioral science unit and the traumatic brain injury and neurocognitive diagnoses services waiver.

Patron - Willett

HB1188 Certificate of public need program; phased elimination. Creates a three-phase process to eliminate the certificate of public need requirements for many categories of medical care facilities and projects, with elimination of the requirement for a certificate of public need (i) for all medical care facilities other than nursing homes or specialized centers or clinics or that portion of a physician's office developed for the provision of outpatient or ambulatory surgery, cardiac catheterization, computed tomographic (CT) scanning, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), positron emission tomographic (PET) scanning, radiation therapy, certain stereotactic radiotherapy, or proton beam therapy effective July 1, 2024; (ii) for all such services as described in clause (i) at any existing medical care facility other than nursing homes or specialized centers or clinics or that portion of a physician's office developed for the provision of outpatient or ambulatory surgery, cardiac catheterization, computed tomographic (CT) scanning, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), positron emission tomographic (PET) scanning, radiation therapy, certain stereotactic radiotherapy, or proton beam therapy located outside of a metropolitan statistical area or in a rural census tract within a metropolitan statistical area effective July 1, 2025; and (iii) for all medical care facilities effective July 1, 2026. Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1232 Department of Health; perinatal services for parents. Directs the Department of Health to obtain all available federal funding for services for expecting mothers and fathers.

Patron - Higgins

F HB1282 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waivers to eliminate the requirement that in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide

such services to the Medicaid member. This bill was incorporated into HB 1318.

Patron - Wilt

F HB1285 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; purpose; Board of Directors; powers and duties. Adds managing primary care graduate medical education programs and managing the Health Workforce Innovation Fund to the duties of the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority. The bill adds language noting that the Commonwealth will make an effort to match federal grants for federal Area Health Education Centers. The bill increases from 15 to 19 the membership of the Authority's Board of Directors by adding four additional ex officio members. The bill also specifies additional recipients of the Board's biennial report and authorizes the Authority to seek data and partner with other agencies and institutions to manage health workforce data.

Patron - Willett

F HB1289 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; health workforce development program. Directs the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority to establish a program to strengthen the health and health sciences workforce.

Patron - Willett

HB1291 Virginia Health Workforce Innovation Fund; established. Establishes the Virginia Health Workforce Innovation Fund to be administered by the Board of the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority. The Board shall use the Fund to provide grants to facilitate regional collaboration on health care innovation and workforce development and, in particular, the formation of regional, employer-led partnerships that prioritize workforce growth and training. The bill provides for the formation across the Commonwealth of regional councils, defined in the bill, consisting of representatives from the government, health care, and education sectors. Under the bill, regional councils may submit applications for collaborative projects in their regions that enhance private-sector growth, competitiveness, and workforce development. A portion of the grant funds will be awarded on a population basis and a portion on a competitive basis. Patron - Willett

# F SB153 Medical Ethics Defense Act established.

Establishes the right of a medical practitioner, health care institution, or health care payer not to participate in or pay for any medical procedure or service that violates such medical practitioner's, health care institution's, or health care payer's conscience, as those terms and conditions are defined in the bill. The bill provides protections for medical practitioners who disclose violations of the bill or report violations of laws or ethical guidelines for the safe provision of any medical procedure or service. The bill also provides a private right of action for any party harmed by violations of the bill.

Patron - Head

F SB231 Comprehensive children's health care coverage program. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to establish a program to provide state-funded comprehensive health care coverage for individuals in the Commonwealth who (i) are under 19 years of age, (ii) are not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, and (iii) but for their immigration status would be eligible for medical assistance services through the Commonwealth's program of medical assistance services established pursuant to Title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act. The bill also requires the Department to ensure that all program information is made available in a manner that is accessible to individuals

with limited English proficiency and individuals with disabilities through the provision of language access services, including oral interpretation and written translations, free of charge and to ensure that information obtained by the program remains confidential and is not disclosed for any purpose not related to the administration of the program or any purpose related to civil immigration enforcement unless the subject of the information consents to such disclosure or the requesting agency presents a valid judicial order, subpoena, or warrant. The bill also requires the Department to (a) consult with individuals with direct and lived experience with the program eligibility criteria established by the bill and individuals with experience conducting outreach to individuals who are eligible for the program established by the bill to advise and assist the Department in carrying out marketing and outreach activities required by the bill and (b) seek all federal waivers and other

approvals necessary to maximize federal financial participation

in the cost of carrying out the program established by the bill.

The provisions of the first, second, and third enactments of the

bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026. *Patron - Hashmi* 

SB311 Board of Medical Assistance Services; investigate violence prevention services benefit programs. Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to (i) investigate violence prevention services benefits in other states, including evidence-based, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive preventative services provided to reduce the incidence of violent injury or reinjury, trauma, and related harms and to promote trauma recovery, stabilization, and improved health outcomes; (ii) evaluate best practices for the establishment and application of such a program, considering the costs and effectiveness of such programs in other states; and (iii) consider the practicalities of amending the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for such violence prevention services. DMAS shall report its findings to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024.

F SB335 State plan for medical assistance services; health insurance; coverage for fertility preservation treatments. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for coverage of fertility preservation for individuals diagnosed with cancer who need treatment for that cancer that may cause a substantial risk of sterility or iatrogenic infertility, as defined in the bill, including surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy. The bill also requires health insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans to provide such coverage for such indi-

Patron - Salim

viduals.

Patron - Boysko

F SB490 Chief Medical Examiner; Maternal Mortality Review Team; work group; expansion plan; report. Directs the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and the Maternal Mortality Review Team to convene a work group to expand the work of the Maternal Mortality Review Team. The bill directs the work group to develop criteria and procedures related to the collection of maternal morbidity data. The bill specifies that the Maternal Mortality Review Team's expansion plan shall include certain plans for data collection, data review, and development and implementation of policies and recommendations. The work group is required to report its findings and provide its plan to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by December 1, 2025.

Patron - Aird

SB499 Donor human milk banks, health insurance; coverage for donor human milk; penalty; emergency. Prohibits any person from establishing or operating a donor human milk bank, as defined in the bill, without first obtaining a license from the State Health Commissioner and makes it a Class 6 felony for any person to establish or operate a donor human milk bank in the Commonwealth without obtaining such license. The bill directs the State Board of Health to establish a regulatory and statutory scheme for the licensure and regulation of donor human milk banks operating or doing business in the Commonwealth. The bill also directs the Commissioner to implement and enforce numerous regulations relating to the issuance, renewal, denial, suspension, and revocation of such licenses. The bill specifies procedures relating to disciplinary actions, application fees, and inspections and interviews related to such donor human milk banks.

The bill requires health insurers, corporations providing health care coverage subscription contracts, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for expenses incurred in the provision of pasteurized donor human milk. The bill specifies that the requirement applies if the covered person is an infant younger than the age of six months and a licensed medical practitioner has issued an order for such infant who satisfies certain criteria enumerated in the bill. The bill applies to policies, contracts, and plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2026. The bill also requires the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance services incurred in the provision of pasteurized donor human milk. The bill specifies that certain provisions will not become effective until the State Board promulgates regulations for the licensure of donor human milk banks and directs the State Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement certain provisions of the bill. Patron - Carroll Fov

F SB525 Stillbirth Support Grant Program.

Establishes the Stillbirth Support Grant Program for the purpose of providing grants to individuals who delivered a stillborn child, as defined by the bill, to assist with out-of-pocket costs associated with such delivery. Under the bill, an application for such a grant must be submitted within the same calendar year as such delivery of a stillborn child occurs.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB615 Department of Medical Assistance Services; community health worker services benefit; work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group of stakeholders to design a community health worker services benefit for Medicaid-enrolled and CHIP-enrolled beneficiaries. The bill requires the work group to complete its work and submit a report to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by December 1, 2024.

Patron - Pillion

F SB671 Youth Health Protection Act established; civil penalty. Creates the Youth Health Protection Act, which makes it unlawful for any individual to provide gender transition procedures, defined in the bill, for minors and prohibits the use of public funds for gender transition procedures. The bill allows parents, guardians, or custodians to withhold consent for any treatment, activity, or mental health care services that are designed and intended to form their child's conceptions of sex and gender or to treat gender dysphoria or gender nonconformity. The bill prohibits government agents, other than law-enforcement personnel, from encouraging or coercing a minor to withhold information from the minor's par-

ent. The bill establishes a duty for a government agent with knowledge that a minor has exhibited symptoms of gender dysphoria or gender nonconformity or otherwise demonstrates a desire to be treated in a manner incongruent with the minor's sex to immediately notify each of the minor's parents, guardians, or custodians in writing, with descriptions of relevant circumstances. The bill prohibits discrimination against persons (i) providing information regarding violations of the Act to their employer or specified public entities or (ii) who make disclosures under the Act of information that evinces any violation of law, rule, or regulation; any violation of any standard of care or other ethical guidelines for the provision of health care service; or gross mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety. The bill establishes a civil action for any violation of the Act by a clinic, health care system, medical professional, or other responsible person with a two-year statute of limitations. The bill prohibits political subdivisions of the Commonwealth from enacting, adopting, maintaining, or enforcing any measure that interferes with the professional conduct and judgment of a mental health care professional or counselor undertaken within the course of treatment and communication with clients, patients, other persons, or the public. The bill provides for enforcement by the Attorney General or a mental health care professional or counselor through an action for injunctive relief and allows a mental health care professional to recover reasonable attorney fees and reasonable costs incurred in obtaining an injunction. The bill waives sovereign immunity to suit and immunity from liability under this statute. Patron - Peake

#### **Carried Over**

C HB33 Commissioner of Health; work group to study the occurrence of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water; report. Directs the Commissioner of Health to convene a work group to study the occurrence of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water and develop recommendations for the reduction of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Education and Health by December 1, 2024. Patron - Clark

C HB80 Advisory Council on Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention; established; report. Establishes the Advisory Council on Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention to advise the State Health Commissioner on the regulations and infrastructure necessary to support clinical access to and training for medication-assisted U.S. Food and Drug Administration breakthrough therapies for veteran suicide prevention. The bill requires the Commissioner of Health to report annually by December 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding its activities and recommendations. The Council has a sunset date of July 1, 2027. Patron - Jones

C HB286 Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to

the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023.

Patron - McQuinn

C HB499 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Medicaid Waivers; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to modify the program rules for certain Medicaid waivers to eliminate the requirement that certain visits for individuals enrolled in Family and Individual Support Waivers, Community Living Waivers, Building Independence Waivers, and CCC Plus Waivers be conducted face-to-face. Patron - Cohen

C HB550 Adult adoptee access to original birth certificate. Grants any adoptee 18 years of age or older access to his original birth certificate.

Patron - Walker

C HB620 Medical assistance services; payment for essential hygiene products. Directs the State Board of Health to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for the purchase of essential hygiene products in the state plan for medical assistance services.

Patron - Price

HB628 Certificate of public need; hospitals licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and **Developmental Services**; psychiatric beds. Excludes from the list of medical care facilities for which a certificate of public need is required hospitals licensed as a provider by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. The bill excludes the following from the list of projects for which a certificate of public need is required for certain medical care facilities: (i) an increase or relocation of psychiatric beds licensed by the Department, (ii) the introduction of any psychiatric service when such medical care facility has not provided such service in the previous 12 months, and (iii) the conversion of beds to psychiatric beds. The bill also modifies the list of projects for which a certificate of public need is required for certain medical care facilities by requiring a certificate for the conversion of any psychiatric inpatient beds to nonpsychiatric inpatient beds. Under current law, a certificate is required for the conversion of a psychiatric bed to a nonpsychiatric bed only when the psychiatric bed was approved pursuant to a Request for Applications (RFA).

Patron - Orrock

C HB886 Certified nursing facilities; administrative sanctions; facilities subject to minimum standards. Amends the administrative sanctions that may be imposed on certified nursing facilities in relation to compliance with staffing requirements. The bill directs the State Health Commissioner, in determining whether or not to impose sanctions, to make the determination of whether a certified nursing facility was located in a medically underserved area that severely limited the ability of the certified nursing facility to recruit and retain direct care staff. The bill requires nursing facilities subject to a corrective action plan to demonstrate compliance with the corrective action plan on a quarterly basis. Under the bill, in determining whether a corrective action plan is needed, the Commissioner shall consider certain evidence of direct care staff hours, unless the facility has had a change in ownership. The bill changes from three to two the number of corrective action plans after which, if a a certified nursing facility fails to show compliance or improvement, the Commissioner may

place the facility on probation. The bill also includes all nursing homes eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement for residents in the list of facilities subject to minimum standards for (i) construction and maintenance; (ii) operation, staffing, and equipping; and (iii) the qualifications and training of staff. The bill changes the effective date of certain provisions passed in the 2023 Session of the General Assembly relating to staffing requirements for certified nursing facilities from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2024.

Patron - Watts

HB1063 Nursing homes; application requirements. Requires all applicants for a nursing home license to complete and submit an application on a form approved by the Department of Health. Under the bill, the applicant is required to provide certain information in the application form, including information on (i) ownership interests in nursing homes, (ii) pending litigation, (iii) real property related to the nursing home, (iv) secured notes, (v) the financial history of persons mentioned in the application, and (v) contact information for certain persons. The bill requires the Department of Health to publish written notice of all applications for nursing home licensure on its website, including a copy of the application form completed by the applicant and information about the public input and comment process. Under the bill, all applications for nursing home licensure are subject to a 30-day public comment period. The bill allows individuals to request a public hearing on an applicant's suitability for nursing home licensure. The bill sets forth the factors that the Department of Health is required to consider in determining whether to approve or deny an application to operate a nursing home. Patron - Willett

C HB1185 Board of Health; Department of Health Professions; Prescription Monitoring Program; overdose information. Directs the Board of Health to report Admit, Transfer, and Discharge data elements on patients who overdose on opioids to the Department of Health Professions for use in the Prescription Monitoring Program. The bill requires practitioners to obtain such data when prescribing opioids.

Patron - Willett

C HB1259 Department of Health; emergency medical services personnel; career fatigue and wellness program; report. Directs the Department of Health to convene a work group to study the viability of establishing or contracting for a professional program for emergency medical services personnel, both professional and volunteer, that addresses career fatigue and wellness, including the costs of such program and recommendations for funding. The bill requires the Department to report its findings to the Governor and relevant committees of the General Assembly by October 1, 2024.

Patron - Shin

C HB1293 Behavioral health; nursing; work group; report. Directs the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority to convene a work group to identify and propose revisions to current regulations and policies that hinder the development, retention, and productivity of the health care workforce in behavioral health and nursing. Patron - Willett

C HB1295 Drinking water; maximum contaminant levels; water treatment systems; Rural Water Supply Program and Fund established. Directs the State Board of Health to adopt regulations to utilize point-of-use or point-of-entry drinking water treatment or filtration to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of contaminants of concern

that meet or exceed any maximum contaminant level or health advisory for the same contaminant adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The bill also establishes the Rural Water Supply Program and Fund to allow the Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water to test and treat contaminated drinking water for individuals on private wells and small rural public water systems.

Patron - Campbell

C SB229 Health Commissioner; work group; recommendations on Advisory Council on Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention. Directs the State Health Commissioner to establish a work group to examine the feasibility of and make recommendations for the placement and infrastructure of an Advisory Council on Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention.

Patron - Hashmi

C SB333 State plan for medical assistance services; fertility preservation treatments; genetic material misuse; penalty. Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for coverage of fertility preservation for individuals diagnosed with cancer who need treatment for that cancer that may cause a substantial risk of sterility or iatrogenic infertility, as defined in the bill, including surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy. The bill also establishes that it is a Class 3 felony for a health care provider to provide assisted conception treatment to a patient and use the health care provider's own gamete without the written consent of the patient.

Patron - Salim

C SB390 Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; protocol; information; training. Requires the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to take certain actions upon the finding that an individual died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), defined in the bill. The bill directs the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to publish information on SUDEP and a SUDEP death investigation form on its website. Additionally, the bill requires the Chief Medical Examiner and local medical examiners to complete training in the investigation of SUDEP on a triennial basis. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Pekarsky

**SB404** Certificate of public need; hospitals licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and **Developmental Services**; psychiatric beds. Excludes from the list of medical care facilities for which a certificate of public need is required hospitals licensed as a provider by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. The bill excludes the following from the list of projects for which a certificate of public need is required for certain medical care facilities: (i) an increase or relocation of psychiatric beds licensed by the Department, (ii) the introduction of any psychiatric service when such medical care facility has not provided such service in the previous 12 months, and (iii) the conversion of beds to psychiatric beds. The bill also modifies the list of projects for which a certificate of public need is required for certain medical care facilities by requiring a certificate for the conversion of any psychiatric inpatient beds to nonpsychiatric inpatient beds. Under current law, a certificate is required for the conversion of a psychiatric bed to a nonpsychiatric bed only when the psychiatric bed was approved pursuant to a Request for Applications (RFA).

Patron - Durant

C SB579 Nursing homes and certified nursing facilities; professional liability insurance. Specifies that the

required minimum amount of professional liability coverage for nursing homes and certified nursing facilities is the amount per occurrence. The bill also requires such coverage to be noneroding, i.e., the coverage limits are not reduced by legal costs.

Patron - Obenshain

C SB592 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Preferred Drug List/Common Core Formulary; approval of a nonpreferred drug. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to eliminate the requirement that a patient try and fail a drug from the Preferred Drug List/Common Core Formulary in the six months immediately prior to approval of a nonpreferred drug when such patient has previously tried the drug from the Preferred Drug List/Common Core Formulary and experienced harmful side effects.

C SB594 Department of Health; Office of Emergency Medical Services EMS Advisory Board; emergency

gency Medical Services EMS Advisory Board; emergency medical personnel; career fatigue and wellness program. Directs the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services EMS Advisory Board to examine the eligibility requirements for emergency medical personnel to join a professional program addressing career fatigue and wellness. The bill requires the Board to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by October 1, 2024.

Patron - McPike

Patron - Salim

C SB636 Transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment; pilot program. Directs the Department of Veterans Services to establish a pilot program with two locations to make electroencephalogram (EEG) combined transcranial magnetic stimulation treatment available for certain military members, veterans, first responders, law-enforcement officers, and certain agents of federal agencies, and family members of the aforementioned individuals. The bill requires the Department to establish regulations for administration of the pilot program.

Patron - Locke

C SB661 Nursing facilities; electronic monitoring in resident rooms. Gives residents of nursing facilities the right to place electronic monitoring devices in their rooms. "Electronic monitoring" is defined in the bill as video or audio monitoring or recording of residents of a nursing facility as a means of monitoring resident wellbeing.

Patron - Craig

# Highways and Other Surface Transportation Systems

#### **Passed**

P HB5 Town of Leesburg Parking Authority. Authorizes the creation of the Town of Leesburg Parking Authority. The bill grants to the Authority various powers, including the authority to construct, operate, and lease parking facilities, contract with outside entities, issue revenue bonds and revenue refunding bonds, and acquire property. The bill also exempts the Authority from taxation.

Patron - Martinez

P HB74 Unpaved secondary highway funds. Clarifies that the improvement of nonsurface treated secondary highways includes improvements other than paving, as described in the bill. The bill also clarifies that the local governing body of the county receiving funds for such improvements will select the highways or highway segments to be improved, after consulting with the Department of Transportation. This bill is identical to SB 644.

Patron - Reid

P HB92 Percy Lee House, III Memorial Bridge. Designates the bridge on Otterdam Road over Interstate 95 in Greensville County the "Percy Lee House, III Memorial Bridge." This bill is identical to SB 323.

Patron - Wachsmann

P HB143 Utility work database. Requires the Department of Transportation to establish and maintain a publicly accessible database and map of all utility work that has been approved by the Department and will occur within a highway right-of-way in a residential neighborhood. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Reid

P HB201 Certain transportation entities; membership. Requires, rather than permits, the four members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the two members of the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, and the two members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority who are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to be members of the House of Delegates. This bill incorporates HB 1173 and HB 1175. Patron - Krizek

P HB840 Special license plates; 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Authorizes the issuance of revenue-sharing special license plates marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The bill provides that the prepaid application requirements for special license plates shall not apply to such plates, that the provisions of the bill expire on July 1, 2032, that such plates shall not be newly issued on or after such date, and that such plates may continue in use for a period of time determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. This bill is identical to SB 216. Patron - Austin

P HB1254 Bridges; state of good repair; allocation of funds. Designates bridges with a general condition rating, defined in the bill, of no more than five for at least one major bridge component as eligible for state of good repair funds. Currently, bridges must be structurally deficient to be eligible. The bill authorizes the use of state of good repair funds for improvements anticipated to extend the useful life of a bridge by at least 10 years. The bill applies to new project allocations made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board after June 1, 2025.

P HB1331 Conveyance of easement; Department of State Police and Department of Transportation. Authorizes the conveyance of an easement in Campbell County by the Department of State Police in conjunction with the Department of Transportation.

Patron - Walker

Patron - Runion

P **SB158** Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; technical advisory committee; appointments. Provides that six members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's technical advisory committee are appointed

by the Authority rather than appointed by localities embraced by the Authority as provided in current law. Patron - Boysko

P **SB216** Special license plates; 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Authorizes the issuance of revenue-sharing special license plates marking the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The bill provides that the prepaid application requirements for special license plates shall not apply to such plates, that the provisions of the bill expire on July 1, 2032, that such plates shall not be newly issued on or after such date, and that such plates may continue in use for a period of time determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. This bill is identical to HB 840. *Patron - Locke* 

P **SB323** Percy Lee House, III Memorial Bridge. Designates the bridge on Otterdam Road over Interstate 95 in Greensville County the "Percy Lee House, III Memorial Bridge." This bill is identical to HB 92. Patron - Jordan

P **SB644** Unpaved secondary highway funds. Clarifies that the improvement of nonsurface treated secondary highways includes improvements other than paving, as described in the bill. The bill also clarifies that the local governing body of the county receiving funds for such improvements will select the highways or highway segments to be improved, after consulting with the Department of Transportation. This bill is identical to HB 74. Patron - Perry

#### **Failed**

F HB135 High-occupancy toll lanes; disabled veteran license plates. Provides that, on Interstate 95, vehicles displaying a disabled veteran license plate meet the high-occupancy requirement for high-occupancy toll lanes, regardless of the number of occupants in the vehicle. Patron - Cole

F HB424 Free use of toll facilities; certain disabled veterans. Authorizes the free use of all toll bridges, toll roads, and other toll facilities in the Commonwealth for drivers who have been rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability. The bill also replaces the current window sticker for certain persons exempted from tolls due to a disability with a specialized electronic toll collection device identifying such person as eligible for free passage.

Patron - Green

F HB532 Transportation projects; highway safety. Prohibits the initiation of any transportation project in an established school crossing zone unless a pedestrian safety-focused road safety audit is conducted and its recommendations are incorporated into the project plan. The bill requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board, in administering the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program, to prioritize infrastructure projects that address a hazardous road location or feature or address an identified highway safety problem located in a school crossing zone.

Patron - Seibold

F HB557 Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; preservation of public parklands, recreation areas, and wildlife or waterfowl refuges. Requires the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to prioritize the preser-

vation of the natural beauty and the natural resources of the

countryside and public park and recreation lands within the localities embraced by the Authority and prohibits the Authority from approving any program or project that requires the use of any publicly owned land from a (i) public park; (ii) recreation area; or (iii) wildlife or waterfowl refuge of national, statewide, or local significance as determined by the local governing body of any locality having jurisdiction over such wildlife or waterfowl refuge unless (a) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of such land and (b) such program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to such park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge resulting from such use.

Patron - Hope

F HB661 Department of Transportation; design-build engineer regulations. Directs the Department of Transportation to promulgate regulations clarifying that design-build contractors are not required to employ a professional engineer on staff in order to qualify to submit a proposal for or be awarded a transportation project.

Patron - Runion

F HB811 Toll relief; maximum charges. Limits to \$200 per month the tolls charged to residents of the Commonwealth via electronic toll collection devices for the use of toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels, or toll roads in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits misusing, sharing, or transferring an electronic toll collection device for the purpose of (i) generating tolls to reach the toll limit or (ii) obtaining toll-free use of toll facilities in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes the free use of all toll bridges, toll roads, and other toll facilities in the Commonwealth for drivers who are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits. *Patron - Mundon King* 

HB1037 Installation, maintenance, and operation of devices in highway right-of-way for law-enforcement purposes; regulation authority; civil penalty. Authorizes the Department of State Police or the chief lawenforcement officer of a locality to install devices for lawenforcement purposes in the right-of-way of highways under state jurisdiction. The bill defines law-enforcement purposes as an active felony investigation, an effort to prevent a targeted act of violence, or an attempt to locate missing, endangered, or wanted persons by law enforcement through the identification of a motor vehicle and excludes from the definition the enforcement of speed limits, traffic laws, tolling requirements, or high-occupancy vehicle requirements. The bill authorizes entering into agreements with private entities for the maintenance and operation of such devices. The bill requires the data collected to be maintained for no more than 30 days following its collection and limits the data and information collected to data and information about (i) the make, model, condition, location, and color of a vehicle and the information on the vehicle's license plate and (ii) the date and time the data and information was collected. This bill was incorporated into HB

Patron - Bloxom

F HB1173 Northern Virginia Transportation Commission; membership. Requires, rather than permits, the four members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to be members of the House of Delegates. This bill was incorporated into HB 201.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1175 Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; membership. Requires, rather than permits, the two members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Author-

ity appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates to be members of the House of Delegates. This bill was incorporated into HB 201.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1201 Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; budget; operating assistance. Provides that payments and obligations arising from or related to any contract pertaining to employee compensation and work conditions under the normal operation of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) may be included in the calculation of a WMATA budget increase for purposes of the cap of such budget increase. Current law provides that any payment or obligation of any kind arising from or related to legal disputes or proceedings between or among WMATA and any other person or entity shall not be used in calculating a WMATA budget increase.

Patron - Obenshain

F HB1352 Use of salt and brine; certain highways. Prohibits the Department of Transportation from using salt or brine for stabilization or control of ice or snow on any highway that is part of the primary or secondary state highway system and located in the watershed of the Occoquan River. Patron - Henson

F HB1391 Commissioner of Highways; Highway Corporation Act to Public-Private Transportation Act. Directs the Commissioner of Highways to evaluate ways to reduce tolls and implement distance-based tolling by transferring any roadway within the Commonwealth operated pursuant to the Virginia Highway Corporation Act of 1988 to the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995. The bill establishes a process whereby the Commissioner may execute a new comprehensive agreement with the operator of the roadway to operate under the PPTA, if such transfer would be in the public interest, as defined in the bill. The bill expires on December 31, 2025.

Patron - Reid

F HB1510 Toll-relief programs; low-income residents. Requires the Department of Transportation to establish and administer toll-relief programs for low-income residents of any locality impacted by the presence of a toll facility in proximity to such locality, as determined by the Department. Patron - Srinivasan

F HB1543 Department of Transportation; quick-build traffic calming projects; report. Requires the Department of Transportation to convene a work group with relevant stakeholders to develop a process for localities in Planning District 8 to plan, prioritize, and implement quickbuild traffic calming projects to address safety issues in school crossing zones.

Patron - Tran

F SB206 Installation, maintenance, and operation of devices in highway right-of-way for law-enforcement purposes; regulation authority; civil penalty. Authorizes the Department of State Police or the chief law-enforcement officer of a locality to install devices for law-enforcement purposes in the right-of-way of highways under state jurisdiction. The bill defines law-enforcement purposes as an active felony investigation, an effort to prevent a targeted act of violence, or an attempt to locate missing, endangered, or wanted persons by law enforcement through the identification of a motor vehicle and excludes from the definition the enforcement of speed limits, traffic laws, tolling requirements, or high-occupancy vehicle requirements. The bill authorizes

entering into agreements with private entities for the maintenance and operation of such devices. The bill requires the data collected to be maintained for no more than 30 days following its collection and limits the data and information collected to data and information about (i) the make, model, condition, location, and color of a vehicle and the information on the vehicle's license plate and (ii) the date and time the data and information was collected. This bill was incorporated into SB 503

Patron - Diggs

F SB282 Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program; surplus funds. Provides that beginning in fiscal year 2025, in any fiscal year in which there is a surplus of general fund revenues, as that term is defined in the bill, the Governor shall include in his proposed budget an appropriation of 10 percent of such surplus for the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program for the purpose of funding projects consistent with the objectives of the Program.

Patron - Roem

F SB539 License plate readers; penalties. Provides requirements for the use of license plate readers, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill requires such agencies to enter into an agreement with the license plate reader owners or other responsible non-law-enforcement entity to operate a data trust, defined in the bill, to store the data collected by a license plate reader and requires any such law-enforcement agency to apply to the data trust for access to such data. The bill limits the use of license plate readers to scanning, detecting, and identifying license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying vehicles involved in certain crimes. Patron - Bagby

#### **Carried Over**

C HB915 Highway Corporation Act of 1988; reports. Requires a roadway operator under the Highway Corporation Act of 1988 to quarterly file with the State Corporation Commission, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation a complete financial report and provide any additional current and historical financial information as requested by any of the same such entities.

Patron - Srinivasan

C HB923 Department of Transportation; Dulles Toll Road and Dulles Greenway; report. Directs the Department of Transportation to review the tolls, fines, and penalties assessed on the Dulles Toll Road and the Dulles Greenway. Patron - Srinivasan

C HB1233 Unpaved secondary highway funds; improvements; report. Provides that improvements to nonsurface treated secondary highways may, at the discretion of the locality, include changes other than paving, including enhanced maintenance and capital improvements to such highway. The bill directs the Department of Transportation to review and consider methods of improving unpaved secondary highways other than paving such highways and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation by November 1, 2024. Patron - Higgins

C SB322 Statewide prioritization process; primary evacuation routes. Adds maintenance of primary evacuation routes to the list of factors that must be considered by the Commonwealth Transportation Board as part of the statewide prioritization process for project selection. The bill directs the

Board, in incorporating this new factor into the prioritization process, to not assign a weight to such factor and, instead, to set a bonus point value that may be added for projects that include maintenance of primary evacuation routes and shall apply such bonus point values to such projects when applicable.

Patron - Jordan

C SB617 Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; budget; operating assistance. Provides that payments and obligations arising from or related to any contract pertaining to employee compensation and work conditions under the normal operation of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) may be included in the calculation of a WMATA budget increase for purposes of the cap of such budget increase. Current law provides that any payment or obligation of any kind arising from or related to legal disputes or proceedings between or among WMATA and any other person or entity shall not be used in calculating a WMATA budget increase.

Patron - Obenshain

# Homestead and Other Exemptions

#### **Passed**

P HB1339 Exemptions from garnishment and lien; householder; total value. Increases from \$25,000 to \$50,000 the amount that a householder may hold exempt from the creditor process for real or personal property that the householder or his dependent uses as a principal residence. The bill also increases from \$6,000 to \$10,000 the amount a householder is entitled to hold exempt from the creditor process for his motor vehicle. The bill further provides that, beginning on April 1, 2027, any increases in exempt amounts shall be adjusted at three-year intervals to reflect the change in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The bill provides that such adjustments shall be calculated by the Department of Planning and Budget.

Patron - Simon

# Hotels, Restaurants, Summer Camps, and Campgrounds

#### **Passed**

P HB57 Restaurant exemptions; certain organizations participating in fundraising events. Clarifies that the provision in current law that exempts certain organizations from provisions applicable to restaurants, including churches, fraternal or school organizations, organizations that are exempt from taxation under §; 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and volunteer fire departments and volunteer emergency medical services agencies, applies when such organizations offer food for sale to the public as a participant in an occasional fundraising event, provided that certain conditions are met. Current law exempts such organizations from provisions applicable to restaurants when such organizations hold occasional

fundraisers that offer food for sale to the public, provided that certain conditions are met.

Patron - Wright

#### **Failed**

F HB871 Campgrounds; inherent risks; liability. Provides that a person who goes camping at a campground

shall be presumed to have known the inherent risks of camping, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that a camping professional, as defined in the bill, shall not be liable for the injury to or death of a camping participant resulting from the inherent risks of camping. The bill further provides that no camping participant or camping participant's representative is authorized to maintain an action against or recover from a camping professional for injury to, loss or damage by, or death of the camping participant resulting exclusively from any of the inherent risks of camping, provided that in any action for damages against a camping professional for camping activity, the camping professional pleads the affirmative defense of assumption of the risk. The bill excludes from such immunity acts taken by a camping professional to intentionally cause personal injury or death or property damage, acts made with a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of the camping participant, and instances wherein the camping professional has actual knowledge or reasonably should have known of a dangerous condition on the land or in the facilities or equipment used in the activity and does not make the danger known to the camping participant.

Patron - Earley

F HB1204 Department of Health; mobile food units. Directs the Department of Health to amend its regulations and each local health department and health district to amend its regulations and guidance documents to allow a mobile food unit to conduct up to 20 percent of its sanitation and food preparation activities within a 50-foot radius of the mobile food unit.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F SB141 State Department of Health; regulation of certain organizations; sale of food. Expands a current exemption to allow churches, fraternal or school organizations, organizations that are exempt from taxation under §; 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and volunteer fire departments and volunteer emergency medical services agencies that not only hold, as provided for in current law, but also participate in occasional dinners, bazaars, and other fundraisers of one or two days' duration, at which food (i) prepared in the homes of members; (ii) prepared in the kitchen of the church, school, or organization; or (iii) purchased or donated from a licensed restaurant is offered for sale to the public, to conduct such activities without applying for any permits or licensure from the State Department of Health.

Patron - Ruff

# Housing

#### Passed

PHB285 Uniform Statewide Building Code; bus shelters. Delegates enforcement of the Uniform Statewide Building Code to the local building official for bus shelters that do not exceed 256 square feet that are to be constructed for transit agencies receiving state money. The bill exempts the state from liability for any such bus shelter constructed on

state-owned property. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2025. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - McQuinn* 

P HB368 Board of Housing and Community Development; stakeholder advisory group; report. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development (the Board) to convene a stakeholder advisory group including fire code officials to evaluate and recommend revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to permit Group R-2 occupancies to be served by a single exit, provided that the building has not more than six stories above grade plane. The bill requires the stakeholder advisory group to submit its findings and recommendations to the Board and to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than December 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 195. Patron - McClure

P HB578 Uniform Statewide Building Code; violations; fines. Increases from \$2,500 to \$5,000 the minimum amount and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the maximum amount that any person, firm, or corporation shall be fined when convicted of a third or subsequent offense of violating the provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code committed within 10 years of another such offense after having been at least twice previously convicted of such an offense. The bill also adds penalties for similar violations committed by owners of a blighted multifamily property. This bill is identical to SB 538. Patron - McQuinn

P HB1270 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; mold remediation. Makes it a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to sell or offer for sale services as a professional mold remediator to be performed upon any residential dwelling without holding a mold remediation certification from the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC).

Patron - McQuinn

P HB1398 Preservation of affordable housing; definitions; civil penalty. Creates a framework for localities to preserve affordable housing by exercising a right of first refusal on publicly supported housing, defined in the bill. The bill authorizes localities to implement an ordinance that requires an owner to accept a right of first refusal offer by the locality or qualified designee, defined in the bill, in order to preserve affordable housing for a period of not less than 15 years. The bill requires that any locality adopting such an ordinance to preserve affordable housing submit an annual report to the Department of Housing and Community Development by December 31. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB1425 Uniform Statewide Building Code; Virginia Passenger Rail Authority exemption. Exempts rail-way tunnels and bridges owned by the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority from the Uniform Statewide Building Code and the Statewide Fire Prevention Code Act. The bill requires the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority to report annually to the State Fire Marshal on the maintenance and operability of installed fire protection and detection systems in its railway tunnels and bridges.

Patron - Austin

P HB1487 Department of Housing and Community Development; forms and documents for landlords and tenants; translation into non-English languages. Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to translate all forms and documents that the Department is mandated

by law to create and that are posted on its website for use by residential landlords and tenants into the five non-English languages most commonly spoken in Virginia. The bill allows the Department to accept materials translated by volunteers but requires the Department to verify the accuracy of such translations prior to making such translations available on its website. *Patron - Tran* 

P SB195 Board of Housing and Community Development; stakeholder advisory group; report. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development (the Board) to convene a stakeholder advisory group including fire code officials to evaluate and recommend revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to permit Group R-2 occupancies to be served by a single exit, provided that the building has not more than six stories above grade plane. The bill requires the stakeholder advisory group to submit its findings and recommendations to the Board and to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than December 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 368.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB538 Uniform Statewide Building Code; violations; fines. Increases from \$2,500 to \$5,000 the minimum amount and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 the maximum amount that any person, firm, or corporation shall be fined when convicted of a third or subsequent offense of violating the provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code committed within 10 years of another such offense after having been at least twice previously convicted of such an offense. The bill also adds penalties for similar violations committed by owners of a blighted multifamily property. This bill is identical to HB 578. Patron - Bagby

#### Failed

HB382 Broadband access in farmland and rural areas; information and reporting. Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to create and maintain, in consultation with the Commonwealth Broadband Chief Advisor, the Broadband Advisory Council, and the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, an interactive tool or application to provide current information on connectivity and broadband access in rural areas of the Commonwealth and on farmland in the Commonwealth and permits such tool or application to be incorporated into the Department's website. The bill also directs the Department to, with the assistance of any necessary agencies of the Commonwealth, collect and incorporate information and data regarding connectivity and broadband access in rural areas and on farmland into such interactive tool or application and annually report to the Broadband Advisory Council any such information and data.

Patron - Feggans

F HB471 Uniform Statewide Building Code; multifamily residential housing construction projects; electric vehicle charging infrastructure standards. Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to promulgate regulations for electric vehicle charging infrastructure standards for multifamily residential housing construction projects consisting of more than 25 residential dwelling units. The standards shall require a developer of such multifamily residential housing construction projects to ensure that at least 25 percent of the available parking spaces are electric vehicle charging ready during the design and construction process. Landlords, condominium unit owners' associations, and property owners' associations shall be authorized to negotiate with electric vehi-

cle charging providers with respect to the installation and maintenance of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and any related revenue sharing. The bill also requires the Board to promulgate such regulations by January 1, 2025, and provides that such regulations shall only apply to any new multifamily residential housing construction projects approved by a locality after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Martinez

F HB1105 Housing; Zoning for Housing Production Pilot Program created; affordable dwelling unit policy incentives; report. Creates the Zoning for Housing Production Pilot Program to be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development. To be eligible for a grant from the Program, a locality is required to make a change to its zoning policies to allow for by-right development that is expected to further the goal of creating and maintaining mixed-income communities, affordable housing, and moderately priced housing, as those terms are defined in the bill. The Department of Housing and Community Development is required to establish certain guidelines for the Program and to notify eligible localities of the existence and purpose of the Program no later than September 1, 2024. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Carr

F HB1421 Virginia Housing Trust Fund; eligibility. Expands eligibility for loans from the Virginia Housing Trust Fund to include low, moderate, or middle income persons and families and requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to (i) include definitions for such income levels in program guidelines for administering the Fund and (ii) prioritize funding for low income and middle income housing projects in program guidelines for administering the Fund. Under current law, such loans may be provided only to low or moderate income citizens of Virginia.

Patron - Morefield

F SB681 Virginia Housing Trust Fund; eligibility. Expands eligibility for loans from the Virginia Housing Trust Fund to include low, moderate, or middle income persons and families and requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to (i) include definitions for such income levels in program guidelines for administering the Fund and (ii) prioritize funding for low income and middle income housing projects in program guidelines for administering the Fund. Under current law, such loans may be provided only to low or moderate income citizens of Virginia.

Patron - Durant

#### **Carried Over**

C HB1092 Board of Housing and Community Development; Uniform Statewide Building Code; local building officials. Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to amend the Uniform Statewide Building Code and corresponding regulations to remove any authority for local building departments to appoint local building officials for permanent terms. The bill requires the Board to require local building departments to appoint such officials for a term not to exceed 10 years and to only reappoint such officials after holding a performance evaluation.

Patron - Oates

C HB1124 Faith in Housing for the Commonwealth Act. Permits a religious organization, defined in the bill, to construct affordable housing on real estate owned by such religious organization (i) on or before January 1, 2024, or

for a period of not less than five years, and (ii) for which the religious organization retains a majority ownership interest. *Patron - Carr* 

C SB233 Faith in Housing for the Commonwealth Act. Permits a religious organization, defined in the bill, to construct affordable housing on real estate owned by such religious organization (i) on or before January 1, 2024, or for a period of not less than five years, and (ii) for which the religious organization retains a majority ownership interest. Patron - Hashmi

### Institutions of Higher Education; Other Educational and Cultural Institutions

#### **Passed**

P HB48 Public institutions of higher education; admissions applications; legacy admissions and admissions based on donor status prohibited. Prohibits any public institution of higher education from providing any manner of preferential treatment in the admissions decision to any student applicant on the basis of such student's legacy status, defined in the bill, or such student's familial relationship to any donor to such institution. This bill is identical to SB 46.

Patron - Helmer

P HB163 Public institutions of higher education; student identification cards; emergency services website page and telephone numbers. Requires each public institution of higher education to maintain and annually update as necessary to ensure accuracy and currency a website page that includes telephone numbers for certain emergency services enumerated in the bill and to include (i) the URL of such website page on each new digital student identification card and any replacement digital student identification card issued by the institution beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year and (ii) the URL of or a QR Code that directs to such website page on each new physical student identification card and any replacement physical student identification card issued by the institution beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year. Patron - Cole

**HB509** State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; public institutions of higher education; policies for establishing eligibility for accommodations; report. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in consultation with representatives of public institutions of higher education, disability advocacy organizations, students enrolled at public institutions of higher education, higher education disability accommodation professionals, and a subject matter expert, to (i) study the processes by which each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth determines the eligibility for accommodations of an admitted or enrolled student with a temporary or permanent disability, (ii) identify in such processes any potential barriers to establishing eligibility, and (iii) make recommendations on reducing any such barriers and on the development and establishment of a uniform accommodations eligibility determination in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 21.

Patron - Cohen

P HB566 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; membership; representative of a historically

black college or university. Requires the membership of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to include at least one nonlegislative citizen member who has served as a chief executive officer of one of the Commonwealth's historically black colleges or universities. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Askew

P HB690 Institutions of higher education; campus safety; governing boards of certain educational institutions; employment of security services and personnel authorized. Authorizes the governing board of certain educational institutions, including the A.L. Philpott Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, the New College Institute, the Roanoke Higher Education Authority, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, and the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, and the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, to establish and maintain a campus security department and to employ security personnel. Under current law, the governing board of any such educational institution is only authorized to contract for security services. This bill is identical to SB 613. Patron - O'Ouinn

P HB700 Certain individuals in foster care, in the custody of the Department of Social Services, or considered a special needs adoption; parameters of higher education grants; point of contact for support and guidance. Expands to include each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth the requirement to provide grants to certain individuals who were in foster care or in the custody of the Department of Social Services or were considered a special needs adoption; adds mandatory education and general fees and, in the case of baccalaureate public institutions of higher education, the cost of room and board to the amount of such grants; and makes eligible for such grants any individual who meets certain other eligibility criteria and was in foster care or in the custody of the Department of Social Services or was considered a special needs adoption at any time after he turned 14. Current law requires such an individual to have been in foster care or in the custody of the Department of Social Services or considered a special needs adoption at the time that his high school diploma or equivalency examination certificate was awarded. The bill also requires each public institution of higher education to identify at least one employee of the institution to serve as a point of contact for each enrolled student who was in foster care or in the custody of the Department of Social Services or was considered a special needs adoption in order to provide such student with support and guidance, including support and guidance relating to financial aid and any associated applications or other required paperwork.

Patron - Tata

P HB713 Institutions of higher education; campus safety and emergency preparedness training; first-year completion and biennial review. Requires the governing board of each public institution of higher education to develop and implement policies requiring that a campus safety and emergency preparedness training program be provided to and completed by all first-year students by the last day of each student's first academic term and reviewed biennially by each returning student at such institution. The bill provides that such training program will focus on active shooter event preparedness and may be offered in any format and include any supplementary materials as the governing board of each such institution deems appropriate. Finally, the bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to encourage private institutions of higher education to develop and implement policies requiring a campus safety and emergency preparedness training program be provided to each first-year student by the

last day of each student's first academic term and reviewed biennially by each returning student at such institution.

Patron - Torian

P HB827 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; survey on campus food insecurity; report. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to (i) survey each public institution of higher education to determine how each such institution is addressing on-campus food insecurity, including specific methods, programs, sources of funding, expenditures, communications strategies, and staffing; (ii) compile and make available to each such institution a guidance document containing best practices for leveraging all available resources and opportunities, including public benefits programs and donation programs, to ensure that students do not face food insecurity on campus; and (iii) report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024.

Patron - Cousins

P HB832 Virginia Commission for the Arts; membership. Reduces the membership of the Virginia Commission for the Arts from 13 to nine members and requires at least one member to be appointed from each of the eight superintendent's regions. Current law requires at least one but no more than two members to be appointed from each congressional district in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 530

Patron - McQuinn

P HB1044 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; membership. Requires the membership of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to include at least one nonlegislative citizen member who has served as a chief executive officer of an accredited nonprofit private institution of higher education whose primary purpose is to provide collegiate, graduate, or professional education and not to provide religious training or theological education. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, and is identical to SB 159.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB1055 Board of directors of Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University; membership; meetings; removal. Adjusts the membership and terms of the standing committee of the Old Dominion Board of Visitors that is established to serve as the board of directors of the Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University by (i) adding the president of the University and the executive vice president for health sciences at the University to serve as ex officio nonvoting members, (ii) removing the nonlegislative citizen member to be appointed by the primary teaching hospital affiliated with the University, (iii) increasing from one to two the number of nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor, (iv) decreasing from nine to seven the number of nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Eastern Virginia Medical School Foundation or any successor foundation and establishing certain qualifications for such members, and (v) staggering the initial appointments of members. The bill permits the primary teaching hospital affiliated with the University to submit to the Governor a list of at least three nominees with certain qualifications for any vacancy on the standing committee that is to be filled by the Governor. The bill requires the standing committee to meet four times per year and at such other times as it determines. The effective date of the establishment of the Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University and its board of directors, and by extension the effective date of the foregoing provisions of this bill, is delayed until the date on which the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations provide written approval for Old Dominion University and Eastern Virginia Medical School to complete a merger to create the Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University. The bill finally requires, by January 1, 2029, the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors, the standing committee of the Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations to provide written input to one another on whether the standing committee governance provisions contained in the bill should be revised. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Knight

HB1133 Virginia College Savings Plan; renamed Commonwealth Savers Plan. Renames the Virginia College Savings Plan as the Commonwealth Savers Plan. Patron - Carr

HB1342 Baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; provision of physical evidence recovery kits. Requires each baccalaureate public institution of higher education to either (i) staff its on-campus student health center with at least one on-campus certified sexual assault forensic examiner for the purpose of administering a physical evidence recovery kit to any student who is in need of such a kit or (ii) enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local organization or entity that is capable of providing the services of a certified sexual assault forensic examiner for the purpose of administering a physical evidence recovery kit to any student who is in need of such a kit.

Patron - Shin

P HB1357 Institute for Advanced Learning and Research; Roanoke Higher Education Authority; board of trustees; powers and duties; specialized noncredit work**force training.** Requires the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research to encourage and coordinate the development and delivery of noncredit courses with a focus on statewide and regional critical shortage areas and the needs of industry that include needed adult education and workforce training. The bill requires the board of trustees of the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research and the Roanoke Higher Education Authority to seek opportunities to collaborate with local comprehensive community colleges to meet specialized noncredit workforce training needs identified by industry but provides that if local comprehensive community colleges are unable to meet identified industry needs, then the board of trustees may seek to collaborate with other education providers or other public or private organizations to provide, or itself may provide, specialized noncredit workforce training independent of local comprehensive community colleges. The bill's directives are subject to the availability of funding other than from general funds.

Patron - Marshall

HB1365 Public institutions of higher education; release of student transcripts. Requires each public institution of higher education to release an academic transcript directly to the employer or prospective employer of a student currently or formerly enrolled at such institution upon the request of the student. The bill also prohibits any public institution of higher education from conditioning the release of an academic transcript to a student currently or formerly enrolled at such institution on the payment of an outstanding debt if (i)

such outstanding debt is less than \$500, (ii) such outstanding debt is less than \$1,000 and such currently or formerly enrolled student received a Federal Pell Grant at any time during his enrollment, or (iii) such currently or formerly enrolled student has enrolled in a repayment plan and has made at least three consecutive monthly payments on such outstanding debt. Patron - Carr

P HB1455 Virginia Center on Aging; Virginia Memory Project established. Establishes the Virginia Memory Project in the Virginia Center on Aging at Virginia Commonwealth University to collect and analyze data on Alzheimer's disease, related dementias, and other neurodegenerative disorders; provide assistance to individuals with Alzheimer's disease, related dementias, and other neurodegenerative disorders and their families and physicians; and assist in the development of relevant public policy. The bill provides that no publication of information shall be made that identifies any patient by name. The bill has a delayed effective

Patron - Carr

date of January 1, 2025.

P HB1467 Baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; boards of visitors; membership. Requires the board of visitors of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to include two nonvoting, advisory representatives consisting of (i) one faculty member of the institution elected by the institution's faculty or such institution's faculty senate or its equivalent and (ii) one staff member of the institution selected by the institution's staff in the manner deemed appropriate by such staff members. The bill clarifies that such nonvoting, advisory faculty and staff representatives are separate and apart from the membership of the governing board of any such institution and are not counted in the membership of any such governing board. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Laufer

P HB1505 Intercollegiate athletics; student-athletes; compensation for name, image, or likeness. Makes several changes to existing provisions of law relating to compensation of a student-athlete at a public or private institution of higher education in the Commonwealth (institution) for the use of the name, image, or likeness of such student-athlete, including (i) prohibiting any athletic association, athletic conference, or other organization with authority over intercollegiate athletics from preventing an institution, its supporting foundations, or an entity acting on its behalf from identifying, creating, negotiating, facilitating, supporting, engaging with, assisting with, or otherwise enabling a name, image, or likeness opportunity for a student-athlete; (ii) requiring each institution to develop and submit to the institution's governing board or similar governing body for approval institutional policies or procedures that govern the compensation of a studentathlete for the use of his name, image, or likeness; and (iii) permitting any institution to provide assets, resources, or benefits as an incentive to individuals, companies, or other entities to provide money, benefits, opportunities, or services to an outside entity that supports name, image, or likeness opportunities for the institution's student-athletes. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of November 15, 2024. The bill also requires the Intercollegiate Athletics Review Commission to review plans and implementation considerations for the provisions of the bill and provide a report on its review to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Austin

**P SB21** State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; public institutions of higher education; policies for establishing eligibility for accommodations; report. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in consultation with representatives of public institutions of higher education, disability advocacy organizations, students enrolled at public institutions of higher education, higher education disability accommodation professionals, and a subject matter expert, to (i) study the processes by which each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth determines the eligibility for accommodations of an admitted or enrolled student with a temporary or permanent disability, (ii) identify in such processes any potential barriers to establishing eligibility, and (iii) make recommendations on reducing any such barriers and on the development and establishment of a uniform accommodations eligibility determination in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 509. Patron - Salim

P **SB46** Public institutions of higher education; admissions applications; legacy admissions and admissions based on donor status prohibited. Prohibits any public institution of higher education from providing any manner of preferential treatment in the admissions decision to any student applicant on the basis of such student's legacy status, defined in the bill, or such student's familial relationship to any donor to such institution. This bill incorporates SB 71 and is identical to HB 48.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB159 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; membership. Requires the membership of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to include at least one nonlegislative citizen member who has served as a chief executive officer of an accredited nonprofit private institution of higher education whose primary purpose is to provide collegiate, graduate, or professional education and not to provide religious training or theological education. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, and is identical to HB 1044.

Patron - Boysko

**SB506** Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; powers and duties; legal counsel; scope of employment. Provides that the governing board of each public institution of higher education shall have authority over the employment of all legal counsel for the institution, including decision-making authority in the commencement or termination of any legal counsel, the employment of outside legal counsel, the oversight and management of any legal counsel, and the appointment of a general counsel to serve as the chief legal officer of the institution. The bill provides that the chief legal officer and the vice president or similarly situated executive officer of such institution shall, under the direction of the governing board of such institution, conduct the legal affairs of and provide legal advice and representation for such institution on any matter that the governing board determines to be in the interest of the institution. The bill clarifies the scope of the involvement of the Attorney General in the legal affairs of public institutions of higher education, providing that the Attorney General may only provide legal service to a public institution of higher education upon request of the governing board of such institution or upon the governing board's decision to delegate all authority in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The bill permits the governing board of any public institution of higher education with less than 7,500 full-time students to delegate all authority over legal counsel conferred pursuant to the provisions of the bill. The bill also provides that the approval of the Attorney General shall be required for any legal settlement involving consideration in excess of \$5 million. The bill also clarifies the duties of the governing board of each public institution of higher education in its collective

capacity and of the members of such governing board in their individual capacities. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Surovell* 

P **SB530** Virginia Commission for the Arts; membership. Reduces the membership of the Virginia Commission for the Arts from 13 to nine members and requires at least one member to be appointed from each of the eight superintendent's regions. Current law requires at least one but no more than two members to be appointed from each congressional district in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 832.

Patron - Jordan

P SB613 Institutions of higher education; campus safety; governing boards of certain educational institutions; employment of security services and personnel authorized. Authorizes the governing board of certain educational institutions, including the A.L. Philpott Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, the New College Institute, the Roanoke Higher Education Authority, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, and the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, and the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, to establish and maintain a campus security department and to employ security personnel. Under current law, the governing board of any such educational institution is only authorized to contract for security services. This bill is identical to HB 690. Patron - Pillion

#### **Failed**

HB145 Virginia Teacher Residency Training Corps established. Establishes the Virginia Teacher Residency Training Corps for the purposes of attracting and retaining public elementary and secondary school teachers in school divisions in the Commonwealth by awarding scholarships to students seeking to obtain teaching degrees and certifications at participating institutions and requiring such students upon completion of their degree or certificate to fill teaching positions for one year for each year of scholarship receipt at a highneed school, as defined pursuant to federal law. The bill also creates the Virginia Teacher Residency Training Corps Scholarship Fund and Program for the purpose of funding such scholarships at the participating institutions of Longwood University, Norfolk State University, Radford University, and Virginia Commonwealth University. Finally, the bill establishes the 12-member Virginia Teacher Residency Training Corps Commission to administer the Program and directs the Commission to begin meeting on or after September 1, 2024, and to establish the parameters for the Program and award the first scholarships prior to the beginning of the 2025-2026 academic vear.

Patron - Reid

F HB207 Public institutions of higher education; Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program; established. Establishes the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address student hunger at public institutions of higher education. The bill provides that the Program shall be managed by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and available for participation by public institutions of higher education; however, participation in the Program shall be optional for such institutions. Under the bill, if a public institution of higher education satisfies certain criteria set out in the bill, including creating initiatives on campus to address student hunger, it shall be designated as a "Hunger-Free Campus" and the Council shall award a grant to such institution. A public institution of higher education that receives a grant under the bill shall utilize the funds to support on-campus efforts and initiatives to eliminate

student hunger at such institution. The bill requires the Council to submit a report to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education no later than two years after the establishment of the Program that shall include (i) the total number and amounts of grant awards, (ii) information about the impact that the Program has had on establishing additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity, and (iii) recommendations regarding the potential establishment of an annual appropriation for the Program.

Patron - Simonds

HB802 Virginia Museum of Transportation; established. Establishes the Virginia Museum of Transportation as a public entity and educational institution under the Commonwealth. The bill provides that the Museum is governed by a 15-member board of trustees.

Patron - Rasoul

**HB881** Public institutions of higher education; Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program; established. Establishes the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address student hunger at public institutions of higher education. The bill provides that the Program shall be managed by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and available for participation by public institutions of higher education; however, participation in the Program shall be optional for such institutions. Under the bill, if a public institution of higher education satisfies certain criteria set out in the bill, including creating initiatives on campus to address student hunger, it shall be designated as a "Hunger-Free Campus" and the Council shall award a grant to such institution. A public institution of higher education that receives a grant under the bill shall utilize the funds to support on-campus efforts and initiatives to eliminate student hunger at such institution. The bill requires the Council to submit a report to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education no later than two years after the establishment of the Program that shall include (i) the total number and amounts of grant awards, (ii) information about the impact that the Program has had on establishing additional hunger-free campuses at public institutions of higher education and reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity, and (iii) recommendations regarding the potential establishment of an annual appropriation for the Program.

Patron - Bulova

HB1008 Public institutions of higher education; financial value transparency information and acknowledgement; requirements. Requires each public institution of higher education to require each student enrolled at such institution to sign, at the time such student enrolls in such institution or declares or changes his academic major, as defined in the bill, an acknowledgement form outlining (i) the total cost of completing such academic major and (ii) an estimate of the annual income such student could expect to earn upon completing such academic major, based on the median income potential of such academic major as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States or another reputable source.

Patron - Lovejoy

HB1066 Commission to Study the History of the Uprooting of Black Communities by Public Institutions of Higher Education in the Commonwealth established; **report.** Establishes the 19-member legislative Commission to Study the History of the Uprooting of Black Communities by Public Institutions of Higher Education for the purpose of

studying and determining (i) whether any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth has purchased, expropriated, or otherwise taken possession of property owned by any individual within the boundaries of a community in which a majority of the residents are Black in order to establish or expand the institution's campus and (ii) whether and what form of compensation or relief would be appropriate for any such individual or any of his lineal descendants. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027.

Patron - McOuinn

HB1255 Public institutions of higher education; diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; annual certification. Requires the chief executive officer of each public institution of higher education to annually submit to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education of Health no later than August 1 a written, signed certification that no diversity, equity, and inclusion-related program, instruction, or initiative provided or sponsored by such institution promotes anti-Semitism. Patron - Milde

HB1422 Public institutions of higher education; legacy admissions prohibited. Prohibits any public institution of higher education from utilizing legacy admissions for any student applicant. The bill defines "legacy admissions" as any policy or practice whereby any individual who applies for admission to an institution of higher education and who is the child, grandchild, or sibling of an alumnus of such institution is afforded preferential treatment in the admissions decision.

Patron - Cordoza

SB71 Public institutions of higher education; admissions applications; legacy admissions and admissions based on donor status prohibited. Prohibits any public institution of higher education from providing any manner of preferential treatment in the admissions decision to any student applicant on the basis of such student's legacy status, defined in the bill, or such student's familial relationship to any donor to such institution. This bill was incorporated into SB 46. Patron - McPike

SB279 Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority; board of directors membership; powers and duties; capital projects; issuance of bonds. Provides for a number of reforms related to the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority. The bill reduces the number of members serving on the Authority's board of directors and the number of physician-faculty members that are required to serve on the board, requires persons who are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules to be nonlegislative citizen members, and changes the term of office for board members. Additionally, the bill amends the Authority's powers and duties to provide outside oversight of certain actions taken or contemplated by the Authority. The Authority is required to notify the Governor, the Secretary of Finance, and the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees prior to seeking financing or incurring debt or entering into a contract related to hospital facilities and other projects. Further, the Authority is required to conduct a comprehensive financial and risk analysis for every proposed capital project and, for capital projects exceeding \$15 million, to consult with the Secretary of Finance and the Department of Planning and Budget on various details, in addition to notifying the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees and providing specific information related to the capital project.

Patron - Sturtevant

SB287 Comprehensive community colleges; authority to offer and confer certain baccalaureate degrees. Authorizes the State Board for Community Colleges, subject to approval and certification by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia of a proposal submitted for such purpose, to establish an upper division of any comprehensive community college consisting of the third and fourth years of baccalaureate degree programs that lead to occupations in a high-demand field and confer baccalaureate degrees in such degree programs. The bill requires any proposal submitted to the Council for such purpose to include (i) the information required for application for Council certification pursuant to relevant law; (ii) any information necessary to establish that the applicable comprehensive community college meets the requirements for Council certification and accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; (iii) the specific baccalaureate degree programs the State Board is seeking approval to offer at the applicable comprehensive community college and information to establish that such baccalaureate degree programs lead to occupations in a field that meets the criteria of a high-demand field, as set forth in the bill; and (iv) any other information that the Council deems nec-

Patron - Sturtevant

#### Carried Over

C HB211 Department of Education; audit of education preparation programs at public institutions of higher education; science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction; frequency. Changes from once every seven years to biennially the frequency with which the Department of Education is required to audit each education preparation program for compliance with the requirements set forth in relevant law relating to student coursework and mastery in science-based reading research and evidence-based literacy instruction.

Patron - Martinez

C HB366 Institutions of higher education; tuition grants; Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program. Makes several changes to the Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program, including (i) making the provisions relating to the requirements and conditions for eligibility for and award of grants under the Program subject to regulations as prescribed by the Adjutant General, (ii) eliminating the requirement to satisfy financial obligations with the institution of higher education at the beginning of each semester, (iii) simplifying the requirements relating to academic performance and good standing, and (iv) providing that upon acceptance, grant funds shall be disbursed to the applicable institution of higher education for credit against the recipient's student account.

Patron - Reid

**C HB369** Institutions of higher education; sexual misconduct policies; civil penalty. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to appoint and convene a task force on combating sexual violence for the purpose of developing a base sexual misconduct campus climate survey to be distributed to institutions of higher education no less than annually. The bill defines "institution of higher education" as any public institution of higher education or any private institution of higher education. The bill permits each institution of higher education to append campus-specific questions to the base survey and, within 120 days after completion of the survey, requires each institution to submit a summary of the results to the Director of the Council and post a summary of the results on the institution's website in an easily accessible man-

ner. The bill also requires survey data to be posted on the Council's website.

The bill directs each institution of higher education to establish a written memorandum of understanding with a sexual assault crisis center, domestic violence center, or other victim support service in order to provide sexual assault victims with immediate access to a confidential, independent advocate who can provide a trauma-informed response that includes an explanation of options for moving forward. Currently, only Richard Bland College and each baccalaureate public institution of higher education and nonprofit private institution of higher education are required to enter into such agreements.

The bill requires each institution of higher education to include in its campus security policy the designation of at least one confidential resource advisor whose role shall be to serve as a confidential resource for students and employees to discuss alleged acts of sexual misconduct and receive information on resources available to such students or employees. The bill creates a statutory privilege between the confidential resource advisor and a student or employee who is sharing information with such confidential resource advisor. The bill sets out required awareness programming and training for students and employees to be conducted each year by each institution of higher education. The bill also requires each institution of higher education to adopt a policy on sexual misconduct that includes information set out in the bill and provides information that the institution shall provide to parties involved in an alleged incident of sexual misconduct.

The bill sets forth data reporting requirements of sexual misconduct incidences and investigations that each institution of higher education shall prepare annually. After reasonable notice and opportunity for a hearing, upon determination that an institution of higher education has violated or failed to carry out any provision or any rule adopted under the bill, the Director of the Council may impose a civil penalty upon such institution for each violation not to exceed \$150,000, which shall be adjusted for inflation annually, or one percent of an institution's annual operating budget, whichever is lower.

Patron - Martinez

C HB486 Certain public institutions of higher education; enrollment limitations in incoming freshman classes; Virginia Higher Education Scholarship Act Fund and Program established. Requires, beginning with the incoming freshman class in the 2025 academic year, the board of visitors of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education, with the exception of Norfolk State University, Virginia Military Institute, and Virginia State University, to ensure that the annual percentage of undergraduate non-Virginia students in each incoming freshman class does not exceed 45 percent. The bill also establishes the Virginia Higher Education Scholarship Act Fund and Program whereby certain Virginia public high school graduates who graduated at or near the top of their graduating classes are permitted to apply to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia for a scholarship in an amount equal to the cost of tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees to attend a public institution of higher education enumerated in the bill for eight semesters.

Patron - Garrett

C HB981 Public institutions of higher education; tuition and financial aid; dependency override application form. Requires each public institution of higher education to develop, maintain, and post publicly on the financial aid page of such institution's website informational materials relating to the dependency override application process and to review and update such materials as necessary to reflect current federal law and guidance on such process. The bill requires such informational materials to include, in a language and format accessible to students enrolled at and potential applicants for

admission to such institution, (i) an explanation of the purpose of and eligibility requirements for a dependency override, (ii) an explicit list of the circumstances on which a student may base a dependency override application, (iii) an explanation of the dependency override application process at such institution, and (iv) links to relevant federal guidance on the dependency override process.

Patron - Willett

C HB1305 Virginia College Savings Plan; Virginia College Opportunity Endowment and Fund. Directs the board of the Virginia College Savings Plan to deposit \$250 million per year of surplus moneys from the Plan's fund into the Virginia College Opportunity Fund, established by the bill. The bill provides that such deposit shall not be made or shall be reduced in any year in which the College Opportunity Investment Advisory Committee determines that certain conditions relating to the Plan's funded status are not met. The Committee is established by the bill as an advisory committee for the Plan, for the purpose of determining the amount of deposits to be made to the Fund.

The bill provides that financial management of the Fund is the responsibility of the board of the Plan but authorizes the board of the Virginia College Opportunity Endowment, also established by the bill, to manage a scholarship program funded by the Fund. The bill establishes an individual and corporate income tax subtraction for donations to the Fund.

Under the bill, the Endowment provides scholarships to students who attend or plan to attend one of 12 eligible universities named in the bill. The bill provides that only such students who meet the eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell Grant and commit to being employed in Virginia, or being enrolled in postgraduate education in Virginia, for at least eight years after graduation from an eligible university are eligible for such scholarships.

Patron - Hayes

C HB1307 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; survey; baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; student application fees; report. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to survey each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to determine, for the 2023–2024 academic year, (i) the median, average, and full per-student application fee charged by the institution; (ii) the total number and percentage of student applicants who receive an application fee waiver from the institution; (iii) the total number and percentage of student applicants who were charged the full student application fee by the institution; (iv) the total and per-student applicant revenue generated by the institution through student application fees; and (v) the total and per-student applicant cost to the institution to process student applications, including fully reviewing and acting upon such applications, disaggregated by each cost category deemed relevant by the Council and the institution. The bill requires each baccalaureate public institution of higher education to conduct such internal audits as it deems necessary to fully comply with and respond to such survey. The bill requires the Council to report its findings and any associated recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024. Patron - Reaser

C HB1373 Roanoke Higher Education Authority; board of trustees; powers and duties; specialized noncredit workforce training. Requires the board of trustees of the Roanoke Higher Education Authority to seek opportunities to collaborate with local comprehensive community colleges to

meet specialized noncredit workforce training needs identified by industry but provides that if local comprehensive community colleges are unable to meet identified industry needs, then the board may seek to collaborate with other education providers to provide or may provide Roanoke Higher Education Center-delivered specialized noncredit workforce training independent of local comprehensive community colleges. *Patron - Ballard* 

C HB1374 In-state tuition eligibility; certain members of National Guard or Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States units in the Commonwealth. Declares eligible for in-state tuition charges at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth regardless of domicile any member of the National Guard or the Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States who is not a resident of the Commonwealth but who is an active member of a unit of the National Guard or the Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Ballard

#### C HB1445 New College Institute; duties.

Requires the New College Institute to design and implement, in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Industry, the Virginia Community College System, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, and other relevant agencies and organizations, any workforce development programs necessary to support the initiatives of any relevant agency or office of the Commonwealth, including adult education and workforce training programs. The bill contains a reenactment clause. *Patron - Phillips* 

C SB62 New College Institute; duties. Requires the New College Institute to design and implement, in collaboration with the Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, and other relevant agencies and organizations, any workforce development programs necessary to support the initiatives of the Office of the Governor, including adult education and workforce training programs.

Patron - Stanley

**SB219** Institutions of higher education; tuition grants; Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance **Program.** Makes several changes to the Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program, including (i) making the provisions relating to the requirements and conditions for eligibility for and award of grants under the Program subject to regulations as prescribed by the Adjutant General, (ii) eliminating the requirement to satisfy financial obligations with the institution of higher education at the beginning of each semester, (iii) simplifying the requirements relating to academic performance and good standing, and (iv) providing that any grant awarded shall be in an amount equivalent to the difference between the full cost of tuition and fees at the institution of higher education less any other educational benefits for which an individual is eligible as a member of the National Guard. Patron - Sturtevant

C SB318 Public institutions of higher education; Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program established; report. Establishes the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address student food insecurity at public institutions of higher education. The bill provides that the Program shall be managed by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and available for participation by public institutions of higher education; however, participation in the Program shall be optional for such institutions. Under the bill, if a public institution of higher

education satisfies certain criteria set out in the bill, including creating initiatives on campus to address student food insecurity, it shall be designated as a "Hunger-Free Campus" and the Council shall award a grant to such institution. A public institution of higher education that receives a grant under the bill shall utilize the funds to support on-campus efforts and initiatives to eliminate student food insecurity at such institution. The bill requires the Council to submit a report to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education no later than two years after the establishment of the Program.

Patron - Roem

C SB347 Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; work group to evaluate and make recommendations on improving long-term viability; report. Directs the Secretary of Finance, in collaboration with the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs and the Secretary of Education, to convene a stakeholder work group for the purpose of evaluating the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program and making recommendations on legislative actions and budgetary modifications that could improve the stability, strength, and long-term viability of the Program. The bill requires the Secretary of Finance to submit the work group's recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Reeves

C **SB418** Virginia Museum of Transportation; established. Establishes the Virginia Museum of Transportation as a public entity and educational institution under the Commonwealth. The bill provides that the Museum is governed by a 15-member board of trustees.

Patron - Head

C SB501 Virginia College Savings Plan; Virginia College Opportunity Endowment and Fund. Directs the board of the Virginia College Savings Plan to deposit \$250 million per year of surplus moneys from the Plan's fund into the Virginia College Opportunity Fund, established by the bill. The bill provides that such deposit shall not be made or shall be reduced in any year in which the College Opportunity Investment Advisory Committee determines that certain conditions relating to the Plan's funded status are not met. The Committee is established by the bill as an advisory committee for the Plan, for the purpose of determining the amount of deposits to be made to the Fund.

The bill provides that financial management of the Fund is the responsibility of the board of the Plan but authorizes the board of the Virginia College Opportunity Endowment, also established by the bill, to manage a scholarship program funded by the Fund. The bill establishes an individual and corporate income tax subtraction for donations to the Fund.

Under the bill, the Endowment provides scholarships to students who attend or plan to attend one of 12 eligible universities named in the bill. The bill provides that only such students who meet the eligibility requirements for a Federal Pell Grant and commit to being employed in Virginia, or being enrolled in postgraduate education in Virginia, for at least eight years after graduation from an eligible university are eligible for such scholarships.

Patron - Surovell

**SB678** Intercollegiate athletics, student-athletes; compensation and representation for name, image, or likeness.

Patron - Rouse

**SB717** Public institutions of higher education; duties of governing boards; acceptance and use of donations. Provides that the governing board of each public institution of higher education may receive, take, hold, and enjoy any donation or gift made to such institution or governing board and may use and administer any such donation or gift for the uses and purposes designated by the donor or, if no such specific designation is made, for the general purposes of the institution. The bill provides that in the event that a donor specifically designates any particular use or purpose for a donation or gift, each governing board is required to appropriate such donation or gift and any resulting interest, income, and profits only to such specifically designated use or purpose, provided, however, that if such specifically designated use or purpose fails by any means such that the specifically designated use or purpose is permanently frustrated, the whole donation or gift, including unexpended principal and interest, will revert to and be vested in the donor or his legal representatives.

Patron - McDougle

#### Insurance

#### Passed

P HB123 Health insurance; ethics and fairness in carrier business practices. Makes various changes to requirements governing the business practices of health carriers in the processing and payment of claims. The bill prescribes criteria for what constitutes a "clean claim." The bill prohibits a carrier from imposing any retroactive denial of a previously paid claim or in any other way seeking recovery or refund of a previously paid claim unless the carrier specifies in writing the specific claim or claims for which the retroactive denial is to be imposed or the recovery or refund is sought and the carrier has provided a written explanation of why the claim is being retroactively adjusted. The bill provides that the time limit for a retroactive denial is 12 months; however, a provider and a carrier may agree in writing that recoupment of overpayments by withholding or offsetting against future payments may occur after such 12-month limit. The bill requires carriers, beginning no later than July 1, 2025, to make available an electronic means for providers to determine whether an enrollee is covered by a health plan that is subject to the State Corporation Commission's jurisdiction. The bill provides that the ethics and fairness requirements apply to the carrier and provider, regardless of any vendors, subcontractors, or other entities that have been contracted by the carrier or the provider to perform their duties. The bill provides that if a carrier's claim denial is overturned following completion of a dispute review, the carrier is required to consider the claims impacted by such decision as clean claims and all applicable laws related to the payment of a clean claim apply. The bill prohibits a provider from filing a complaint with the State Corporation Commission for failure to pay claims unless such provider has made a reasonable effort to confer with the carrier in order to resolve the issues related to all claims that are under dispute. Finally, the bill requires all provider contracts, amendments, and notices and certain other communications to be delivered electronically. This bill is identical to SB 425.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB218 Health insurance; health care provider panels; continuity of care. Requires a provider to continue to render health care services to any of the carrier's enrollees who have an existing provider-patient relationship with the provider for a period of at least 90 days from the date of a provider's ter-

mination from the carrier's provider panel, except when a provider is terminated for cause. The bill provides that for an enrollee who has an existing provider-patient relationship with a provider, and, at the time of the provider's termination, (i) has been medically confirmed to be pregnant, the provider is required to continue care through the postpartum period; (ii) is determined to be terminally ill, the provider is required to continue care for the remainder of the enrollee's life; (iii) has been determined by a medical professional to have a life-threatening condition, the provider is required to continue care for up to 180 days; and (iv) is admitted to and receiving treatment in an inpatient facility, the provider is required to continue care until the enrollee is discharged from the inpatient facility. Under current law, the carrier is required to permit the provider to provide such continuity of care. The bill provides that the continuity of care provisions also apply to plans administered by the Department of Medical Assistance Services that provide benefits pursuant to Title XIX or Title XXI of the Social Security

Patron - Orrock

HB238 Health insurance; coverage for colorectal cancer screening. Requires health insurers to provide coverage for examinations and laboratory tests related to colorectal cancer screening in accordance with the most recently published recommendations established by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force for colorectal cancer screening for which a rating of A or B is in effect with respect to the individual involved. The bill requires such coverage to include coverage of a follow-up colonoscopy after a positive noninvasive stool-based screening test or direct visualization screening test. The bill prohibits such coverage from being subject to any deductible, coinsurance, or any other cost-sharing requirements for services received from participating providers. The provisions of the bill apply to individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies, individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts, or health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2025.

Patron - McQuinn

PHB591 Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program; payment parameters. Requires the State Corporation Commission, in setting the payment parameters for the upcoming benefits year, to set such payment parameters at levels designed to achieve the premium reduction target established in the general appropriation act or, if such target is not established in the general appropriation act, the premium reduction target of the previous benefit year.

Patron - Sickles

P HB595 Insurance; conducting business by electronic means. Authorizes a plan sponsor of a health benefit plan, including a dental or vision benefit plan, to agree on behalf of a party enrolled in the sponsored health benefit plan to conduct business by electronic means, provided that the plan sponsor, prior to agreeing on behalf of the party, has confirmed that the party routinely uses electronic communications during the normal course of employment and has provided notice to the party regarding the ability to opt out of using electronic means at any time.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB601 Health insurance; emergency services; mobile crisis response services. Provides that emergency services, with respect to an emergency medical condition, include, as it relates to any mental health services or substance abuse services rendered at a behavioral health crisis service provider, (i) a behavioral health crisis service provider, including ancil-

lary services routinely available to evaluate such emergency medical condition, and (ii) such further examination and treatment, to the extent that they are within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the behavioral health crisis service provider, as are required so that the patient's condition does not deteriorate. This bill is identical to SB 543.

Patron - Kilgore

P HB819 Health insurance; coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage, under any health insurance contract, policy, or plan that includes coverage for prescription drugs on an outpatient basis, for contraceptive drugs and contraceptive devices, as defined in the bill, including those available overthe-counter. The bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing upon any person receiving contraceptive benefits pursuant to the provisions of the bill any copayment, coinsurance payment, or fee, except in certain circumstances. This bill is identical to SB 238. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Mundon King

HB935 Health insurance; coverage for doula care services. Requires health insurers, corporations providing health care subscription contracts, and health maintenance organizations whose policy, contract, or plan includes coverage for obstetrical services to provide coverage for doula care services provided by a state-certified doula. The bill requires such coverage to include coverage for at least eight visits during the antepartum or postpartum period and support during labor and delivery. The bill provides that health insurance carriers are (i) not required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a state-certified doula and another health care provider and (ii) prohibited from requiring supervision, signature, or referral by any other health care provider as a condition of reimbursement for doula care services, except when those requirements are also applicable to other categories of health care providers. Such provisions of the bill are subject to a reenactment clause. The bill also requires the Health Insurance Reform Commission to consider coverage for doula care services in its review of the essential health benefits benchmark plan and to include such coverage in its recommendation to the General Assembly unless a compelling reason for excluding such coverage is identified. This bill is identical to SB 118. Patron - LeVere Bolling

PHB987 Proton radiation therapy; clinical evidence for decisions on coverage. Permits a health insurance carrier to consider (i) coverage of a proton radiation therapy treatment by Medicare, Medicaid, or any other governmental health care coverage for any type of cancer or (ii) a recommendation of proton radiation therapy by a patient's treating physician or radiation oncologist as a sufficient standard of clinical evidence to justify coverage of proton radiation therapy. Patron - Maldonado

P HB1060 Long-term care insurance; rate increases; notice requirements. Requires an insurer providing long-term care insurance policies to issue a written notice to each policyholder of the insurer's filing for a rate increase with the State Corporation Commission within 60 days of making such filing. Additionally, the bill requires the insurer to (i) if the Commission denies the rate increase, issue a written notice to each policyholder of the Commission's final decision to deny the rate increase within 90 days of such decision or (ii) if the Commission approves the rate increase, issue a written notice to each policyholder of the rate increase at least 90 days before its effective date that includes certain information listed in the bill. The bill requires the Commission, in reviewing requests to increase long-term care insurance rates, to consider,

to the extent practicable, how the rate increase will impact policyholders.

Patron - Tran

P HB1132 Insurance; dental carriers; annual report. Requires each dental carrier, beginning in 2025, to annually, on or before April 30, file with the State Corporation Commission a report that includes the actual loss ratio, defined in the bill, for the preceding calendar year and any such other information as the Commission may require. The bill requires the Commission to post such reports on its website. The bill requires the Bureau of Insurance to evaluate the effectiveness of informing the public on the information being reported and to make recommendations, if any, on the continuation or modification of the obligation of dental carriers to report such information. The bill also requires the Commission to convene a work group of interested stakeholders to determine if any revisions are necessary to the Code of Virginia regarding ethics and fairness in dental carrier business practices and of health care providers of dental services. The work group is required to report its recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor on or before October 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 257.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1134 Health insurance; prior authorization. Requires that any provider contract between a carrier and a participating health care provider contain specific provisions that require that if a prior authorization request is approved for prescription drugs and such prescription drugs have been scheduled, provided, or delivered to the patient consistent with the authorization, the carrier shall not revoke, limit, condition, modify, or restrict that authorization unless (i) there is evidence that the authorization was obtained based on fraud or misrepresentation; (ii) final actions by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, other regulatory agencies, or the manufacturer remove the drug from the market, limit its use in a manner that affects the authorization, or communicate a patient safety issue that would affect the authorization alone or in combination with other authorizations; (iii) a combination of drugs prescribed would cause a drug interaction; or (iv) a generic or biosimilar is added to the prescription drug formulary. The bill provides that such provisions do not require a carrier to cover any benefit not otherwise covered or cover a prescription drug if the enrollee is no longer covered by a health plan on the date the prescription drug was scheduled, provided, or delivered. This bill is identical to SB 98.

Patron - Willett

P HB1257 Insurance; coverage for the diminished value of personal property. Requires any insurer who issues or delivers a new or renewal homeowner's insurance policy or a stand-alone policy that covers scheduled personal property in the Commonwealth to offer in writing a provision providing coverage for the diminution in the value of any such scheduled personal property, if the schedule provides for the repair of such property. Under the bill, the diminution in value of the personal property is the amount, if any, by which the market value of the personal property immediately following the completion of repair of the damage to the personal property is less than the market value of the personal property immediately prior to the damage and the change in market value is a direct result of damage from the covered loss. The provisions of the bill shall apply to every such policy that is issued, delivered, or renewed by an insurer licensed in the Commonwealth on or after July 1, 2025.

Patron - Milde

P HB1402 Health insurance; pharmacy benefits managers; reporting requirements; civil penalty. Provides that a person that violates the existing requirement to obtain a license prior to providing pharmacy benefits management services or otherwise acting as a pharmacy benefits manager may be subject to a civil penalty of \$5,000 for each day on which such violation occurs. The bill adds additional requirements to existing reporting requirements for insurance carriers relating to pharmacy benefits managers. Such additional requirements include (i) the aggregate amount of a pharmacy benefits manager's retained rebates, as defined in the bill; (ii) a pharmacy benefits manager's aggregate retained rebate percentage, as defined in the bill; and (iii) the aggregate amount of administrative fees received by a pharmacy benefits manager. This bill is identical to SB 660.

Patron - Reaser

P SB87 Health insurance provider panels; incentives for mental health services. Allows a provider panel contract between a carrier and a primary care provider to include provisions that promote comprehensive screening using evidence-based tools for mental health needs and appropriate referrals by primary care providers to mental health services that may be provided on-site, via telehealth on site, or through an off-site referral.

Patron - Favola

P **SB98** Health insurance; prior authorization.

Requires that any provider contract between a carrier and a participating health care provider contain specific provisions that require that if a prior authorization request is approved for prescription drugs and such prescription drugs have been scheduled, provided, or delivered to the patient consistent with the authorization, the carrier shall not revoke, limit, condition, modify, or restrict that authorization unless (i) there is evidence that the authorization was obtained based on fraud or misrepresentation; (ii) final actions by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, other regulatory agencies, or the manufacturer remove the drug from the market, limit its use in a manner that affects the authorization, or communicate a patient safety issue that would affect the authorization alone or in combination with other authorizations; (iii) a combination of drugs prescribed would cause a drug interaction; or (iv) a generic or biosimilar is added to the prescription drug formulary. The bill provides that such provisions do not require a carrier to cover any benefit not otherwise covered or cover a prescription drug if the enrollee is no longer covered by a health plan on the date the prescription drug was scheduled, provided, or delivered. This bill is identical to HB 1134.

Patron - Favola

P SB118 Health insurance; coverage for doula care services. Requires health insurers, corporations providing health care subscription contracts, and health maintenance organizations whose policy, contract, or plan includes coverage for obstetrical services to provide coverage for doula care services provided by a state-certified doula. The bill requires such coverage to include coverage for at least eight visits during the antepartum or postpartum period and support during labor and delivery. The bill provides that health insurance carriers are (i) not required to pay for duplicate services actually rendered by both a state-certified doula and another health care provider and (ii) prohibited from requiring supervision, signature, or referral by any other health care provider as a condition of reimbursement for doula care services, except when those requirements are also applicable to other categories of health care providers. Such provisions of the bill are subject to a reenactment clause. The bill also requires the Health Insurance

Reform Commission to consider coverage for doula care ser-

vices in its review of the essential health benefits benchmark plan and to include such coverage in its recommendation to the General Assembly unless a compelling reason for excluding such coverage is identified. This bill is identical to HB 935. Patron - Locke

SB238 Health insurance; coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage, under any health insurance contract, policy, or plan that includes coverage for prescription drugs on an outpatient basis, for contraceptive drugs and contraceptive devices, as defined in the bill, including those available overthe-counter. The bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing upon any person receiving contraceptive benefits pursuant to the provisions of the bill any copayment, coinsurance payment, or fee, except in certain circumstances. This bill is identical to HB 819. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hashmi

P \$B257 Insurance; dental carriers; annual report. Requires each dental carrier, beginning in 2025, to annually, on or before April 30, file with the State Corporation Commission a report that includes the actual loss ratio, defined in the bill, for the preceding calendar year and any such other information as the Commission may require. The bill requires the Commission to post such reports on its website. The bill requires the Bureau of Insurance to evaluate the effectiveness of informing the public on the information being reported and to make recommendations, if any, on the continuation or modification of the obligation of dental carriers to report such information. The bill also requires the Commission to convene a work group of interested stakeholders to determine if any revisions are necessary to the Code of Virginia regarding ethics and fairness in dental carrier business practices and of health care providers of dental services. The work group is required to report its recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor on or before October 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 1132.

Patron - Surovell

SB425 Health insurance; ethics and fairness in carrier business practices. Makes various changes to requirements governing the business practices of health carriers in the processing and payment of claims. The bill prescribes criteria for what constitutes a "clean claim." The bill prohibits a carrier from imposing any retroactive denial of a previously paid claim or in any other way seeking recovery or refund of a previously paid claim unless the carrier specifies in writing the specific claim or claims for which the retroactive denial is to be imposed or the recovery or refund is sought and the carrier has provided a written explanation of why the claim is being retroactively adjusted. The bill provides that the time limit for a retroactive denial is 12 months; however, a provider and a carrier may agree in writing that recoupment of overpayments by withholding or offsetting against future payments may occur after such 12-month limit. The bill requires carriers, beginning no later than July 1, 2025, to make available an electronic means for providers to determine whether an enrollee is covered by a health plan that is subject to the State Corporation Commission's jurisdiction. The bill provides that the ethics and fairness requirements apply to the carrier and provider, regardless of any vendors, subcontractors, or other entities that have been contracted by the carrier or the provider to perform their duties. The bill provides that if a carrier's claim denial is overturned following completion of a dispute review, the carrier is required to consider the claims impacted by such decision as clean claims and all applicable laws related to the payment of a clean claim apply. The bill prohibits a provider from filing a complaint with the State Corporation Commission for failure to pay claims unless such provider has made a reasonable effort to confer with the carrier in order to resolve the issues related to all claims that are under dispute. Finally, the bill requires all provider contracts, amendments, and notices and certain other communications to be delivered electronically. This bill is identical to HB 123.

Patron - Favola

SB543 Health insurance; emergency services; **mobile crisis response services.** Provides that emergency services, with respect to an emergency medical condition, include, as it relates to any mental health services or substance abuse services rendered at a behavioral health crisis service provider, (i) a behavioral health assessment that is within the capability of a behavioral health crisis service provider, including ancillary services routinely available to evaluate such emergency medical condition, and (ii) such further examination and treatment, to the extent that they are within the capabilities of the staff and facilities available at the behavioral health crisis service provider, as are required so that the patient's condition does not deteriorate. This bill is identical to HB 601.

Patron - Bagby

SB660 Health insurance; pharmacy benefits managers; reporting requirements; civil penalty. Provides that a person that violates the existing requirement to obtain a license prior to providing pharmacy benefits management services or otherwise acting as a pharmacy benefits manager may be subject to a civil penalty of \$5,000 for each day on which such violation occurs. The bill adds additional requirements to existing reporting requirements for insurance carriers relating to pharmacy benefits managers. Such additional requirements include (i) the aggregate amount of a pharmacy benefits manager's retained rebates, as defined in the bill; (ii) a pharmacy benefits manager's aggregate retained rebate percentage, as defined in the bill; and (iii) the aggregate amount of administrative fees received by a pharmacy benefits manager. This bill is identical to HB 1402.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P \$B705 Insurance; continuing education **board**; membership. Adds a member of the Virginia chapter of the National African American Insurance Association to the insurance continuing education board. Additionally, the bill amends the name of the association of one existing required member, from the Virginia Association of Health Underwriters to the Virginia chapter of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals, to reflect such association's current name.

Patron - Bagby

#### Failed

HB64 Medicare supplement policies; annual open enrollment period. Requires an insurer, health services plan, or health maintenance organization issuing Medicare supplement policies or certificates in the Commonwealth to offer to an individual currently insured under any such policy an annual open enrollment period commencing on the day of the individual's birthday and remaining opening for at least 30 days thereafter, during which time the individual may purchase any Medicare supplement policy made available by the insurer in the Commonwealth that offers the same benefits as or lesser benefits than those provided by the current coverage. The bill also requires such insurer, health services plan, or health maintenance organization to notify, at least 15 days but not more than 30 days prior to the commencement of such annual open enrollment period, each individual to which such open enrollment period applies of the dates of that open enrollment period, the rights of the individual during that open enrollment period, and any modification of benefits provided by or adjustment of premiums charged for such Medicare supplement policy. *Patron - Campbell* 

F HB104 Provider contracts; pharmacies; refusal to fill certain prescriptions. Requires a provider contract between a health carrier or its pharmacy benefits manager and a pharmacy or its contracting agent to contain a specific provision allowing the pharmacy to refuse to fill a prescription for a drug that is reimbursed below the actual cost of the medication.

Patron - Wachsmann

F HB445 Health insurance; dental plans; approval of rates and medical loss ratio. Requires the State Corporation Commission to review and approve premium rates applicable to dental plans issued in the Commonwealth. Under the bill, benefits are deemed to be reasonable in relation to premiums, provided that the medical loss ratio of the policy form, including riders and endorsements, is at least as great as 85 percent. The bill provides that if the Commission finds that the premium rate filed is not meeting or will not meet a medical loss ratio of 85 percent, the Commission shall require appropriate rate adjustments, premium refunds, or premium credits as deemed necessary for the coverage to conform with the medical loss ratio standard of 85 percent.

Patron - Williams

HB513 State plan for medical assistance services and health insurance; pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syn**drome.** Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance for the prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) that includes payment for treatment using antimicrobials, medication and behavioral therapies to manage neuropsychiatric symptoms, immunomodulating medicines, plasma exchange, and intravenous immunoglobulin therapy. The bill also requires each insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical and surgical, or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis; each corporation providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts; and each health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services to provide coverage for the prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of PANDAS and PANS. The bill requires such coverage to include coverage for treatment using antibiotics, medication, and behavioral therapies to manage neuropsychiatric symptoms, immunomodulating medicines, plasma exchange, and intravenous immunoglobulin therapy.

The bill prohibits an insurer, corporation, or organization from (i) denying or delaying the coverage of PANDAS or PANS because the enrollee previously received treatment or because the enrollee was diagnosed with or received treatment for his condition under a different diagnostic name, including autoimmune encephalopathy; (ii) limiting coverage of immunomodulating therapies for the treatment of PANDAS or PANS in a manner that is inconsistent with the treatment guidelines developed by a consortium convened for the purposes of researching, identifying, and publishing best practice standards for diagnosis and treatment of PANDAS or PANS that are accessible for medical professionals and are based on evidence of positive patient outcomes; (iii) requiring a trial of therapies that

treat only neuropsychiatric symptoms before authorizing coverage of immunomodulating therapies for the treatment of PANDAS or PANS; or (iv) denying coverage for out-of-state treatment if the service is not available within the Commonwealth.

Patron - Hope

**HB560** Health insurance; coverage option for fertility services; essential health benefits benchmark plan. Requires health insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans to offer and make available coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility and for standard fertility preservation procedures, as defined in the bill. Such coverage includes coverage for in vitro fertilization, provided that procedures are performed at medical facilities or clinics that conform to guidelines published by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology or the American Fertility Society for in vitro fertilization procedures. The bill also requires the Health Insurance Reform Commission to consider such coverage in its 2025 review of the essential health benefits benchmark plan. The bill directs the Commission to include such coverage in its recommendation to the General Assembly for a new essential health benefits benchmark plan unless the Commission identifies a compelling reason to exclude such cover-

Patron - Helmer

F HB604 Health insurance; coverage for polycystic ovary syndrome. Requires health insurers, health maintenance organizations, and corporations providing health care coverage subscription contracts to provide coverage for the treatment of polycystic ovary syndrome, as defined in the bill, diagnosed by a licensed physician or health care provider, including diagnosis by a gynecologist, endocrinologist, primary care physician, pediatrician, nurse practitioner, dermatologist, or infertility specialist. The bill specifies the types of treatment covered for polycystic ovary syndrome and applies to policies, contracts, and plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Price

HB760 Health insurance; cost-sharing payments for insulin and diabetes equipment and supplies; limit. Decreases the cap on the cost-sharing payment that a covered person is required to pay for a covered prescription insulin drug from \$50 to \$35 for a 30-day supply of the prescription insulin drug and provides such cap is an aggregate cap that applies in situations where the covered person is prescribed more than one insulin drug. The bill also establishes such an aggregate cap of \$35 for a 30-day supply of diabetes equipment and supplies.

Patron - Delaney

F HB902 Health insurance; coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices. Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage, under any health insurance contract, policy, or plan that includes coverage for prescription drugs on an outpatient basis, for any contraceptive drug or contraceptive device, as defined in the bill, available for purchase with or without a prescription. The bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing upon any person receiving contraceptive benefits pursuant to the provisions of the bill any copayment, coinsurance payment, or fee, except in certain circumstances. The provisions of the bill apply to health insurance contracts, policies, or plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on and after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Srinivasan

F HB903 Health insurance; cost-sharing requirements for the treatment of cancer; prohibited for individu-

als 18 years of age or younger. Prohibits any (i) insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical and surgical, or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis; (ii) corporation providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts; and (iii) health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services from imposing (a) any cost-sharing requirement for the treatment of cancer and (b) if the policy, contract, or plan, including any certificate or evidence of coverage issued in connection with such policy, contract, or plan, includes coverage for medicines, any cost-sharing requirement for a covered prescription drug for the treatment of cancer in an enrollee who is 18 years of age or younger under such policy, contract, or plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth. The bill applies with respect to health plans and provider contracts entered into, amended, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Srinivasan

F HB921 Health insurance; cost sharing for breast examinations. Prohibits health insurance carriers from imposing cost sharing for diagnostic breast examinations and supplemental breast examinations, as those terms are defined in the bill, under certain insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2025. The bill provides that such examinations include examinations using diagnostic mammography, breast magnetic resonance imaging, or breast ultrasound.

Patron - Srinivasan

HB946 Health insurance; limit on cost-sharing payments for prescription drugs under certain plans. Requires each carrier that offers a health plan in either the individual or small group market to ensure that at least 50 percent of all health plans offered by the carrier, or at least one health plan if the carrier offers fewer than two health plans, in each rating area and in each of the bronze, silver, gold, and platinum levels of coverage in the individual and small group market conform with the following: (i) a plan that offers a silver, gold, or platinum level of coverage limits a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed \$100 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug and (ii) a plan that offers a bronze level of coverage limits a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed \$150 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug. The bill provides that such limits apply at any point in the benefit design, including before and after any applicable deductible is reached. The bill requires that any plans offered to meet its requirements are (a) clearly and appropriately named to aid the consumer or plan sponsor in the plan selection process and (b) marketed in the same manner as other plans offered by the health insurance carrier. The provisions of the bill apply with respect to health plans entered into, amended, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Lopez

HB1006 Health insurance; pharmacies; freedom of choice; delivery of prescription drugs or devices. Prohibits an insurer, health maintenance organization, corporation providing preferred provider subscription contracts, or pharmacy benefits manager from imposing upon any person receiving pharmaceutical benefits any policy or practice requiring or incentivizing a prescription drug or device to be sent (i) directly to a health care provider for administration to a patient, (ii) to a specific pharmacy selected by such insurer,

organization, corporation, or pharmacy benefits manager, or (iii) to the residence of such person.

Patron - Wachsmann

F HB1136 Health insurance; employee welfare benefit plans; pharmacy audit protections. Requires contracts and provider contracts between an entity providing or administering self-insured or self-funded employee welfare benefit plans and an intermediary or a participating pharmacy provider or its contracting agent, pursuant to which such entity or intermediary has the right or obligation to conduct audits of participating pharmacy providers, to contain certain terms and provisions relating to such audits.

Patron - Hodges

F HB1142 Health insurance; coverage for physical therapy; outpatient visit limit. Prohibits (i) insurers proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance policies providing hospital, medical and surgical, or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred basis; (ii) corporations providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts; and (iii) health maintenance organizations providing a health care plan for health care services, whose policies, contracts, or plans include coverage for physical therapy from imposing a limit on the number of outpatient visits for physical therapy for an insured individual with chronic disease, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1432 Attorney General; Pharmacy Benefits Manager and Third-Party Administrator Oversight Work Group; report. Directs the Attorney General to convene the Pharmacy Benefits Manager and Third-Party Administrator Oversight Work Group to examine the impact of Rutledge v. Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, 141 S. Ct. 474 (2020), and to formulate legislative recommendations for reducing prescription drug costs, minimizing health care expenses, reducing bureaucratic impediments to affordable health care, enhancing transparency, and improving overall health outcomes for residents of the Commonwealth. The bill requires such work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2025.

Patron - Hodges

F SB202 Health insurance; disclosure of summary health information. Requires, to the extent permitted by various protected health information privacy laws, a group health plan that has 50 or more participants to disclose information that summarizes the claims history, claims expenses, or type of claims experienced by individuals for whom a plan sponsor has provided health benefits under a group health plan to the plan sponsor if the plan sponsor requests the summary health information for the purposes of (i) obtaining premium bids from health plans for providing health insurance coverage under the group health plan or (ii) modifying, amending, or terminating the group health plan.

Patron - Diggs

#### **Carried Over**

C HB230 Health insurance; cost sharing for breast examinations. Prohibits health insurance carriers from imposing cost sharing for diagnostic breast examinations and supplemental breast examinations, as those terms are defined in the bill, under certain insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2025. The bill provides that such examinations include examinations

using diagnostic mammography, breast magnetic resonance imaging, or breast ultrasound.

Patron - Simonds

C HB489 Insurance; Fire Programs Fund; purposes. Provides that the portion of the Fire Programs Fund allocated to localities may be used for the additional purposes of (i) constructing, improving, or expanding fire station facilities, (ii) providing mental health resources, or (iii) hiring additional fire personnel and funding recruitment and retention programs. The bill also prohibits such funds from being used, except as provided, for the purposes of investments, operating expenses, debt repayment, taxes, or fees.

Patron - Garrett

C HB510 Surplus line broker taxes. Provides that any surplus lines broker or any person required to be licensed as one shall not be subject to the annual taxes, license taxes, or penalties under current law for any policy of insurance procured during the preceding calendar year on behalf of a commuter rail system jointly operated by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation District.

Patron - Cohen

C HB610 Health insurance; coverage for diabetes. Requires that each insurer providing coverage for diabetes shall include benefits for FDA-approved insulin, continuous blood glucose monitoring, and regular foot care and eye care exams in addition to equipment, supplies, and self-management training and education. The bill allows for such self-management training and education to be provided either in-person outpatient or through telemedicine. Under the bill, such coverage for self-management training and education shall include up to three outpatient visits upon an individual receiving an initial diagnosis of diabetes and up to two medically necessary visits to a qualified provider upon a significant change in the patient's symptoms or medical condition. The bill also repeals certain provisions of law related to cost-sharing for insulin and provides that the coverage required by the bill shall be exempt from any deductible or cost-sharing payment requirement. The provisions of the bill apply to insurance policies, contracts, and plans issued for delivery, reissued, extended, or amended on and after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Price

C HB864 Health insurance; coverage for therapeutic day treatment services. Requires health insurers providing health care plans to provide coverage for therapeutic day treatment services for children with serious emotional disturbances, defined in the in bill as children who have a mental illness diagnosis and have experienced functional limitations due to emotional disturbance, including experiencing a school shooting or the loss of a loved one in a school setting, over the past 12 months on a continuous or intermittent basis. Under the bill, "therapeutic day treatment services" are treatment programs that combine psychotherapeutic interventions with education and mental health and may include evaluation; medication education and management; opportunities to learn and use daily living skills and to enhance social and interpersonal skills; and individual, group, and family counseling. The bill applies to plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on and after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Clark

C HB1041 Health insurance; cost-sharing; pharmacy benefits managers' compensation and duties: civil penalty. Amends provisions related to rebates provided by carriers and health benefit plans to health plan enrollees by defining "defined cost-sharing," "price protection rebates," and

"pharmacy benefits management services." The bill requires that an enrollee's defined cost-sharing for each prescription drug be calculated at the point of sale based on a price that is reduced by an amount equal to at least 80 percent of all rebates received or expected to be received in connection with the dispensing or administration of the prescription drug.

The bill prohibits a pharmacy benefits manager from deriving income from pharmacy benefits management services provided to a carrier or health benefit plan except for income derived from a pharmacy benefits management fee. The bill requires the amount of any pharmacy benefits management fees to be set forth in the agreement between the pharmacy benefits manager and the carrier or health benefit plan and that such fee not be based on the acquisition cost or any other price metric of a drug; the amount of savings, rebates, or other fees charged, realized, or collected by or generated based on the activity of the pharmacy benefits manager; or the amount of premiums, deductibles, or other cost-sharing or fees charged, realized, or collected by the pharmacy benefits manager from enrollees or other persons on behalf of an enrollee. The bill requires a pharmacy benefits manager to annually certify to the State Corporation Commission that it has met certain require-

The bill establishes a pharmacy benefits manager duty, which includes the duties of care and good faith and fair dealing, owed to any enrollee, provider, or health benefit plan that receives pharmacy benefits management services from the pharmacy benefits manager or that furnishes, covers, receives, or is administered a unit of a prescription drug for which the pharmacy benefits manager has provided pharmacy benefits management services. The bill requires the Commission to define by regulation the scope of such duty and provides for a private cause of action for any person aggrieved by the breach of such duty.

Patron - O'Quinn

C HB1347 Health insurance; coverage for autism spectrum disorder; cost-sharing requirements prohibited for certain individuals. Prohibits a health carrier from imposing any copayment, coinsurance, or deductible for the diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder and the treatment of autism spectrum disorder for individuals who are age 18 or younger.

Patron - Srinivasan

SB376 Health insurance; limit on cost-sharing payments for prescription drugs under certain plans. Requires each carrier that offers a health plan in either the individual or small group market to ensure that at least 50 percent of all health plans offered by the carrier, or at least one health plan if the carrier offers fewer than two health plans, in each rating area and in each of the bronze, silver, gold, and platinum levels of coverage in the individual and small group market conform with the following: (i) a plan that offers a silver, gold, or platinum level of coverage limits a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed \$100 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug and (ii) a plan that offers a bronze level of coverage limits a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed \$150 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug. The bill provides that such limits apply at any point in the benefit design, including before and after any applicable deductible is reached. The bill requires that any plans offered to meet its requirements are (a) clearly and appropriately named to aid the consumer or plan sponsor in the plan selection process and (b) marketed in the same manner as other plans offered by the health insurance carrier. The provisions of the bill apply with

respect to health plans entered into, amended, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Boysko

C SB670 Surplus line broker taxes. Provides that any surplus lines broker or any person required to be licensed as one shall not be subject to the annual taxes, license taxes, or penalties under current law for any policy of insurance procured during the preceding calendar year on behalf of a commuter rail system jointly operated by the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation District.

Patron - Pekarsky

C SB735 Health insurance; denial of referral by direct primary care provider prohibited. Prohibits a health insurance carrier from (i) denying payment for any health care service covered under an enrollee's health benefit plan based solely on the basis that such enrollee's referral was made by a direct primary care provider or (ii) imposing a cost-sharing requirement greater than the applicable cost-sharing requirement that would apply to the same health care service if the service was referred by a participating provider. The bill provides that a health insurance carrier may require a direct primary care provider to provide information demonstrating that such provider has entered into a direct primary care agreement with the enrollee.

Patron - Sturtevant

#### **Juvenile Justice**

#### **Carried Over**

C HB1494 Department of Juvenile Justice; work group to study Length of Stay Guidelines and Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center; report. Directs the Department of Juvenile Justice to convene a work group to study issues related to the Department's Length of Stay Guidelines and the Department's direct care capacity in response to the Department's report on the 2023 Length of Stay Guidelines. The work group is directed to study (i) the evidence and research relied upon by the Department as identified in the Department's report, including adjusting for changes in risk profiles for committed juveniles over time; (ii) best practices on staffing ratios, the current actual staffing ratios at Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center (BAJCC), and the projected population forecast; (iii) the ability of BAJCC to operate the community treatment model without single coverage on units and maintain consistent staffing on each residential unit and unit population not to exceed 14 residents; (iv) the ability of BAJCC to maintain all therapeutic, vocational, and educational programming; (v) a detailed comparison of youth by age, risk level, and offense level and their projected length of stay under the 2015 Length of Stay Guidelines and the 2023 Length of Stay Guidelines; (vi) trends in determinate commitments, including the percentage of such commitments in circuit court and with an active Department of Corrections sentence; and (vii) how the Department will maintain current programming and the continuum of services for youth when direct care capacity exceeds actual capacity. The work group is also directed to study the rates of serious incidents and contributing factors at BAJCC since January 2022. The bill requires the work group to submit a report with its recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2024. Such report shall include evidence or research relating to the 2023 changes to the Length of Stay Guidelines and whether such evidence or research supports the changes.

Patron - Cousins

# **Labor and Employment**

#### **Passed**

P HB1 Minimum wage. Increases the minimum wage from the current rate of \$12.00 per hour to \$13.50 per hour effective January 1, 2025, and to \$15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2026. The bill satisfies a reenactment clause included in Chapters 1204 and 1242 of the Acts of Assembly of 2020. This bill is identical to SB 1. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Ward* 

P HB100 Child labor offenses; civil penalties. Increases from \$10,000 to \$25,000 the civil penalty for each violation of child labor laws that results in the employment of a child who is seriously injured or dies in the course of employment. The bill also increases from \$1,000 to \$2,500 the maximum civil penalty for each other violation of child labor laws and provides that such civil penalty shall not be less than \$500. The bill directs the Department of Labor and Industry to convene a stakeholder work group to develop education and outreach plans to inform young workers and employers about child labor laws.

Patron - Seibold

P HB149 Employee protections; medicinal use of cannabis oil. Amends the provision that prohibits an employer from discriminating against an employee for such employee's lawful use of medical cannabis oil, with certain exceptions, by specifying that such use must conform to the laws of the Commonwealth and by including the employees, other than lawenforcement officers, of the Commonwealth and other public bodies in such protections. This bill is identical to SB 391. Patron - Helmer

P HB157 Minimum wage; farm laborers or farm employees; temporary foreign workers. Eliminates the exemptions from Virginia's minimum wage requirements for (i) persons employed as farm laborers or farm employees and (ii) certain temporary foreign workers. This bill incorporates HB 866. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McClure

P HB160 Department of Labor and Industry; workplace poster for veterans benefits and services. Directs the Department of Labor and Industry, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Services, to create a poster describing benefits and services available to veterans and allows employers to request and display such poster in the workplace. The bill enumerates a minimum group of resources the poster shall include, including (i) Department of Veterans Services' programs, contact information, and website address; (ii) substance abuse and mental health treatment resources; (iii) educational, workforce, and training resources; (iv) tax benefits; (v) eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits; (vi) legal services; and (vii) the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Crisis Line.

Patron - Seibold

P HB335 Department of Labor and Industry; tipped employee wages; work group. Directs the Department of Labor and Industry to convene a work group to study (i) options for increasing tipped employee minimum cash wages,

(ii) circumstances related to wage theft or payment inequities by employers of tipped wage employees, and (iii) amending the penalty provisions related to employee remedies and employer penalties for violations of minimum wage requirements. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its findings no later than December 1, 2024. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Gardner

P HB569 Employment discrimination; employee notification of federal and state statute of limitations. Requires an employer that employs 10 or more employees and that receives an employee complaint alleging sexual assault, harassment, or any other form of discrimination for which the employee may seek enforcement by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or the Office of the Attorney General to notify such employee that a charge may be filed with the EEOC or the Office of the Attorney General within 300 days after the alleged unlawful discriminatory practice occurred. The bill also requires an employer to provide this information as part of any new employee training provided at the commencement of employment or anti-discrimination training provided to an employee. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Henson

P HB770 Retaliatory action against employee prohibited; remedies available. Provides that a violation of certain provisions regarding retaliatory action against employees may be alleged in a court of competent jurisdiction within one year of the employer's final prohibited retaliatory action. The bill states that in such cases, double damages may be awarded if such violation was willful. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Delaney

P HB990 Prohibiting employer seeking wage or salary history of prospective employees; wage or salary range transparency; cause of action. Prohibits a prospective employer from (i) seeking the wage or salary history of a prospective employee; (ii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in determining the wages or salary the prospective employee is to be paid upon hire; (iii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in considering the prospective employee for employment; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote a prospective employee or otherwise retaliating against a prospective employee for not providing wage or salary history; and (v) failing or refusing to disclose in each public and internal posting for each job, promotion, transfer, or other employment opportunity the wage, salary, or wage or salary range. The bill establishes a cause of action for an aggrieved prospective employee or employee and provides that an employer that violates such prohibitions is liable to the aggrieved prospective employee or employee for statutory damages between \$1,000 and \$10,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater, reasonable attorney fees and costs, and any other legal and equitable relief as may be appropriate. This bill is identical to SB 370. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB1098 Unpaid family bereavement leave; required; remedies. Requires that an employer that employs 50 or more employees provide eligible employees, defined in the bill, with up to 10 days of unpaid family bereavement leave in any 12-month period to (i) attend the funeral or funeral equivalent of a covered family member; (ii) make arrangements necessitated by the death of a covered family member; (iii) grieve the death of a covered family member; or (iv) be absent from work due to (a) a miscarriage, (b) an unsuccessful

round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, (c) a failed adoption match or an adoption that is not finalized because it is contested by another party, (d) a failed surrogacy agreement, (e) a diagnosis that negatively impacts pregnancy or fertility, or (f) a stillbirth. The bill requires the employee to provide notice of his intent to take the leave if reasonable and practicable and provides that an employer may require reasonable documentation of the death or event. The bill requires the employer to restore the employee's position following the leave, to continue to provide coverage for the employee under any health benefit plan, and to pay the employee any commission earned prior to the leave. The bill prohibits the employer from taking retaliatory action against the employee for taking family bereavement leave and provides that, if an employer fails to provide unpaid family bereavement leave or engages in such prohibited retaliatory action, an employee may bring an action against the employer in a court of competent jurisdiction. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB1215 Department of Labor and Industry; asbestos and lead project permit; usage of licensing fees. Provides that fees collected by the Department of Labor and Industry paid by licensed asbestos and certified lead contractors for obtaining asbestos and lead project permits are to be used by the Department in carrying out its mission under the Virginia Asbestos NESHAP Act.

Patron - Higgins

P **SB1** Minimum wage. Increases the minimum wage from the current rate of \$12.00 per hour to \$13.50 per hour effective January 1, 2025, and to \$15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2026. The bill satisfies a reenactment clause included in Chapters 1204 and 1242 of the Acts of Assembly of 2020. This bill is identical to HB 1. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Lucas* 

P SB370 Prohibiting employer seeking wage or salary history of prospective employees; wage or salary range transparency; cause of action. Prohibits a prospective employer from (i) seeking the wage or salary history of a prospective employee; (ii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in determining the wages or salary the prospective employee is to be paid upon hire; (iii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in considering the prospective employee for employment; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote a prospective employee or otherwise retaliating against a prospective employee for not providing wage or salary history; and (v) failing or refusing to disclose in each public and internal posting for each job, promotion, transfer, or other employment opportunity the wage, salary, or wage or salary range. The bill establishes a cause of action for an aggrieved prospective employee or employee and provides that an employer that violates such prohibitions is liable to the aggrieved prospective employee or employee for statutory damages between \$1,000 and \$10,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater, reasonable attorney fees and costs, and any other legal and equitable relief as may be appropriate. This bill is identical to HB 990. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB391** Employee protections; medicinal use of cannabis oil. Amends the provision that prohibits an employer from discriminating against an employee for such employee's lawful use of medical cannabis oil, with certain exceptions, by specifying that such use must conform to the laws of the Commonwealth and by including the employees, other than law-

enforcement officers, of the Commonwealth and other public bodies in such protections. This bill is identical to HB 149. Patron - Pekarsky

SB494 Overtime for certain employees; live-in **domestic workers.** Adds individuals who are employed in domestic service in a household and reside in such household to provisions related to overtime pay. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Aird

#### **Failed**

HB189 Leave for officers of elections. Requires state and private employers to allow officers or employees who are appointed as officers of election to take leaves of absence from their respective duties without loss of seniority, accrued leave, benefits, or efficiency rating on all days during which any such officer or employee has been assigned to work as an officer of election in a polling place. Patron - Helmer

HB256 Paid sick leave; health care providers

and grocery store workers. Requires employers to provide paid sick leave to health care providers and grocery store workers. Under current law, employers are only required to provide paid sick leave to certain home health workers. The bill removes requirements that workers work on average at least 20 hours per week or 90 hours per month to be eligible for paid sick leave. The bill provides that certain health care providers may waive their right to accrue and use paid sick leave and provides an exemption for employers of certain other health care providers. The bill requires the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines for retail employers that sell groceries to provide sick leave and to publish such guidelines by December 1, 2024. The provisions of the bill other than the requirement for the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Mundon King

**HB325** Minimum wage and overtime wages; civil actions. Provides that an employer that violates minimum wage or overtime provisions is liable to the employee for the applicable remedies, damages, or other relief available in an action brought pursuant to the civil action provisions currently available for the nonpayment of wages. Such provisions currently available provide that an employee may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover payment of the wages, and the court is required to award the wages owed, an additional equal amount as liquidated damages, plus prejudgment interest thereon, and reasonable attorney fees and costs. If the court finds that the employer knowingly failed to pay wages to an employee, the court is required award the employee an amount equal to triple the amount of wages due and reasonable attorney fees and costs. Such actions are required to be commenced within three years after the cause of action accrued.

Patron - Thomas

HB370 Employment; training and education; harassment and workplace discrimination. Requires each employer with 50 or more employees, including the Commonwealth and its agencies, institutions, and political subdivisions, to provide annual interactive training and education regarding harassment and workplace discrimination, as both terms are defined in the bill, by July 1, 2025. The bill includes specific training and education requirements for supervisory and nonsupervisory employees, seasonal and temporary employees

who are hired to work for less than six months, and migrant and seasonal agricultural workers. The training and education required under the bill must be provided by an educator or human resources professional with knowledge and expertise in the subject matter and must include a method for employees to electronically save a certificate of completion of such training and education. The bill requires the Department of Labor and Industry to make online courses for the required training available on its website beginning January 1, 2025.

Patron - Martinez

**HB734** Delivery network companies; portable benefit accounts. Requires a delivery network company, defined in the bill as a business entity that maintains an onlineenabled application or platform used to facilitate delivery services, to contribute an amount equal to four percent of an eligible driver's earnings in the immediately preceding quarter earned through that delivery network company. Additionally, the eligible driver may make voluntary contributions to the portable benefit account. The bill provides that a delivery driver is eligible for the portable benefit account if the driver earned \$1,000 delivering in a quarter. Under the bill, funds in a portable benefit account may be used to (i) compensate for lost income due to (a) an illness or accident, (b) the birth or adoption of a child of the driver, (c) a state of emergency, or (d) an earnings loss; (ii) transfer funds to an individual retirement account; or (iii) cover expenses incurred for premiums for health insurance coverage in the individual market. The bill provides that a portable benefit account is exempt from taxation, and contributions to the portable benefit account are not included in the driver's gross income. The bill requires the delivery network company to purchase insurance to cover medical expenses and lost income resulting from injuries suffered while the driver was engaged on a delivery network company's online-enabled application or platform. Additionally, the bill prohibits a delivery network company from discriminating against drivers based on certain classes. The bill provides that delivery drivers are classified as independent contractors, notwithstanding the provision of benefits required by the bill. The bill also provides that jurisdiction in all matters concerning delivery network companies and app-based delivery drivers shall be exclusively vested in the state. Finally the bill provides that its provisions regarding the classification of delivery drivers as independent contractors are not severable. Patron - Thomas

HB780 Collective bargaining by public employees; public transportation providers. Permits the governing body of a public transportation provider, as defined in the bill, to adopt a resolution authorizing such public transportation provider to (i) recognize a labor union or other employee association as a bargaining agent of public officers and employees and (ii) collectively bargain or enter into a collective bargaining contract with such union or association or its agents with respect to any matter relating to such transportation district or its employees. Patron - Callsen

HB866 Minimum wage; farm laborers or farm employees; temporary foreign workers. Eliminates the exemptions from Virginia's minimum wage requirements for (i) persons employed as farm laborers or farm employees and (ii) certain temporary foreign workers. This bill was incorpo-

rated into HB 157.

Patron - Hernandez

HB1001 Collective bargaining by public employees; labor organization representation. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board,

which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement. *Patron - Tran* 

F HB1160 Portable benefit accounts; tax credit. Authorizes a Virginia resident who has worked as an independent contractor to establish a portable benefit account. Under the bill, a portable benefit account offered through and administered by a bank, credit union, or other depository institution and distributions from the account may be used for the payment of various health-related costs. The bill establishes a non-refundable tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for individuals who contribute to a portable benefit account. Patron - Scott, P.A.

HB1258 Employee protections; discipline for political activity or affiliations prohibited. Prohibits an employer from (i) directing the political activity or affiliations of an employee; (ii) discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee for such employee's lawful engagement or refusal to engage in any political activity or affiliations; and (iii) refusing to hire, employ, or license an individual on the basis of such individual's political activity or affiliations. The bill provides exceptions to these requirements where an employer believes that such actions are required by statute, regulation, or other mandate, where a professional services contract permits an employer to limit the off-duty activities of an individual, and in the case of a religious exemption. A violation of the provisions of the bill may be subject to a civil action within one year of the employer's prohibited retaliatory action.

Patron - Milde

Patron - Sturtevant

F SB185 E-Verify program. Requires every employer to enroll in the E-Verify program by January 1, 2025, and to use the program for each newly hired employee who is to perform work within the Commonwealth. Under current law, only state agencies and certain employers with contracts with state agencies are required to use the program. The bill also requires the Attorney General to request the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, once each calendar quarter, to provide a list of agencies and employers that are enrolled and participate in the E-Verify program and to make such list available on the Attorney General's website.

F SB360 Covenants not to compete; health care professionals; civil penalty. Adds health care professionals as a category of employee with whom no employer shall enter into, enforce, or threaten to enforce a covenant not to compete. The bill defines "health care professional" as any physician, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, pharmacist, social worker, dietitian, physical and occupational therapist, professional counselor, behavior analyst, assistant behavior analyst, or medical technologist authorized to provide health care services in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that any employer that violates the prohibition against covenants not to compete with a health care professional is subject to the civil penalty in current law of \$10,000 for each violation.

Patron - VanValkenburg

**SB374** Collective bargaining by public employees; labor organization representation. Repeals the existing prohibition on collective bargaining by public employees. The bill creates the Public Employee Relations Board, which shall determine appropriate bargaining units and provide for certification and decertification elections for exclusive bargaining representatives of state employees and local government employees. The bill requires public employers and employee organizations that are exclusive bargaining representatives to meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The bill repeals a provision that declares that, in any procedure providing for the designation, selection, or authorization of a labor organization to represent employees, the right of an individual employee to vote by secret ballot is a fundamental right that shall be guaranteed from infringement.

Patron - Boysko

F SB529 Employee protections; medicinal use of cannabis oil. Amends the provision that prohibits an employer from discriminating against an employee for such employee's lawful use of cannabis oil pursuant to a valid written certification issued by a practitioner for the treatment or to eliminate the symptoms of the employee's diagnosed condition or disease, with certain exceptions, by specifying that such use must conform to the laws of the Commonwealth and that such protections extend to the employees of the Commonwealth and other public bodies.

Patron - Jordan

#### **Carried Over**

C HB348 Employment; paid sick leave; civil penalties. Expands provisions of the Code that currently require one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked for home health workers to cover all employees of private employers and state and local governments. The bill requires that employees who are employed and compensated on a fee-forservice basis accrue paid sick leave in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry. The bill provides that employees transferred to a separate division or location remain entitled to previously accrued paid sick leave and that employees retain their accrued sick leave under any successor employer. The bill allows employers to provide a more generous paid sick leave policy than prescribed by its provisions. Employees, in addition to using paid sick leave for their physical or mental illness or to care for a family member, may use paid sick leave for their need for services or relocation due to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking.

The bill provides that certain health care workers who work no more than 30 hours per month may waive the right to accrue and use paid sick leave. The bill also provides that employers are not required to provide paid sick leave to certain health care workers who are employed on a pro re nata, or as-needed, basis, regardless of the number of hours worked. The bill requires the Commissioner to promulgate regulations regarding employee notification and employer recordkeeping requirements.

The bill authorizes the Commissioner, in the case of a knowing violation, to subject an employer to a civil penalty not to exceed \$150 for the first violation, \$300 for the second violation, and \$500 for each successive violation. The Commissioner may institute proceedings on behalf of an employee to enforce compliance with the provisions of this bill. Additionally, an aggrieved employee is authorized to bring a civil action against the employer in which he may recover double the amount of any unpaid sick leave and the amount of any actual

damages suffered as the result of the employer's violation. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Ward

C HB1284 Collective bargaining by firefighters and emergency medical services providers. Authorizes firefighters and emergency medical services providers employed by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth to engage in collective bargaining through labor organizations or other designated representatives. The bill provides for the appointment of a three-member board of arbitration regarding any dispute arising between an employer and firefighters or emergency medical services providers. Under the bill, determinations made by such board of arbitration are final on a disputed issue and are binding on the parties involved.

Patron - Askew

C HB1344 Employee protection; prohibited retaliation; prohibited nondisclosure and nondisparagement provisions; civil action. Prohibits the inclusion of a provision in any employment contract that has the purpose or effect of concealing illegal activity or activity an employee believes to be unlawful, including unlawful sexual harassment, discrimination, wage theft, and protected whistleblowing, as those terms are described in existing law. Under the bill's provisions, no employer shall discharge or otherwise retaliate against an employee, prospective employee, or independent contractor for disclosing or discussing conduct that such employee reasonably believes to be discrimination, including harassment, retaliation, a wage or hour violation, sexual assault, fraud against taxpayers, shareholders, the government, consumers, or other employees, or other conduct that is against a clear mandate of public policy. An employer that violates the provisions of the bill shall be liable for the greater of actual damages or statutory damages of \$10,000, as well as reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill also requires employers to include in any settlement agreement or employment agreement with an employee a disclaimer that such agreement does not prohibit an employee from disclosing conduct as protected under the bill. The provisions of the bill apply to contracts entered into, renewed, modified, or amended on or after July 1, 2024.

Patron - McQuinn

C **SB91** Paid sick leave; home health workers providing agency-directed services. Requires employers to provide paid sick leave to home health workers who provide agency-directed services. Under current law, employers are only required to provide paid sick leave to home health workers who provide consumer-directed services. The bill provides that "employer" includes the Commonwealth, any of its agencies, institutions, or political subdivisions, and any public body.

Patron - Favola

C SB485 Employee protections; employer-sponsored meetings on political matters; civil action. Prohibits an employer from retaliating against an employee (i) because such employee declines to attend or participate in an employer-sponsored meeting or receive an employer's communications conveying an opinion about political matters, as defined in the bill; (ii) as a means of inducing an employee's attendance at such meeting or receipt of such communications; or (iii) because the employee reports a suspected violation of the bill's provisions. The bill permits an employee alleging a violation of the bill's provisions to bring an action in civil court within 90 days after such violation occurs for appropriate relief, including injunctive relief, reinstatement, compensation for

lost wages, benefits, and other remuneration, interest, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Patron - Carroll Foy

SB507 Paid sick leave; health care providers and grocery store workers. Requires employers to provide paid sick leave to health care providers and grocery store workers. Under current law, employers are only required to provide paid sick leave to certain home health workers. The bill removes requirements that workers work on average at least 20 hours per week or 90 hours per month to be eligible for paid sick leave. The bill provides that certain health care providers may waive their right to accrue and use paid sick leave and provides an exemption for employers of certain other health care providers. The bill requires the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines for retail employers that sell groceries to provide sick leave and to publish such guidelines by December 1, 2024. The provisions of the bill other than the requirement for the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Surovell

C SB623 Collective bargaining by firefighters and emergency medical services providers. Authorizes firefighters and emergency medical services providers employed by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth to engage in collective bargaining through labor organizations or other designated representatives. The bill provides for the appointment of a three-member board of arbitration regarding any dispute arising between an employer and firefighters or emergency medical services providers. Under the bill, determinations made by such board of arbitration are final on a disputed issue and are binding on the parties involved.

Patron - Lucas

C SB685 Minimum wage and overtime pay; warehouse distribution center employees and employers; civil action; civil penalty. Provides that (i) an employer that violates requirements in existing law relating to the minimum wage, payment of wages and salaries, or overtime pay or (ii) a warehouse employer, as defined in the bill, that violates the bill's provisions shall be liable to an impacted employee for certain remedies, damages, and other relief as specified in the bill. The bill requires a warehouse employer to provide each warehouse employee, as defined in the bill, a written description of each performance standard to which such employee is subject and of any potential adverse employment action that may result from such employee's failure to meet such performance standard. The bill prohibits a warehouse employer from taking adverse action against a warehouse employee for such employee's use of a bathroom facility. The bill provides that a warehouse employer that violates the bill's provisions relating to warehouse employers is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for each violation.

Patron - Carroll Foy

# Libraries

#### **Passed**

P HB1430 Local library boards; King and Queen County. Adds King and Queen County to the list of localities that are not required to establish a library board.

Patron - Hodges

# Military and Emergency Laws

#### **Passed**

HB279 Military leaves of absence for employees of Commonwealth or political subdivisions; profes**sional firefighters.** Provides that any person who is employed by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth as a professional firefighter shall receive paid leaves of absence for up to 388 work hours that a leave of absence is required, regardless of whether such amount of work hours exceeds 21 workdays per federal fiscal year, during which such person is engaged in federally funded military duty, to include training duty, or is called forth by the Governor for military duty. Under current law, employees of the Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth are limited to an eight-hour, 21-workday cap, which equates to seven workdays for such employees working in 24-hour shifts. The 388-work-hour cap would provide leave for a little over 16 workdays for such employees working in 24-hour shifts. This bill is identical to SB 401.

Patron - Helmer

P HB1513 Active-duty status for any service member injured while in the line of duty. Provides that the Adjutant General may maintain state active-duty status for any service member injured while in the line of duty during the course of a state active-duty mission who is unable to return to civilian employment for a period of up to 90 days after the date of the service member's injury.

Patron - Fowler

**P SB401** Military leaves of absence for employees of Commonwealth or political subdivisions; professional **firefighters.** Provides that any person who is employed by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth as a professional firefighter shall receive paid leaves of absence for up to 388 work hours that a leave of absence is required, regardless of whether such amount of work hours exceeds 21 workdays per federal fiscal year, during which such person is engaged in federally funded military duty, to include training duty, or is called forth by the Governor for military duty. Under current law, employees of the Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth are limited to an eight-hour, 21-workday cap, which equates to seven workdays for such employees working in 24-hour shifts. The 388-workhour cap would provide leave for a little over 16 workdays for such employees working in 24-hour shifts. This bill is identical to HB 279.

Patron - Durant

# Failed

F HB788 Militia state active duty; cyber-related support. Provides that the Governor or his designee may call forth the militia or any part thereof to state active duty for service when the Governor determines that cyber-related support is needed to assist state or local agencies or to assist private entities that provide critical infrastructure. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Ennis

F **SB172** Militia state active duty; cyber-related support. Provides that the Governor or his designee may call forth the militia or any part thereof to state active duty for service when the Governor determines that cyber-related support is needed to assist state or local agencies or to assist private

entities that provide critical infrastructure. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Craig

# Mines, Minerals, and Energy

### **Passed**

P HB85 Mineral mining and processing; use of cyanide or a cyanide compound prohibited. Prohibits any miner or other person from using cyanide or a cyanide compound in any mineral mining or processing operation. Patron - Simonds

P HB199 Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund and Program; allocation of funds. Removes the prohibition on the allocation of funds to the Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund and Program unless federal funds are available in an amount that would cover the entire cost of such an allocation. This bill is identical to SB 25.

Patron - Krizek

P HB1002 Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; powers and duties. Requires the Department of Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to identify and monitor any federal grant programs, loan programs, or other opportunities for federal funding to further the Commonwealth's energy efficiency goals. Patron - Anthony

P HB1466 Mineral mines; farm pond construction or expansion. Provides that, for laws relating to mineral mines, the definition of mining shall not be construed to limit a one-time construction or expansion of a farm pond for agricultural irrigation or provision of water for livestock to beneficially reuse the soil or sand, provided that such pond construction or expansion project (i) is a one-time activity on that parcel of land, (ii) is completed within six months, (iii) results in a pond that is less than three acres in total, and (iv) has all necessary permits and local approvals in place before such activity begins.

Patron - Bloxom

Patron - Hackworth

P SB25 Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund and Program; allocation of funds. Removes the prohibition on the allocation of funds to the Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund and Program unless federal funds are available in an amount that would cover the entire cost of such an allocation. This bill is identical to HB 199.

# Failed

F HB28 Fossil fuel projects moratorium; transitioning energy workers; environmental justice protections. Establishes a moratorium, effective January 1, 2025, on any approval by any state agency or political subdivision required for (i) electric generating facilities that generate fossil fuel energy through the combustion or use of a fossil fuel resource, (ii) import or export terminals for fossil fuel resources, (iii) modification of an import or export terminal for a fossil fuel resource, (iv) gathering lines or pipelines for the transport of any fossil fuel resource that requires the use of public land or eminent domain on private property, (v) modification of such

gathering lines or pipelines, (vi) refineries of a fossil fuel resource, (vii) facilities that change the physical state of fossil fuels for the purposes of transporting such fuels, and (viii) exploration for any type of fossil fuel, unless preempted by applicable federal law. The measure requires the establishment of job training programs and energy worker protections, transitional assistance for workers in the fossil fuel industry and affected communities, and environmental justice protections.

Patron - Jones

HB84 Mineral mining and exploration; public **notification.** Requires an explorer conducting any mineral exploration activities, as those terms are defined in the bill, prior to the start of such activities, to (i) publish a notice in a newspaper having a general circulation in the locality where the exploration activity will occur at least once a week for two successive weeks, (ii) notify the governing body of such locality at least 15 days in advance of such activity, and (iii) notify all individual residences and properties within 500 yards of the property lines where the exploration activity will take place at least 15 days in advance of such activity. The bill requires such notices to include certain information related to the exploration activity.

Patron - Simonds

**HB107** Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure **Program and Fund created.** Creates the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund to assist private developers with non-utility costs associated with the installation of public electric vehicle charging stations in certain localities. The bill provides that a private developer is eligible to receive grants of 70 percent of such non-utility costs for public electric vehicle charging stations installed in a city or county that meets the criteria of a distressed locality, as defined in the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.

Patron - Sullivan

HB198 Department of Energy; potential benefits of using solar energy for certain residential, commercial, and government applications; report. Directs the Department of Energy (Department) to produce a report that (i) quantifies the potential benefits of using solar energy for residential, commercial, and government building rooftops, parking lots, and brownfields across the Commonwealth; (ii) describes any incentives, in whole or in part, that would maximize such potential benefits from the use of such solar energy; and (iii) provides regulatory and legislative recommendations. The bill requires the Department to report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, the House Committee on Commerce and Energy, and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by December 1, 2024. Patron - Krizek

HB748 E-bike rebate program. Creates the Electric Power-Assisted Bicycle Rebate Program for the purchase of new electric power-assisted bicycles, as defined in the bill, to be administered by the Department of Energy. Under the bill, a purchaser of a new electric power-assisted bicycle would receive a \$500 rebate applied toward payment for the purchase, and a purchaser with an annual household income that does not exceed 300 percent of the federal poverty level would be entitled to an additional \$600 rebate for a new electric power-assisted bicycle. The bill provides for both rebates beginning January 1, 2025. Additional rebates are provided for in amounts of (i) up to \$100 for related equipment, (ii) \$300 for an electric power-assisted bicycle designed for carrying cargo,

defined in the bill, and (iii) \$250 for an adaptive electric power-assisted bicycle, also defined in the bill.

Patron - Thomas

**HB968** Virginia Green Infrastructure Bank; created. Creates the Virginia Green Infrastructure Bank, an authority to promote and catalyze investment in qualified projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, assist climateimpacted communities, and promote environmental justice. The bill requires the Bank to be governed by a board of directors with the authority to hire a president and create a nonstock corporation to carry out the powers and duties of the bank.

Patron - Lopez

**HB1027** Energy policy of the Commonwealth; state authority; legislative declaration. Declares that affordable, reliable, and secure energy resources are important to the health, safety, and welfare of the Commonwealth's citizens and provides that the Commonwealth has a duty to defend the production and supply of affordable, reliable, and secure energy from external regulatory interference. Under the bill, if the State Corporation Commission or an electric utility, as defined in the bill, receives notice of any federal regulation that may threaten the production or supply of affordable, reliable, and secure energy within the Commonwealth, the Commission or such electric utility shall inform the Office of the Attorney General of such regulation within 30 days of the receipt of such notice. The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to take any action necessary to defend the Commonwealth's interest in the production and supply of affordable, reliable, and secure energy, including filing an action in court or participating in administrative proceedings.

Patron - Zehr

# Carried Over

C HB910 Department of Energy; data center energy usage. Requires each data center located in the Commonwealth to make a quarterly energy source report to the Department of Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency that identifies the amount of energy, disaggregated by the source of energy, consumed by the data center in the previous quarter. The bill requires the Division to publish aggregate deidentified data from such reports on its web-

The bill also directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to convene a work group to estimate the future energy demands of the data center industry in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the work group to include representatives from the Department of Energy, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, the State Corporation Commission, the data center industry, electric utilities, and other interested stakeholders. The Secretary is required to report the findings of the work group to the General Assembly by November 30, 2024.

Patron - Srinivasan

C HB1363 Department of Energy; work group on critical infrastructure sectors; report. Directs the Director of the Department of Energy to convene a work group to evaluate the Commonwealth's critical infrastructure sectors' usage of fuel for energy and feedstock and impact on jobs, capital investments, and state and local revenue. The bill requires the work group to also assess (i) the impact of the Commonwealth's critical infrastructure sectors on natural gas service or retail natural gas supply choice as provided in relevant law and individually metered propane service or non-utility gas service in accordance with relevant law and (ii) the impact of any public entity enacting an ordinance, building code, contractual provision, fee, permit, or other requirement that limits, prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting, or prevents critical infrastructure sectors within their boundaries from acquiring fuel. The bill requires the work group to complete its evaluation and submit its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor by November 1, 2024.

Patron - O'Quinn

C SB234 Parking Lot Solar Development Pilot Grant Program; report. Establishes the Parking Lot Solar Development Pilot Grant Program for the purpose of encouraging development of distributed parking lot solar projects up to one megawatt in size in Chesterfield County and Richmond City through grants. The bill directs the Department of Energy, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, to administer such program, to establish and publish guidelines and criteria for solar projects funded through such program, and to report annually to the General Assembly regarding the administration of the program for the preceding fiscal year.

Patron - Hashmi

C SB457 Driving Decarbonization Program and Fund created. Creates the Driving Decarbonization Program and Fund to assist private developers with non-utility costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. The bill provides that a private developer is eligible to receive grants of 70 percent of such non-utility costs for electric vehicle charging stations installed in a historically economically disadvantaged community or a rural community, as those terms are defined in the bill, and 50 percent of such non-utility costs for electric vehicle charging stations installed in any other area of the Commonwealth. The bill caps the total amount of grants awarded in any fiscal year at \$20 million.

Patron - Marsden

# **Motor Vehicles**

#### **Passed**

P HB15 Certain warning light units. Increases from two to four the number of flashing or steady-burning red or red and white combination warning light units with which a member of a fire department, volunteer fire company, or volunteer emergency medical services agency and any police chaplain may equip one vehicle owned by him. This bill is identical to SB 150.

Patron - McNamara

P HB24 Amber warning lights; certain hunting vehicles. Authorizes road whips, defined in the bill, who are operating vehicles during certain fox hunts to display flashing amber warning lights when such vehicles are not in motion for the purpose of warning other vehicles of such hunt happening in the area. The bill requires such vehicles to also display a sign reading "Horse Crossing With Rider."

Patron - Reid

P HB144 Change in speed limits; notification. Requires the Department of Transportation, if the Commissioner of Highways increases or decreases a speed limit, to notify the primary liaison with the Department in each locality within which such speed limit change will occur. The bill also requires the locality to notify the governing body of any property owners' association or condominium association if any

such speed limit change will occur in a community subject to such association.

Patron - Reid

P HB191 Motor vehicle dealers; sale of franchise.

Changes the deadline for a vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to reject the sale or transfer of a dealership from 30 days prior to the effective date of the sale or transfer to 60 days from the receipt of notice from the dealer of the proposed sale or transfer and lists requirements for such notice from the dealer. The bill provides that an objection to a sale or transfer based on an applicant's years of motor dealer management experience is a reasonable objection but removes the right to object based on other applicant qualifications. The bill further provides that a franchisor's consent to a relocation of a business cannot be unreasonably withheld. This bill is identical to SB 534. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Austin

P HB213 Emissions inspections; agreement for services; fees. Increases from \$3,500 to \$5,000 the amount the emissions inspection program coordinator may be paid per year from each motor vehicle emissions inspection station for the provision and maintenance of each set of required equipment. The bill also increases from \$28 to \$30 the maximum amount that may be charged for the emissions inspection fee. This bill is identical to SB 453.

Patron - Watts

P HB234 All-terrain vehicles and off-road motor-cycles; seizure, impounding, and disposition. Authorizes the governing body of any city to provide by ordinance for the lawful seizure, impounding, and disposition of an illegally operated all-terrain vehicle or off-road motorcycle operated on a highway or sidewalk within such city. This bill is identical to SB 516.

Patron - Ward

P HB282 Moving violations; highway work zones. Creates a traffic infraction for any moving violation in a highway work zone punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 for the first offense and not less than \$500 for any subsequent offense. The bill provides that for any subsequent offense that occurs within the same 12-month period as another such offense such fine shall be not less than \$750.

Patron - Seibold

P HB380 Special license plates; United States Air Force. Authorizes the issuance of special license plates for active duty members with, honorably discharged veterans with six months of active duty service in, and retirees from the United States Air Force and unremarried surviving spouses of such service members. This bill incorporates HB 1489.

Patron - Cherry

P HB425 Department of Motor Vehicles; release of privileged information. Permits the Department of Motor Vehicles to release to a party that is subject to an administrative proceeding conducted by the Department nonmedical privileged information necessary to participate in such administrative proceeding. The bill limits such information to matters of fact and law asserted or questioned by the Department and prohibits the dissemination of such information to any third party that is not a party to the administrative proceeding.

Patron - Green

P HB645 Parking spaces reserved for charging electric vehicles; signs. Removes the requirement that signs

noting that a parking space is reserved for charging plug-in electric motor vehicles include the civil penalty for parking in violation of such sign. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Reaser

P HB812 Special license plates; Sons of Confederate Veterans and Robert E. Lee. Repeals authorization for the issuance of Sons of Confederate Veterans and Robert E. Lee special license plates and provides that such special license plates already in circulation will remain valid until their expiration and shall not be renewed. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Mundon King

P HB844 Commercial driver's licenses and commercial learner's permits; definitions; commercial driver training; drug and alcohol violations. Conforms the definition of commercial motor vehicle to federal regulations, codifies the entry-level driver training system required by federal regulations, and removes contradictory provisions. The bill also prohibits the issuance or continued validity of commercial driver's licenses and commercial learner's permits after a drug or alcohol violation by the applicant, licensee, or permittee. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to SB 353.

Patron - Austin

P HB845 Abandoned vehicles; owner and lienholder information. Provides that if an abandoned vehicle has been titled in another jurisdiction, the Department of Motor Vehicles, in its search for the owner or lienholder of such vehicle, may rely on information provided by a business in possession of the abandoned vehicle that acquired such vehicle from an insurance company in connection with a total loss unresolved claim, provided that such information is obtained from a nationally recognized title database with access to such jurisdiction's records about all entities having security interest in such vehicle. The bill requires the business to defend, indemnify, and hold the Department and the Commonwealth harmless for damages and costs resulting from such reliance.

Patron - Austin

P HB924 Transportation network companies; publishing and disclosure requirements. Requires a transportation network company (TNC) to (i) issue an annual report to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles containing the aggregate data regarding the average fare collected from passengers, the total time driven by TNC partners while transporting a passenger, and the total amount earned by TNC partners in connection with prearranged rides and (ii) disclose to TNC partners details about the deactivation process and provide a weekly summary that includes the total fare collected from passengers, the total amount earned, and the percentage earned by such TNC partner that week. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Srinivasan

P HB925 Towing; vehicles with expired registration; civil penalty. Requires a towing operator, defined in the bill, for a parking lot of a multifamily dwelling unit, defined in the bill, to post written notice on a vehicle providing at least 48 hours' notice to a resident prior to removing a resident's vehicle, defined in the bill, from such parking lot of the multifamily dwelling unit for an expired registration or expired vehicle inspection sticker and to provide a copy of such notice to the landlord of such multifamily dwelling unit. The bill provides that a towing operator who fails to comply with these requirements shall be required to reimburse the resident for the cost of

the tow and shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.

Patron - Shin

HB959 Towing violations; enforcement; fuel surcharge fee. Authorizes localities in Planning Districts 8 and 16 to require written authorization of the owner of the property from which the vehicle is towed at the time the vehicle is being towed and regulate the monitoring practices that may be used by towing and recovery operators. Current law authorizes localities other than those in Planning Districts 8 and 16 to require written authorization of the owner of the property from which the vehicle is towed at the time the vehicle is being towed. The bill changes the penalty for certain trespass towing offenses in Planning District 8 from \$150 per violation paid to the Literary Fund to 10 times the total amount charged for such removal, towing, and storage to be paid to the victim of the unlawful towing. The bill also changes the expiration date of the authorization for towing and recovery operators to charge a fuel surcharge fee of no more than \$20 for each vehicle towed or removed from private property without the consent of its owner and the prohibition on local governing bodies limiting or prohibiting such fee from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2025. Patron - Lopez

P HB1071 Reduction of speed limits; local authority. Expands the current authority of any locality to reduce the speed limit to less than 25 miles per hour, but not less than 15 miles per hour, on highways within its boundaries that are located in a business district or residence district to include highways within the state highway system, provided that such reduced speed limit is indicated by lawfully placed signs. The bill authorizes a locality to restore a speed limit that has been reduced pursuant to this authority and requires the locality to notify the Commissioner of Highways of a change in speed limit. This bill incorporates HB 793. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Carr

P HB1073 Tow truck drivers; prohibited acts. Prohibits tow truck drivers from driving by the scene of a wrecked or disabled vehicle for which a law-enforcement tow has been initiated by a law-enforcement agency, initiating contact with the owner or operator of such vehicle by soliciting or offering towing services, and towing such vehicle.

Patron - Carr

P HB1080 License suspensions due to driving during a period of suspension or revocation; period of suspension. Prohibits any license suspensions due to driving during a period of suspension or revocation from extending beyond 10 years from the date of conviction for such violation. Patron - Carr

P HB1082 Enforcement of certain judgments; restricted license. Authorizes the court to order a restricted license to operate a motor vehicle to a judgment debtor who has had his driver's license suspended for failure to satisfy certain judgments.

Patron - Carr

P HB1084 Disabled parking placards; validity; fees. Extends from six months to 12 months the maximum duration for which the DMV may issue a temporary removable windshield placard to a person with a disability that limits or impairs his ability to walk or that creates a concern for his safety while walking. The bill also eliminates the fee for the issuance of temporary and permanent disabled parking placards and includes technical amendments.

Patron - Carr

P HB1106 Motor vehicle dealers; independent dealer-operator recertification; exam. Permits the recertification of independent dealer-operators by passing an examination administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Current law provides that such recertification requires completing one live instructor-led course and passing an examination administered by the course provider. The bill also directs the Department to collect the \$50 exam fee at the time the exam is administered, transmit \$48 from that fee to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board within 15 days, and retain the remaining \$2. This bill is identical to SB 452.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1107 Motor Vehicle Dealer Board; examination costs. Authorizes the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board to establish the cost of an examination of licensee records, which existing law requires the licensee to pay if such examination shows a violation of law or order of the Board. The bill removes the authority of the Board to recover such costs in a court of competent jurisdiction and provides that failure to pay such examination costs may be grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking a license or certificate of dealer registration or qualification.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1109 Toll invoices; mail. Authorizes the use of a trackable correspondence equivalent to certified mail for sending invoices for unpaid tolls to a vehicle owner prior to the Department of Motor Vehicles placing a registration stop on such vehicle due to unpaid tolls. Current law requires such invoices to be mailed by certified mail. This bill is identical to SB 205.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1110 Toll facilities; vehicle owner. Provides that, in the context of automated toll enforcement, the exemption from the definition of "owner" for vehicle rental or vehicle leasing companies applies only if such companies meet existing requirements related to handling toll invoices on rented or leased vehicles.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1112 Auto recyclers; database search. Clarifies the databases to be searched by the Department of Motor Vehicles upon notification by an auto recycler that he possesses a motor vehicle to be demolished but does not possess a certificate of title, salvage certificate, or nonrepairable certificate for such motor vehicle. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and is identical to SB 545.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1163 Department of Motor Vehicles; medical review. Changes the standard for being denied a driver's license or having a driver's license reviewed or revoked for medical reasons by removing language regarding the presence of a disability or disease and requiring the existence of an impairment that will prevent the driver from exercising reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle or drive a motor vehicle safely.

Patron - Sickles

P HB1224 Department of Motor Vehicles; fees. Reduces the fee for the issuance of an original, duplicate, reissue, or renewal special identification card without a photograph from \$10 per year with a \$20 minimum fee to \$2 per year with a \$10 minimum fee. This bill is identical to SB 151. Patron - Runion

# P HB1287 Towing companies; local authority.

Clarifies that the provisions of existing law authorizing localities in Planning District 8 to require towing companies that tow from the county, city, or town to a storage or release location outside of the locality to obtain a permit to do so do not restrict or modify the authority of the locality to require that towing companies that tow and store or release vehicles within the county, city, or town to obtain from the locality a permit to do so

Patron - McClure

P HB1324 Issuance of restricted driver's license for multiple convictions of driving while intoxicated; completion of specialty dockets. Provides that a person whose driver's license has been revoked for multiple convictions of driving while intoxicated may file a petition for the issuance of a restricted driver's license without having to wait for the expiration of three years from the date of his last conviction, regardless of the date of such conviction, when such person's last conviction resulted from a final order being entered by a court after the successful completion of a Veterans Treatment Court Program, behavioral health docket, or other specialty docket. This bill is identical to SB 6.

Patron - Fowler

P HB1362 School bus video-monitoring system;

**citations.** Prohibits a contract between a private vendor and a school division for the operation of school bus video-monitoring systems to capture passing stopped school bus violations from requiring a minimum quota of violations captured or citations issued for the video-monitoring system to be deployed.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB1409 Crash reports; contracted service providers. Authorizes law-enforcement agencies to utilize a contracted service provider to forward crash reports electronically to the Department of Motor Vehicles and manage or disseminate copies of certain crash reports as authorized by law. The bill authorizes the release of nonpersonally identifiable vehicle information from crash reports to a contracted service provider. This bill is identical to SB 732.

Patron - Reid

# P HB1419 Electronic sales by dealers; titling.

Authorizes certain motor vehicle dealers to choose to sell a motor vehicle electronically by obtaining a title in the dealer's name for resale. This bill has a contingent effective date of the earlier of (i) July 1, 2025, or (ii) receipt of proper notification that a secure power of attorney prescribed by federal law and in a form approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles is available to motor vehicle dealers to be electronically signed by a purchaser.

Patron - Kilgore

P HB1454 Limited-duration licenses and driver privilege cards and permits; expiration. Extends the validity of limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards, other than REAL ID credentials and commercial driver's licenses and permits, to a period of time consistent with the validity of driver's licenses, which, under current law, is a period not to exceed eight years or, for a person age 75 or older, a period not to exceed five years, and permits and special identification cards. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for such documents upon reissuance. This bill is identical to SB 246. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Lopez

P HB1462 Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 and such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping. This bill is identical to SB 447. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Laufer

P HB1469 Venue; obtaining documents from the Department of Motor Vehicles when not entitled thereto; penalty. Provides that the venue for a violation of the offense of obtaining documents from the Department of Motor Vehicles (the Department) when not entitled thereto may be in the jurisdiction (i) from which any person obtained any document issued by the Department, (ii) where any person received or created any counterfeit, forged, or altered document used to obtain a document issued by the Department, or (iii) where any counterfeit, forged, or altered document has been filed with the Department.

Patron - Cherry

P HB1526 Motor vehicles; overweight permits for certain trucks operated by electric utilities. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue overweight permits for an electric utility's operation of vehicles used for the construction, operation, or maintenance of electrical facilities and infrastructure.

Patron - Sewell

P HB1538 Conversion of manufactured home to real property. Establishes a process whereby a manufactured home owner who is not listed as the owner of such manufactured home on its title may detitle such manufactured home in order to convert the home to real property.

Patron - Kilgore

P **SB6** Issuance of restricted driver's license for multiple convictions of driving while intoxicated; completion of specialty dockets. Provides that a person whose driver's license has been revoked for multiple convictions of driving while intoxicated may file a petition for the issuance of a restricted driver's license without having to wait for the expiration of three years from the date of his last conviction, regardless of the date of such conviction, when such person's last conviction resulted from a final order being entered by a court after the successful completion of a Veterans Treatment Court Program, behavioral health docket, or other specialty docket. This bill is identical to HB 1324.

Patron - Reeves

P **SB66** Towing without consent of vehicle owner; fee. Prohibits towing and recovery operators from requiring an individual who appears to retrieve a vehicle towed to provide to the towing and recovery operator, in addition to payment of fees, any document not otherwise required by law before releasing the vehicle to the individual.

Patron - Peake

P SB94 Tow truck drivers and towing and recovery operators; prohibited acts; certain solicitation and offering of services; penalty. Prohibits tow truck drivers and towing and recovery operators from causing any other person to solicit or offer towing services in any manner, directly or indirectly, at the scene of any wrecked or disabled motor vehicle upon a highway when such wrecked or disabled motor vehicle reasonably necessitates removal by a tow truck. The

bill provides that a violation of such prohibition constitutes a Class 3 misdemeanor for the first offense and a Class 2 misdemeanor for any subsequent offense.

Patron - Stanley

P **SB150** Certain warning light units. Increases from two to four the number of flashing or steady-burning red or red and white combination warning light units with which a member of a fire department, volunteer fire company, or volunteer emergency medical services agency and any police chaplain may equip one vehicle owned by him. This bill is identical to HB 15.

Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB151** Department of Motor Vehicles; fees. Reduces the fee for the issuance of an original, duplicate, reissue, or renewal special identification card without a photograph from \$10 per year with a \$20 minimum fee to \$2 per year with a \$10 minimum fee. This bill is identical to HB 1224. *Patron - Suetterlein* 

P **SB205** Toll invoices; mail. Authorizes the use of a trackable correspondence equivalent to certified mail for sending invoices for unpaid tolls to a vehicle owner prior to the Department of Motor Vehicles placing a registration stop on such vehicle due to unpaid tolls. Current law requires such invoices to be mailed by certified mail. This bill is identical to HB 1109.

Patron - Diggs

P SB246 Limited-duration licenses and driver privilege cards and permits; expiration. Extends the validity of limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards, other than REAL ID credentials and commercial driver's licenses and permits, to a period of time consistent with the validity of driver's licenses, which, under current law, is a period not to exceed eight years or, for a person age 75 or older, a period not to exceed five years, and permits and special identification cards. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for such documents upon reissuance. This bill is identical to HB 1454. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - McPike

P **SB261** Towed vehicles; stolen or misused vehicle; police report. Requires the owner of a vehicle that was stolen, illegally used, or used without his permission and subsequently subject to a law-enforcement initiated tow to provide the report number and the name of the law-enforcement agency receiving the report that the motor vehicle was stolen, illegally used, or used without his permission to the towing facility where the vehicle is being stored in order to remove the vehicle without paying towing and storage fees. Patron - DeSteph

P SB336 Photo speed monitoring devices; highrisk intersection segments. Permits a state or local lawenforcement agency to place and operate a photo speed monitoring device at a high-risk intersection segment, defined in the bill, located within the locality for the purpose of recording violations resulting from the operation of a vehicle in excess of the speed limit, provided that such law-enforcement agency certifies that a traffic fatality has occurred since January 1, 2014, in such segment. The bill provides the same requirements for such devices, information collected from such devices, and any enforcement actions resulting from information collected from such devices as current law applies to the use of such devices in school crossing zones and highway work zones.

Patron - Roem

P SB353 Commercial driver's licenses and commercial learner's permits; definitions; commercial driver training; drug and alcohol violations. Conforms the definition of commercial motor vehicle to federal regulations, codifies the entry-level driver training system required by federal regulations, and removes contradictory provisions. The bill also prohibits the issuance or continued validity of commercial driver's licenses and commercial learner's permits after a drug or alcohol violation by the applicant, licensee, or permittee. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to HB 844.

Patron - French

P SB447 Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500 and such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping. This bill is identical to HB 1462. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Marsden

P **SB450** Regulation of towing fees; State Corporation Commission; report. Directs the State Corporation Commission to examine the existing regulation of fees charged for the removal of vehicles and identify policy options for the Commission to assume all or part of such regulation. The bill requires the Commission to report its findings to the General Assembly by November 30, 2024.

Patron - Marsden

P SB452 Motor vehicle dealers; independent dealer-operator recertification; exam. Permits the recertification of independent dealer-operators by passing an examination administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Current law provides that such recertification requires completing one live instructor-led course and passing an examination administered by the course provider. The bill also directs the Department to collect the \$50 exam fee at the time the exam is administered, transmit \$48 from that fee to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board within 15 days, and retain the remaining \$2. This bill is identical to HB 1106.

Patron - Marsden

P SB453 Emissions inspections; agreement for services; fees. Increases from \$3,500 to \$5,000 the amount the emissions inspection program coordinator may be paid per year from each motor vehicle emissions inspection station for the provision and maintenance of each set of required equipment. The bill also increases from \$28 to \$30 the maximum amount that may be charged for the emissions inspection fee. This bill is identical to HB 213.

Patron - Marsden

P **SB516** All-terrain vehicles and off-road motorcycles; seizure, impounding, and disposition. Authorizes the governing body of any city to provide by ordinance for the lawful seizure, impounding, and disposition of an illegally operated all-terrain vehicle or off-road motorcycle operated on a highway or sidewalk within such city. This bill is identical to HB 234.

Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB534** Motor vehicle dealers; sale of franchise. Changes the deadline for a vehicle manufacturer, factory branch, distributor, or distributor branch to reject the sale or transfer of a dealership from 30 days prior to the effective date

of the sale or transfer to 60 days from the receipt of notice from the dealer of the proposed sale or transfer and lists requirements for such notice from the dealer. The bill provides that an objection to a sale or transfer based on an applicant's years of motor dealer management experience is a reasonable objection but removes the right to object based on other applicant qualifications. The bill further provides that a franchisor's consent to a relocation of a business cannot be unreasonably withheld. This bill is identical to HB 191. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB545** Auto recyclers; database search. Clarifies the databases to be searched by the Department of Motor Vehicles upon notification by an auto recycler that he possesses a motor vehicle to be demolished but does not possess a certificate of title, salvage certificate, or nonrepairable certificate for such motor vehicle. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and is identical to HB 1112. *Patron - Bagby* 

P **SB572** Maximum width of vehicles; school buses. Increases from 100 inches to 102 inches the maximum total outside width permitted for school buses.

Patron - Obenshain

P SB732 Crash reports; contracted service providers. Authorizes law-enforcement agencies to utilize a contracted service provider to forward crash reports electronically to the Department of Motor Vehicles and manage or disseminate copies of certain crash reports as authorized by law. The bill authorizes the release of nonpersonally identifiable vehicle information from crash reports to a contracted service provider. This bill is identical to HB 1409.

Patron - Pillion

# Failed

F HB21 School crossing zones. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. Existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets the expanded definition. Patron - Jones

F HB31 Motor vehicle safety inspection approval sticker; persons on active duty. Authorizes motor vehicles owned and operated by persons on active duty with the United States Armed Forces stationed outside the Commonwealth at the time the inspection expires to be operated on the highways of the Commonwealth while such persons are on leave. Existing law only authorizes the operation of any such vehicle by active duty Virginia residents when such vehicle displays a valid inspection sticker issued by another state.

Patron - Ennis

F HB49 Window tint; emergency vehicles. Authorizes window tinting on all emergency medical services vehicles and vehicles used to fight fire, including publicly owned state forest warden vehicles. Current law authorizes tinting on the rear and rear side windows of emergency medical services vehicles used to transport patients.

Patron - Taylor

HB95 Stolen license plates. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, when notified that a license plate has been stolen, to cancel or invalidate such license plate and issue replacement license plates. The bill requires the Department to include a notice that such license plate has been reported stolen in its database and in any data released to third parties.

Patron - Wachsmann

HB96 Specialized and personalized license plates; military; fees. Removes fees for (i) special license plates issued to veterans and military decoration recipients and (ii) personalization of such special license plates. Patron - Taylor

HB180 Radar detectors. Authorizes the use and sale of devices and mechanisms to detect a radar, laser, or other device or mechanism employed by law-enforcement personnel to measure the speed of motor vehicles on the highways of the Commonwealth for law-enforcement purposes, commonly known as radar detectors. The bill retains the prohibition on the use of such devices in a commercial motor vehicle.

Patron - Gardner

HB186 Special license plates; CEDAR BLUFF POW/MIA MEMORIAL. Authorizes the issuance of special license plates for supporters of the Cedar Bluff Overlook Park POW/MIA Memorial bearing the legend CEDAR BLUFF POW/MIA MEMORIAL.

Patron - Morefield

**HB219** Expired vehicle registration; penalties. Establishes a tiered fine system for expired vehicle registrations. The bill establishes a fine of \$25 if the registration has been expired for less than one year on the date the citation is issued and a fine of no less than \$25 but no more than \$250 if such registration has been expired for at least one year on the date the citation is issued. The bill provides that an expired registration does not constitute a traffic infraction if the registration sticker was valid within the last 60 days.

Patron - Orrock

HB296 Department of Motor Vehicle records; vehicle registration; penalties. Provides that failing to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles of a change in address within 30 days of a move and failing to renew a vehicle registration, as required by existing law, are traffic infractions punishable by a fine of \$30.

Patron - Ballard

HB391 Issuing citations; certain traffic offenses. Removes the provisions that provide that no lawenforcement officer may lawfully stop a motor vehicle for operating (i) without a light illuminating a license plate, (ii) with defective and unsafe equipment, (iii) without brake lights or a high mount stop light, (iv) without an exhaust system that prevents excessive or unusual levels of noise, (v) with certain sun-shading materials and tinting films, and (vi) with certain objects suspended in the vehicle and removes the accompanying exclusionary provisions.

Patron - Campbell

**HB421** Towing fees; Commonwealth Trespass Towing Rate-Setting Advisory Panel established. Creates the Commonwealth Trespass Towing Rate-Setting Advisory Panel to advise the General Assembly and the Governor on statewide trespass towing fees and related ancillary fees. The bill increases from \$150 to \$190 the maximum statewide hookup and initial towing fee of any passenger car, from \$30 to \$65 the maximum ancillary fee for towing a vehicle between

7:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., and from \$30 to \$35 the maximum ancillary fee for towing a vehicle on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. The bill clarifies that such limitations on fees do not include any reasonable credit card fees. The bill requires localities to set their own towing rates to at least the amounts of the maximum statewide rates and removes requirements specific to Planning Districts 8 and 16 regarding localities setting their own towing rates.

Patron - McQuinn

HB461 Photo speed monitoring devices; polemounted speed display sign. Requires a pole-mounted speed display sign, defined in the bill, to be placed between 250 and 1,000 feet from any photo speed monitoring device that is in

Patron - Runion

HB505 Department of Motor Vehicles; commercial driver's license work group. Directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to convene a work group to develop and implement a statewide strategy to incentivize and promote the issuance of commercial driver's licenses to qualified applicants in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Cohen

HB521 Photo speed monitoring devices; locality-designated highway segments; civil penalty. Authorizes any locality to authorize, by ordinance, its local law-enforcement agency to place and operate photo speed monitoring devices in certain locations named in the ordinance, provided that (i) the highway has a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or greater; (ii) the ordinance identifies the locality-designated speeding offense to be enforced by the photo speed monitoring device; (iii) speeding, crash, or fatality data supports the need for stronger enforcement against speeding; and (iv) in counties and towns whose roads are subject to the control and jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation, the localitydesignated highway segment is in the secondary state highway system or is designated as a Virginia byway. The bill directs the locality to also identify the speeding violations that may be enforced by photo speed monitoring device. Current law authorizes the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones and school crossing zones.

Patron - Laufer

HB533 Photo speed monitoring devices; location. Authorizes the governing body of any county, city, or town to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of photo speed monitoring devices on any highway in such locality with a speed limit of 45 miles per hour or less that is located in a priority pedestrian corridor as identified by the Department of Transportation in the statewide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan or other high-risk pedestrian corridor as designated by the Commissioner of Highways for the purposes of recording violations resulting from the operation of a vehicle in excess of the speed limit. The bill provides the same requirements for such devices, information collected from such devices, and any enforcement actions resulting from information collected from such devices as current law applies to the use of such devices in school crossing zones and highway work zones. The bill requires that two signs, rather than one, be placed warning of such device if the device is placed somewhere other than a school crossing zone or highway work zone.

Patron - Seibold

HB548 International Registration Plan; temporary registration authorization. Authorizes the issuance of a temporary registration document valid for no more than 45 days for a vehicle with a pending registration application with

the International Registration Plan. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to permit authorized motor carrier representatives to (i) update the registration or title record of the vehicle electronically and in real time through the Virginia Motor Carrier System and (ii) regardless of whether such record has been updated electronically or in person, retrieve registration tags in person at a Department branch office or by mail.

Patron - Walker

F HB657 Pedestrian control signals; applicability to persons riding bicycles and other devices. Allows persons riding a bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, moped, or motorized skateboard or scooter to, while remaining in the travel lane, follow the pedestrian control signal corresponding to the person's direction of travel, provided that they travel straight or turn right and yield to pedestrians lawfully in the crosswalk and any vehicle approaching the intersection from the right.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB684 Issuing citations; certain traffic offenses. Removes the provisions that provide that no law-enforcement officer may lawfully stop a motor vehicle for operating (i) without a light illuminating a license plate, (ii) with defective and unsafe equipment, (iii) without brake lights or a high mount stop light, (iv) without an exhaust system that prevents excessive or unusual levels of noise, (v) with certain sun-shading materials and tinting films, and (vi) with certain objects suspended in the vehicle. The bill also removes the accompanying exclusionary provisions.

Patron - Leftwich

F HB793 Reduction of speed limits; local authority. Expands the current authority of any locality to reduce the speed limit to less than 25 miles per hour, but not less than 15 miles per hour, on highways within its boundaries that are located in a business district or residence district to include highways within the state highway system, provided that such reduced speed limit is indicated by lawfully placed signs. This bill was incorporated into HB 1071.

Patron - Henson

F HB883 Vehicle exhaust systems; operation in certain locations. Expands the locations for which operation of a motor vehicle, moped, or motorized skateboard or footscooter that does not comply with requirements for mufflers and a vehicle that does not comply with the requirements for exhaust systems is prohibited to include any driveway or premises of a church, school, recreational facility, or business; any governmental property open to the public; any industrial establishment providing parking space for customers, patrons, or employees; and any highway under construction or not yet open to the public.

Patron - Watts

F HB905 Photo speed monitoring devices; location. Authorizes the governing body of any county, city, or town to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of photo speed monitoring devices in any location deemed necessary by the locality for the purposes of recording violations resulting from the operation of a vehicle in excess of the speed limit. The bill provides the same requirements for such devices, information collected from such devices, and any enforcement actions resulting from information collected from such devices as current law applies to the use of such devices in school crossing zones and highway work zones. The bill requires that two signs, rather than one, be placed warning of

such device if the device is placed somewhere other than a school crossing zone or highway work zone.

Patron - Shin

F HB1032 Photo speed monitoring device; civil penalty; default process. Establishes a default process for the collection of civil penalties from residents of the Commonwealth who fail to respond to a summons for a speed violation issued based on evidence collected from a photo speed monitoring device. Current law requires personal service on such person who fails to respond.

Patron - Bloxom

F HB1047 Vehicle safety inspections; frequency. Extends from 12 months to 24 months the period for which a vehicle safety inspection is valid.

Patron - Batten

F HB1057 Golf carts and utility vehicles; certain rural communities. Authorizes localities located within the Rural Coastal Virginia Community Enhancement Authority to authorize by ordinance the operation of golf carts or utility vehicles on designated public highways where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. Existing law authorizes such operation on designated public highways where the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour or less.

Patron - Hodges

F HB1072 School crossing zones. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. Existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets the expanded definition.

Patron - Carr

F HB1077 Exception to stopping requirement; bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or motorized skateboard or scooter. Authorizes the person operating a bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or motorized skateboard or scooter to yield instead of stop at an intersection controlled by a stop sign if (i) each intersecting highway has no more than three motor vehicle travel lanes; (ii) the person is at least 15 years of age or accompanied by an adult; (iii) the person slows to a reasonable speed based on existing conditions; and (iv) before proceeding into the intersection, the person stops for any pedestrian within the crosswalk and for any other vehicle approaching or entering such intersection from another direction.

Patron - Carr

F HB1111 Department of Motor Vehicles; highway use fee; tiered flat rate system; work group; report. Directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to convene a work group to determine the feasibility of implementing a tiered flat rate system to accurately determine the correct amount of highway use fee to be charged at the point of sale of a motor vehicle. The bill directs the work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate and House Committees on Transportation no later than November 15, 2024.

Patron - Wyatt

F HB1213 Special license plates; military service; prepaid applications. Decreases from 450 to 150 the number of prepaid applications required for the consideration, development, and issuance of a special license plate when such special license plate relates to military service. *Patron - Scott, P.A.* 

HB1266 Traffic; bicycles and certain other vehicles. Clarifies that the roadways on which bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric power-assisted bicycles, motorized skateboards or scooters, or mopeds are exempt from the requirement to ride as close as safely practicable to the right curb include those not wide enough to allow an overtaking motor vehicle to pass as required by law. The bill removes the requirement for persons riding bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric power-assisted bicycles, or motorized skateboards or scooters on a highway two abreast to move into a single-file formation when being overtaken by a faster-moving vehicle and limits the requirement that such persons not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic to roadways with only one travel lane per direction and a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or more. Patron - Willett

F HB1489 Special license plates; United States Air Force. Authorizes the issuance of special license plates for active duty members with, honorably discharged veterans with six months of active duty service in, and retirees from the United States Air Force and unremarried surviving spouses of such service members. This bill was incorporated into HB 380. Patron - Henson

F SB65 Issuing citations; vehicle equipment. Removes the provisions that provide that no law-enforcement officer may lawfully stop a motor vehicle for operating with defective and unsafe equipment and removes the accompanying exclusionary provisions.

Patron - Durant

F SB97 Motor vehicles; improper tinting films, signs, decals, and stickers; issuing citations. Removes the provisions that prohibit a law-enforcement officer from lawfully stopping a motor vehicle for violations related to improper tinting films, signs, decals, and stickers on such motor vehicle's windows. The bill increases from 35 percent to 50 percent the minimum percentage of total light transmittance required for tinting the rear and rear side windows of any motor vehicle. The bill increases from 35 percent to 50 percent the authorized reduction of total light transmittance for tinting the rear and rear side windows of any motor vehicle and maintains exemptions for multipurpose passenger vehicles and pickup trucks.

Patron - Peake

F SB535 School crossing zones. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. Existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets the expanded definition. Patron - Bagby

F SB680 Manufactured homes; conversion to real property. Creates a process by which a manufactured

home with a security interest may be converted to real property and provides requirements and procedures for doing so. Patron - Rouse

F SB687 Careless driving and infliction of injury or death on vulnerable road users; penalty. Defines driving in a careless manner and distracted manner for purposes of the Class 1 misdemeanor of operating a motor vehicle in a careless or distracted manner such that such operation is the proximate cause of serious bodily injury or death of a vulnerable road user lawfully present on the highway at such time. Patron - Ebbin

F SB712 Release of hunting dogs; state highway or right-of-way. Creates a Class 3 misdemeanor for the intentional release of hunting dogs on a Department of Transportation right-of-way or on a highway owned or maintained by the Department of Transportation to hunt deer without the consent of the Department. The bill provides that a second offense is a Class 2 misdemeanor, and a third or subsequent offense is a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also permits the stopping of a vehicle on a highway for the retrieval of a companion animal from a highway or area adjacent to a highway.

Patron - Marsden

# **Carried Over**

C HB20 Photo speed monitoring devices; location.

Authorizes the governing body of any county, city, or town to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of photo speed monitoring devices in any location deemed necessary by the locality for the purposes of recording violations resulting from the operation of a vehicle in excess of the speed limit. The bill provides the same requirements for such devices, information collected from such devices, and any enforcement actions resulting from information collected from such devices as current law applies to the use of such devices in school crossing zones and highway work zones. The bill requires that two signs, rather than one, be placed warning of such device if the device is placed somewhere other than a school crossing zone or highway work zone.

Patron - Jones

C HB142 Installation of crosswalks; waiving certain requirement. Authorizes the Department of Transportation, when determining the need for a crosswalk within a community subject to the Property Owners' Association Act, to waive any requirement that a certain number of individuals cross such highway within a particular period of time if the location of the proposed crosswalk is adjacent to and providing access to a facility that attracts pedestrians or generates an increased pedestrian presence.

Patron - Reid

C HB662 Towing; registration for tow truck drivers; Driver Authorization Document; penalty. Requires tow truck drivers, prior to registration or the first renewal on or after January 1, 2025, with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, to obtain a Driver Authorization Document, for which such drivers must take instructional courses, the requirements for which are set forth in the bill, and complete a drug test. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Patron - Cole

C HB884 Vehicle exhaust systems; inspection and administrative fee. Prohibits passenger car exhaust systems from emitting noise in excess of 95 decibels in Planning District 8 on any highway; driveway or premises of a church, school, recreational facility, or business; any governmental

property open to the public; any industrial establishment providing parking space for customers, patrons, or employees; and any highway under construction or not yet open to the public.

The bill allows, in Planning District 8, a law-enforcement officer to stop a passenger car he determines is emitting exhaust system noise in excess of such limit and issue a notice of an administrative fee of \$250 to be assessed at the time of the vehicle's next registration renewal and establishes a process for inspecting such vehicle.

The bill has a contingent effective date of January 1, 2025, provided that the Department of Environmental Quality has received the necessary funding to supply the necessary equipment for such vehicle exhaust system inspections to inspection stations. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027.

Patron - Watts

C SB198 License plates; collector motor vehicles; penalty. Creates license plates for collector motor vehicles, defined in the bill, which the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles shall issue to any applicant who owns or has regular use of another passenger car, autocycle, or motorcycle and who owns at least a total of three collector motor vehicles. The bill designates the fee for such plates and registration as \$50, specifies that the collector motor vehicles shall not be used for general transportation purposes and may only be used (i) for participation in shows, parades, charitable functions, and historical exhibitions for display, maintenance, and preservation; (ii) on the highways of the Commonwealth for the purpose of testing their operation or selling the vehicle, obtaining repairs or maintenance, transportation to and from events, and for occasional pleasure driving not exceeding 250 miles from the residence of the owner; and (iii) to carry or transport passengers and personal effects. The bill also prohibits such vehicles from being registered as antique vehicles or military surplus motor vehicles. Finally, the bill makes it a Class 4 misdemeanor to violate any provision relating to the registration of collector motor vehicles.

C SB226 Department of Motor Vehicles; highway use fee; tiered flat rate system; work group; report. Directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to convene a work group to determine the feasibility of implementing a tiered flat rate system to accurately determine the correct amount of highway use fee to be charged at the point of sale of a motor vehicle. The bill directs the work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate and House Committees on Transportation no later than November 15, 2024.

Patron - Hackworth

Patron - Diggs

C SB349 Vehicle inspections; new motor vehicles. Extends the timeframe following the first inspection of a new motor vehicle in which such vehicle must be inspected from 12 months after the first inspection to either 36 months after the first inspection or within such time as such new motor vehicle reaches a mileage of 36,000 miles. The bill provides that the inspection approval sticker provided by the Department of State Police for such new motor vehicle shall designate its validity period and directs the Department to develop, create, and distribute such new stickers.

Patron - Reeves

C SB714 Vehicle exhaust systems; inspection and administrative fee. Prohibits passenger vehicle exhaust systems from emitting noise in excess of 95 decibels in Planning District 8 on a highway; any driveway or premises of a church, school, recreational facility, or business; any governmental property open to the public; any industrial establishment pro-

viding parking space for customers, patrons, or employees; and any highway under construction or not yet open to the public.

The bill allows, in Planning District 8, a law-enforcement officer to stop a passenger vehicle he determines is emitting exhaust system noise in excess of such limit and issue a notice of an administrative fee of \$250 to be assessed at the time of the vehicle's next registration renewal and establishes a process for inspecting such vehicle.

The bill has a contingent effective date of January 1, 2025, provided that the Department of Environmental Quality has received the necessary funding to supply the necessary equipment for such vehicle exhaust system inspections to inspection stations. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027.

Patron - Marsden

# Notaries and Out-of-State Commissioners

#### **Passed**

P HB986 Notaries; fees. Raises from \$5 to \$10 the amount a notary may charge for taking and certifying the acknowledgment of any writing, or administering and certifying an oath, or certifying affidavits and depositions of witnesses.

Patron - Tran

P HB1372 Notarial acts; knowledge-based authentication assessment; requirements. Adds a knowledge-based authentication assessment to the methods by which a notary public may obtain satisfactory evidence of identity of an individual. As defined in the bill, a knowledge-based authentication assessment requires a principal to take a quiz composed of at least five questions related to the principal's personal history or identity and to score at least 80 percent on such quiz. The bill provides that if the principal fails to achieve a score of at least 80 percent, he may attempt up to two additional quizzes within 48 hours following the first failed quiz. The bill also provides that no notarial act shall be invalidated solely based on the failure of a notary public to perform a duty or meet a requirement as required by law; however, the validity of a notarial act shall not prohibit an aggrieved person from invalidating a record or transaction or from seeking other remedies as allowed by law. The bill provides that these provisions shall apply retroactively to any notarial act that was performed before July 1, 2024. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Simon

P SB8 Notary public or electronic notary public; application for recommission. Removes the requirement that a person applying for recommission as a notary public or electronic notary public include in his application an applicant oath, provided that such person is in good standing as a notary public or electronic notary public, is not subject to any investigation or proceeding, and has never been removed from office. Under current law, persons applying for recommission are required to include such oath.

Patron - Reeves

# Pensions, Benefits, and Retirement

#### **Passed**

P HB70 Virginia Retirement System; plan credits and accounts. Allows members of the Virginia Retirement System to purchase service credit for prior full-time active duty military service of at least 180 consecutive days in any federally established branch of the armed services. Under current law, such purchases are restricted to prior full-time active duty military service of at least 180 consecutive days in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard.

The bill also provides that any funds or other property held in a Virginia Retirement System defined contribution plan, deferred compensation plan, or cash match plan remaining unclaimed for more than five years shall be presumed abandoned under the Virginia Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and may escheat to the state treasury. Under current law, the Act does not apply to any Virginia Retirement System defined benefit plan funds or other property. This bill is identical to SB 458.

Patron - Bulova

P HB1312 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; conservation officers. Extends membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System (VaLORS) to conservation officers of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and provides that such membership would apply only to service earned on or after July 1, 2025. The bill contains a reenactment clause.

Patron - Orrock

P HB1401 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; firefighters. Adds full-time firefighters employed by the Department of Military Affairs to the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System for service earned on or after July 1, 2025. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. Patron - Clark

P SB458 Virginia Retirement System; plan credits and accounts. Allows members of the Virginia Retirement System to purchase service credit for prior full-time active duty military service of at least 180 consecutive days in any federally established branch of the armed services. Under current law, such purchases are restricted to prior full-time active duty military service of at least 180 consecutive days in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard.

The bill also provides that any funds or other property held in a Virginia Retirement System defined contribution plan, deferred compensation plan, or cash match plan remaining unclaimed for more than five years shall be presumed abandoned under the Virginia Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and may escheat to the state treasury. Under current law, the Act does not apply to any Virginia Retirement System defined benefit plan funds or other property. This bill is identical to HB 70.

Patron - Marsden

# Failed

F HB99 Virginia Retirement System; return to work for law-enforcement officers. Allows a retired law-enforcement officer to return to work full time as a law-

enforcement officer and continue to receive his pension under the Virginia Retirement System. Such person shall be required to have a break in service of at least six calendar months before reemployment. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Green

F HB388 Virginia Retirement System; investments; diversity, equity, and inclusion investing restricted. Provides that unless the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System can demonstrate that a social investment, defined in the bill, would provide a superior rate of return compared to a similar investment that is not a social investment with a similar time horizon and risk, neither the Board nor any external fiduciary utilized by the Board may invest or make recommendations regarding state funds for the purpose of social investment on or after July 1, 2024.

Patron - Griffin

F HB687 Virginia Retirement System; additional service credit. Allows an individual who serves concurrently as a full-time primary or secondary school teacher and as a full-time school bus driver to receive additional service credit in the Virginia Retirement System for providing such services. The bill specifies that the amount of credit allowable shall be equivalent to the amount of credit that the individual would earn if he were employed only as a full-time school bus driver. Patron - O'Quinn

F HB891 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; conservation officers. Extends membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System (VaLORS) to conservation officers of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and provides that such membership would apply only to service earned on or after July 1, 2025.

Patron - Kent

SB130 Virginia Retirement System; service retirement allowance; hazardous duty. Provides that members of the State Police Officers' Retirement System, political subdivision employees eligible for enhanced hazardous duty coverage, and members of the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System who are eligible for a hazardous duty supplement shall receive such supplement amount from the date of retirement. Under current law, the supplement is only allowed from the date of retirement until (i) for the State Police Officers' Retirement System and political subdivisions with enhanced hazardous duty coverage, the member's retirement age under federal social security laws and (ii) for the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System, the member's sixty-fifth birthday. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and provides that its provisions apply only to eligible members who retire on and after July 1, 2025.

Patron - Craig

F SB472 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers. Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2025, but allows an employer, as that term is defined in relevant law, to provide such enhanced retirement benefits for service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher before July 1, 2025, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Obenshain

**SB622** Virginia Retirement System; additional service credit. Allows an individual who serves concurrently as a full-time primary or secondary school teacher and as a full-time school bus driver to receive additional service credit in the Virginia Retirement System for providing such services. The bill specifies that the amount of credit allowable shall be equivalent to the amount of credit that the individual would earn if he were employed only as a full-time school bus driver. Patron - Pillion

# **Carried Over**

C HB38 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers. Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2025, but allows an employer, as that term is defined in relevant law, to provide such enhanced retirement benefits for service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher before July 1, 2025, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Clark

C HB162 Financial reports by retirement systems; annual disclosures. Requires retirement systems to provide disclosures describing the process and criteria used for selecting third-party fund managers, advisers, or consultants and other persons providing services to the retirement system. Such information shall be included in a retirement system's annual report.

Patron - Reid

C HB231 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for animal control officers. Adds animal control officers to the list of local employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service. Under current law, localities may provide such benefits to first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and certain other hazardous duty positions. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and provides that such membership would apply only to service earned on or after July 1, 2025.

Patron - Campbell

C HB300 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers. Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2025, but allows an employer, as that term is defined in relevant law, to provide such enhanced retirement benefits for service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher before July 1, 2025, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Ballard

C HB630 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers. Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2025, but allows an employer, as that term is defined in relevant law, to provide such enhanced retirement benefits for service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher before July

1, 2025, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. Patron - Cherry

C HB631 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; emergency dispatchers. Extends membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System (VaLORS) to emergency dispatchers who are employed by the Department of State Police and agencies whose law-enforcement officers are eligible for membership in VaLORS. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and provides that such membership would apply only to service earned on or after July 1, 2025.

Patron - Cherry

C HB1393 Virginia Retirement System; return to work for law-enforcement officers. Allows a retired law-enforcement officer to return to work full time as a law-enforcement officer and continue to receive his pension under the Virginia Retirement System. Such person shall be required to have a break in service of at least six calendar months before reemployment. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Jones

C HB1438 Pensions; enhanced retirement benefits for juvenile detention specialists. Requires each political subdivision participating in the Virginia Retirement System and each county or city participating in the Virginia Retirement System to provide retirement benefits comparable to the benefits provided to state police officers to juvenile detention specialists.

Patron - Wiley

C SB218 Virginia retirement system; enhanced retirement benefits; animal control officers. Adds full-time animal control officers to the list of local employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service for service earned in such positions on or after July 1, 2025, and in certain circumstances service earned prior to that date. Under current law, localities may provide such benefits to first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and certain other hazardous duty positions. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Locke

**C SB328** Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers. Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2025, but allows an employer, as that term is defined in relevant law, to provide such enhanced retirement benefits for service earned as a full-time salaried 911 dispatcher before July 1, 2025, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. *Patron - Jordan* 

C SB396 Virginia Retirement System; increased retirement allowance for certain judges. Provides that judges appointed or elected to an initial term on or after July 1, 2024, and who are at least age 55 at the time of appointment will be placed in Plan 1 with service weighted at 3.5. Patron - McDougle

C SB548 Virginia Retirement System; return to work; break in service. Reduces, from six months to one month, the length of the required break in service after retirement for a teacher, bus driver, specialized student support

instructor, or law-enforcement officer before such person may return to work full time and continue to receive his pension under the Virginia Retirement System (VRS).

Patron - Craig

C **SB631** Authorize the Adjutant General to facilitate and coordinate efforts to promote participation in the state-sponsored group term life insurance program offered to members of the Virginia National Guard.

Patron - French

## **Persons with Disabilities**

#### **Passed**

P HB1165 Rights of persons with disabilities; definitions. Adds definitions related to the rights of persons with disabilities to relevant law. The bill defines "path of travel," "place of public accommodation,"" "public entity," "private entity," and "readily achievable." The bill requires places of public accommodation to ensure that barriers to accessibility are removed when the removal is readily achievable.

Patron - Sickles

P SB51 Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services; dissemination and availability of online transition resources. Directs the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in partnership with relevant entities, to ensure that online resources are readily available and disseminated to all individuals of age to transition from school to post-school activities and their families. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Disability Commission.

Patron - Favola

#### **Failed**

F SB43 Persons with disabilities; disAbility Law Center of Virginia; helpline program. Establishes a helpline program within the disAbility Law Center of Virginia for persons with disabilities. The bill provides that such program may receive and respond to questions regarding state-operated programs that provide services to persons with disabilities and directs the disAbility Law Center of Virginia to publicize a toll-free phone number and web-based portal for receiving questions and the procedures for contacting the helpline program.

Patron - Favola

# **Carried Over**

C SB312 Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services; Office of the Independent Living Community Ombudsman established. Establishes the Office of the Independent Living Community Ombudsman, with the purpose of receiving, recording, and responding to concerns related to independent living communities. The bill directs the Office to operate a complaint line to receive, record, and respond to such concerns.

Patron - Salim

# Police (State)

#### **Passed**

P HB444 Virginia Rap Back Service; criminal history record monitoring. Changes the time frame for which a participating entity in the Virginia Record of Arrest and Prosecution (Rap) Back Service is required to disenroll any individual who is deceased or no longer qualifies as an individual for the purposes of the Virginia Rap Back Service from within 30 days to within five business days. The bill also removes the provision stating that an individual who moves from one participating entity in the Virginia Rap Back Service to another need not be refingerprinted. The bill contains technical amendments and is identical to SB 169.

Patron - Williams

HB1388 Alert for missing or endangered children; Virginia Critical Operation for a Disappeared Child Initiative (Codi) Alert Program. Creates a program for local, regional, or statewide notification of a missing or endangered child. The bill defines a missing or endangered child as a child (i) who is 17 years of age or younger or is currently enrolled in a secondary school in the Commonwealth, regardless of age; (ii) whose whereabouts are unknown; and (iii) whose disappearance is under suspicious circumstances or poses a credible threat as determined by law enforcement to the safety and health of the child and under such other circumstances as deemed appropriate by the Virginia State Police. The bill requires the Virginia State Police to develop, in consultation with representatives of local law-enforcement agencies, including representatives from the Virginia Sheriffs' Association and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, policies for the establishment of uniform standards for the creation of Codi Alert Programs throughout the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 201.

Patron - Anthony

P SB169 Virginia Rap Back Service; criminal history record monitoring. Changes the time frame for which a participating entity in the Virginia Record of Arrest and Prosecution (Rap) Back Service is required to disenroll any individual who is deceased or no longer qualifies as an individual for the purposes of the Virginia Rap Back Service from within 30 days to within five business days. The bill also removes the provision stating that an individual who moves from one participating entity in the Virginia Rap Back Service to another need not be refingerprinted. The bill contains technical amendments and is identical to HB 444.

Patron - Reeves

SB201 Alert for missing or endangered children; Virginia Critical Operation for a Disappeared Child Initiative (Codi) Alert Program. Creates a program for local, regional, or statewide notification of a missing or endangered child. The bill defines a missing or endangered child as a child (i) who is 17 years of age or younger or is currently enrolled in a secondary school in the Commonwealth, regardless of age; (ii) whose whereabouts are unknown; and (iii) whose disappearance is under suspicious circumstances or poses a credible threat as determined by law enforcement to the safety and health of the child and under such other circumstances as deemed appropriate by the Virginia State Police. The bill requires the Virginia State Police to develop, in consultation with representatives of local law-enforcement agencies, including representatives from the Virginia Sheriffs' Association and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, policies for the

establishment of uniform standards for the creation of Codi Alert Programs throughout the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 1388.

Patron - Diggs

#### **Failed**

F HB1169 Alert for missing or endangered children; Virginia Critical Operation for a Disappeared Child Initiative (Codi) Alert Program. Creates a program for local, regional, or statewide notification of a missing or endangered child. The bill defines a missing or endangered child as a child (i) who is 17 years of age or younger or is currently enrolled in a secondary school in the Commonwealth, regardless of age; (ii) whose whereabouts are unknown; and (iii) whose disappearance is under suspicious circumstances or poses a credible threat as determined by law enforcement to the safety and health of the child and under such other circumstances as deemed appropriate by the Virginia State Police.

Patron - Cordoza

# Prisons and Other Methods of Correction

#### **Passed**

P HB45 Earned sentence credits; incarceration prior to entry of final order of conviction. Provides that a person's eligibility for earned sentence credits shall include any period of time actually spent in any state or local correctional facility, state hospital, or juvenile detention facility for the offense such person was held deducted from such person's term of incarceration or detention. The bill also provides that all time actually spent by a person in confinement or detention shall be used in calculating such person's earned sentence credits.

The bill provides that the provisions shall apply retroactively to any person who is confined in any correctional facility on July 1, 2025, and if it is determined that, upon retroactive application of the provisions, the release date of any such person passed prior to the effective date of this act, the person shall be released upon approval of an appropriate release plan and within 60 days of such determination unless otherwise mandated by court order; however, no person shall have a claim for wrongful incarceration on the basis of such retroactive application. If a person is released prior to completion of any reentry programs deemed necessary by the Department of Corrections on the person's most recent annual review or prior to completion of any programs mandated by court order, the person shall be required to complete such programs under probation, provided probation is mandated by the court and current community resources are sufficient to facilitate completion of the aforementioned programs. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Seibold

P HB103 State Board of Local and Regional Jails; powers and duties. Requires the State Board of Local and Regional Jails, when promulgating regulations and adoptant and appropriate and regional Jails, when promulgating regulations and adoptant and appropriate and approp

ing any policy or guidance document related to the enforcement of any minimum standards applicable to local, regional, or community correctional facilities, to expressly and specifically include such items in its published agenda for meetings of the Board or any of its subcommittees. The bill also requires the Board, when developing and implementing policies and

procedures for the review of the death of any inmate or when establishing minimum standards for health care services, to adhere to procedures of the Administrative Process Act. *Patron - Hope* 

P HB159 Use of canines in correctional and juvenile correctional facilities; prohibited acts. Makes it unlawful for any correctional officer or other employee of a state correctional facility who is permitted to handle canines to use a patrol or security canine in any state correctional facility unless such correctional officer or other employee (i) reasonably believes that the use of a patrol or security canine is immediately necessary to protect any prisoner or any officer or employee from the threat of serious bodily injury or death or (ii) has the prior approval of the warden or a supervisor to use a patrol or security canine to intervene in an altercation, fight, or other incident between three or more prisoners. The bill also makes it unlawful for any juvenile correctional officer or other employee of a juvenile correctional facility to use a patrol or security canine in any juvenile correctional facility. The bill specifies that such provisions shall not apply to the training or use of detector canines or detector canine handlers. Patron - Seibold

HB457 Decreasing probation period; criteria for mandatory reduction; report. Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing qualifying educational activities, maintaining verifiable employment, and complying with or completing any state-certified or state-approved mental health or substance abuse treatment program. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct and in the interests of justice and may do so without a hearing. The bill also directs the Department of Corrections to meet with relevant stakeholders and provide to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024, a report regarding certain probation practices. The provisions of the bill, other than the requirement that the Department submit a report to the General Assembly, are subject to reenactment by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly. This bill is identical to SB 80. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Callsen

P HB479 Physical examination of prisoner; licensed nurse practitioner; licensed physician assistant. Provides that each person received by the Department of Corrections shall be examined by a licensed physician, licensed nurse practitioner, or licensed physician assistant upon his arrival, within 30 days prior to any work assignment in food services, medical services, or cosmetological services or a change in work assignment, and at such other times thereafter as may be deemed necessary. Under current law, such examination may be performed only by a licensed physician. Patron - Coyner

P HB555 Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman; created. Creates, within the Office of the State Inspector General, the Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman (the Office) headed by an Ombudsman who is selected by the State Inspector General. The bill creates the Corrections Oversight Committee (the Committee) made up of four members of the General Assembly, nine nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, subject to criteria described in the bill, and two nonvoting members, appointed as described in the bill, who monitor the activities of the Ombudsman and the Department of Corrections (the Department). The bill provides the Office with authority to conduct inspections at least once every three years and more often when warranted of Department facilities and requires the Office to establish a statewide toll-free telephone number, website, mailing address,

and paper and electronic forms for inmates, family members, friends, and advocates to submit complaints and inquiries. In addition, the bill requires the Committee to hold at least two public hearings per year and requires the Office to submit an annual report to be made available online and to be delivered to the Governor, the Attorney General, the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services, the House Committee on Public Safety, the Committee, and the Director of the Department. The bill directs the Office to develop a short-term and long-term strategic plan and to provide a report on its initial activities and strategic plan to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before November 15, 2025. This bill is identical to SB 456.

Patron - Hope

P HB801 Electronic communication systems within state correctional facilities; telephone calls and communication services; lowest available rates. Requires the Department of Corrections to provide telephone systems and web-based or electronic communications systems and that such systems shall be established at the lowest available rates. The maximum number of telephone numbers permitted on an approved call list must be no fewer than 20.

Patron - Rasoul

HB912 Stores and telephone systems in local **correctional facilities; fees.** Provides that the net profits from the operation of stores and telephonic communication systems in local correctional facilities shall be used within each facility respectively for educational, recreational, or medical purposes for the benefit of the inmates to include behavioral health, substance abuse, reentry, and rehabilitative services and may be expended to pay for the training, salaries, and benefits of employees or contractors whose primary job is to provide such programs and services to the inmates. Patron - Shin

P HB913 Parole Board; voting requirements. Provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, if the Parole Board adopts a rule or regulation requiring the concurrence of four or more members of the Board to grant discretionary parole or conditional release, in the event that there are less than four members but at least three members on the Parole Board, then such requirement shall be satisfied upon a unanimous vote of the members on the Board. Patron - Shin

**HB1244** Restorative housing and isolated confinement; restrictions on use. Prohibits the use of isolated confinement, defined in the bill, in state correctional facilities, subject to certain exceptions. The bill requires that before placing an incarcerated person in restorative housing or isolated confinement for his own protection, the facility administrator shall place an incarcerated person in a less-restrictive setting, including by transferring such person to another institution or to a special-purpose housing unit for incarcerated persons who face similar threats. The bill requires that if an incarcerated person is placed in restorative housing or isolated confinement, such placement shall be reviewed every 48 hours and the facility administrator shall ensure that the incarcerated person receives a medical and mental health evaluation from certified medical and mental health professionals within one working day of placement in restorative housing or any form of isolated confinement. The bill also requires the facility administrator to notify the regional administrator in writing that an incarcerated person was placed in restorative housing or isolated confinement within 24 hours of such placement. Finally, the bill requires that formal reviews of an incarcerated person's placement in any form of isolated confinement shall be held in such person's presence, inform him of any reason or reasons administrative officials believe isolated confinement remains necessary, and give the incarcerated person an opportunity to respond to those reasons, and a formal ruling shall be provided to the incarcerated individual within 24 hours. This bill is identical to SB 719. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Cole

SB80 Decreasing probation period; criteria for mandatory reduction; report. Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing qualifying educational activities, maintaining verifiable employment, and complying with or completing any state-certified or state-approved mental health or substance abuse treatment program. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct and in the interests of justice and may do so without a hearing. The bill also directs the Department of Corrections to meet with relevant stakeholders and provide to the General Assembly by November 1, 2024, a report regarding certain probation practices. The provisions of the bill, other than the requirement that the Department submit a report to the General Assembly, are subject to reenactment by the 2025 Session of the General Assembly. This bill is identical to HB 457. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Favola

SB449 Juvenile parole; juvenile correctional **centers.** Provides that any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment or who has a cumulative term of active sentences that total more than 20 years, regardless of whether such sentences were imposed during a single sentencing hearing or multiple sentencing hearings, for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was a juvenile and who has served at least 20 consecutive years of incarceration, including any period of commitment in a juvenile correctional center, shall be eligible for parole. Under current law, any period of commitment in a juvenile correctional center for any sentences for such juvenile offender is not considered as a portion of the minimum of 20 years of incarceration served in order for such offender to be eligible for parole. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Marsden

**SB456** Office of the Department of Corrections **Ombudsman; created.** Creates, within the Office of the State Inspector General, the Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman (the Office) headed by an Ombudsman who is selected by a Corrections Oversight Committee (the Committee), also created by the bill. The bill provides that the Committee is made up of eight members of the General Assembly and 11 nonlegislative citizen members who monitor the activities of the Ombudsman and the Department of Corrections (the Department). The bill provides the Office with authority to conduct inspections at least once every three years and more often when warranted of Department or Board of Local and Regional Jails facilities and requires the Office to establish a confidential telephone hotline and paper and electronic forms for the submission of concerns, complaints, and inquiries by inmates, their family members and friends, and advocates. In addition, the bill requires the Committee to hold at least one public hearing per year and requires the Office to submit an annual report to the Governor, the Attorney General, the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, the House Committee on Public Safety, the Committee, and the Director of the Department.

Patron - Marsden

SB719 Restorative housing and isolated confinement; restrictions on use. Prohibits the use of isolated confinement, defined in the bill, in state correctional facilities, subject to certain exceptions. The bill requires that before placing an incarcerated person in restorative housing or isolated confinement for his own protection, the facility administrator shall place an incarcerated person in a less-restrictive setting, including by transferring such person to another institution or to a special-purpose housing unit for incarcerated persons who face similar threats. The bill requires that if an incarcerated person is placed in restorative housing or isolated confinement, such placement shall be reviewed every 48 hours and the facility administrator shall ensure that the incarcerated person receives a medical and mental health evaluation from certified medical and mental health professionals within one working day of placement in restorative housing or any form of isolated confinement. The bill also requires the facility administrator to notify the regional administrator in writing that an incarcerated person was placed in restorative housing or isolated confinement within 24 hours of such placement. Finally, the bill requires that formal reviews of an incarcerated person's placement in any form of isolated confinement shall be held in such person's presence, inform him of any reason or reasons administrative officials believe isolated confinement remains necessary, and give the incarcerated person an opportunity to respond to those reasons, and a formal ruling shall be provided to the incarcerated individual within 24 hours. This bill is identical to HB 1244. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Bagby

#### **Failed**

F HB308 Conditional release of geriatric prisoners. Expands the list of offenses that prohibit a person from petitioning the Parole Board for conditional release as a geriatric prisoner.

Patron - Ballard

F HB451 Enhanced earned sentence credits; exemptions; felony drug offenses. Removes any person convicted of a second or subsequent felony drug offense from being eligible to earn enhanced earned sentence credits.

Patron - Obenshain

F HB554 Investigation prior to release; input from the attorney for the Commonwealth. Provides that when the Parole Board is conducting the required investigation to determine if a prisoner will be released on parole, the Board must notify the attorney for the Commonwealth in each jurisdiction in which an offense occurred for which the prisoner is incarcerated, and the attorney for the Commonwealth may submit his input to the Board regarding the impact that the release of the prisoner will have on public safety.

Patron - Obenshain

HB726 Use of canines in correctional and juvenile correctional facilities; prohibited acts. Provides that it is unlawful for any correctional officer or other employee of a state correctional facility or juvenile correctional facility who is permitted to handle canines to use a canine to (i) extract a prisoner from his cell or (ii) intervene in an altercation, fight, or other incident between three or fewer prisoners. The bill provides that the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice shall make public any policies and regulations relating to (a) the use of canines, (b) training requirements for both canines and the handlers of such canines, and (c) the supervision of the officers or employees who are permitted to handle such canines. The bill requires the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice to track all canine uses of force and all incidents in which canines were present or requested for assistance but no canine use of force occurred and to make such information available on the Departments' websites.

Patron - Webert

HB1061 Prisoners; Department of Corrections-issued and jailer-issued identification. Provides that the Department of Corrections may establish a procedure for securing a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card through the Department of Motor Vehicles and that the Department of Motor Vehicles shall expedite the processing of an application submitted by a prisoner for such government-issued identification card and the issuance of such identification. The bill also requires the Department of Corrections, in coordination with the State Board of Local and Regional Jails, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the State Registrar of Vital Records, to (i) review the processes involved in assisting a prisoner in applying for and obtaining a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card; (ii) identify any obstacles that may interfere with a prisoner obtaining such identification or documents prior to such prisoner's release or discharge; and (iii) issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024.

Patron - Walker

F HB1179 Enhanced earned sentence credits; exemptions; firearm-related offense; felony conviction while a prisoner. Removes any person convicted of a felony offense involving a firearm from eligibility for enhanced earned sentence credits and restricts any person convicted of a felony for an offense that occurred while a prisoner in a local, state, or community correctional facility from receiving any further earned sentence credits.

Patron - Wyatt

F SB41 Local jails; compensation for cost of incarceration. Requires the Department of Corrections to compensate local jails for the actual cost, based on the rate calculated in the Compensation Board's annual Jail Cost Report, of incarcerating felons who should otherwise be confined in a state correctional facility. Current law provides for local jails to be compensated at the rate set forth in the general appropriation act.

Patron - Peake

F SB263 Investigation prior to release; input from the attorney for the Commonwealth. Provides that when the Parole Board is conducting the required investigation to determine if a prisoner will be released on parole, the Board must notify the attorney for the Commonwealth in each jurisdiction in which an offense occurred for which the prisoner is incarcerated, and the attorney for the Commonwealth may submit his input to the Board regarding the impact that the release of the prisoner will have on public safety.

Patron - Craig

F SB476 Earned sentence credits; inchoate offenses; concurrent and consecutive sentences. Provides that a person who is convicted of an inchoate offense will earn sentence credits at the same rate as someone who is convicted of the completed offense for certain enumerated offenses. The bill also specifies that the provision in current law providing that a person who has been convicted of certain enumerated offenses may earn a maximum of 4.5 sentence credits for each 30 days served on any sentence for such offenses also applies to any other sentence that is to be served concurrent with or consecutive to any such sentence. The bill also clarifies that the provisions regarding the earning of credits for concurrent and consecutive sentences apply retroactively.

Patron - Peake

# **Carried Over**

# C HB988 Behavioral health services in correctional facilities; report. Requires the Department of Corrections to report to the General Assembly and the Governor on or before October 1 of each year certain population statistics regarding the provision of behavioral health services to persons incarcerated in state correctional facilities. The bill also requires local correctional facilities to report to the State Board of Local and Regional Jails on or before October 1 of each year certain population statistics regarding the provision of behavioral health services to persons incarcerated in local correctional facilities and for the Board to report such statistics to the General Assembly and the Governor on or before December 1 of each year.

Patron - Seibold

C HB1121 Department of Corrections; online educational courses. Requires the Director of the Department of Corrections to establish, develop, and implement an educational program with the Online Virginia Network Authority for the purposes of providing a means for prisoners to earn degrees and postsecondary education credentials through accessing online degree and credential programs that are offered by George Mason University, Old Dominion University, James Madison University, and comprehensive community colleges.

Patron - Carr

C HB1405 Prisoners; Department of Corrections-issued and jailer-issued identification. Provides that the Department of Corrections shall establish a procedure for securing a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card through the Department of Motor Vehicles and that the Department of Motor Vehicles shall expedite the processing of an application submitted by a prisoner for such government-issued identification card and the issuance of such identification. The bill also requires the Department of Corrections, in coordination with the State Board of Local and Regional Jails, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the State Registrar of Vital Records, to (i) review the processes involved in assisting a prisoner in applying for and obtaining a government-issued identification card, birth certificate, or Social Security card; (ii) identify any obstacles that may interfere with a prisoner obtaining such identification or documents prior to such prisoner's release or discharge; and (iii) issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024.

Patron - Cousins

C SB378 State correctional facilities; telephone calls and communication services. Requires the Department of Corrections to provide telephone systems and web-based or electronic communications systems free of charge to any person, whether such person is initiating or receiving the communication. The bill also requires that a minimum ratio of one telephone per every 10 inmates be available within each housing unit at each correctional facility and that the maximum number of telephone numbers permitted on an approved call list must be no fewer than 20.

#### Patron - Boysko

# **Professions and Occupations**

#### **Passed**

HB42 Civil immunity; dentists and dental hygienists; mental health treatment for health care professionals; reporting requirements. Adds dentists and dental hygienists to the list of providers who are immune from civil liability for any act done or made in performance of his duties while serving as a member of or consultant to an entity that functions primarily to review, evaluate, or make recommendations on a professional program to address issues related to career fatigue and wellness in health care professionals. The bill also extends civil immunity to certain providers for any act done or made in performance of his duties while serving as a member of or consultant to an entity that functions primarily to arrange for or provide outpatient health care for health care professionals. The bill also revises the Board of Medicine reporting requirements when a health care professional is admitted for mental health treatment. Under the bill, if a health care professional is voluntarily admitted to a health care institution for treatment of a substance abuse or psychiatric illness and is no longer believed to be a danger within 30 days then no report will be made to the Board of Medicine. This bill is identical to SB 629.

Patron - Hope

P HB120 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Department of Health Professions; certain suspensions not considered disciplinary action. Prohibits any board of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or the Department of Health Professions issuing a suspension upon any regulant of such board pursuant to such regulant's having submitted a check, money draft, or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation that is not honored by the bank or financial institution named from considering or describing such suspension as a disciplinary action.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB188 Advance Health Care Planning Registry; amendment of regulations. Amends the list of documents that may be submitted to the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to include any other document that supports advance health care planning. The bill also changes the name of the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to the Advance Health Care Planning Registry. The bill directs the Department of Health to amend certain Advance Health Care Planning Registry regulations. This bill is identical to SB 154. Patron - Hope

P HB214 Common interest communities; residents providing certain services exemption. Provides that a resident of a common interest community association who provides bookkeeping, billing, or recordkeeping services for such community for compensation shall be presumed to be an independent contractor. The bill also exempts common interest community associations from the definition of "employer" where a resident provides such services. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Watts

P HB225 Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. The Compact increases public access to dental services by permitting eligible licensed dentists and dental hygienists to practice in Compact participating

states, provided that they are licensed in at least one participating state. The Compact has been passed in three states and takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh participating state or upon the effective date of the bill, whichever is later. This bill is identical to SB 22.

Patron - Sickles

P HB257 Prescription of opioids; sickle cell anemia. Exempts prescribers from certain requirements of the Prescription Monitoring Program related to prescribing opioids if the opioid is prescribed to a patient for pain management related to sickle cell anemia.

Patron - Mundon King

P HB287 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; practice of geology; definitions. Expands the definition of the practice of geology to include the performance of any professional service or work wherein the principles and methods of geology are applied, including (i) investigating, evaluating, and consulting; (ii) geological mapping; (iii) describing the natural processes that act upon the earth's materials; (iv) predicting the probable occurrence of natural processes; and (v) inspecting, planning, and performing and supervising geological work in order to enhance and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and the environment. The bill also defines "geological mapping." The bill contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to SB 184.

Patron - Wiley

P HB322 Cosmetology Compact. Establishes the Cosmetology Compact upon the enactment of substantially similar legislation in the seventh member state, defined in the bill. The bill creates a multistate license in furtherance of the objectives of providing opportunities for the uninterrupted practice of cosmetology between member states and supporting the relocation of military members and their spouses by enabling such continuation of practice. The bill requires the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Glass

P HB324 PA Licensure Compact. Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the PA Licensure Compact. The Compact permits eligible physician assistants to practice in Compact-participating states, provided that they are licensed in at least one participating state. The Compact has been passed in three states and takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh participating state or upon the effective date of the bill, whichever is later.

Patron - Glass

P HB326 Social Work Licensure Compact.

Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Social Work Licensure Compact. The Compact allows social workers who have or are eligible for an active, unencumbered license in the compact member state where they reside to apply for a multistate license. After verifying eligibility, the social worker is granted a multistate license that authorizes practice in all other compact member states. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh member state. This bill is identical to SB 239.

Patron - Glass

P HB329 Board of Counseling; licensure by endorsement for marriage and family therapists. Directs the Board of Counseling to amend its regulations related to the process for licensure by endorsement for marriage and family therapists. The bill removes requirements that applicants for

licensure by endorsement provide evidence that they meet certain educational and experience requirements.

Patron - Sickles

HB349 Advanced registered medication aides; certified nursing facilities; work group; report. Requires advanced registered medication aides who administer drugs that would otherwise be self-administered to residents in a certified nursing facility licensed by the Department of Health to register with the Board of Nursing. Under the bill, an advanced registered medication aide who is registered to administer drugs to residents in a certified nursing facility shall also be eligible to administer drugs that would otherwise be self-administered to residents in an assisted living facility. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. The bill also requires the Board of Nursing to convene a work group to develop recommendations to enable such medication aides to administer drugs to residents in a certified nursing facility and to report such recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Health and Human Services by November 1, 2024. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Health to promulgate regulations to authorize such medication aides to administer prescription drugs to residents in certified nursing facilities. The bill directs the Board of Nursing to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill to be effective as of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Henson

P HB350 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects; quorum and signature requirements. Lowers the quorum requirement for the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects of two engineers, two architects, and two land surveyors to at least one engineer, one architect, and one land surveyor. The bill removes the requirement that licenses issued by the Board be signed by at least four members of the Board. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Owen

P HB383 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; real estate board; continuing education requirements for real estate brokers and salespersons. Increases from eight to 11 the number of hours of continuing education an applicant for relicensure as a real estate broker or salesperson shall complete in the topics of ethics and standards of conduct, fair housing, legal updates and emerging trends, real estate agency, and real estate contracts. The bill also decreases from eight to five the number of hours of general elective courses such applicants shall complete. The bill directs the Real Estate Board to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill against current licensees beginning in such licensee's next full renewal cycle following the effective date of such regulations. This bill is identical to SB 330. Patron - Reaser

P HB426 Board of Counseling; licensure of professional counselors without examination. Directs the Board of Counseling to recognize the National Counselor Examination as a valid examination for licensure as a professional counselor in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Patron - Cole

P HB436 Revocation of advance directive; divorce or annulment; custody or visitation. Provides that the authority of an agent to make health care decisions pursuant to an advance directive shall be revoked upon the filing of

either (i) an action for the divorce or annulment of the marriage between the declarant of such advance directive and the agent or (ii) a petition for custody or visitation of a child or children born of such declarant and such agent. The provisions of the bill apply to advance directives executed on or after July 1, 2024.

Patron - Arnold

P HB455 Possession of an item containing residue of a controlled substance; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for the offense of possession of an item containing residue of a controlled substance. The bill provides that upon motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth, a charge for possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II of the Drug Control Act may be reduced to unlawful possession of an item containing residue of a controlled substance. Currently, possession of any amount of such controlled substance is a Class 5 felony. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Callsen

P HB511 Out-of-state health care practitioners; temporary authorization to practice; assisted living facilities. Adds assisted living facilities to the list of eligible health care employers for which a health care practitioner licensed, certified, or registered in another state or the District of Columbia may temporarily practice for one 90-day period, provided that the practitioner is contracted by or has received an offer of employment in the Commonwealth from the health care employer and certain other conditions are met.

Patron - Cohen

P HB516 Prescription drugs; labels; blind and disabled users. Requires pharmacies to notify each person who identifies themselves or a patient as blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled to whom a prescription drug is dispensed that an accessible prescription label or alternate accommodation is available to the person upon request at no additional cost. The bill requires the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations implementing the provisions of the bill no later than December 31, 2024.

Patron - Hope

Patron - Mundon King

PHB519 Board of Medicine; unprofessional conduct. Prohibits the Board of Medicine from taking disciplinary action against a doctor based on the alleged provision or receipt of abortion care that is not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth, regardless of where such abortion care was provided or received. The bill also specifies that grounds for refusal to issue a certificate or license to any applicant or to take disciplinary action for procuring or performing an abortion apply to such action only as it is prohibited by the laws of the Commonwealth. Under current law, such grounds for refusal or disciplinary action apply for procuring or performing a criminal abortion. This bill is identical to SB 716. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

P HB576 Board for Contractors; required regulations and disclosures. Requires the Board for Contractors to adopt regulations requiring all Class A, B, and C residential contractors, excluding subcontractors to the contracting parties and those who engage in routine maintenance or service contracts, to use legible written contracts that include certain terms and conditions. The bill directs the Board to require a statement of protections be provided by the contractor to the homeowner, consumer, or buyer in transactions involving door-to-door solicitations or any residential rooftop solar installation. The bill requires the Department of Professional and Occupa-

tional Regulation to review by July 1, 2025, its licensing exam for alternative energy system contracting to ensure such exam includes questions related to the physical installation of alternative energy systems on preexisting structures. The bill also requires the Board for Contractors to create a disclosure form to be provided in any transaction involving a residential rooftop solar installation to include specific disclosures regarding the risks associated with residential rooftop solar installation. Finally, the bill requires the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to develop recommendations for any additional consumer protections regarding the sale, lease, or installation of a solar energy facility with a generating capacity of 25 kilowatts or less and report the work group's recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by November 30, 2024. The bill is identical to SB 313 and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Glass

P HB585 Home-based firearms dealers; prohibited near schools; penalties. Provides that no home-based firearms dealer, as defined in the bill, shall be engaged in the business of selling, trading, or transferring firearms at wholesale or retail within 1.5 miles of any elementary or middle school, including buildings and grounds. The bill provides that any person who willfully violates such prohibition is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor for a first offense and guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Mundon King

P HB605 Dental hygienists; remote supervision. Extends from 90 days to 180 days the period during which a dental hygienist practicing under remote supervision may continue to treat a patient, after which period the supervising dentist shall conduct an examination or refer the patient to another dentist to conduct an examination. Under current law, a dental hygienist practicing under remote supervision may continue to treat a patient for 90 days.

Patron - Price

P HB652 Funeral arrangements; disputes between next of kin; proof of next of kin status. Establishes a dispute resolution process for disagreements about what persons are responsible for a decedent's funeral and the disposition for such decedent's remains. The bill permits funeral service licensees to require a person claiming next of kin status to execute a document affirming that such person is the next of kin. Patron - Coyner

HB699 Board of Medicine; Board of Dentistry; Board of Optometry; Boards of Medicine and Nursing; patient counseling; treatment with opioids. Directs the Board of Medicine, the Board of Dentistry, the Board of Optometry, and the Boards of Medicine and Nursing to amend their regulations to require the provision of certain information to patients being prescribed an opioid for the treatment of acute or chronic pain. The bill requires that the regulations include an exception to the required provision of such information for patients who are (i) in active treatment for cancer, (ii) receiving hospice care from a licensed hospice or palliative care, (iii) residents of a long-term care facility, (iv) being prescribed an opioid in the course of treatment for substance abuse or opioid dependence, or (v) receiving treatment for sickle cell disease. The bill directs the Boards to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB848 Veterinary medicine; traineeships. Allows any veterinary medicine licensure applicant enrolled in

a traineeship program to engage in the limited practice of veterinary medicine, as that term is defined by the Board of Veterinary Medicine, under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Davis

P HB917 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; definition of a real estate broker. Adds to the definition of "real estate broker" any individual or business entity who sells or offers to sell, buys or offers to buy, negotiates, or otherwise deals in real estate contracts, including assignable contracts, on two or more occasions in any 12-month period for compensation or valuable consideration. The bill contains technical amendments and is identical to SB 358. Patron - Shin

P HB964 Board of Medicine; executive director; qualifications. Allows attorneys to serve as the executive director for the Board of Medicine. Under current law, the executive director for the Board of Medicine must be a physician.

Patron - Willett

P HB971 Nurse practitioners; autonomous practice. Lowers from five years to three years the amount of fultime clinical experience required before an advanced practice registered nurse may practice without a practice agreement and permits qualified nurse practitioners to attest that a nurse practitioner may be qualified to practice without a practice agreement. The bill permits advanced practice registered nurses to practice without a practice agreement when a patient care team physician is no longer able to serve if such advanced practice registered nurse provides evidence that he meets the requirements to practice without a practice agreement as established by the bill. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Health Professions to collect data on the implementation of the bill and make such data publicly available on its website. Patron - Tran

P HB995 Board of Medicine; temporary licensure of physicians licensed in a foreign country. Permits the Board of Medicine to issue a provisional license to a physician licensed in a foreign country for no more than two years, then a subsequent renewable two-year license if the physician practices in a medically underserved area. After two years of practice under the renewable license in a medically underserved area, a physician licensed in a foreign country is eligible to apply for a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine. The bill specifies that eligibility for such licenses is conditional upon an applicant demonstrating certain educational and experiential qualifications to the Board and obtaining employment with a medical care facility that provides an assessment and evaluation program for physicians licensed in a foreign country.

Patron - Tran

P HB1005 Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors; dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs. Removes the responsibility of the Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors to promulgate regulations concerning dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs. This bill is identical to SB 560. Patron - Owen

P HB1035 Places of public accommodation; possession and administration of epinephrine. Permits every place of public accommodation, defined in relevant law as all places or businesses offering or holding out to the general pub-

lic goods, services, privileges, facilities, advantages, or accommodations, to make epinephrine available for administration and permits any employee of such place of public accommodation who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of epinephrine to possess and administer epinephrine to a person present in such place of public accommodation believed in good faith to be having an anaphylactic reaction. Current law limits such permission to every public place, defined in relevant law as any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, and any employee of such public place. *Patron - Bennett-Parker* 

P HB1067 Pharmacy technicians; expansion of allowable duties. Allows pharmacy technicians to clarify quantity or refills for a prescription issued for a Schedule VI drug. Current law only allows pharmacy technicians to accept refill authorizations. The bill also allows pharmacy technicians to accept electronic transfer of a refill for a Schedule VI drug upon order of the pharmacist-in-charge or pharmacist on duty if the refill is not an on-hold prescription. The bill defines "on-hold prescription" as a valid prescription that is received and maintained at the pharmacy for initial dispensing on a future date.

Patron - Hodges

P HB1068 Board of Pharmacy; regulations related to pharmacy outsourcing and pharmacy technician remote database access. Directs the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations related to pharmacy outsourcing and pharmacy technician remote database access. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Hodges

P HB1130 Board of Medicine; continuing education; unconscious bias and cultural competency. Directs the Board of Medicine to require unconscious bias and cultural competency training as part of the continuing education requirements for renewal of licensure. The bill specifies requirements for the training and requires the Board of Medicine to report on the training to the Department of Health and the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative. This bill is identical to SB 35. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1182 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists; professional wetland delineator certification requirements. Replaces the requirement that an applicant with a bachelor's degree in a relevant field have four years of relevant experience to be certified as a professional wetland delineator with three years of such experience. For applicants seeking certification through experience, the bill reduces to three years the required experience that the applicant must have in wetland science research or as a teacher of wetlands curriculum in an accredited institution of higher education in order to be certified.

Patron - Ennis

P HB1187 Xylazine; manufacturing; selling; giving; distributing; possessing; veterinary use exemption; penalties. Provides that any person who knowingly manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with the intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute the substance xylazine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 5 felony. Under the bill, any person who knowingly possesses xylazine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under the bill, it is not an offense to (i) manufacture xylazine for legitimate veterinary use; (ii) distrib-

ute or sell xylazine for authorized veterinary use; (iii) possess, administer, prescribe, or dispense xylazine in good faith for use by animals within the course of legitimate veterinary practice; or (iv) possess or administer xylazine pursuant to a valid prescription from a licensed veterinarian. This bill is identical to SB 614.

Patron - Hodges

P HB1190 Board for Contractors; offering or approving exams; language counterparts. Provides that any exam offered by the Board for Contractors that averaged over 50 administrations per year over the preceding four-year period shall be made available in any language that meets the threshold for having election materials printed in that language pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Thomas

P HB1237 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; real estate brokers; places of business. Defines "place of business" for real estate brokers. The bill requires every principal broker to have readily available to the public in his primary place of business the firm license, principal broker license, and the license of every salesperson and broker active with the firm and requires each branch office, defined in the bill, to have readily available to the public the branch office license and a roster of every salesperson or broker assigned to that branch office. Finally, the bill requires any nonresident real estate broker residing in a state that mandates resident real estate brokers of the Commonwealth to maintain a place of business in such mandating state to maintain a place of business in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 437.

Patron - Willett

P HB1278 Auricular acupuncture; use of the five needle protocol. Allows any person to engage in the five needle auricular acupuncture protocol (5NP), a standardized protocol wherein up to five needles are inserted into the external human ear to provide relief from the effects of behavioral health conditions, provided that such person (i) has appropriate training in the 5NP, including training established by the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association or equivalent certifying body; (ii) does not use any letters, words, or insignia indicating or implying that he is an acupuncturist; and (iii) makes no statement implying that his practice of the 5NP is licensed, certified, or otherwise overseen by the Commonwealth. Treatment utilizing the 5NP pursuant to this bill is strictly limited to the insertion of disposable, sterile acupuncture needles into the ear and only in compliance with the 5NP. Patron - Zehr

P HB1333 Drug Control Act; Schedule I; Schedule II; Schedule IV; Schedule V. Adds certain chemicals to Schedules I, II, IV, and V of the Drug Control Act. The Board of Pharmacy has added these substances in an expedited regulatory process. A substance added via this process is removed from the schedule after 18 months unless a general law is enacted adding the substance to the schedule. This bill incorporates HB 1450 and is identical to SB 111.

Patron - Wachsmann

P HB1336 Crisis stabilization services; facilities licensed by Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; nursing homes; dispensing and administration of drugs; emergency. Permits facilities licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services that provide crisis stabilization services to maintain a stock of Schedules II through VI controlled substances necessary for immediate treatment of patients admitted to such facility.

Under current law, maintenance of a stock of Schedule VI controlled substances is allowed under certain conditions, but a stock of Schedules II through V controlled substances may be maintained only if authorized by federal law and Board of Pharmacy regulations. The bill also allows automated drug dispensing systems and remote dispensing systems to be used by state facilities established pursuant to Title 37.2 (Behavioral Health and Developmental Services), facilities that provide crisis stabilization services, nursing homes, and other facilities authorized by the Board of Pharmacy that meet certain conditions. The bill contains an emergency clause, directs the Board of Pharmacy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill, incorporates HB 1038, and is identical to SB 568.

Patron - Sickles

P HB1337 Board of Accountancy; powers and duties. Repeals the requirement for an annual audit of the Board of Accountancy and amends several Code provisions relating to the Board. The bill changes the Secretariat of the Board from the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to the Secretary of Finance. The bill authorizes the Board to initiate complaints against (i) individuals or firms claiming to hold a Virginia license, as defined in the bill, and (ii) unlicensed individuals or firms using the certified public accountant title in Virginia, as defined in the bill. The bill also grants the Executive Director of the Board the power to request and receive reports from the Central Criminal Records Exchange in conjunction with the Executive Director's investigative and enforcement powers. Finally, the bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 463.

Patron - Runion

P HB1389 Practice of athletic training; definition. Amends the definition of "practice of athletic training" to allow the practice of athletic training to be conducted in an inpatient or outpatient setting.

Patron - Maldonado

P **SB22** Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. The Compact increases public access to dental services by permitting eligible licensed dentists and dental hygienists to practice in Compact participating states, provided that they are licensed in at least one participating state. The Compact has been passed in three states and takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh participating state or upon the effective date of the bill, whichever is later. This bill is identical to HB 225.

Patron - Locke

P SB35 Board of Medicine; continuing education; unconscious bias and cultural competency. Directs the Board of Medicine to require unconscious bias and cultural competency training as part of the continuing education requirements for renewal of licensure. The bill specifies requirements for the training and requires the Board of Medicine to report on the training to the Department of Health and the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative. This bill is identical to HB 1130. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Locke

P SB74 Prescription Monitoring Program; release of records to drug court administrators and behavioral health docket administrators. Requires the Director of the Department of Health Professions to release otherwise confidential information from the Prescription Monitoring Program when such information is relevant to a specific

investigation, supervision, or monitoring of a specific recipient for purposes of the administration of criminal justice to drug court administrators and behavioral health docket administrators who have completed the Virginia State Police Drug Diversion School designated by the Director of the Department of Corrections or his designee. The bill requires release of the information upon receiving a request for information in accordance with the Department of Health Profession's regulations and in compliance with applicable federal law and regulations. *Patron - Durant* 

P **SB111** Drug Control Act; Schedule I; Schedule II; Schedule IV; Schedule V. Adds certain chemicals to Schedules I, II, IV, and V of the Drug Control Act. The Board of Pharmacy has added these substances in an expedited regulatory process. A substance added via this process is removed from the schedule after 18 months unless a general law is enacted adding the substance to the schedule. This bill is identical to HB 1333.

Patron - Peake

P SB119 Drug manufacturers; permitting and registration; certain conditions related to 340B-covered drugs. Requires a drug manufacturer, as a condition of obtaining a permit or as a condition of registration or renewal of registration, to certify that it does not limit the number of contract pharmacies or covered entities, as defined in relevant law, to which it ships 340B-covered drugs and that it does not impose requirements, exclusions, reimbursement terms, or other conditions on a contract pharmacy or covered entity that differ from those applied to pharmacies or entities that are not contract pharmacies or covered entities on the basis that the pharmacy or entity is a contract pharmacy or covered entity or that the pharmacy or entity dispenses 340B-covered drugs. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lucas

P SB133 Physician assistants; practice agreement exemption. Allows physician assistants employed by a hospital or employed in certain facilities operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or in federally qualified health centers designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to practice without a separate practice agreement if the credentialing and privileging requirements of the applicable facility include a practice arrangement, as described in the bill.

Patron - Head

P SB154 Advance Health Care Planning Registry; amendment of regulations. Amends the list of documents that may be submitted to the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to include any other document that supports advance health care planning. The bill also changes the name of the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to the Advance Health Care Planning Registry. The bill directs the Department of Health to amend certain Advance Health Care Planning Registry regulations. This bill is identical to HB 188. Patron - Head

P SB184 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; practice of geology; definitions. Expands the definition of the practice of geology to include the performance of any professional service or work wherein the principles and methods of geology are applied, including (i) investigating, evaluating, and consulting; (ii) geological mapping; (iii) describing the natural processes that act upon the earth's materials; (iv) predicting the probable occurrence of natural processes; and (v) inspecting, planning, and performing and supervising geological work in order to enhance and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and the envi-

ronment. The bill also defines "geological mapping." The bill contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to HB 287

Patron - Rouse

P SB239 Social Work Licensure Compact.

Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Social Work Licensure Compact. The Compact allows social workers who have or are eligible for an active, unencumbered license in the compact member state where they reside to apply for a multistate license. After verifying eligibility, the social worker is granted a multistate license that authorizes practice in all other compact member states. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh member state. This bill is identical to HB 326

Patron - Hashmi

SB313 Board for Contractors; required regulations and disclosures. Board for Contractors; required regulations and disclosures. Requires the Board for Contractors to adopt regulations requiring all Class A, B, and C residential contractors, excluding subcontractors to the contracting parties and those who engage in routine maintenance or service contracts, to use legible written contracts that include certain terms and conditions. The bill directs the Board to require a statement of protections be provided by the contractor to the homeowner, consumer, or buyer in transactions involving door-todoor solicitations or any residential rooftop solar installation. The bill requires the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to review by July 1, 2025, its licensing exam for alternative energy system contracting to ensure such exam includes questions related to the physical installation of alternative energy systems on preexisting structures. The bill also requires the Board for Contractors to create a disclosure form to be provided in any transaction involving a residential rooftop solar installation to include specific disclosures regarding the risks associated with residential rooftop solar installation. Finally, the bill requires the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to develop recommendations for any additional consumer protections regarding the sale, lease, or installation of a solar energy facility with a generating capacity of 25 kilowatts or less and report the work group's recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by November 30, 2024. The bill is identical to HB 576 and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB330 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; real estate board; continuing education requirements for real estate brokers and salespersons. Increases from eight to 11 the number of hours of continuing education an applicant for relicensure as a real estate broker or salesperson shall complete in the topics of ethics and standards of conduct, fair housing, legal updates and emerging trends, real estate agency, and real estate contracts. The bill also decreases from eight to five the number of hours of general elective courses such applicants shall complete. The bill directs the Real Estate Board to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill against current licensees beginning in such licensee's next full renewal cycle following the effective date of such regulations. This bill is identical to HB 383. Patron - Jordan

P SB358 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; definition of a real estate broker. Adds to the definition of "real estate broker" any individual or business entity who sells or offers to sell, buys or offers to buy, negotiates, or otherwise deals in real estate contracts, including assignable contracts, on two or more occasions in any 12-

month period for compensation or valuable consideration. The bill contains technical amendments and is identical to HB 917. *Patron - VanValkenburg* 

P SB403 Behavioral health technicians; behavioral health technician assistants; qualified mental health professionals; qualified mental health professional-trainees; scope of practice, supervision, and qualifications. Adds behavioral health technicians and behavioral health technician assistants to the professions governed by the Board of Counseling. The bill also establishes qualification, scope of practice, and supervision requirements for qualified mental health professionals and qualified mental health professional-trainees. The bill directs the Board of Counseling to adopt regulations governing the behavioral health technician, behavioral health technician assistant, qualified mental health professional, and qualified mental health professional-trainee professions by November 1, 2024, and for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Department of Medical Assistance Services to promulgate regulations that align with the regulations adopted by the Board of Counseling in accordance with the bill.

Patron - Durant

P SB437 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; real estate brokers; places of business. Defines "place of business" for real estate brokers. The bill requires every principal broker to have readily available to the public in his primary place of business the firm license, principal broker license, and the license of every salesperson and broker active with the firm and requires each branch office, defined in the bill, to have readily available to the public the branch office license and a roster of every salesperson or broker assigned to that branch office. Finally, the bill requires any nonresident real estate broker residing in a state that mandates resident real estate brokers of the Commonwealth to maintain a place of business in such mandating state to maintain a place of business in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 1237.

Patron - Suetterlein

SB463 Board of Accountancy; powers and duties. Repeals the requirement for an annual audit of the Board of Accountancy and amends several Code provisions relating to the Board. The bill changes the Secretariat of the Board from the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to the Secretary of Finance. The bill authorizes the Board to initiate complaints against (i) individuals or firms claiming to hold a Virginia license, as defined in the bill, and (ii) unlicensed individuals or firms using the certified public accountant title in Virginia, as defined in the bill. The bill also grants the Executive Director of the Board the power to request and receive reports from the Central Criminal Records Exchange in conjunction with the Executive Director's investigative and enforcement powers. Finally, the bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 1337.

Patron - Hackworth

P SB513 Funeral services; transportation protection agreements. Defines "transportation protection agreement" as an agreement that provides for the coordination and arranging of all professional services related to transportation of human remains or cremated remains beyond the distance stated in the preneed funeral contract. The bill clarifies that transportation protection agreements are not considered preneed funeral contracts.

Patron - Williams Graves

P SB521 Preneed funeral contracts; declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee. Defines "declinable preneed funeral guarantee fee" as an optional and declinable fee agreed to by a preneed funeral contract purchaser, if offered by a seller, for which the cost of the supplies and services as described in the preneed funeral contract are guaranteed. The bill describes certain requirements that must be met for funeral service licensees to offer declinable preneed funeral guarantee fees. The bill directs the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Williams Graves

P SB553 Board of Nursing; certain nursing education programs; out-of-state clinical sites. Directs the Board of Nursing to amend its regulations to permit nursing education programs in the Commonwealth located within 60 miles of a bordering state or the District of Columbia to contract for an unlimited number of required clinical hours at out-of-state clinical sites. The bill requires the regulations to specify that the Board must accept such hours for licensure.

Patron - Hackworth

P SB554 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; reciprocal licensing for certain professionals from neighboring states. Requires the Real Estate Appraiser Board, the Real Estate Board, the Board for Waste Management Facility Operators, and the Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and Onsite Sewage System Professionals, upon application, to recognize current and valid licenses or certificates issued by a neighboring state, defined in the bill, as fulfillment of qualifications for licensure in the Commonwealth if there are no pending investigations or complaints, no disqualifying criminal records, and no discipline imposed by another state.

Patron - Jordan

P **SB560** Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors; dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs. Removes the responsibility of the Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors to promulgate regulations concerning dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs. This bill is identical to HB 1005.

Patron - Hackworth

**SB568** Crisis stabilization services: facilities licensed by Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; nursing homes; dispensing and administration of drugs; emergency. Permits facilities licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services that provide crisis stabilization services to maintain a stock of Schedules II through VI controlled substances necessary for immediate treatment of patients admitted to such facility. Under current law, maintenance of a stock of Schedule VI controlled substances is allowed under certain conditions, but a stock of Schedules II through V controlled substances may be maintained only if authorized by federal law and Board of Pharmacy regulations. The bill also allows automated drug dispensing systems and remote dispensing systems to be used by state facilities established pursuant to Title 37.2 (Behavioral Health and Developmental Services), facilities that provide crisis stabilization services, nursing homes, and other facilities authorized by the Board of Pharmacy that meet certain conditions. The bill contains an emergency clause, directs the Board of Pharmacy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill, and is identical to HB 1336.

Patron - Deeds

P SB607 Board of Pharmacy; regulations related to pharmacy outsourcing and pharmacy technician remote database access. Directs the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations related to pharmacy outsourcing and pharmacy technician remote database access. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - McDougle

P **SB614** Xylazine; manufacturing; selling; giving; distributing; possessing; veterinary use exemption; penalties. Provides that any person who knowingly manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with the intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute the substance xylazine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 5 felony. Under the bill, any person who knowingly possesses xylazine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under the bill, it is not an offense to (i) manufacture xylazine for legitimate veterinary use; (ii) distribute or sell xylazine for authorized veterinary use; (iii) possess, administer, prescribe, or dispense xylazine in good faith for use by animals within the course of legitimate veterinary practice; or (iv) possess or administer xylazine pursuant to a valid prescription from a licensed veterinarian. This bill is identical to HB 1187.

Patron - Pillion

P SB629 Civil immunity; dentists and dental hygienists; mental health treatment for health care professionals; reporting requirements. Adds dentists and dental hygienists to the list of providers who are immune from civil liability for any act done or made in performance of his duties while serving as a member of or consultant to an entity that functions primarily to review, evaluate, or make recommendations on a professional program to address issues related to career fatigue and wellness in health care professionals. The bill also extends civil immunity to certain providers for any act done or made in performance of his duties while serving as a member of or consultant to an entity that functions primarily to arrange for or provide outpatient health care for health care professionals. The bill also revises the Board of Medicine reporting requirements when a health care professional is admitted for mental health treatment. Under the bill, if a health care professional is voluntarily admitted to a health care institution for treatment of a substance abuse or psychiatric illness and is no longer believed to be a danger within 30 days then no report will be made to the Board of Medicine. This bill is identical to HB 42.

Patron - Pillion

P SB663 Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; veterinary satellite offices. Requires the Board of Veterinary Medicine to regulate, inspect, and register all satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Hackworth

P SB716 Board of Medicine; unprofessional conduct. Prohibits the Board of Medicine from taking disciplinary action against a doctor based on the alleged provision or receipt of abortion care that is not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth, regardless of where such abortion care was provided or received. The bill also specifies that grounds for refusal to issue a certificate or license to any applicant or to take disciplinary action for procuring or performing an abortion apply to such action only as it is prohibited by the laws of the Commonwealth. Under current law, such grounds for refusal or disciplinary action apply for procuring or performing

a criminal abortion. This bill is identical to HB 519. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Carroll Foy

#### Failed

F HB32 Board of Medicine; continuing education; implicit bias and cultural competency in health care. Requires the Board of Medicine to adopt and implement policies that require each practitioner licensed by the Board who has direct contact with persons who are or may become pregnant to complete two hours of continuing education related to implicit bias, defined in the bill, and cultural competency in health care at least once every other license renewal cycle. Patron - Clark

HB53 Actions against real estate appraisers or appraisal management companies; statute of limitations. Provides that no action for damages or other relief alleging that a certified general real estate appraiser, a certified residential real estate appraiser, a licensed residential real estate appraiser, or an appraisal management company committed malpractice or negligence or an error, mistake, omission, or breach in an appraisal or appraisal report, whether based on contract or tort, shall be brought unless it is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction and proper venue within five years from the date of the alleged malpractice, negligence, error, mistake, omission, or breach. The bill provides exceptions for actions alleging fraud and proceedings initiated by the Real Estate Appraiser Board. The bill provides that any action for damages or other relief alleging that a certified general real estate appraiser, a certified residential real estate appraiser, a licensed residential real estate appraiser, or an appraisal management company committed malpractice or negligence or an error, mistake, omission, or breach in an appraisal or appraisal report before July 1, 2024, shall be filed in a court of competent jurisdiction and proper venue within two years of the occurrence of such malpractice, negligence, error, mistake, omission, or breach, regardless of the date of discovery of such occurrence. Patron - Ware

F HB94 Nonresident pharmacies; pharmacy benefits administrators. Removes a provision permitting a registered nonresident pharmacy that provides services as a pharmacy benefits administrator from operating without designating a Virginia licensed pharmacist in charge.

Patron - Wachsmann

F HB129 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Board for Barbers and Cosmetology; hair styling license. Adds hair styling as a profession that is regulated by the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology. The bill defines "hair styling" as arranging, dressing, curling, waving, cutting, shaping, singeing, shaving, bleaching, coloring, relaxing, or straightening, or performing similar work upon, human hair, or a wig or hairpiece, by any means, including hands or mechanical or electrical apparatus or appliances.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F HB217 Physicians; informed consent; disclosure of certain information prior to hysterectomy or oophorectomy. Requires physicians to obtain informed consent from a patient prior to performing a hysterectomy or oophorectomy. Prior to obtaining informed consent, physicians must inform the patient of the patient's freedom to withhold or withdraw consent, refer the patient to the Hysterectomy Educational Resources and Services (HERS) Foundation, and provide the patient with anatomical diagrams relevant to the procedure. The bill allows physicians to forgo obtaining informed consent

when a hysterectomy or oophorectomy is performed in a lifethreatening emergency situation.

Patron - Orrock

F HB272 Attorney fees; judgments, compensation, or monetary awards related to veterans. Prohibits an attorney from charging, demanding, receiving, or collecting for services rendered fees in excess of 10 percent of any judgment, compensation, or monetary award granted to a veteran or the family member of a veteran, or the legal representative of such individual, related to the veteran's service in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Virginia National Guard, including any judgment, compensation, or monetary award granted pursuant to the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022. The bill provides that an attorney who violates such prohibition shall be fined not more than \$5,000 and may be subject to disciplinary action by the Virginia State Bar.

Patron - Reid

F HB371 Physicians; informed consent; procedure observation by students or trainees for teaching purposes. Requires physicians to notify patients that students or trainees may observe a procedure and requires physicians to obtain informed consent before such observation may occur. Patron - Martinez

F HB481 First responders; proof of immunization; exemption. Provides that first responders shall not be required to show proof of immunization to attend trainings at medical care facilities, regardless of whether the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with their religious tenets or practices.

Patron - Garrett

F HB606 Board of Social Work; licensure of clinical social workers; examination alternative; regulation amendments. Directs the Board of Social Work to amend the regulations for the licensure of clinical social workers to allow applicants to utilize an examination alternative, which shall consist of at least 1,500 hours of supervised experience that is obtained within the five calendar years immediately preceding the date of application. The bill clarifies that the examination alternative shall be in addition to any other supervised clinical experience required for licensure.

Patron - Price

F HB720 Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors; dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs. Removes the responsibility of the Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors to promulgate regulations concerning dust sampling technicians, renovators, and accredited renovation training programs.

Patron - Webert

F HB858 Health care; decision-making; end of life; penalties. Allows an adult diagnosed with a terminal condition to request and an attending health care provider to prescribe a self-administered controlled substance for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill requires that a patient's request for a self-administered controlled substance to end his life must be given orally on two occasions and in writing, signed by the patient and one witness, and that the patient be given an express opportunity to rescind his request at any time. The bill makes it a Class 2 felony (i) to willfully and deliberately alter, forge, conceal, or destroy a patient's request, or rescission of request, for a self-administered controlled substance to end his life with the intent and effect of causing the patient's death; (ii) to coerce, intimidate, or exert undue influence on a patient to request a self-administered controlled sub-

stance for the purpose of ending his life or to destroy the patient's rescission of such request with the intent and effect of causing the patient's death; or (iii) to coerce, intimidate, or exert undue influence on a patient to forgo a self-administered controlled substance for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill also grants immunity from civil or criminal liability and professional disciplinary action to any person who complies with the provisions of the bill and allows health care providers to refuse to participate in the provision of a self-administered controlled substance to a patient for the purpose of ending the patient's life.

Patron - Hope

F HB983 Nurse practitioners; patient care team provider; autonomous practice. Allows certain nurse practitioners to oversee patient care teams by changing "patient care team physician" to "patient care team provider." The bill defines "patient care team provider" as a patient care team physician, as defined in relevant law, or a nurse practitioner who meets certain requirements. The bill also lowers from five years to two years the amount of full-time clinical experience required before an advanced practice registered nurse may practice without a practice agreement.

Patron - Walker

HB1038 Board of Pharmacy; use of automated dispensing systems and remote dispensing systems in certain facilities. Defines "remote dispensing system" as a profile-driven automated drug dispensing system that performs operations or activities relative to the storage, packaging, labeling, or dispensing of medications employing bidirectional and audio-visual technology to facilitate pharmacist communication with a patient, an authorized agent of a patient, or a person licensed to administer drugs, and collects, controls, and maintains all transaction information. The bill allows for the use of remote dispensing systems in hospitals, state facilities licensed pursuant to Title 37.2, services licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as a site-based crisis stabilization unit, and any other facility authorized by the Board of Pharmacy in regulation wherein drugs are administered only by persons licensed to administer drugs and where the pharmacist-in-charge can ensure the security and environmental integrity of the drugs and devices. The bill extends the use of automated drug dispensing systems from use only in hospitals to use in each such facility listed above. This bill was incorporated into HB 1336.

Patron - Wachsmann

F HB1166 Central fill pharmacies. Establishes requirements for central fill pharmacies, which are defined in the bill as permitted pharmacy facilities that, upon the request of an originating pharmacy, perform the product fulfillment of a drug order and return the filled prescription to the originating pharmacy for delivery to the patient or patient's agent or, for non-federally controlled substances, send the filled prescription directly to the patient. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Wyatt

F HB1194 Therapeutically equivalent drug products; provisions for return of outdated drugs. Requires drug manufacturers to implement provisions for the return of drugs past their expiration date by pharmacies in order for their products to be eligible for dispensing as a therapeutically equivalent drug.

Patron - Hodges

F HB1290 Board of Nursing; nursing faculty educational requirements. Directs the Board of Nursing to add or remove certain educational requirements for members of the nursing faculty in specified nursing education programs. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Willett

F HB1294 Board of Psychology; psychological practitioners; licensure. Establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner as defined in the bill. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. Patron - Willett

F HB1306 Board of Veterinary Medicine; powers and duties; satellite offices. Permits the Board of Veterinary Medicine to regulate, inspect, and register all satellite offices where veterinary medicine is practiced. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Orrock

F HB1340 Board of Medicine; breast implant patient decision checklist required. Directs the Board of Medicine to develop a patient decision checklist for procedures involving breast implants that informs patients of the potential risks of breast implants. The bill requires physicians to obtain an executed breast implant patient decision checklist from the patient before conducting any procedure that involves breast implants.

Patron - Glass

F HB1428 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; application review timelines. Requires each regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to adopt a timeline of each stage that a completed application for licensure, certification, or registration will undergo as it is reviewed by such board. The bill also requires that such regulatory board approve any completed application within 30 days of its receipt unless such board has reasonable certainty that such application includes grounds for denial. Patron - Shin

F HB1450 Drug Control Act; Schedule I; Schedule II; Schedule IV; Schedule V. Adds certain chemicals to Schedules I, II, IV, and V of the Drug Control Act. The Board of Pharmacy has added these substances in an expedited regulatory process. A substance added via this process is removed from the schedule after 18 months unless a general law is enacted adding the substance to the schedule. This bill was incorporated into HB 1333.

Patron - Thomas

F HB1500 Board of Counseling; registration of behavioral health technicians and behavioral health technician trainees. Establishes requirements for the Board of Counseling to register individuals as behavioral health technicians or behavioral health technician trainees. The bill authorizes the Board to promulgate regulations for such registration, including necessary qualifications, education, and experience. The bill removes references to qualified mental health professionals with a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Willett

F HB1545 Requisite training and education achievements of physician assistants. Permits the Board of Medicine to grant provisional licensure as a physician assistant

to applicants pending the results of an examination, as defined in the bill. Such provisional license is valid for six months or until an applicant obtains full licensure, whichever is shorter. The bill directs the Board to revoke the provisional licensure of an applicant who fails an examination but provides that an applicant may reapply for provisional licensure if such applicant has failed no more than one examination. Under current law, the Board may grant provisional licensure pending the outcome of an examination at its discretion.

Patron - Williams

F SB331 Department of Health Professions; informed consent requirements for hysterectomies and oophorectomies; review; report. Directs the Department of Health Professions to review and make recommendations regarding informed consent requirements for hysterectomies and oophorectomies. The bill directs the Department of Health Professions to report its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024. Patron - Stuart

## Carried Over

C HB248 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; autonomous agent. Authorizes regulatory boards to promulgate regulations for an applicant requesting licensure of an autonomous agent that is owned or operated by such applicant. Autonomous agent is defined in the bill as software or hardware that operates independently, without real-time human intervention, and is capable of performing tasks that, when executed by a human, would require licensure by a regulatory board.

Patron - Glass

C HB323 Interstate Massage Compact. Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Interstate Massage Compact. The Compact allows massage therapists who (i) possess an active, unencumbered license in the compact member state in which they reside; (ii) have completed at least 625 hours of massage therapy education; (iii) have passed the national licensing examination; and (iv) have no disqualifying criminal history to be granted a multistate license that authorizes them to practice in all compact member states. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh member state. Patron - Glass

C HB813 Parental access to minor's medical records; consent by certain minors to treatment of mental or emotional disorder. Adds an exception to the right of parental access to a minor child's health records if the furnishing to or review by the requesting parent of such health records would be reasonably likely to deter the minor from seeking care. Under the bill, a minor 16 years of age or older who is determined by a health care provider to be mature and capable of giving informed consent shall be deemed an adult for the purpose of giving consent to treatment of a mental or emotional disorder. The bill provides that the capacity of a minor to consent to treatment of a mental or emotional disorder does not include the capacity to refuse treatment for a mental or emotional disorder for which a parent, guardian, or custodian of the minor has given consent and that a parent, legal guardian, or custodian of a minor shall be notified by a health care provider of the minor's drug abuse, substance abuse, or potential of selfharm.

Patron - Mundon King

C HB978 Board of Medicine; Board of Nursing; joint licensing of advanced practice registered nurses and

**licensed certified midwives.** Moves the professions of advanced practice registered nurses and licensed certified midwives from being licensed jointly by the Board of Medicine and the Board of Nursing to being licensed by the Board of Nursing only.

Patron - Willett

C HB1239 Unaccompanied homeless youth; consent to surgical or medical care. Provides that except for the purposes of sexual sterilization or abortion, a minor who is 14 years of age or older and who is an unaccompanied homeless youth shall be deemed an adult for the purpose of consenting to surgical or medical examination or treatment, including dental examination and treatment, for himself or his minor child. The bill describes evidence sufficient to determine that a minor is an unaccompanied homeless youth and provides that no health care provider shall be liable for any civil or criminal action for providing surgical or medical treatment to an unaccompanied homeless youth or his minor child without first obtaining the consent of his parent or guardian provided in accordance with the law, with the exception of liability for negligence in the diagnosis or treatment of such unaccompanied homeless youth.

Patron - Willett

C HB1322 Certified registered nurse anesthetist; elimination of supervision requirement. Eliminates the requirement that certified registered nurse anesthetists practice under the supervision of a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or dentistry. The bill provides that certified registered nurse anesthetists shall practice in consultation with a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or dentistry and in accordance with regulations jointly promulgated by the Board of Medicine and the Board of Nursing.

Patron - Sickles

C HB1387 Department of Health Professions; veterinary medicine; exceptions for care of animals injured in line of duty. Provides an exception to the unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine for any law-enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel who provides emergency treatment to any animal in his care that is injured in the line of duty.

Patron - Leftwich

C HB1479 Health professions; universal licensure; requirements. Requires health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions to recognize licenses or certifications issued by other United States jurisdictions, as defined in the bill, as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill also requires such health regulatory boards to recognize work experience as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill does not apply to licensure for physicians or dentists.

Patron - Price

C HB1497 Board of Pharmacy; pharmacy technician profession; work group; report. Requires the Board of Pharmacy to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to review and make recommendations related to the regulatory framework for the pharmacy technician profession, educational barriers to the pharmacy technician profession, compensation of pharmacy technicians, and the educational requirements of pharmacy technicians. The bill requires the Board to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2024. The bill also requires the Board to promulgate emergency reg-

ulations within 280 days of the work group's completion based on the work group's recommendations.

Patron - Willett

C SB33 Supervision of certified registered nurse anesthetists; work group; report. Clarifies that supervision of a certified registered nurse anesthetist requires that a licensed doctor of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or dentistry is present during an operation or procedure or is immediately available to respond and provide patient care as needed. The bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in collaboration with the Board of Medicine, Board of Nursing, and Department of Health Professions, to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to evaluate and make recommendations to increase the anesthesia provider workforce in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the work group to report its recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Health and Human Services by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Locke

C SB280 Health care; decision-making; end of life; penalties. Allows an adult diagnosed with a terminal disease to request and an attending health care provider to prescribe a self-administered controlled substance for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill requires that a patient's request for a self-administered controlled substance to end his life must be given orally on two occasions and in writing, signed by the patient and one witness, and that the patient be given an express opportunity to rescind his request at any time. The bill makes it a Class 2 felony (i) to willfully and deliberately alter, forge, conceal, or destroy a patient's request, or rescission of request, for a self-administered controlled substance to end his life with the intent and effect of causing the patient's death; (ii) to coerce, intimidate, or exert undue influence on a patient to request a self-administered controlled substance for the purpose of ending his life or to destroy the patient's rescission of such request with the intent and effect of causing the patient's death; or (iii) to coerce, intimidate, or exert undue influence on a patient to forgo a self-administered controlled substance for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill also grants immunity from civil or criminal liability and professional disciplinary action to any person who complies with the provisions of the bill and allows health care providers to refuse to participate in the provision of a selfadministered controlled substance to a patient for the purpose of ending the patient's life.

Patron - Hashmi

C SB351 Board of Medicine; Board of Nursing; joint licensing of advanced practice registered nurses and licensed certified midwives. Moves the professions of advanced practice registered nurses and licensed certified midwives from being licensed jointly by the Board of Medicine and the Board of Nursing to being licensed by the Board of Nursing only.

Patron - Boysko

C SB682 Health professions; universal licensure; requirements. Requires health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions to recognize licenses or certifications issued by other United States jurisdictions, as defined in the bill, as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill also requires such health regulatory boards to recognize work experience as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill does not apply to licensure for physicians or dentists.

Patron - Suetterlein

# **Property and Conveyances**

#### **Passed**

# P HB105 Resale Disclosure Act; resale certificate;

**fees.** Adds condominium associations and real estate cooperative associations to the types of associations under the Resale Disclosure Act that are prohibited from collecting certain fees unless, in addition to other requirements, such associations are current in filing the most recent annual report and fee with the Common Interest Community Board.

Patron - Reaser

P HB184 Foreclosure procedures; subordinate mortgage; affidavit required. Provides that, when a foreclosure sale is initiated due to a default in payment of a subordinate security instrument, such subordinate mortgage lienholder shall submit to the trustee an affidavit affirming whether monthly statements were sent to a property owner for each period of assessed interest, fees, or other charges and to include in such affidavit an itemized list of the current amount owed. The bill also requires that any purchaser at a foreclosure sale pay off any priority security instrument no later than 90 days from the date that the trustee's deed conveying the property is recorded in the land records, and, if such purchaser fails to pay, the person originally required to pay such instrument has the right to petition the circuit court of the city or county where the property is located to recover from such purchaser any payments made on such instrument after the date of the foreclosure sale, plus any attorney fees and costs. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Simon

P HB312 Rental conveyances; leases; assignments. Relocates certain provisions of Title 55.1 (Property and Conveyances) of the Code of Virginia related to assignments of rent from a chapter related to nonresidential tenancies to a chapter related to leases. The bill corrects a technical error from the 2019 recodification of Title 55 of the Code of Virginia. This bill is identical to SB 589.

Patron - Gardner

PHB352 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; early termination for military personnel; stop movement order; emergency. Allows certain military personnel to terminate a rental agreement upon receipt of a stop movement order issued in response to a local, national, or global emergency that is effective for either an indefinite period or for a period of not less than 30 days and that prevents the service member from occupying the leased dwelling unit for a residential purpose. The bill also allows such military personnel to terminate a rental agreement after receiving any permanent change of station order or temporary duty order in excess of three months' duration. Current law allows such termination only for orders requiring a departure of 35 miles or more from the dwelling unit. The bill contains an emergency clause and is identical to SB 213.

Patron - Glass

P HB442 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement; payment plan. Requires a landlord who owns more than four rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, before terminating a rental agreement due to nonpayment of rent if the exact amount of rent owed is less than or equal to one month's rent plus any late charges contracted for in the rental agreement

and as provided by law, to serve upon such tenant a written notice informing the tenant of the exact amount due and owed and offer the tenant a payment plan under which the tenant must pay the exact amount due and owed in equal monthly installments over a period of the lesser of six months or the time remaining under the rental agreement. The bill prohibits the landlord from charging any additional late fees during the payment plan period in connection with the unpaid rental amount for which the tenant entered into the payment plan so long as the tenant makes timely payments in accordance with the terms of the payment plan. The bill also outlines the remedies a landlord has if a tenant fails to pay the exact amount due and owed or enter into a payment plan within five days of receiving notice or if a tenant enters into a payment plan and after such plan becomes effective fails to pay rent when due or fails to make a payment under the terms of the agreed-upon payment plan. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB477 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Eviction Diversion Pilot Program; expiration. Extends the expiration of the Eviction Diversion Pilot Program to July 1, 2025. Currently, the Program is set to expire on July 1, 2024. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. This bill is identical to SB 50. Patron - Coyner

P HB572 Manufactured home parks; resident

rights. Provides that a rental agreement with a term of one year or more will not be automatically renewed if the tenant notifies the landlord in writing 60 days prior to the expiration date of such tenant's intent to not renew the agreement. The bill permits a tenant to not renew a rental agreement due to a change in terms of the agreement by the landlord if such tenant notifies the landlord of his intent to not renew the rental agreement within 30 days of receiving the notice of the change in terms. The bill allows a landlord to include in a written rental agreement a late fee, not to exceed 10 percent of the amount of the rent due and owed, for unpaid rental payments. The bill removes the right of a tenant or landlord to terminate a rental agreement with a term of 60 days or more by written notice at least 60 days prior to the termination date of the agreement. This bill is identical to SB 232.

Patron - Delaney

P HB588 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; fire or casualty damage; termination by land**lord.** Requires a landlord, prior to giving a tenant 21 days' notice of his intention to terminate the rental agreement for a dwelling unit that has been damaged or destroyed by fire or casualty, to (i) make a reasonable effort to meet with the tenant to discuss reasonable alternatives and to offer the tenant a substantially similar unit, if one is available, or (ii) determine that the damage was caused by the tenant's failure to maintain the dwelling unit in accordance with certain provisions. Current law allows the landlord to terminate such agreement by giving the tenant 14 days' notice of his intention to terminate on the basis of the landlord's determination that such damage requires the removal of the tenant and that the use of the premises is substantially impaired. The bill requires the landlord, upon receiving a request from the tenant after the tenant has received such notice, to reevaluate the extent of damage and habitability of such unit unless the landlord has determined that the damage was caused by the tenant's failure to maintain the dwelling unit. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - McClure

P HB597 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; enforcement by localities. Provides that if a condition exists in a rental dwelling unit that constitutes a material

noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not promptly corrected, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of tenants or occupants of the premises, a locality may institute an action for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the rental dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the property where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the property, either directly or through the managing agent, of the nature of the violation and the landlord has failed to remedy the violation to the satisfaction of the locality within a reasonable time after receiving such notice. This bill is identical to SB 479. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Price* 

P HB598 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement. Increases from five days to 14 days the mandatory waiting period after a landlord serves written notice on a tenant notifying the tenant of his nonpayment of rent and of the landlord's intention to terminate the rental agreement if rent is not paid before the landlord may pursue remedies for termination of the rental agreement. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Price

P HB701 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; routine maintenance; notice to tenant. Requires landlords to include in the tenant's notice of routine maintenance the last date on which such maintenance may possibly be performed. The bill also requires landlords to perform routine maintenance within 14 days of delivering such notice to the tenant.

Patron - Feggans

P HB764 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; early termination of rental agreement; victims of sexual abuse or criminal sexual assault. Provides that a tenant who is a victim of family abuse, sexual abuse, or other criminal sexual assault may terminate such tenant's obligations under a rental agreement if the tenant has obtained a permanent protective order and has given proper written notice of termination. Under current law, there must be a family abuse protective order or a conviction before the tenant may terminate such obligations under a rental agreement.

Patron - Delaney

P HB817 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; retaliatory conduct prohibited. Adds numerous actions to the list of prohibited retaliatory actions by a landlord against a tenant under the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act and Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act and specifies actions by a tenant for which a landlord may not retaliate. The bill modifies and expands the list of actions a landlord may take without violating the prohibition on retaliation. The bill allows a tenant, when the landlord has unlawfully retaliated, to recover actual damages and to assert retaliation as a defense in any action brought against him for possession. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McClure

P HB836 Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities; trusts; certain nonvested property interests or powers of appointment over property or property interests. Extends from 90 years to 1,000 years the period for which a nonvested property interest held in trust may vest or terminate, or for which a power of appointment over property or property interests may be exercised. The bill clarifies that such extension applies only to such interests or powers that were created

on or after July 1, 2024, and that such extension does not apply to real property held in trust or a power of appointment over real property granted under a trust. The bill also provides that the current law that allows the terms of a trust instrument to provide an exception to the Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities shall apply only to a nonvested interest in or power of appointment over personal property held in trust, or a power of appointment over personal property granted under a trust, if such interest or power was created between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2024, but shall not apply to such interests or powers created on or after July 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 470. *Patron - Cousins* 

P HB876 Resale Disclosure Act; delivery of resale certificate; remedies. Provides that failure to deliver a resale certificate within 14 days, as required by the Resale Disclosure Act, deems the resale certificate unavailable. The bill grants a purchaser three days from the date of ratification of the contract or the date of receipt of the resale certificate or notice that such certificate is unavailable, as applicable, to cancel the contract. Additionally, the bill (i) excludes from the resale certificate requirements of the Act an initial disposition of a lot to a person who is not acquiring the lot for his own residence and (ii) allows a resale certificate to be delivered to a purchaser's agent. Current law excludes the resale certificate requirements of the Act for any initial disposition, regardless of its intended use, and only allows a resale certificate to be delivered to a purchaser. Finally, the bill mandates the seller to be responsible for all fees associated with the preparation and delivery of the financial update but allows the settlement agent or other requesting party to pay such fees up front, regardless of whether such settlement agent or other requesting party requests to be reimbursed for such fees from the seller. Patron - Bulova

P HB880 Common interest communities; foreclosure remedy. Prohibits certain bills to enforce a lien from being entertained if the real estate is the judgment debtor's primary residence and the judgment is for assessments levied by certain common interest community associations if the amount secured by one or more judgments exclusive of interest and costs does not exceed \$5,000. The bill also requires such common interest community associations to maintain individual assessment account records. Finally, the bill requires such associations to maintain records of any recorded lien during the effective duration of such lien. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. This bill is identical to SB 341.

Patron - Bulova

P HB955 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Department of Housing and Community Development; summary of rental agreement provisions. Requires landlords to include, upon request, a summary page with any written rental agreement offered to a prospective tenant that includes the duration of the lease, the amount of rent and the date upon which such rent shall be due, an explanation of any deposits and late fees that may be charged, and any termination provisions. The bill also directs the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a sample summary page to be used by landlords to summarize the provisions of the lease agreement and to maintain such sample summary page on the Department's website in English and any language for which any locality in the Commonwealth regularly provides official government communications. The bill also requires any landlord who owns or manages more than four rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, in any locality in the Commonwealth that regularly provides official government communications in languages other than English to provide, upon request of a prospective tenant, such summary page in any of such languages using the sample summary page developed by the Director. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

P HB957 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; tenant's remedies for exclusion from dwelling unit due to condemnation. Provides that the landlord shall be liable to the tenant for actual damages and reasonable attorney fees if the tenant gave notice to the landlord during the tenancy that his dwelling unit was in violation of an applicable building code, such violation posed a substantial risk to the health, safety, and welfare of a tenant, and such violation resulted in the tenant being excluded from his dwelling unit due to such unit being condemned. The bill includes exceptions to such liability, including negligence by the tenant, an act of God, and termination due to certain fire damage. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

P HB967 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; fee disclosure statement. Requires landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to include on the first page of a written rental agreement, in bold, 14-point type, a description of any rent and fees to be charged to the tenant. The bill requires that such rental agreement also contain, in bold, 14-point type: No fee shall be collected unless it is listed below. This bill is identical to SB 405. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

Patron - Lopez

P HB993 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; prohibited fees. Prohibits landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act from requiring a tenant to (i) pay any fee for the maintenance or repair of any unit subject to such rental agreement unless necessitated by the tenant's violation of a requirement of the Act or (ii) pay any fee to submit periodic rent payments or other amounts due, unless the landlord offers an alternative method of payment that does not include additional fees. This bill is identical to SB 422. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Tran

P HB996 Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; notice of tenant screening criteria. Requires landlords governed by the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act or Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act to provide applicants for tenancy with (i) the amount and purpose of fees to be charged to such applicant, (ii) information that will be used to assess such applicant's eligibility for tenancy, and (iii) any criteria that may result in automatic denial of an application. The bill requires such landlords to notify applicants of certain rights protected by the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act if the landlord takes an adverse action, as defined in the bill, after reviewing an application. Finally, the bill requires such landlords to refund any funds received in excess of the landlord's actual expenses and damages, after the landlord's rejection of an application or an applicant's failure to rent a unit upon being notified of his eligibility for tenancy. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Anthony

P HB1207 Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; affordable housing; criminal record screening model policy. Requires the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) to

develop a criminal record screening model policy for admitting or denying an applicant for affordable housing covered under the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's guidance on the application of the Fair Housing Act and maintain such model policy on its website. The bill prohibits a landlord of an affordable housing unit from inquiring about or requiring disclosure of, or if such information is received, basing an adverse action, in whole or in part, on an applicant's criminal or arrest record unless the landlord does so in accordance with the criminal record screening model policy developed by the Department and posted on its website and provides the applicant with a written copy of such policy. The bill directs the Department to convene a stakeholder group to provide input into the development of the criminal record screening model policy. This bill is identical to SB 588. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1209 Common interest communities; reserve studies; special assessment rescission or reduction. Removes certain provisions of the Property Owners' Association Act and the Virginia Condominium Act that authorize associations governed by such Acts to rescind or reduce certain assessments necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of the common area or other association responsibilities, including maintenance, repair, and replacement of capital components. The bill also authorizes such associations to borrow money for certain purposes and assign all revenues to be received by such association to its creditors. Finally, the bill defines the term "reserve study" as a capital budget planning tool used to determine the physical status and estimated repair or replacement cost of capital components and an analysis of association funding capacity to maintain, repair, and replace capital components.

Patron - Bulova

P HB1241 Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act; partial termination of certain time-shares. Allows for the partial termination of a time-share project by a developer or an association and provides the procedures for any such partial termination. The bill also sets a one-year statute of limitations on any legal challenge or action for damages or equitable relief arising out of any termination of a time-share project in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act. The bill's provisions are declared to be effective retroactive in accordance with certain provisions of the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act. This bill is identical to SB 600. Patron - Wilt

P HB1251 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; material noncompliance by landlord; rent escrow; relief. Removes the requirement that, prior to the granting of any relief, a tenant shall pay into escrow any amount of rent called for under the rental agreement. The bill requires the tenant, during the pendency of the action, to pay into escrow the amount of rent that becomes due subsequent to the initial court date called for under the rental agreement within five days of the date due under such rental agreement, unless or until such amount is modified by a subsequent order of the court. The bill also provides that a failure of the tenant to make timely payments into escrow shall not be grounds for dismissal of the underlying action but may be considered by the court when issuing an order. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Cousins

P HB1272 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; copy of rental agreement for tenant. Requires a landlord to provide a copy of the signed written rental agree-

ment to the tenant within 10 business days of the effective date of the rental agreement and to provide additional hard copies of the rental agreement upon request or to maintain such rental agreement in an electronic format that can be easily accessed by or shared with the tenant upon request. The bill also prohibits a landlord from charging a tenant for any such additional copies of his rental agreement. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Callsen

P HB1397 Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; manufactured home park; notice of sale and relocation expenses. Requires a manufactured home park owner to provide notice to the Department of Housing and Community Development and each manufactured home park tenant 90 days prior to unconditionally accepting an offer to purchase a manufactured home park. The bill grants a right of first refusal for localities located in Planning District 8. The bill provides for \$5,000 in relocation expenses for a manufactured home owner if a rental agreement is terminated due to the sale of the manufactured home park to a buyer that is going to redevelop the park and change its use. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Krizek

P HB1475 Board of Housing and Community Development; Uniform Statewide Building Code; building owners and operators to supply cooling by April 1 and heating by October 1. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to evaluate revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to require that owners and operators of certain apartment buildings begin to supply cooling by April 1 and heat by October 1 of each year to maintain certain temperatures. Under the current regulations, such cooling period begins May 15 and such heating period begins October 15. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P HB1482 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; unlawful detainer action; emergency hearings. Provides for an emergency hearing to occur on a summons for unlawful detainer filed by an owner of a residential single family dwelling unit if the court finds based upon the evidence that (i) no rental agreement exists or has ever existed between the owner and the occupant; (ii) the occupant occupies such dwelling unit without permission of such owner; and (iii) the owner has given such occupant a written notice to vacate such dwelling unit at least 72 hours prior to the date of filing. Under the bill, an emergency hearing on such summons shall occur as soon as practicable, but not more than 14 days from the date of filing.

Patron - Leftwich

P **SB50** Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Eviction Diversion Pilot Program; expiration. Extends the expiration of the Eviction Diversion Pilot Program to July 1, 2025. Currently, the Program is set to expire on July 1, 2024. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. This bill is identical to HB 477.

Patron - Locke

P SB213 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; early termination for military personnel; stop movement order; emergency. Allows certain military personnel to terminate a rental agreement upon receipt of a stop movement order issued in response to a local, national, or global emergency that is effective for either an indefinite period or for a period of not less than 30 days and that prevents the service member from occupying the leased dwelling unit for a residential purpose. The bill also allows such military per-

sonnel to terminate a rental agreement after receiving any permanent change of station order or temporary duty order in excess of three months' duration. Current law allows such termination only for orders requiring a departure of 35 miles or more from the dwelling unit. The bill contains an emergency clause and is identical to HB 352.

Patron - Perry

SB232 Manufactured home parks; resident **rights.** Provides that a rental agreement with a term of one year or more will not be automatically renewed if the tenant notifies the landlord in writing 60 days prior to the expiration date of such tenant's intent to not renew the agreement. The bill permits a tenant to not renew a rental agreement due to a change in terms of the agreement by the landlord if such tenant notifies the landlord of his intent to not renew the rental agreement within 30 days of receiving the notice of the change in terms. The bill allows a landlord to include in a written rental agreement a late fee, not to exceed 10 percent of the amount of the rent due and owed, for unpaid rental payments. The bill removes the right of a tenant or landlord to terminate a rental agreement with a term of 60 days or more by written notice at least 60 days prior to the termination date of the agreement. This bill is identical to HB 572.

Patron - Hashmi

P SB341 Common interest communities; foreclosure remedy. Prohibits certain bills to enforce a lien from being entertained if the real estate is the judgment debtor's primary residence and the judgment is for assessments levied by certain common interest community associations if the amount secured by one or more judgments exclusive of interest and costs does not exceed \$5,000. The bill also requires such common interest community associations to maintain individual assessment account records. Finally, the bill requires such associations to maintain records of any recorded lien during the effective duration of such lien. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. This bill is identical to HB 880.

Patron - Surovell

P SB355 Virginia Self-Service Storage Act. Permits a rental agreement for a leased self-service storage space to be delivered and accepted electronically. The bill permits a rental agreement to contain statements that the rental agreement is deemed accepted by the owner where the owner accepts rent or where the occupant accepts possession or delivers rent. Finally, the bill permits towing of any abandoned, immobilized, unattended, or trespassing vehicles or watercraft that are not authorized to be at the self-service storage facility. Patron - Rouse

P SB405 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; fee disclosure statement. Requires landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to include on the first page of a written rental agreement, in bold, 14-point type, a description of any rent and fees to be charged to the tenant. The bill requires that such rental agreement also contain, in bold, 14-point type: No fee shall be collected unless it is listed below. This bill is identical to HB 967. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB422** Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; prohibited fees. Prohibits landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act from requiring a tenant to (i) pay any fee for the maintenance or repair of any unit subject to such rental agreement unless necessitated by the tenant's violation of a requirement of the Act or (ii) pay any fee to submit periodic rent payments or other amounts due, unless

the landlord offers an alternative method of payment that does not include additional fees. This bill is identical to HB 993. This bill received Governor's recommendations. *Patron - Ebbin* 

**SB470** Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities; trusts; certain nonvested property interests or powers of appointment over property or property interests. Extends from 90 years to 1,000 years the period for which a nonvested property interest held in trust may vest or terminate, or for which a power of appointment over property or property interests may be exercised. The bill clarifies that such extension applies only to such interests or powers that were created on or after July 1, 2024, and that such extension does not apply to real property held in trust or a power of appointment over real property granted under a trust. The bill also provides that the current law that allows the terms of a trust instrument to provide an exception to the Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities shall apply only to a nonvested interest in or power of appointment over personal property held in trust, or a power of appointment over personal property granted under a trust, if such interest or power was created between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2024, but shall not apply to such interests or powers created on or after July 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 836.

Patron - Obenshain

P SB479 Virginia Residential Landlord and **Tenant Act; enforcement by localities.** Provides that if a condition exists in a rental dwelling unit that constitutes a material noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not promptly corrected, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of tenants or occupants of the premises, a locality may institute an action for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the rental dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the property where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the property, either directly or through the managing agent, of the nature of the violation and the landlord has failed to remedy the violation to the satisfaction of the locality within a reasonable time after receiving such notice. This bill is identical to HB 597. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Aird

SB526 Resale Disclosure Act; delivery of resale **certificate**; **remedies**. Provides that failure to deliver a resale certificate within 14 days, as required by the Resale Disclosure Act, deems the resale certificate unavailable. The bill grants a purchaser three days from the date of ratification of the contract or the date of receipt of the resale certificate or notice that such certificate is unavailable, as applicable, to cancel the contract. Additionally, the bill (i) excludes from the resale certificate requirements of the Act an initial disposition of a lot to a person who is not acquiring the lot for his own residence and (ii) allows a resale certificate to be delivered to a purchaser's authorized agent. Current law excludes the resale certificate requirements of the Act for any initial disposition, regardless of its intended use, and only allows a resale certificate to be delivered to a purchaser. Finally, the bill mandates the seller to be responsible for all fees associated with the preparation and delivery of the financial update. However, the settlement agent or other requesting party may pay such fees up front, regardless of whether such requesting party requests to be reimbursed for such fees from the seller.

Patron - Williams Graves

P SB544 Short-term rental property; special exceptions. Prohibits a locality from barring the use of or

requiring that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for the use of a residential dwelling as a short-term rental where the dwelling unit is also legally occupied by the property owner as his primary residence. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Bagby

SB588 Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; affordable housing; criminal record screening model policy. Requires the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) to develop a criminal record screening model policy for admitting or denying an applicant for affordable housing covered under the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's guidance on the application of the Fair Housing Act and maintain such model policy on its website. The bill prohibits a landlord of an affordable housing unit from inquiring about or requiring disclosure of, or if such information is received, basing an adverse action, in whole or in part, on an applicant's criminal or arrest record unless the landlord does so in accordance with the criminal record screening model policy developed by the Department and posted on its website and provides the applicant with a written copy of such policy. The bill directs the Department to convene a stakeholder group to provide input into the development of the criminal record screening model policy. This bill is identical to HB 1207. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Lucas

P SB589 Rental conveyances; leases; assignments. Relocates certain provisions of Title 55.1 (Property and Conveyances) of the Code of Virginia related to assignments of rent from a chapter related to nonresidential tenancies to a chapter related to leases. The bill corrects a technical error from the 2019 recodification of Title 55 of the Code of Virginia. This bill is identical to HB 312.

Patron - Stanley

P SB598 Property and conveyances; recordation of documents; name changes. Provides that any name change made in relation to a person's marriage or divorce is entitled to be recorded in the clerk's office in which deeds are recorded of the county or city in which any land or interest in any land that is owned by such person lies. Current law only entitles the name change of a woman made in relation to marriage or divorce to be so recorded.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB600 Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act; partial termination of certain time-shares. Allows for the partial termination of a time-share project by a developer or an association and provides the procedures for any such partial termination. The bill also sets a one-year statute of limitations on any legal challenge or action for damages or equitable relief arising out of any termination of a time-share project in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act. The bill's provisions are declared to be effective retroactive in accordance with certain provisions of the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act. This bill is identical to HB 1241. Patron - Obenshain

P SB672 Property Owners' Association Act; Virginia Condominium Act; assessments for legal obligations of associations. Clarifies that neither the Property Owners' Association Act or the Virginia Condominium Act (the Acts) shall be construed to prevent any association organized pursuant to such Acts from levying or using assessments, charges, or fees to pay the association's contractual or other legal obliga-

tions in the exercise of the association's duties and responsibilities. The bill also restricts such associations from imposing charges against one or more but less than all unit owners unless otherwise specifically authorized by the Acts. Current law prohibits such charges or assessments from being imposed upon any unit or lot owner unless otherwise specifically authorized by the Acts.

Patron - Ebbin

#### **Failed**

F HB192 Landlord and Tenant Fairness Act established. Establishes the Landlord and Tenant Fairness Act that requires any landlord who owns more than nine rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than nine rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, in the Commonwealth, to meet certain requirements with respect to (i) the advertisement of any rental dwelling unit for occupancy; (ii) the charging of application fees and processing of an applicant's information during an application check; and (iii) the terms of the rental agreement, changes in the rental amount, and termination of the rental agreement. Patron - Martinez

F HB196 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; noncompliance with rental agreement; grace period prior to termination. Provides that if a landlord owns more than four rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, in the Commonwealth, and a tenant named on the rental agreement is 65 years of age or older, the landlord may only terminate the rental agreement and proceed to obtain possession of the premises under the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act if such tenant fails to pay rent within 14 days after written notice is served on the tenant. Current law only provides a five-day grace period for such termination and applies such grace period to all tenants regardless of age.

Patron - Thomas

HB695 Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Taxation to establish a registry of short-term rental properties and require accommodations providers and intermediaries to register. Under the bill, an accommodations provider shall provide to the Department its name and the address of each property it offers for short-term rental. The bill states that the Department shall issue each such accommodations provider a unique numerical identifier for each such property. Furthermore, an accommodations intermediary shall provide the Department with its name and the contact information for the individual responsible for liaising with state and local officials regarding noncompliant short-term rental listings. The bill states that as a condition of listing a short-term rental on its platform, an accommodations intermediary shall require each accommodations provider to provide such provider's name and the unique numerical identifier and specific address for each short term-rental offered. Under the bill, such information, as well as information regarding receipts and taxes paid, shall be provided to the Department by the accommodations intermediary on a quarterly basis.

The bill states that the Department shall provide the commissioner of the revenue for each locality with access to the registry and information contained therein. The commissioner of the revenue shall notify an accommodations intermediary of any short-term rental on its platform that is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform, and the accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a

civil penalty of \$1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund.

Patron - Ware

HB733 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; units occupied by elderly tenants; rent stabilization allowance. Allows any locality to adopt rent stabilization provisions to prohibit any landlord, defined in the bill, from increasing the rent on any unit in which an elderly tenant, defined in the bill, resides by an amount that exceeds such locality's rent stabilization allowance. The bill defines "rent stabilization allowance" as the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, for the region in which the locality sits, from March in the preceding year to March in the current year, plus two percent. Finally, the bill requires any rent stabilization ordinance to include a procedure by which a landlord may apply for an exemption if the net operating income generated by the rental dwelling unit has not been maintained due to escalating operating expenses or for other appropriate reasons as established by the locality.

Patron - Sewell

F HB918 Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act; termination without cause. Provides purchasers of any time-share within the Commonwealth a right to terminate such time-share if, at least 10 years after the initial purchase, the purchaser has paid the entire purchase price of such time-share and does not have any outstanding obligations in regard to the property.

Patron - Shin

HB1271 Department of Housing and Community Development: Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; notice of **tenant screening criteria.** Requires landlords governed by the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act or Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act to provide applicants for tenancy with (i) the amount and purpose of fees to be charged to such applicant, (ii) information that will be used to assess such applicant's eligibility for tenancy, and (iii) any criteria that may result in automatic denial of an application. The bill requires such landlords to notify applicants of certain rights protected by the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act prior to performing any background, credit, or other pre-occupancy check on such applicants. Finally, the bill requires the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a sample notice of tenant screening criteria and a standardized statement regarding an applicant's rights protected by the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and to make such sample notice and statement available on the Department's website.

Patron - Callsen

F SB295 Foreign adversaries; restrictions; civil penalty. Restricts any foreign adversary or foreign business, as those terms are defined in the bill, from acquiring any interest in land in the Commonwealth and requires registration with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Secretary to report annually by December 1 on the registrations and any penalties assessed for failure to register and to submit such report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The bill restricts foreign entities governed by a foreign adversary from transacting business in, forming an entity in, or becoming an entity of the Commonwealth. The bill also requires all real property tax bills to contain notice of such foreign property ownership restrictions and registration requirements.

Patron - Sturtevant

# **Carried Over**

C HB247 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; noncompliance by certain landlords; tenant remedies. Allows a tenant to bring a civil cause of action for compensatory damages against a housing authority when there is a material noncompliance by such housing authority with the rental agreement or a noncompliance with any provision of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act that materially affects the health and safety of the tenant.

Patron - Glass

C HB528 Property Owners' Association Act; managed conservation landscaping; unreasonable restrictions prohibited. Provides that no association shall prohibit an owner from installing managed conservation landscaping, defined in the bill, upon such owner's property unless such prohibition was recorded in the declaration for the association. The bill allows associations to establish reasonable restrictions concerning the management, design, and aesthetic guidelines for managed conservation landscaping features.

Patron - Krizek

C HB863 Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; flood-related disclosures. Requires the Real Estate Board to include on its repetitive risk loss disclosure form for owners of residential real property space for the disclosure of historical flood damages, flood insurance claims, and costs to such residential real property along with other related information. The bill also requires the owner of residential real property within the Commonwealth to disclose to any purchaser or renter of such property certain facts related to the flood history and risk of such property.

Patron - Hernandez

C HB922 Common interest communities; pesticides; prohibition on use. Clarifies that common interest community associations may ban the use of pesticides in or upon any common area or common element, as defined in relevant law. The bill also allows such associations to establish reasonable restrictions on the use of pesticides within the common interest community if such use might reasonably affect any lot, common area, unit, or common element.

Patron - Shin

C SB123 Improvements, repairs, or maintenance of property; entering adjoining property; petition for entry. Allows an owner or lessee of real property who seeks to improve, repair, or maintain his property to petition the circuit court for a license to enter adjoining property for the purpose of performing the improvements, repairs, or maintenance when the property is so situated that it is impossible to perform the improvements, repairs, or maintenance without entering such adjoining property and permission to enter such adjoining property has been denied. The bill provides that such license shall be granted by the court in an appropriate case upon such terms as justice requires. No such entry shall be deemed a trespass, and the licensee shall be liable to the adjoining owner or his lessee for actual damages occurring as a result of the entry. Patron - VanValkenburg

C SB596 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; noncompliance with rental agreement; emergency eviction process. Reduces from 15 to seven the number of days, after the date upon which a tenant is served a landlord's intent to terminate the tenancy due to certain illegal activities by the tenant, within which the initial hearing on the landlord's action for immediate possession of the premises shall be held. The bill also reorganizes certain provisions of the

Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to consolidate language and organize the structure of certain provisions of the Act.

Patron - Ebbin

C SB693 Prohibited acquisition of residential land; restrictions; civil penalty. Restricts any partnership, corporation, or real estate investment trust that manages funds pooled from investors, is a fiduciary to such investors, and has \$50 million or more in net value or assets under management on any day during a taxable year from acquiring any interest in residential land, as defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth and requires registration with the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or after July 1, 2024. The bill requires the Secretary to report annually by December 1 on the registrations and any penalties assessed for failure to register and to submit such report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The bill also requires all real property tax bills to contain notice of such prohibited business ownership restrictions and registration requirements.

Patron - Sturtevant

# **Public Service Companies**

#### **Passed**

P HB106 Shared solar programs; Dominion Energy Virginia; minimum bill; capacity. Amends existing shared solar program provisions applicable to Dominion Energy Virginia. The bill provides that a customer's net bill for participation in the shared solar program means the resulting amount a customer must pay the utility after the bill credit, defined in relevant law, is deducted from the customer's monthly gross utility bill. The bill divides the shared solar program into two parts, the first of which has an aggregate capacity of 200 megawatts. The bill provides that upon a determination that at least 90 percent of the megawatts of the aggregate capacity of part one of such program has been subscribed, as defined in the bill, and that project construction is substantially complete, the State Corporation Commission shall approve up to an additional 150 megawatts of capacity as part two of such program, 75 megawatts of which shall serve no more than 51 percent low-income customers, as defined in relevant law. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding to recalculate the minimum bill within 30 days of a final order in a proceeding establishing the value of a solar renewable energy certificate as required by relevant law. The bill specifies that the Commission shall update its shared solar program consistent with the requirements of the bill by March 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any associated tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementing the program by December 1, 2025. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Energy to convene a stakeholder work group to determine the amounts and forms of certain project incentives and to submit a written report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than November 30, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 253.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB108 Shared solar programs; American Electric Power; minimum bill; capacity. Requires the State Corporation Commission to establish by regulation a shared solar program, as defined in the bill, through which customers of American Electric Power may purchase electric power through a subscription in a shared solar facility, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to establish a minimum bill,

which shall include the costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service and administrative costs of the shared solar program, taking into account certain considerations. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding to recalculate such minimum bill within 30 days of its final order in a proceeding establishing the value of a solar renewable energy certificate as required by relevant law. The bill specifies that the Commission shall establish the shared solar program consistent with the requirements of the bill by January 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any associated tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementing the program by July 1, 2025. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Energy to convene a stakeholder work group to determine the amounts and forms of certain project incentives and to submit a written report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than November 30, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 255.

Patron - Sullivan

**HB275** Public utilities: delay of termination of service for certain residential customers; serious medical condition; report. Requires the State Corporation Commission to conduct a proceeding to establish limitations on the authority of public utilities and cooperatives that provide electric, gas, water, or wastewater services to terminate service to any residential customer who provides certification that the customer has a serious medical condition or the customer resides with a family member with a serious medical condition. The bill directs the Commission to adopt regulations to implement such limitations after consulting with certain stakeholders. The bill requires the Commission to submit a report by November 1, 2026, and every three years thereafter, on the effectiveness of the serious medical condition policy after implementation of the regulations and include any suggested changes to such policy for residential utility and cooperative customers.

Patron - Helmer

P HB385 Railroad safety; civil penalties. Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in connection with moving freight. This bill is identical to SB 143. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simonds

P HB746 Energy efficiency programs; incremental annual savings. Provides that for the 2029 program year and all subsequent years, "in the public interest" for the purpose of assessing energy efficiency programs means that the State Corporation Commission determines that the program is cost-effective. The bill directs the Commission to promulgate regulations no later than September 30, 2025, establishing a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs. The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company to track, quantify, and report to the Commission the incremental annual savings, as defined in the bill, achieved by such utility's energy efficiency programs. This bill is identical to SB 565. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Webert

PHB800 Public service companies; pole attachments; cable television systems and telecommunications service providers. Requires a public utility, as defined in the bill, to establish and adhere to pole attachment practices and procedures that comply with certain requirements, including determining whether an attachment request is complete before reviewing such request on its merits, complying with certain timelines, and providing notice of a rearrangement to affected

existing attachers. The bill provides that a public utility shall not apportion to a telecommunications service provider or cable television system the cost of replacing a red-tagged pole, as defined in the bill, provided that such utility may apportion to such provider or system the incremental cost of a taller or stronger pole that is necessitated solely by the new facilities of such provider or system. The bill authorizes the State Corporation Commission to enforce its provisions and requires the Commission to resolve disputes involving pole access within 90 days and concerning certain other matters within 120 days. This bill is identical to SB 713. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Herring

P HB862 Electric utilities; integrated resource plans; grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors. Requires an electric utility to include in an integrated resource plan (i) a comprehensive assessment of the potential application of grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors, as those terms are defined in the bill, in a manner that ensures grid reliability and safeguards the cybersecurity and physical security of the electric distribution grid and (ii) if applicable, a detailed explanation of why such technologies or conductors are not included in such plan.

Patron - Hernandez

HB906 Public utilities; municipal utilities; disconnection of service; limitations; consumer protections. Suspends electric, gas, water, and wastewater utilities subject to the regulation of the State Corporation Commission from disconnecting service to a residential customer for nonpayment of bills or fees during a state of emergency declared by the Governor and provides that such suspension lasts for 30 days after such declaration of the state of emergency. The bill suspends such electric and gas utilities from disconnecting service to a residential customer for nonpayment of bills or fees when the forecasted temperature low is at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit and suspends electric utilities from disconnecting any such customer from service when the forecasted temperature high is at or above 92 degrees Fahrenheit within the 24 hours following the scheduled disconnection. The bill further suspends electric, gas, water, and wastewater utilities from disconnecting residential customers from service on Fridays, weekends, state holidays, and the day immediately preceding a state holiday. The bill requires each such utility to notify its residential customers of such utility's disconnection for nonpayment policy and to deliver notice of nonpayment of bills or fees to such customers prior to disconnection. This bill is identical to SB 480. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Shin

HB1062 Net energy metering; eligible customer-generators and eligible agricultural customer-generators. Provides that no contract, lease, or arrangement by which a third party owns, maintains, or operates an electrical generating facility on an eligible customer-generator's property shall constitute the sale of electricity or cause the customergenerator or the third party to be considered an electric utility by virtue of participating in net energy metering. The bill prohibits an eligible customer-generator or eligible agricultural customer-generator from being required to provide proof of liability insurance or to purchase additional liability insurance as a condition of interconnection. The bill exempts eligible customer-generators and eligible agricultural customer-generators that operate a battery storage device of capacity commensurate with and equal to or greater than that of the electrical generating facility and in conjunction with the electrical generating facility from standby charges. The bill provides that any eligible customer-generator or eligible agricultural customergenerator may participate in demand response, energy efficiency, or peak reduction from dispatch of onsite battery service, provided that the compensation received is in exchange for a distinct service that is not already compensated by net metering credits for electricity exported to the electric distribution system or compensated by any other utility program or tariff. This bill is identical to SB 271. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Willett

P HB1376 Submetering or energy allocation equipment; billing requirements; unit owners. Provides that for the purposes of rules promulgated by the State Corporation Commission related to billing requirements and all other rules related to submetering or energy allocation equipment, those rules applicable to tenants will be applicable to residential and nonresidential unit owners.

Patron - Reid

P HB1491 Phase I Utility; recovery of development costs associated with small modular nuclear facility. Permits American Electric Power, prior to the filing of an application for a certificate to construct a small modular nuclear facility, to request the State Corporation Commission to review such utility's decision to incur project development costs, as defined in the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2034. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - O'Quinn

P **SB143** Railroad safety; civil penalties. Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in connection with moving freight. This bill is identical to HB 385. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P SB253 Shared solar programs; Dominion Energy Virginia; minimum bill; capacity. Amends existing shared solar program provisions applicable to Dominion Energy Virginia. The bill provides that a customer's net bill for participation in the shared solar program means the resulting amount a customer must pay the utility after the bill credit, defined in relevant law, is deducted from the customer's monthly gross utility bill. The bill divides the shared solar program into two parts, the first of which has an aggregate capacity of 200 megawatts. The bill provides that upon a determination that at least 90 percent of the megawatts of the aggregate capacity of part one of such program has been subscribed, as defined in the bill, and that project construction is substantially complete, the State Corporation Commission shall approve up to an additional 150 megawatts of capacity as part two of such program, 75 megawatts of which shall serve no more than 51 percent low-income customers, as defined in relevant law. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding to recalculate the minimum bill within 30 days of a final order in a proceeding establishing the value of a solar renewable energy certificate as required by relevant law. The bill specifies that the Commission shall update its shared solar program consistent with the requirements of the bill by March 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any associated tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementing the program by December 1, 2025. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Energy to convene a stakeholder work group to determine the amounts and forms of certain project incentives and to submit a written report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than November 30, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 106.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB255** Shared solar programs; American Electric Power; minimum bill; capacity. Requires the State Corporation Commission to establish by regulation a shared solar program, as defined in the bill, through which customers of American Electric Power may purchase electric power through a subscription in a shared solar facility, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to establish a minimum bill, which shall include the costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service and administrative costs of the shared solar program, taking into account certain considerations. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding to recalculate such minimum bill within 30 days of its final order in a proceeding establishing the value of a solar renewable energy certificate as required by relevant law. The bill specifies that the Commission shall establish the shared solar program consistent with the requirements of the bill by January 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any associated tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementing the program by July 1, 2025. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Energy to convene a stakeholder work group to determine the amounts and forms of certain project incentives and to submit a written report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than November 30, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 108.

Patron - Surovell

**P** SB271 Net energy metering; eligible customergenerators and eligible agricultural customer-generators. Provides that no contract, lease, or arrangement by which a third party owns, maintains, or operates an electrical generating facility on an eligible customer-generator's property shall constitute the sale of electricity or cause the customer-generator or the third party to be considered an electric utility by virtue of participating in net energy metering. The bill prohibits an eligible customer-generator or eligible agricultural customer-generator from being required to provide proof of liability insurance or to purchase additional liability insurance as a condition of interconnection. The bill exempts eligible customer-generators and eligible agricultural customer-generators that operate a battery storage device of capacity commensurate with and equal to or greater than that of the electrical generating facility and in conjunction with the electrical generating facility from standby charges. The bill provides that any eligible customer-generator or eligible agricultural customer-generator may participate in demand response, energy efficiency, or peak reduction from dispatch of onsite battery service, provided that the compensation received is in exchange for a distinct service that is not already compensated by net metering credits for electricity exported to the electric distribution system or compensated by any other utility program or tariff. This bill is identical to HB 1062. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Subramanyam

P SB276 Energy upgrade programs; Phase I and Phase II Utilities; State Corporation Commission to study feasibility; work group; report. Directs the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group to study the feasibility of the implementation of an energy upgrade program for eligible customers opting to participate by each Phase I and Phase II Utility, which program would permit such utility to (i) install one or more energy projects, as defined in the bill, at a participant's location and (ii) collect a special rate, as defined in the bill, to repay the costs of such installation. The bill requires the Commission to report the findings and recommendations of the work group to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce, the Senate Committee on Commerce and

Labor, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation by January 1, 2025. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. *Patron - Hashmi* 

P SB454 Electric utilities; recovery of development costs associated with small modular reactor. Permits Dominion Energy Virginia to petition the State Corporation Commission at any time for the approval of a rate adjustment clause for the recovery of small modular reactor project development costs for up to one small modular reactor facility. The bill also permits the utility to petition the Commission for project development cost recovery along separate development phases. The bill has an expiration date of December 31, 2029. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Marsden

P SB480 Public utilities; municipal utilities; disconnection of service; limitations; report; consumer protections. Suspends electric, gas, water, and wastewater utilities subject to the regulation of the State Corporation Commission from disconnecting service to a residential customer for nonpayment of bills or fees during a state of emergency declared by the Governor and provides that such suspension lasts for 30 days after such declaration of the state of emergency. The bill suspends such electric and gas utilities from disconnecting service to a residential customer for nonpayment of bills or fees when the forecasted temperature low is at or below 32 degrees Fahrenheit and suspends electric utilities from disconnecting any such customer from service when the forecasted temperature is at or above 92 degrees Fahrenheit within the 24 hours following the scheduled disconnection. The bill further suspends electric, gas, water, and wastewater utilities from disconnecting residential customers from service on Fridays, weekends, state holidays, and the day immediately preceding a state holiday. The bill requires each such utility to notify its residential customers of such utility's disconnection for nonpayment policy and to deliver notice of nonpayment of bills or fees to such customers prior to disconnection. This bill is identical to HB 906. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Aird

SB508 Renewable energy portfolio standard; geothermal heating and cooling systems; report. Provides that geothermal heating and cooling systems, as defined in the bill, located in the Commonwealth are eligible for compliance with renewable energy portfolio standard requirements. The bill also requires the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to convene a stakeholder work group to examine the feasibility of establishing renewable energy portfolio standard program (RPS program) requirements that require each Phase I and Phase II Utility to procure and retire renewable energy certificates (RECs) from geothermal heating and cooling systems placed in service after August 16, 2022, as a percentage of the number of RECs used for RPS program compliance. The work group shall include representatives from the geothermal industry, Phase I and Phase II Utilities, the Department of Energy, environmental advocacy organizations, environmental justice organizations, consumer advocates, and other interested stakeholders. The Commission is required to report the findings and recommendations of the work group to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, the House Committee on Labor and Commerce, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation no later than December 1, 2024. Portions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB565** Energy efficiency programs; incremental annual savings. Provides that for the 2029 program year

and all subsequent years, "in the public interest" for the purpose of assessing energy efficiency programs means that the State Corporation Commission determines that the program is cost-effective. The bill directs the Commission to promulgate regulations no later than September 30, 2025, establishing a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs. The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company to track, quantify, and report to the Commission the incremental annual savings, as defined in the bill, achieved by such utility's energy efficiency programs. This bill is identical to HB 746. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Deeds

**SB713** Public service companies; pole attachments; cable television systems and telecommunications **service providers.** Requires a public utility, as defined in the bill, to establish and adhere to pole attachment practices and procedures that comply with certain requirements, including determining whether an attachment request is complete before reviewing such request on its merits, complying with certain timelines, and providing notice of a rearrangement to affected existing attachers. The bill provides that a public utility shall not apportion to a telecommunications service provider or cable television system the cost of replacing a red-tagged pole, as defined in the bill, provided that such utility may apportion to such provider or system the incremental cost of a taller or stronger pole that is necessitated solely by the new facilities of such provider or system. The bill authorizes the State Corporation Commission to enforce its provisions and requires the Commission to resolve disputes involving pole access within 90 days and concerning certain other matters within 120 days. This bill is identical to HB 800. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Marsden

SB737 Electric utilities; energy efficiency programs. Provides that, for the purposes of the Virginia Electric Utility Regulation Act, energy efficiency programs include electrification, including measures that electrify space heating, water heating, cooling, drying, cooking, industrial processes, and other building and industrial end uses that would otherwise be served by onsite, nonelectric fuels, provided that the electrification measures reduce site energy consumption and that, to the maximum extent practical, seek to combine with federally authorized customer rebates for heat pump technology. The bill provides that electricity consumption increases that result from State Corporation Commission-approved electrification measures shall not be considered as a reduction in energy savings under the energy savings requirements and that utilities may apply verified total site energy reductions that are attributable to Commission-approved electrification measures to the energy savings requirements. The bill specifies that energy efficiency programs and energy efficiency measures do not include electrification of any process or activity primarily fueled by natural gas.

Patron - Surovell

# Failed

F HB117 Net energy metering; solar interconnection; cost recovery. Provides that an electric distribution company shall pay 33 cents (\$0.33) per kilowatt-hour per day for the costs of lost electricity production for any and all delays beyond the regulatory notice period required by the State Corporation Commission related to net energy metering. The bill requires that, for the purposes of net energy metering, an eligible customer-generator shall bear all reasonable costs of equipment required at the eligible customer-generator's premises for

the interconnection to the supplier's electric distribution system, including commercially reasonable costs of additional controls, tests, or liability insurance. Additionally, the bill allows for cost recovery by Phase I and Phase II Utilities for electric distribution grid transformation projects that support the interconnection of generating facilities using energy derived from sunlight that are owned or contracted by eligible customer-generators, subject to the Commission finding those costs to be reasonable and prudent in accordance with existing law.

Patron - Sullivan

HB118 Electric utilities; cost recovery for electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Requires Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power, by May 1, 2025, to (i) file a proposal with the State Corporation Commission to design and deploy all electrical distribution infrastructure on the utility side of a customer's meter for each customer installing separately metered infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging stations, other than those in single-family residences; (ii) file an application with the Commission to accelerate widespread transportation electrification across the Commonwealth in a manner designed to lower total ratepayer costs and that significantly contributes to meeting air quality standards and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in a manner consistent with the objectives of the energy policy of the Commonwealth, as defined by relevant law; and (iii) submit to the Commission a proposal for a specific rate or set of rates for electricity supplied to commercial and industrial facilities used to charge electric vehicles that encourage electric vehicle charging and support the efficient off-peak utilization of the electric grid.

Patron - Sullivan

**HB119** Electric utilities; energy efficiency programs. Adds electrification to the definition of "energy efficiency program" for the purposes of the Virginia Electric Utility Regulation Act, provided that the electrification measures reduce total onsite energy consumption and, to the maximum extent practical, seek to utilize federally authorized customer rebates for heat pump technology.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB139 Prevailing wage rate for underground infrastructure works by public service companies. Directs the Department of Labor and Industry to determine and make available the prevailing wage rate for underground infrastructure work. Under the bill, each public service company shall ensure that its bid specifications or other contracts applicable to underground infrastructure works require payment at the prevailing wage rate. The bill requires contractors and subcontractors to post the prevailing wage rate in a prominent and accessible place at the work site. The bill also requires each public service company, contractor, or subcontractor subject to the provisions of the bill to comply with certain recordkeeping requirements. Provisions of the bill apply to contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2024.

Patron - Simonds

F HB340 Electric utilities; underground transmission lines. Provides that the construction and reconstruction of any underground, in whole or in part, electrical transmission lines of at least 69 kilovolts and less than 500 kilovolts along a highway right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation in Planning District 8 where a data center proposal is under construction in an area located within a half mile of a National Battlefield Park and within one mile of a state forest is in the public interest.

Patron - Thomas

HB367 Parking Lot Solar Development Program and Fund; report. Directs the Department of Energy, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, to establish by January 1, 2025, a Parking Lot Solar Development Program for the purpose of encouraging development of distributed parking lot solar projects up to one megawatt in size in the Commonwealth. The bill also creates the Parking Lot Solar Development Fund for the purposes of (i) funding solar renewable energy credit values at an updated 10-year levelized incentive level through the renewable energy certificate market using a solar financing model as described in the bill, (ii) implementing and administering the Parking Lot Solar Development Program, and (iii) implementing and administering an alternative auction site that sets a fixed price for solar renewable energy credits not sold in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Department, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, to engage in a stakeholder consultation to evaluate the current costs of solar installations and incentive levels across market segments and study benefits to grid security and reliability, ratepayers, and environmental goals of the Commonwealth by December 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter. The bill also directs the Commission to consult with agencies and stakeholders to develop an online mapping database of potential parking lot solar sites for development in the Commonwealth by December 1, 2024. Finally, the bill requires the Department, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, to submit an annual report to the General Assembly regarding the implementation of the Parking Lot Solar Development Program for the preceding fiscal year by November 1, 2025.

Patron - Reid

HB397 Regulation of electric utilities; development of renewable energy facilities; powers of State Air Pollution Control Board; powers of State Corporation **Commission.** Repeals provisions (i) requiring the State Air Pollution Control Board to adopt regulations to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from any electricity generating unit in the Commonwealth and authorizing the Board to establish an auction program for energy allowances; (ii) prohibiting the State Corporation Commission from approving any new utilityowned generation facilities that emit carbon dioxide as a byproduct of energy generation, in certain circumstances; (iii) declaring that statutory allowances for energy derived from sunlight, onshore wind, offshore wind, and storage facilities are in the public interest; and (iv) relating to the development of solar and wind generation and energy storage capacity, development of offshore wind capacity, and generation of electricity from renewable and zero carbon sources. The bill provides that planning and development activities for new nuclear generation facilities are in the public interest.

Patron - Griffin

F HB402 Electric utilities; retail competition; flexible load amounts. Provides that, for the purposes of retail competition for the purchase and sale of electric energy, certain large individual retail customers shall be permitted to purchase any portion of their electric energy, up to 100 percent, from a retail supplier licensed to sell retail electric energy in the Commonwealth, thereby providing for the purchase of flexible load amounts between a retail supplier and an incumbent electric utility.

Patron - Ware

F HB403 Electric utilities; temporary power purchase agreements. Provides that if the State Corporation Commission determines that, due to transmission constraints, a public utility is not able to furnish electric service sufficient to meet the current and reasonably anticipated requirements of a

customer located in such public utility's service territory, such customer shall be permitted to enter into a temporary power purchase agreement with a third party that shall be authorized to own and operate a facility generating zero-carbon electricity located on such customer's site to serve part or all of such customer's electric service requirements. Under the bill, such authorization shall extend for at least six years.

Patron - Ware

HB469 Electric utilities; retail competition; aggregated competitive purchasers. Creates a limited exception to the requirement that the State Corporation Commission must find that a petition for certain competitive purchasers to aggregate their demands to become qualified to purchase retail electric energy is consistent with the public interest in order for the Commission to approve such petition. The bill provides that a customer seeking such approval may remunerate the utility for any adverse effects to the incumbent utility or its remaining utility customers contrary to the public interest as determined by the Commission. The bill also provides that such customers shall not be denied permission to procure retail electric energy from a competitive supplier and that such remuneration fee shall be recalculated by the Commission on a triennial basis from when a customer commences a competitive service agreement.

Patron - McNamara

F HB638 Electric utilities; energy efficiency programs; duty to implement the Energy Policy of the Commonwealth; RPS program requirements; competitive procurement. Provides that "in the public interest" for the purpose of assessing energy efficiency programs means that the State Corporation Commission determines that the program is cost-effective and directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding no later than December 31, 2025, to establish a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs.

The bill provides (i) that "total electric energy" for purposes of the RPS Program requirements does not include energy sold to certain customers purchasing 100 percent renewable energy and (ii) that in any RPS program compliance year, any electric energy that was generated in the previous calendar year from certain nuclear generating plants, or any zero-carbon electric generating facilities, including small modular nuclear reactors and green hydrogen facilities, will reduce the utility's RPS Program requirements by an equivalent amount.

The bill provides that the Commission and its staff have the affirmative duty to ensure the Commonwealth implements the Energy Policy of the Commonwealth at the lowest reasonable cost, taking into account all cost-effective demand-side management options and the security and reliability benefits of the regional transmission entity to which each incumbent electric utility has joined.

The bill requires that for certain required petitions by Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia for approvals to construct, acquire, or purchase the generating capacity using energy derived from sunlight or onshore wind, at least 35 percent of such generating capacity is from the purchases of energy from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other than such utilities. Current law requires 35 percent of such generating capacity to be from the purchases of energy from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other than such utilities.

Patron - Sullivan

F HB714 Electric utilities; pilot program for underground transmission lines; additional project. Adds one project to the existing pilot program for underground transmission lines. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission to approve one additional application filed between

January 1, 2024, and October 1, 2024, as a qualifying project to be constructed in whole or in part underground, as a part of the pilot program. The bill requires that the added qualifying project be a newly proposed 230-kilovolt underground line and that (i) an engineering analysis demonstrates that it is technically feasible to place the proposed line, in whole or in part, underground; (ii) the governing body of each locality in which a portion of the proposed line will be placed underground indicates, by resolution, general community support for the project and that the governing body supports the transmission line to be placed underground; (iii) a project has been filed with the Commission or is pending issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity by October 1, 2024; (iv) the estimated additional cost of placing the proposed line, in whole or in part, underground does not exceed \$40 million or, if greater than \$40 million, the cost does not exceed 2.5 times the cost of placing the same line overhead, assuming accepted industry standards for undergrounding to ensure safety and reliability; if the public utility, the affected localities, and the Commission agree, a proposed underground line whose cost exceeds 2.5 times the cost of placing the line overhead may also be accepted into the pilot program; (v) the public utility requests that the project be considered as a qualifying project under the pilot program; and (vi) the primary need of the project is for purposes of grid reliability or grid resiliency or to support economic development priorities of the Commonwealth, including the economic development priorities and the comprehensive plan of the governing body of the locality in which at least a portion of line will be placed, and not to address aging assets that would have otherwise been replaced in due course.

Patron - Webert

HB792 Electric utilities; regulation of rates; prohibited recovery; report. Provides that the State Corporation Commission shall consider any rate, toll, charge, or schedule of a public utility just and reasonable only if the investorowned public electric utility has demonstrated that no parts of such rates, tolls, charges, or schedules includes costs for activities as prohibited by the bill. The bill prohibits investor-owned electric utilities from recovering through base rates any direct or indirect costs associated with certain prohibited recovery activities listed in the bill. The bill requires each such utility to submit an annual report to the Commission starting July 1, 2025, of specific information related to the prohibited recovery activities listed in the bill. The bill also permits the Commission to impose a fee on any utility acting in violation of the provisions of the bill in an amount equal to the amount improperly recovered by the utility through any prohibited recovery activity listed in the bill.

Patron - Henson

F HB809 Department of Energy; State Corporation Commission; federal funding resources for electric utilities; report. Directs the Department of Energy, in collaboration with the State Corporation Commission, to estimate and analyze total and discrete federal funding resources available to electric utilities in the Commonwealth for transmission, generation, distribution, or grid transformation projects. The bill directs the Department to develop a benchmarking and tracking system to encourage the maximum leveraging of federal funding resources by electric utilities no later than October 1, 2025. The bill requires the Department and the Commission to complete their meetings by November 30, 2024, and to submit an executive summary and report of their findings to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.

Patron - Rasoul

F HB856 Public utilities; rate increases during certain months prohibited. Prohibits the regulated operating revenues of certain public utilities from being increased in the

months of November, December, January, or February. The bill's limitation does not apply to certain increases, which are the same exceptions as allowed for the existing prohibition on multiple rate increases during a 12-month period. *Patron - Williams* 

F HB1074 Renewable energy portfolio standard; eligibility of hydrogen and nuclear resources. Provides that, for the purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard, eligible sources include (i) hydrogen resources that are produced from zero-carbon generating facilities located in the Commonwealth and (ii) zero-carbon nuclear generating facilities located in the Commonwealth that were placed into service after July 1, 2024.

Patron - O'Quinn

F HB1323 Electric utilities; recovery of development costs associated with small modular reactor. Permits American Electric Power (Phase I Utility) and Dominion Energy Virginia (Phase II Utility) to petition the State Corporation Commission at any time for the approval of a rate adjustment clause for the recovery of small modular reactor project development costs. The bill also permits the utility to petition the Commission for project development cost recovery along separate development phases.

Patron - Marshall

HB1334 Energy Innovation Program; estab**lished.** Establishes the Energy Innovation Program to foster the development of innovative energy projects by allowing Program participants to provide grid services or other beneficial energy measures. Under the Program, a participant, after obtaining State Corporation Commission approval, is not required to comply with specific state statutes and regulations pertaining to the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric energy for sale, except for those laws and regulations that are required for worker safety, public safety, or environmental protection, for a period of five years. The bill includes provisions for application requirements, an approval process, Program exit procedures, a test period extension process, suspension or revocation of Commission approval, consumer protections, Commission investigations, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Patron - Webert

F SB286 Electric utilities; underground transmission lines. Provides that the construction and reconstruction of any underground, in whole or in part, electrical transmission lines of at least 69 kilovolts and less than 500 kilovolts along a highway right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation in Planning District 8 where a data center proposal is under construction in an area located within a half mile of a National Battlefield Park and within one mile of a state forest is in the public interest. Patron - Roem

F SB611 Dulles Greenway; powers and responsibilities of State Corporation Commission to regulate toll road operators. Amends the powers and responsibilities of the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to regulate toll road operators under the Virginia Highway Corporation Act of 1988. The bill (i) requires the full disclosure, in public financial reports to the Commission, of the details of any related party transactions and (ii) establishes a presumption that any related party transactions, as defined in the bill, shall be presumed to be imprudent and excluded from costs used for any purpose, including the costs of lobbyists, excessive compensation, and entertainment expenses, unless the operator provides information showing that at least three separate competitive bids demonstrate that the operator could not have

achieved better contract terms from a third party. The bill clarifies that the Commission has the authority to lower toll rates for a toll road if it finds in its analysis that an operator is materially discouraging use of the road due to its current toll rates and to implement tolling based on the distance that a user has traveled if it determines it is in the best interest of toll road users.

Patron - Subramanyam

#### **Carried Over**

C HB109 Electric utilities; regional transmission entities; annual report. Requires each incumbent electric utility that is a member of or has established a regional transmission entity for purposes of management and control of its transmission system as required under current law to submit an annual report by February 1 of each year. Such report shall include all recorded votes cast by the utility during the immediately preceding calendar year, all votes cast by an affiliate of the utility, and a brief description explaining how each vote cast by the utility or its affiliate is in the public interest.

Patron - Sullivan

C HB975 Electric utilities; notice required for customer return to service. Decreases the required written notice period to 90 days for certain electric energy customers to return to service by an investor-owned utility after purchasing electric energy from other suppliers. Currently, such electric energy customers must provide five years' written notice to return to service by Dominion Energy Virginia or three years' written notice to return to service by Appalachian Power. Patron - Lopez

C HB976 Electric utilities; State Corporation Commission; energy policy of the Commonwealth. Requires the State Corporation Commission to ensure that the Commonwealth implements the energy policy of the Commonwealth, as defined by relevant law, at the lowest reasonable cost, taking into account all cost-effective demand-side management options and the security and reliability benefits of the regional transmission entity that each incumbent electric utility has joined. The bill establishes a rebuttable presumption that plans, petitions, or proposals from utilities that do not ensure such implementation at the lowest reasonable cost are not in the public interest.

Patron - Hernandez

C HB1288 Public utilities; classification of customers. Requires that a public electric utility or a public utility authorized to furnish water or water and sewer service include a separate classification for data centers when satisfying the existing requirement that any rate, toll, charge, or schedule of a public utility is only considered to be just and reasonable by the State Corporation Commission if the public utility has demonstrated that such rates, tolls, charges, or schedules contain reasonable classifications of customers.

Patron - Webert

C SB137 Electric utilities; State Corporation Commission; energy policy of the Commonwealth. Requires the State Corporation Commission to ensure that the Commonwealth implements the energy policy of the Commonwealth, as defined by relevant law, at the lowest reasonable cost, taking into account all cost-effective demand-side management options and the security and reliability benefits of the regional transmission entity that each incumbent electric utility has joined. The bill establishes a rebuttable presumption that plans, petitions, or proposals from utilities that do not ensure such

implementation at the lowest reasonable cost are not in the public interest.

Patron - Carroll Foy

**SB152** Electric utilities; retail competition; aggregated competitive purchasers. Creates a limited exception to the requirement that the State Corporation Commission must find that a petition for certain competitive purchasers to aggregate their demands to become qualified to purchase retail electric energy is consistent with the public interest in order for the Commission to approve such petition. The bill provides that a customer seeking such approval may remunerate the utility for any adverse effects to the incumbent utility or its remaining utility customers contrary to the public interest as determined by the Commission. The bill also provides that such customers shall not be denied permission to procure retail electric energy from a competitive supplier and that such remuneration fee shall be recalculated by the Commission on a triennial basis from when a customer commences a competitive service agreement.

Patron - Suetterlein

C SB191 Electric utilities; data center demand; allocation of costs among customer classes. Directs the State Corporation Commission to ensure that any plan, petition, or proposal from a utility to meet demand associated with data centers considers generation, transmission, and distribution system costs so as to meet such demand at the lowest aggregate reasonable cost. The bill also directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding, on or before December 31, 2024, (i) to determine if the current allocation of costs among customers and the different classifications of customers of electric utilities results in customers that are data centers receiving unreasonable subsidies from other customers or classifications of customers and (ii) if it determines unreasonable subsidies exist, to amend such allocation of costs.

Patron - Subramanyam

C SB230 Electric utilities; energy efficiency programs; duty to implement the Energy Policy of the Commonwealth; RPS program requirements; competitive procurement. Provides that "in the public interest" for the purpose of assessing energy efficiency programs means that the State Corporation Commission determines that the program is cost-effective and directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding no later than December 31, 2025, to establish a single, consistent cost-effectiveness test for use in evaluating proposed energy efficiency programs.

The bill provides (i) that "total electric energy" for purposes of the RPS Program requirements does not include energy sold to certain customers purchasing 100 percent renewable energy and (ii) that in any RPS program compliance year, any electric energy that was generated in the previous calendar year from certain nuclear generating plants, or any zero-carbon electric generating facilities, including small modular nuclear reactors and green hydrogen facilities, will reduce the utility's RPS Program requirements by an equivalent amount.

The bill provides that the Commission and its staff have the affirmative duty to ensure the Commonwealth implements the Energy Policy of the Commonwealth at the lowest reasonable cost, taking into account all cost-effective demand-side management options and the security and reliability benefits of the regional transmission entity to which each incumbent electric utility has joined.

The bill requires that for certain required petitions by Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia for approvals to construct, acquire, or purchase the generating capacity using energy derived from sunlight or onshore wind, at least 35 percent of such generating capacity is from the purchases of

energy from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other than such utilities. Current law requires 35 percent of such generating capacity to be from the purchases of energy from solar or onshore wind facilities owned by persons other than such utilities.

Patron - Hashmi

SB346 Net energy metering; solar interconnection; cost recovery. Provides that an electric distribution company shall pay \$1 per kilowatt per day for the costs of lost electricity production for any and all delays beyond the regulatory notice period required by State Corporation Commission related to net energy metering. The bill requires that, for the purposes of net energy metering, an eligible customer-generator shall bear all reasonable costs of equipment required at the eligible customer-generator's side of the meter for the interconnection to the supplier's electric distribution system, including reasonable and prudent costs of additional controls, tests, or liability insurance. Additionally, the bill allows for cost recovery by Phase I and Phase II Utilities for electric distribution grid transformation projects that support the interconnection of generating facilities using energy derived from sunlight that are owned or contracted by eligible customer-generators, subject to the Commission finding those costs to be reasonable and prudent in accordance with existing law.

Patron - Subramanyam

C SB500 Electric utilities; integrated resource plans; grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors. Requires an electric utility to include in an integrated resource plan a comprehensive assessment of the application of grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors, as those terms are defined in the bill, and, if applicable, to include in such plan a detailed explanation of why such technologies or conductors are not included in such plan.

Patron - Carroll Foy

C SB557 Renewable energy portfolio standard; eligibility of hydrogen and nuclear resources. Provides that, for the purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard, eligible sources include (i) hydrogen resources that are produced from zero-carbon generating facilities located in the Commonwealth and (ii) zero-carbon nuclear generating facilities located in the Commonwealth that were placed into service after July 1, 2024.

Patron - Hackworth

C SB562 Pilot program for captured coal mine methane; renewable energy portfolio standard. Directs the State Corporation Commission to establish a pilot program for American Electric Power (Phase I Utility) and Dominion Energy (Phase II Utility) to submit proposals to deploy electricity generation from captured coal mine methane. Under the bill, reasonable and prudent costs incurred under the captured coal mine methane project shall be recovered through utility base rates. Additionally, the bill provides that electricity generated using captured coal mine methane with a non-combustion electric generator under the captured coal mine methane project shall be considered an eligible resource for purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard program.

Patron - Hackworth

C SB567 Siting of energy facilities; approval by the State Corporation Commission. Establishes a procedure under which an electric utility or independent power provider (applicant) is able to obtain approval for a certificate from the State Corporation Commission for the siting of an energy facility rather than from the governing body of a locality. Under the bill, applicants are authorized to submit an application to the Commission if (i) the locality fails to timely approve or deny

an application; (ii) the application complies with certain requirements for Commission approval, but a host locality denies the application; or (iii) the locality amends its zoning ordinance after it has notified the applicant that its requirements are compatible with the requirements for Commission approval, and the amendment imposes additional requirements that are more restrictive. The bill provides that an applicant who is issued a certificate by the Commission for an energy facility is exempt from obtaining approvals or permits, including any land use approvals or permits under the regulations and ordinances of the locality.

The bill applies to any solar energy facility with a capacity of 50 megawatts or more, any wind energy facility with a capacity of 100 megawatts or more, and any energy storage facility with a nameplate capacity of 50 megawatts or more and an energy discharge capability of 200 megawatt hours or more. *Patron - Deeds* 

C SB578 Electric utilities; offshore wind generation facilities; competitive procurement process; Department of Energy. Provides that the purchase by a public utility of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from offshore wind generation facilities owned by persons other than a public utility and located off the Commonwealth's Atlantic shoreline or in federal waters and interconnected directly into the Commonwealth is in the public interest. The bill states that, except for the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project, the purchase or development of offshore wind facilities or the purchase by a public utility of energy, capacity, and environmental attributes from such facilities shall include a competitive procurement process held by the Department of Energy. The bill specifies that Dominion Energy Virginia may submit a bid but shall not participate in evaluating bids or making selections in such process.

Patron - Deeds

C SB591 Electric utilities; customer energy choice; notice required for customer return to service. Removes certain restrictions on the ability of individual retail customers of electric energy within the Commonwealth, regardless of customer class, to purchase electric energy provided 100 percent from renewable energy from any supplier of electric energy licensed to sell retail electric energy within the Commonwealth. The bill also decreases the required written notice period from five years to six months for certain electric energy customers to return to service by Dominion Energy Virginia after purchasing electric energy from other suppliers. Patron - McPike

C SB664 Electric utilities; electric distribution infrastructure serving data centers. Prohibits the costs associated with the construction or extension of any electric distribution infrastructure that primarily serves the load of a data center from being recovered from any other customer. Patron - Stuart

C SB688 Development of offshore wind capacity; prohibited cost recovery.

Patron - Suetterlein

C SB708 Pilot program for underground transmission lines; qualifying projects. Increases the maximum capacity of qualifying electrical transmission lines, for purposes of the pilot project for underground transmission lines, from 230 kilovolts to 500 kilovolts. The bill provides that the State Corporation Commission shall approve additional qualifying projects as part of the pilot program that traverse along highways in developed areas where the route of proposed transmission lines and towers traverse areas protected by a scenic easement, view shed easement, areas of registered historic

designation, or areas of conservation easements. Under the bill, existing requirements for qualifying projects shall continue to apply to such new category of qualifying projects.

Patron - Perry

# Religious and Charitable Matters; Cemeteries

#### Passed

P SB281 Family cemeteries; interment rights; proof of kinship. Allows a family member or descendant, as defined in the bill, of a deceased person buried in a family cemetery, also defined in the bill, that is located on private property to petition the circuit court of the county or city where the property is located for interment rights upon such property. The bill provides that such family member or descendant may prove kinship to the court through official documentation or nonofficial documentation, such as obituaries, family Bibles or other documents with family signatures, journals or letters of the deceased person interred on the private property, family photographs, or other documentation deemed by the court to be reliable.

Patron - Roem

#### Failed

F HB526 Solicitation of contributions; registration of charitable organization; fees. Reduces fees for the registration of charitable organizations that intend to solicit contributions within the Commonwealth. The bill also contains technical amendments.

Patron - Krizek

F SB408 Solicitation of contributions; registration of charitable organization; fees. Reduces fees for the registration of charitable organizations that intend to solicit contributions within the Commonwealth. The bill also contains technical amendments.

Patron - Durant

# **State Corporation Commission**

#### Passed

P SB634 State Corporation Commission; powers and duties. Provides that in proceedings before the State Corporation Commission relating to the regulation and oversight of utilities, the Commission shall consider public health and safety, the economy of the Commonwealth, the promotion of workforce development for residents of the Commonwealth, and the maintenance of fair labor standards for workers employed by public service companies and their contractors, if applicable to the proceeding. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Rouse

#### Failed

F HB1220 State Corporation Commission; insurance coverage regulations. Requires the State Corporation Commission to amend regulations to reduce the manda-

tory limit of liability imposed upon insurers for household and personal property coverage from at least 50 percent of the dwelling limit of liability to at least 25 percent of the dwelling limit of liability.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

#### **Taxation**

#### Passed

P HB4 Plastic bag tax; distribution to towns. Provides that any town located within a county that has imposed a disposable plastic bag tax shall receive a distribution of revenues collected by the county based on the local sales tax distribution formula for appropriations to towns. The bill requires that towns use such revenues for the same purposes allowable for a county or city. This bill was vetoed by the Governor. Patron - Martinez

P HB25 Annual retail sales and use tax holiday. Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning on July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2030. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or WaterSense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment. This bill is identical to SB 116. Patron - Reid

P HB35 Firearm safety device tax credit; definition of firearm safety device. Expands the definition of "firearm safety device" as it relates to the firearm safety device tax credit to include any device that, when installed on a firearm, is designed to prevent the firearm from being operated without first deactivating the device. The provisions of the bill are effective for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024. This bill incorporates HB 945.

Patron - Clark

PHB258 Nonjudicial sale of tax delinquent real properties; unimproved properties within urban redevelopment or revitalization zone. Allows the nonjudicial sale of tax delinquent property when such property is (i) unimproved, (ii) one-half acre or less in size, and (iii) located within a designated urban redevelopment or revitalization zone.

Patron - Simonds

P HB464 Retail sales and use tax; exemptions for nonprofit entities. Increases from \$1 million to \$1.5 million the minimum threshold for gross revenue of a nonprofit entity that allows the Department of Taxation to require such entity to provide a financial audit before receiving a federal income tax exemption.

Patron - Runion

P HB525 Casino gaming; limits on required local referendums. Provides that the governing body of any eligible host city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another referendum on the same question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum.

Patron - Krizek

P HB568 Tax exemptions; Confederacy organizations. Eliminates the exemption from state recordation taxes for the Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Con-

federacy and eliminates the tax-exempt designation for real and personal property owned by the Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the General Organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Confederate Memorial Literary Society, and the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Incorporated. This bill is identical to SB 517. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Askew

P HB574 Recordation tax; value of interest conveyed. Provides that for purposes of recordation taxes, the value of a property interest conveyed shall be the most recent property tax assessment for such property at the time the property is conveyed.

Patron - Thomas

P HB639 Real property tax; notice of assessment changes. Provides that in certain localities, in the event that the total assessed value of real property would result in an increase of one percent or more in the total real property tax levied, the notice of assessment changes shall state the tax rate that would levy the same amount of real estate tax as the previous year when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate. This bill is identical to SB 677.

Patron - Sullivan

PHB790 Purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; retail tobacco products and liquid nicotine tax; penalties. Prohibits Internet sales of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products, except to a retail dealer, and prohibits the sale of retail tobacco products from vending machines. The bill updates, for the purpose of the crime of selling or distributing tobacco products to a person younger than 21 years of age, the definition of "retail tobacco products" by including in such definition products currently defined as "nicotine vapor products" or "alternative nicotine vapor products." The bill also removes provisions prohibiting the attempt to purchase, the purchase, or the possession of tobacco products by persons younger than 21 years of age.

The bill provides that the punishment of a retail dealer that sells, gives, or furnishes a tobacco product to a person younger than 21 years of age or to a person who does not demonstrate that such person is at least 21 years of age is (i) a civil penalty of \$1,000 for a first offense within a 36-month period, (ii) a civil penalty of \$5,000 for a second offense within a 36-month period such retail dealer shall become subject to specific ageverification requirements, (iii) a civil penalty of \$10,000 and a 30-day suspension of such retail dealer's distributor's license for a third offense within a 36-month period, and (iv) revocation of such license and such retail dealer shall be ineligible to hold a license for a period of three years following the most recent violation for a fourth offense within a 36-month period. The bill requires the Department of Taxation, in collaboration with the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and local law enforcement, to conduct a compliance check every 24 months on any retail dealer selling retail tobacco products and to use a person younger than 21 years of age to conduct such

The bill also imposes a tax upon liquid nicotine in closed systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of \$0.066 per milliliter and upon liquid nicotine in open systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of 20 percent of the wholesale price for purchases on and after July 1, 2024. The bill applies licensing requirements to manufacturers, distributors, and retail dealers of liquid nicotine and creates new safety requirements related to the advertising, marketing, and labeling of liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products. This bill is identical to SB 582. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hope

PHB805 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum. Authorizes all counties and cities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools if such levy is approved in a voter referendum. The bill removes the requirement that such a tax must have an expiration date on either (i) the date of the repayment of any bonds or loans used for such capital projects or (ii) a date chosen by the governing body. Under current law, only Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville are authorized to impose such a tax. This bill incorporates HB 60, HB 193, HB 458, HB 600, HB 616, HB 1159, and HB 1437 and is identical to SB 14. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Rasoul

P HB944 Forest Sustainability Fund; fund allocation. Provides that moneys from the Forest Sustainability Fund must be allocated proportionally among localities that forgo tax revenues as a result of the use value assessment and taxation for real estate devoted for forest use. The bill specifies that no locality shall receive an allocation of more than four percent or less than one-half of one percent of available funds from the Fund. This bill is identical to SB 129.

Patron - Lopez

P HB960 Historic rehabilitation tax credit; maximum amount of tax credit. Increases from \$5 million to \$7.5 million, beginning in taxable year 2025, the maximum amount of the historic rehabilitation tax credit, including amounts carried over from prior taxable years, that may be claimed by a taxpayer in any taxable year. This bill is identical to SB 556. Patron - Lopez

P HB1015 Agricultural best management practices tax credit; agricultural equipment purchase tax credit; sunset date. Extends from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2030, the sunset date of the individual and corporate agricultural best management practices income tax credit and extends from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030, the sunset date of the individual and corporate income tax credit for the purchase of conservation tillage and precision agricultural application equipment.

Patron - Wilt

P HB1099 Cigarettes intended to be heated; heated tobacco products; taxation. Redefines "cigarette" for state cigarette tax purposes to include "cigarettes intended to be heated" as defined in the bill and distinguished from "heated tobacco products." The bill also subjects such cigarettes intended to be heated to an excise tax of 2.25 cents per stick on and after July 1, 2024, and subjects other cigarettes to an excise tax of three cents on and after July 1, 2020.

Patron - Kilgore

P HB1131 Casino gaming; eligible host city. Removes the City of Richmond as an eligible host city for casino gaming establishments in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 541.

Patron - Carr

P HB1203 Tax credit for participating landlords. Increases from \$250,000 to \$500,000 the maximum amount of tax credits that may be issued to participating landlords, as defined in relevant law, each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2025 and provides that, in the event that the amount of the qualified requests for tax credits for such participating landlords in the fiscal year exceeds \$500,000, the Department of Housing and Community Development will prorate the tax credits among the qualified applicants. The bill also creates a pilot program that earmarks \$100,000 for tax credits provided to a participating landlord renting a qualified housing unit in an eligible non-metropolitan census tract, as those terms are defined in the bill.

Patron - Willett

P HB1417 Contractors; workers' compensation requirements. Removes the requirements that the governing body of a locality shall forward a signed certification to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission and the Commission shall conduct periodic audits of selected contractors to whom such body has issued business licenses, thereby eliminating the need for commissioners of the revenue to send the Commission 61A forms.

Patron - Kilgore

P HB1429 Tangible personal property tax; indoor agriculture equipment and machinery. Specifies that farm machinery, farm equipment, and farm implements used by an indoor, closed, controlled-environment commercial agricultural facility are a class of farm machinery and farm implements that a locality may exempt from personal property taxation. This bill incorporates HB 384 and is identical to SB 483.

Patron - Laufer

P HB1502 Tangible personal property tax; classification; certain vehicles. Removes the sunset on authorization for localities to assign a rate of tax or assessment different from the general tangible personal property rate on certain automobiles, trucks, motor vehicles for use by the handicapped, motorcycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, off-road motorcycles, campers, and other recreational vehicles. Under current law, such authorization is limited to taxable years 2022 through 2024. This bill incorporates HB 422 and is identical to SB 194.

Patron - Willett

P HB1503 Omitted taxes; installment agreements. Allows the governing body of a locality to allow its treasurer or other collecting official to enter into an installment agreement lasting up to 72 months for payment of taxes by a taxpayer who has been assessed with omitted taxes. *Patron - Jones* 

P HB1508 Assessment of omitted taxes; erroneous payments. Provides that any retail sales tax payment erroneously remitted by a taxpayer to the Department of Taxation shall be applied to the taxpayer's delinquent use tax accounts. The taxpayer must provide evidence of the erroneous sales tax collected and remitted in each transaction. The provisions of this bill do not apply in the case of (i) the taxpayer already applying for and receiving the relief described in this bill or (ii) a false or fraudulent action by the taxpayer with the intention of evading the payment of the tax. Further, the taxpayer must show that the erroneous retail sales tax has been refunded to the purchaser or credited to the purchaser's account prior to receiving a refund from Department of Taxation. This bill is identical to SB 709.

Patron - Wilt

P HB1518 Research and development expenses tax credits. Creates a step-rate reimbursement structure for the major research and development expenses tax credit in an amount equal to (i) 10 percent, up to the first \$1 million, of the difference between (a) Virginia qualified research and development expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year and (b) 50 percent of the average Virginia qualified

research and development expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer for the three taxable years immediately preceding the taxable year for which the credit is being determined and (ii) five percent of such difference in excess of \$1 million. Beginning in taxable year 2023, the bill also (a) imposes an annual per taxpayer major research and development expenses tax credit cap of \$300,000, except that such cap increases to \$400,000 if the Virginia qualified research was conducted in conjunction with a public or private institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, (b) reduces from \$24 million to \$16 million the aggregate cap on the major research and development expenses tax credit granted for each fiscal year, and (c) increases from \$7.77 million to \$15.77 million the aggregate cap on the research and development expenses tax credit granted for each fiscal year beginning in taxable year 2023. Patron - Glass

P SB9 Department of real estate assessment; Orange County. Authorizes Orange County to establish a department of real estate assessment and to enter into an agreement with a contiguous county or city to establish a joint department of real estate assessment. Under current law, real estate assessments are made by the commissioner of the revenue, except in Accomack, Goochland, James City, and Powhatan Counties, and among those, only James City and Powhatan Counties may enter into an agreement to establish a joint department of real estate assessment.

Patron - Reeves

P SB14 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum. Authorizes all counties and cities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools if such levy is approved in a voter referendum. The bill removes the requirement that such a tax must have an expiration date on either (i) the date of the repayment of any bonds or loans used for such capital projects or (ii) a date chosen by the governing body. Under current law, only Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville are authorized to impose such a tax. This bill is identical to HB 805. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - McPike

P **SB116** Annual retail sales and use tax holiday. Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning on July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2030. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or WaterSense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment. This bill is identical to HB 25. *Patron - Lucas* 

P **SB129** Forest Sustainability Fund; fund allocation. Provides that moneys from the Forest Sustainability Fund must be allocated proportionally among localities that forgo tax revenues as a result of the use value assessment and taxation for real estate devoted for forest use. The bill specifies that no locality shall receive an allocation of more than four percent or less than one-half of one percent of available funds from the Fund. This bill is identical to HB 944. *Patron - Ruff* 

P SB194 Tangible personal property tax; classification; certain vehicles. Removes the sunset on authorization for localities to assign a rate of tax or assessment different from the general tangible personal property rate on certain automobiles, trucks, motor vehicles for use by the handicapped,

motorcycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, off-road motorcycles, campers, and other recreational vehicles. Under current law, such authorization is limited to taxable years 2022 through 2024. This bill is identical to HB 1502.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB240 Property tax exemption; surviving spouses of armed forces members who died in the line of duty. Expands the real property tax exemption that is currently available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense. This bill is enabling legislation for a constitutional amendment to be presented during the November 2024 general election.

Patron - McPike

P SB297 Agricultural best management practices tax credit; sunset date. Extends the sunset date of the individual and corporate agricultural best management practices tax credit from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2030. Patron - French

P SB298 Tax credit for purchase of conservation tillage and precision agricultural application equipment; sunset date. Extends the sunset date of the individual and corporate tax credit for purchase of conservation tillage and precision agricultural application equipment from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030.

Patron - French

P SB477 Blighted and derelict properties in certain localities; rate of tax. Allows the governing body of a locality with a score of 100 or higher on the fiscal stress index to levy a real property tax on blighted and derelict properties at a rate exceeding the rate applicable to the general class of real property by up to 15 percent on blighted properties and by up to 30 percent on derelict properties. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Aird

P SB483 Tangible personal property tax; indoor agriculture equipment and machinery. Specifies that farm machinery, farm equipment, and farm implements used by an indoor, closed, controlled-environment commercial agricultural facility are a class of farm machinery and farm implements that a locality may exempt from personal property taxation. This bill is identical to HB 1429. Patron - Aird

**SB496** Virginia Growth and Opportunity Act; Virginia investment performance grants; Virginia economic development incentive grants. Reduces the local funding match requirement for GO Virginia grants from being equal to the grant amount to being at least equal to half of the grant amount until July 1, 2028. The bill adds the Secretary of Labor to the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board. The bill also requires, for a Virginia investment performance grant award determination that includes a job creation requirement, an eligible manufacturer or research and development service to pay an average wage, excluding fringe benefits, that is no less than the prevailing average wage for such new jobs. Under the bill, beginning July 1, 2024, (i) the aggregate amount of Virginia investment performance grants payable to all grant recipients in any fiscal year shall not exceed \$7 million and (ii) grants shall be payable in amounts up to \$5 million per eligible manufacturer or research and development service in five equal, annual installments of up to \$1 million, beginning in the first year after verification of capital investment and pledged employment. The bill also provides that eligible companies shall be eligible to receive Virginia economic development incentive grants in the first year after verification that requirements applicable to such grant are satisfied. The bill contains an enactment clause clarifying that no existing agreement entered into prior to the effective date of the bill shall be impacted by the bill.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P SB517 Tax exemptions; Confederacy organizations. Eliminates the exemption from state recordation taxes for the Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and eliminates the tax-exempt designation for real and personal property owned by the Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the General Organization of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Confederate Memorial Literary Society, and the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Incorporated. This bill is identical to HB 568. This bill received Governor's recommendations. Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB541** Casino gaming; eligible host city. Removes the City of Richmond as an eligible host city for casino gaming establishments in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 1131. *Patron - Bagby* 

P **SB556** Historic rehabilitation tax credit; maximum amount of tax credit. Increases from \$5 million to \$7.5 million, beginning in taxable year 2025, the maximum amount of the historic rehabilitation tax credit, including amounts carried over from prior taxable years, that may be claimed by a taxpayer in any taxable year. This bill is identical to HB 960. *Patron - Williams Graves* 

P **SB564** Individual income tax subtraction; income earned in certain localities. Directs the Department of Taxation and the Commission on Local Government to assess the need for income tax relief in double distressed localities in the Commonwealth that have experienced significant loss of population since 2013. The Department and the Commission must report on their recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2024. *Patron - Hackworth* 

PSB582 Purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; retail tobacco products and liquid nicotine tax; penalties. Prohibits Internet sales of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products, except to a retail dealer, and prohibits the sale of retail tobacco products from vending machines. The bill updates, for the purpose of the crime of selling or distributing tobacco products to a person younger than 21 years of age, the definition of "retail tobacco products" by including in such definition products currently defined as "nicotine vapor products" or "alternative nicotine vapor products." The bill also removes provisions prohibiting the attempt to purchase, the purchase, or the possession of tobacco products by persons younger than 21 years of age.

The bill provides that the punishment of a retail dealer that sells, gives, or furnishes a tobacco product to a person younger than 21 years of age or to a person who does not demonstrate that such person is at least 21 years of age is (i) a civil penalty of \$1,000 for a first offense within a 36-month period, (ii) a civil penalty of \$5,000 for a second offense within a 36-month period such retail dealer shall become subject to specific ageverification requirements, (iii) a civil penalty of \$10,000 and a 30-day suspension of such retail dealer's distributor's license for a third offense within a 36-month period, and (iv) revocation of such license and such retail dealer shall be ineligible to

hold a license for a period of three years following the most recent violation for a fourth offense within a 36-month period. The bill requires the Department of Taxation, in collaboration with the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and local law enforcement, to conduct a compliance check every 24 months on any retail dealer selling retail tobacco products and to use a person younger than 21 years of age to conduct such checks.

The bill also imposes a tax upon liquid nicotine in closed systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of \$0.066 per milliliter and upon liquid nicotine in open systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of 20 percent of the wholesale price for purchases on and after July 1, 2024. The bill applies licensing requirements to manufacturers, distributors, and retail dealers of liquid nicotine and creates new safety requirements related to the advertising, marketing, and labeling of liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products. This bill is identical to SB 582. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Ebbin

P **SB628** Casino gaming; eligible host cities. Amends the list of cities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth by replacing Richmond with Petersburg. The bill also provides that the governing body of any eligible host city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another local referendum on the same question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the General Assembly at a subsequent regular or special session. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Aird

P SB677 Real property tax; notice of assessment changes. Provides that in certain localities, in the event that the total assessed value of real property would result in an increase of one percent or more in the total real property tax levied, the notice of assessment changes shall state the tax rate that would levy the same amount of real estate tax as the previous year when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate. This bill is identical to HB 639.

Patron - Durant

P SB709 Assessment of omitted taxes; erroneous payments. Provides that any retail sales tax payment erroneously remitted by a taxpayer to the Department of Taxation shall be applied to the taxpayer's delinquent use tax accounts. The taxpayer must provide evidence of the erroneous sales tax collected and remitted in each transaction. The provisions of this bill do not apply in the case of (i) the taxpayer already applying for and receiving the relief described in this bill or (ii) a false or fraudulent action by the taxpayer with the intention of evading the payment of the tax. Further, the taxpayer must show that the erroneous retail sales tax has been refunded to the purchaser or credited to the purchaser's account prior to receiving a refund from Department of Taxation. This bill is identical to HB 1508.

Patron - Obenshain

# Failed

F HB60 Sales tax; school construction. Adds Prince Edward County to the list of localities that, under current law, are authorized to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent, with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools.

Patron - Wright

F HB89 Taxation; rate of interest. Provides that (i) the rate of interest on omitted taxes and assessments is equal to the Underpayment Rate established by the Internal Revenue Code and (ii) the rate of interest on refunds is equal to the Overpayment Rate for noncorporate taxpayers established by the Internal Revenue Code. Current law provides that (a) the rate of interest on omitted taxes and assessments is equal to the Underpayment Rate plus two percent and (b) the rate of interest on refunds is equal to the Overpayment Rate for noncorporate taxpayers plus two percent.

Patron - McNamara

F HB138 Annual retail sales and use tax holiday. Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning on August 1, 2025. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or WaterSense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment.

Patron - Green

F HB152 Land preservation tax credit. Increases from \$1 million to \$1.5 million the threshold credit amount that triggers verification by the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the conservation value of a land donation. The bill exempts certain state agencies from the verification requirement unless the value of the credit claimed is greater than \$2 million.

Patron - Simon

F HB165 Income tax deduction; union dues. Provides an income tax deduction beginning in taxable year 2024 for the amount paid by an individual for union dues for participation in a labor organization.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F HB193 Sales tax; additional local tax for schools; Stafford County. Adds Stafford County to the list of localities that are authorized to impose an additional local sales tax at a rate not to exceed one percent in order to provide revenue for the construction or renovation of schools.

Patron - Cole

F HB195 Gaming in the Commonwealth; prohibition on use of term "casino" by non-casino gaming operators; civil penalties. Prohibits any applicant for licensure or any person licensed or permitted to conduct charitable gaming, horse racing, or sports betting in the Commonwealth from using the term "casino" in its entity name, in any advertisement in association with its product or service, or in any manner prohibited by regulation. The bill provides for a civil penalty of up to \$50,000 for each violation.

Patron - Martinez

F HB197 Tax credit; solar energy equipment. Establishes a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for individuals who incur allowable expenses, as defined in the bill, for the purchase and installation of solar energy equipment, as defined in the bill. An individual who properly claims this credit shall be allowed a credit in the amount of up to 15 percent of the cost of such equipment and allowable expenses, up to \$1,000.

Patron - Krizek

F HB226 Omitted taxes; installment agreements. Allows the governing body of a locality to allow its treasurer or other collecting official to enter into an installment agreement

lasting up to 72 months for payment of taxes by a taxpayer who has been assessed with omitted taxes.

Patron - Cherry

F HB262 Classification of land and improvements for tax purposes; localities. Reclassifies improvements to real property located in any locality as a separate class of real property and authorizes any locality to impose a real property tax on improvements to real property at a rate of tax that is different than, but does not exceed, the general real property rate and is not zero. Under current law, such classification is allowed only for the Cities of Fairfax, Poquoson, Richmond, and Roanoke and such authorization is limited to the Cities of Fairfax, Richmond, and Roanoke. Under current law and under the bill, the City of Poquoson remains authorized to impose a real property tax at a different rate than the tax imposed upon the land on which it is located that is not zero, but such rate may exceed the general real property rate.

Patron - McNamara

F HB263 Sales and use tax; accommodations for transients. Provides that the term "retail sale" shall include the sale of accommodations to transients for less than 30 days. Under current law, "retail sale" includes such sales to transients for less than 90 days.

Patron - McNamara

F HB302 Firearm safety device tax credit; definitions. Defines an "eligible transaction" for purposes of the firearm safety device tax credit as one in which a taxpayer purchases one or more firearm safety devices from a commercial retailer, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Ballard

F HB305 Regional gas tax revenues. Provides that in allocating revenues from the regional fuels tax in localities not a part of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, the Interstate 81 Corridor, or the Central Virginia Transportation Authority, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall seek to award 50 percent of the revenues generated in each construction district for projects improving or maintaining secondary roads.

Patron - Ballard

F HB339 Motor vehicle sales and use tax; exemptions; transfers; limited liability companies. Provides that no motor vehicle sales and use tax shall be imposed on vehicle transfers from (i) an individual, partnership, or limited liability company to a corporation or limited liability company or (ii) from a corporation or limited liability company to an individual, partnership, or limited liability company if (a) the transfer is incidental to the formation, organization, or dissolution of a corporation or limited liability company in which the individual, partnership, or limited liability company holds the majority interest in both entities and (b) the transfer to a limited liability company is not a precursor to a transfer of control of the assets of the company to avoid motor vehicle sales and use taxes.

Under current law, transfers from (1) an individual or partnership to a corporation or limited liability company or (2) from a corporation or limited liability company to an individual or partnership are exempt from the motor vehicle sales and use tax if the transfer is incidental to the formation, organization, or dissolution of a corporation or limited liability company in which the individual or partnership holds the majority interest. Patron - Thomas

F HB384 Tangible personal property tax; indoor agriculture equipment and machinery. Specifies that farm

machinery, farm equipment, and farm implements used by an indoor, closed, controlled-environment commercial agricultural facility are a class of farm machinery and farm implements that a locality may exempt from personal property taxation.

Patron - Ware

F HB387 Tax credit for vehicle emissions testing equipment; certain vehicles. Allows a corporation, individual, or public service corporation a tax credit equal to 10 percent of the purchase price of a vehicle with an internal combustion engine that is principally garaged in Virginia. Current law allows such a credit only for certain clean-fuel vehicles.

Patron - Griffin

F HB396 Birth of dependent household member tax deduction. Allows an income tax deduction for the birth of a dependent member of a taxpayer's household that occurs during the taxable year, beginning in taxable year 2024. The bill provides that the deduction will be in the amount of (i) \$1,000 for a married couple filing jointly or (ii) \$500 for an individual.

Patron - Griffin

F HB422 Personal property tax; classification; sunset date. Removes the sunset date from the provision of law that authorizes localities to classify most motor vehicles as a class of property subject to a different rate of tax or rate of assessment from the rate applicable to the general class of tangible personal property. Under current law, such classification would expire beginning with taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB458 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum. Authorizes all counties and cities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools if such levy is approved in a voter referendum. Under current law, only Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville are authorized to impose such a tax. Patron - Callsen

F HB473 Income tax; interest; employer retention credit. Provides authority to the Tax Commissioner to waive interest on taxpayers that received a federal employer retention tax credit. Such waiver shall only be permissible if the taxpayer was eligible for and received the federal tax credit, filed an amended return, and was found to have an additional tax liability due to the reduction in deductible wages that resulted from claiming the credit.

Patron - Coyner

F HB483 Income tax exclusion; veteran student loan forgiveness. Eliminates the sunset date and expands eligibility for the income tax exclusion for any income received by a disabled veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States from the discharge of federal student loan indebtedness. *Patron - Garrett* 

F HB491 Virginia taxable income; subtractions; volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical services personnel. Provides a state income tax subtraction of \$2,000 per taxable year for bona fide volunteers who perform qualifying services, defined in the bill as volunteer firefighting and fire prevention services, emergency medical services, auxiliary police officer services, ambulance services, emergency

rescue services, and all training and training-related activities required by law to perform such qualifying services.

Patron - Garrett

F HB518 Income tax; Foreign Service retirement benefits subtraction. Establishes for certain individuals receiving Foreign Service retirement benefits an income tax subtraction of such benefits up to \$5,000 in taxable year 2024, up to \$10,000 in taxable year 2025, up to \$15,000 in taxable year 2026, and up to \$20,000 in taxable year 2027 and each taxable year thereafter. The bill defines Foreign Service retirement benefits as any retirement income received by an individual for employment in the Foreign Service of the United States and as an eligible member of the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System or the Foreign Service Pension System. Patron - Krizek

F HB541 Income tax; deduction for qualified business income. Establishes, beginning with tax year 2024, an individual income tax deduction in an amount equal to 50 percent of certain federal qualified business income deductions, excluding qualified real estate investment trust dividends.

Patron - McNamara

F HB549 Real property taxes; notice by mail of proposed increase. Requires localities, after conducting a reassessment of real estate, to provide notice to property owners by mail of certain information prior to adopting a tax rate that would increase the amount of real property tax collected above 101 percent of the prior year's tax collections. The bill requires the notice to include (i) the dollar and percentage amount of increase that the proposed tax rate would levy on the owner's particular property compared to the previous year's tax levy, (ii) the tax levy on the owner's particular property for the previous tax year and the proposed levy for the current tax year, and (iii) all of the information regarding the proposed tax rate that under current law is required to be posted in a newspaper and a prominent public location.

Patron - Walker

F HB551 Corporate income tax; apportionment. Allows, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024, for corporations to apportion their income to the Commonwealth using the single sales factor method. The bill provides that such apportionment method shall be used only if the corporation makes an election to do so.

Patron - McNamara

F HB600 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum. Authorizes all counties and cities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools if such levy is approved in a voter referendum. Under current law, only Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville are authorized to impose such a tax. Patron - Kilgore

F HB616 Sales tax; additional local tax for schools; City of Newport News. Adds the City of Newport News to the list of localities that are authorized to impose an additional local sales tax at a rate not to exceed one percent in order to provide revenue for the construction or renovation of schools.

Patron - Price

F HB705 Personal property tax; classification; sunset date. Removes the sunset date from the provision of

law that authorizes localities to classify most motor vehicles as a class of property subject to a different rate of tax or rate of assessment from the rate applicable to the general class of tangible personal property. Under current law, such classification would expire beginning with taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Webert

F HB724 Personal property taxation rates; restrictions and conditions. Restricts differences in the rates of taxation of personal property for taxpayers who are elderly or handicapped to owners of motor vehicles (i) whose income does not exceed the greater of \$80,000 or the median income for the respective locality as published by the U.S. Census Bureau and (ii) whose net financial worth does not exceed \$450,000.

The bill provides that certain localities may restrict such differences to owners of motor vehicles (a) whose income does not exceed the greater of \$130,000 or the median income for the respective locality as published by the U.S. Census Bureau and (b) whose net financial worth does not exceed \$750,000.

The bill requires the General Assembly to assess, every four years, whether such restrictions require adjustment based on the change in the Consumer Price Index.

Patron - Webert

# F HB771 Content manufacturing tax credit.

Removes the sunset for the motion picture tax credit, which currently is set to expire after taxable year 2026, and expands and redesignates the tax credit as the content manufacturing tax credit. The bill increases the total amount of credits that can be allocated to taxpayers to \$46.5 million beginning in fiscal year 2024; however, should less than \$100 million worth of certain new investments, as described by the bill, occur in Virginia by January 1, 2027, the cap will be reduced to \$10 million per fiscal year.

The bill also amends the definition of the "qualifying expenses" eligible for the content manufacturing tax credit to mean certain amounts spent in connection with the production of an eligible project filmed in the Commonwealth. The bill defines "eligible project" to be the production of a motion picture or an episodic television series.

Patron - Herring

F HB785 Tax exempt property; energy storage systems. Clarifies the tax treatment of energy storage systems. The bill strikes language that overrides the provision requiring the amount of tax exemption for energy storage systems to be 100 percent if the taxing locality has implemented a revenue share for such systems.

Patron - Herring

F HB810 Nonfamily adoption tax credit. Creates a \$4,000 nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for an individual or married persons who, during the taxable year, finalize a legal nonfamily adoption as defined in the bill.

Patron - Tata

F HB854 Rate of tax on gasoline and diesel fuel. Lowers the rate of tax on gasoline and diesel fuel on July 1, 2024, from 26.2 cents per gallon to 21.2 cents per gallon on gasoline and from 27 cents per gallon to 20.2 cents per gallon on diesel fuel, which are the rates that were in effect before July 1, 2021. The bill provides that the rate of tax on gasoline and diesel fuel will return to 26.2 and 27 cents per gallon, respectively, on July 1, 2025, and will be indexed based on the change in the United States Average Consumer Price Index

occurring between 2021 and 2024; thereafter, the rate will be indexed annually.

Patron - Ennis

F HB875 Classification of tangible personal property; automobile assessment. Provides that, for so long as the Regulation for Low Emissions and Zero Emissions Vehicle Standards remains in effect, the fair market value of an automobile with an internal combustion engine shall be the assessed value of such automobile during tax year 2023 or the tax year in which such vehicle was purchased new, whichever is later.

Patron - Earley

F HB945 Firearm safety device tax credit; definition of firearm safety device. Expands the definition of "firearm safety device" as it relates to the firearm safety device tax credit to include any device that, when installed on a firearm, is designed to prevent the firearm from being operated without first deactivating the device. This bill was incorporated into HB 35.

Patron - Lopez

F HB973 Tangible personal property tax; classification; satellite equipment. Restricts the special classification for tangible personal property that is used in manufacturing, testing, or operating satellites within a Multicounty Transportation Improvement District to only such property placed in service before January 1, 2025. Such property may be taxed at a lower rate than is applied to other tangible personal property. Patron - Willett

F HB1004 Real property tax; notice of summary budget. Directs the governing body of every locality to send by mail, along with the annual property tax bill, a summary of the locality's budget for each of the two previous fiscal years. If the property tax bill is not ordinarily sent to the taxpayer, the budget summary may be mailed to the taxpayer separately. Patron - Lovejoy

F HB1036 Local tax authority; nicotine vapor products. Authorizes localities by ordinance to impose a sales and use tax on nicotine vapor products, defined in the bill to include liquid nicotine in closed and open systems, as such terms are defined in the bill, and includes directives for the administration and enforcement of any such ordinance. The bill also directs the Department of Taxation to consult with localities, the Virginia Association of Counties, and the Virginia Municipal League for implementing and administering such local taxation of nicotine vapor products.

Patron - Bloxom

F HB1137 Virginia income tax subtractions; disability income. Allows an individual who claims an income tax subtraction for disability income to also claim an income tax deduction for taxpayers age 65 and older.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1156 Real property tax; permanent and total disability; definition. Amends the definition of "permanently and totally disabled" for the purposes of real property tax exemptions to include those individuals who are blind or have uncorrectable vision loss that interferes with daily activities.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1159 Individual income tax; distribution of revenues; local school construction. Requires distribution of one percent of the individual income tax revenues collected from residents of a locality to be distributed to that locality.

The bill requires such funds to be used for school construction or renovation purposes and to be repaid to the state if used for any other purpose. The bill provides that a locality shall be required to maintain its level of expenditure for public school purposes as a condition of receiving the income tax revenues; however, a locality may reduce its level of expenditure to account for a loss of revenues resulting from a reduction in machinery and tools taxes or license taxes.

Patron - Sickles

F HB1180 Tax credit; eligible education expenses; home instruction and private education. Creates a tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 that may be claimed by any parent of a child who receives home instruction or attends a private elementary or secondary school in Virginia. The bill specifies that an eligible individual may claim the credit for certain eligible education expenses, as defined in the bill and imposes certain limitations on who may claim the credit and how much credit may be claimed based on a tax-payer's Virginia adjusted gross income.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1183 Land preservation tax credit; maximum amount increase. Increases from \$75 million to \$100 million, beginning in 2024, the maximum amount of land preservation tax credits that may be issued in a calendar year. Patron - Carr

F HB1223 Land preservation tax credit; maximum amount increase. Increases from \$75 million to \$100 million, beginning in 2024, the maximum amount of land preservation tax credits that may be issued in a calendar year. Patron - Higgins

F HB1234 Eligible educator income tax deduction; home school instruction income tax credit. Increases from \$500 to \$1,500 for tax years 2024 through 2026 the amount of income tax deduction certain eligible educators may deduct for qualifying expenses.

The bill also creates a nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for amounts paid by an individual or married couple filing jointly for their child receiving home instruction for (i) instruction-related materials, including textbooks, workbooks, and supplies, or (ii) courses or programs used in home instruction. The bill provides that the credit equals the lesser of the amount actually paid during the year for such costs or \$3,000.

Patron - Earley

F HB1262 Local sales tax entitlement; blighted retail district. Entitles a blighted retail district in Stafford County that undergoes a major reconstruction or renovation involving a capital investment of at least \$15 million to the one percent local sales tax revenue generated on the premises of the project to be used towards debt service to bridge the gap between available debt and equity and the expected costs of the project. The bill states that in order to qualify for the entitlement, the project must have at least 70 percent of the funding for the project in place. The bill specifies that the blighted retail project must provide a match for the one percent local sales tax revenue.

Patron - Milde

F HB1275 Home instruction and private school tax credit. Creates an individual, nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for amounts paid by the parent or legal guardian of a child for the child's home instruction expenses or tuition for attending an accredited private school in Virginia. The bill provides that a taxpayer shall be allowed a credit up to \$2,500 that is equal to the lesser of the

amount actually paid in the taxable year for such costs or half of the average state standards of quality funding per student per year. The bill provides that the credit may be taken for instruction-related materials, courses, or programs used in home instruction or for private school tuition. The bill provides that the credit is available for two years per child and can be carried forward for five taxable years.

Patron - Higgins

F HB1297 Recordation tax revenues; land protection and preservation. Provides that beginning July 1, 2026, after required distributions for transportation and localities under current law, up to \$200 million of the remaining recordation tax revenues shall be distributed for specified land protection and preservation purposes.

Patron - Krizek

F HB1308 Tangible personal property tax relief; rate of taxation. Removes the \$950 million cap, beginning in tax year 2025 and all tax years thereafter, on the amount of tangible personal property tax relief reimbursed to localities by the Commonwealth. The bill requires, for tax year 2025 and all tax years thereafter, each county, city, or town to reduce its local tax rate on qualifying vehicles to no greater than \$0.000001 per \$100 of assessed value of the qualifying vehicle.

Patron - Green

F HB1327 Income tax subtractions; Virginia National Guard military pay. Creates an income tax subtraction for military pay received by an individual for active service in the Virginia National Guard during either (i) an out-of-state deployment or (ii) a state of emergency declared by the Governor.

Patron - Reid

F HB1328 Transient occupancy taxes; administration. Makes changes to the administration of transient occupancy taxes by requiring the Department of Taxation, instead of the locality, to collect such taxes. The bill directs accommodations intermediaries to file aggregated returns with the Department, which shall include the gross receipts, applicable tax rates, amounts due to each locality, and other information. The bill provides that the Department shall then distribute such tax revenues to the applicable locality. The bill also directs the Department to contract with a third-party provider for development of an electronic interface that enables accommodations intermediaries, beginning on July 1, 2025, to provide a single filing and remittance system for transient occupancy taxes due for all localities.

Patron - McNamara

F HB1380 Real property tax; assessment of real property used for affordable housing. Requires the duly authorized real estate assessor of a locality to appraise affordable rental housing in accordance with the income approach, as described by the bill. The bill provides that, should the duly authorized real estate assessor fail to follow generally accepted appraisal practices, the assessment will not be entitled to a presumption of correctness, and if the owner then successfully appeals such assessment, the locality shall reimburse the owner for attorney fees and costs incurred.

Patron - Runion

F HB1394 Income tax subtraction; unlawful discrimination. Provides an income tax subtraction for any amount received by a claimant for noneconomic damages as a result of unlawful discrimination, defined in the bill, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024. Patron - Watts

F HB1400 Retail sales and use tax; commercial and industrial exemptions; sunset. Extends the sunset from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, for the retail sales and use tax exemption of certain materials and equipment used in the drilling, extraction, or processing of natural gas or oil and the reclamation of the well area.

Patron - Morefield

F HB1407 Income tax subtraction; military retirement benefits; uniformed services. Expands the definition of "military benefits" to include an income tax subtraction of retirement income received for service in the uniformed services of the United States, which includes the United States Armed Forces, the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the commissioned corps of the United States Public Health Service. Under current law, the subtraction is only allowed for military retirement income received for service in the United States Armed Forces. Patron - Fowler

F HB1411 Motor vehicle sales and use tax; definition of sale price. Excludes from the sale price for determining motor vehicle sales and use tax the amount of any credit given by the seller for any motor vehicle taken as a trade-in. Patron - Marshall

F HB1436 Sales tax revenues; entertainment arena. Adds entertainment arena to the definition of public facility to allow a locality to collect all sales tax revenues generated by transactions at such a facility, provided that a locality owns an interest in the facility and contributes to financing its construction. The bill also allows a municipality to issue bonds to finance a public facility on or after July 1, 2024, but prior to July 1, 2027, and adds Henrico County to the list of eligible localities.

Patron - Anthony

F HB1437 Sales tax; school construction. Adds the City of Portsmouth to the list of localities that, under current law, are authorized to impose an extra one percent local sales tax to provide revenue for constructing or renovating schools.

Patron - Hayes

F HB1444 Distribution of state sales and use tax based on the population of cities and counties ages five to 19 and for the state's share of Standards of Quality basic aid payments.

Patron - Watts

**HB1447** Pass-through entity tax; penalty waiver. Directs the Department of Taxation to waive penalties imposed on any pass-through entity paying the pass-through entity income tax for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2021, but before January 1, 2024. The waiver shall not apply to any penalty imposed due to a false or fraudulent action by the taxpayer with the intention of evading the tax. *Patron - Coyner* 

F HB1478 Casino gaming; cruise ships. Authorizes the conduct of cruise ship casino gaming in the offshore waters of the Commonwealth by a cruise ship operator that applies for and receives a permit from the Virginia Lottery. The bill sets an annual permit fee of \$50,000 for any cruise ship that uses a port or other point of anchorage in the offshore waters of the Commonwealth for the purpose of embarkation or disembarkation of cruise ship passengers and an annual permit fee of \$125,000 for any cruise ship that transits the offshore waters of the Commonwealth without making a stop in the

Commonwealth and conducts casino gaming activities while in such waters.

Patron - Simonds

# F HB1483 Local tax; penalties and interest.

Requires localities to apply voluntary payments made by a taxpayer to the tax return that accompanies such payment or according to instructions sent with such payment. The bill also states that a city's director of finance may waive a taxpayer's local tax penalties and interest when in the best interest of the locality. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Patron - McQuinn

F HB1507 Penalties and interest associated with the filing of tax returns or payment of taxes.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

F HB1517 Adoption tax credit. Creates a tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 that may be claimed by an individual or married couple filing jointly for qualified adoption expenses, as defined in the bill. The bill imposes certain limitations on who may claim this credit and how much credit may be claimed based on a taxpayer's Virginia adjusted gross income.

Patron - Earley

**HB1527** Electric vehicle charging equipment tax credit. Provides an income tax credit for the costs of installing electric vehicle charging equipment at a gas station. The credit shall extend for five years once claimed. For the first year of the credit, the amount of the credit shall be 100 percent of the allowable costs, defined in the bill, which are incurred in the taxable year or \$5,000, whichever is less. For the subsequent four years of the credit, the amount of the credit shall be one percent of the allowable costs incurred by the tax-payer in the taxable year.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1535 Food and beverage tax; meals tax; discount. Allows a county, city, or town to provide a commission to a business for collecting and remitting to the locality a meals tax or a food and beverage tax regardless of whether the business is delinquent on the collection and remittance of such tax. The rate of such commission shall be set by ordinance and shall not exceed 5 percent.

Patron - Jones

F SB58 Annual retail sales and use tax holiday.

Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning in 2025. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or Water-Sense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment.

Patron - Craig

F SB64 Annual retail sales and use tax holiday.

Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning in 2025. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or Water-Sense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment.

Patron - Durant

F **SB103** Motor vehicle sales and use tax; exemptions; transfers; limited liability companies. Provides that no motor vehicle sales and use tax shall be imposed on vehicle

transfers from (i) an individual, partnership, or limited liability company to a corporation or limited liability company or (ii) from a corporation or limited liability company to an individual, partnership, or limited liability company if (a) the transfer is incidental to the formation, organization, or dissolution of a corporation or limited liability company in which the individual, partnership, or limited liability company holds the majority interest in both entities and (b) the transfer to a limited liability company is not a precursor to a transfer of control of the assets of the company to avoid motor vehicle sales and use taxes.

Under current law, transfers from (1) an individual or partnership to a corporation or limited liability company or (2) from a corporation or limited liability company to an individual or partnership are exempt from the motor vehicle sales and use tax if the transfer is incidental to the formation, organization, or dissolution of a corporation or limited liability company in which the individual or partnership holds the majority interest. *Patron - Sturtevant* 

F SB110 Sales tax; exemption for food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Provides an exemption from local sales and use tax beginning July 1, 2024, for food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. The bill also provides an allocation of state revenues to fund the distribution to localities for funding that would have been distributed to them absent the exemption created by the bill. Under current law, such products are exempt from state sales and use tax but are subject to the standard local rate of one percent. Patron - Suetterlein

F SB114 Local tax credits; emergency services providers. Enables localities to by ordinance provide a credit against taxes and fees imposed by the locality to an individual who provides approved emergency services in the locality. As defined in the bill, "approved emergency services" include professional or volunteer local law enforcement or first responders who provide emergency services to a nonprofit organization or to the locality. The bill specifies that the credit shall not be applied against any property taxes or payments in lieu of property taxes but otherwise gives localities discretion to determine which taxes or fees are permissible uses of the credit. Under current law, localities may only provide such credit to volunteer first responders.

F SB146 Sales tax; additional local tax for schools; Prince Edward County. Adds Prince Edward County to the list of localities that are authorized to impose an additional local sales tax at a rate not to exceed one percent in order to provide revenue for the construction or renovation of schools.

Patron - Ruff

Patron - Peake

F SB294 Local tax; penalties and interest. Requires localities to apply voluntary payments made by a tax-payer to the tax return that accompanies such payment. The bill provides that no interest will accrue on any unpaid balances 90 days after the date on which a taxpayer files an application for correction by the locality, an administrative appeal, or an application to court for meals taxes, until such appeal is resolved. The bill creates notice procedures prior to a locality making a levy on property due to delinquent tax payments. Patron - DeSteph

F SB307 Regulation of electronic gaming devices; penalties. Authorizes and specifies the licensing requirements for the manufacture, distribution, operation, servicing, hosting, and play of electronic gaming devices, as

defined in the bill. The bill provides that electronic gaming devices are regulated by the Virginia Lottery Board and requires employees of such licensees to be registered with the Virginia Lottery. The bill imposes criminal and civil penalties for violations of the law and regulations related to electronic gaming devices. The bill imposes a 34 percent tax on all gross profits from the play of such gaming devices and provides for the use of such tax proceeds, with most being deposited into the general fund.

Patron - McPike

F **SB310** Tax credit; nonfamily adoptions. Creates a \$4,000 nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for an individual or married couple who, during the taxable year, finalize a legal nonfamily adoption as defined in the bill.

Patron - Jordan

F SB345 Casino gaming; limits on required local referendums. Provides that the governing body of any eligible host city that holds a local referendum on the question of whether casino gaming should be permitted in such city that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another referendum on the same question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB429** Casino gaming; eligible host cities. Reduces from five to four the number of cities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth by removing Richmond from the list of eligible host cities. *Patron - VanValkenburg* 

F SB511 Sales tax exemption; certain baby products. Creates a retail sales and use tax exemption for certain baby products, including (i) children's diapers, (ii) therapeutic or preventative creams and wipes marketed primarily for use on the skin of children, (iii) child restraint devices or booster seats, (iv) cribs, and (v) strollers meant for transporting children, usually from infancy to 36 months of age. Patron - Williams Graves

F SB512 Income tax credit; adaptive repurposing of underutilized structures. Creates a nonrefundable income tax credit in taxable years 2024 through 2028 for eligible expenses, defined in the bill, incurred in converting office buildings to residential uses. The credit may be claimed only in the year during which a qualified converted building, defined in the bill, is placed into service and is equal to (i) 20 percent or (ii) 30 percent in an at-risk locality, defined in the bill, of the amount of eligible expenses incurred. No single taxapayer may claim more than \$2.5 million in credits in any single taxable year and the credit is subject to an aggregate annual cap of \$30 million.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB523 Sales tax revenues; entertainment arena. Adds entertainment arena to the definition of public facility to allow a locality to collect all sales tax revenues generated by transactions at such a facility, provided that a locality owns an interest in the facility and contributes to financing its construction. The bill also allows a municipality to issue bonds to finance a public facility on or after July 1, 2024, but prior to July 1, 2027.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB555 First-time homebuyer tax credit. Creates a tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for individuals or married couples filing jointly who sell residential real property that is the taxpayer's primary residence and is

located in the Commonwealth to a first-time homebuyer, as defined by the bill. Such credit will be equal to two percent of the sales price of the property, not to exceed \$5,000.

Patron - Williams Graves

F SB573 Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program established. Establishes the Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Emergency Management and financially managed by the Virginia Resources Authority, for the purpose of making loans and awarding grants to local governments for the purpose of assisting with improvement projects relating to public safety radio and communications infrastructure.

Patron - Obenshain

F **SB640** Tax exempt property; energy storage systems. Clarifies the tax treatment of energy storage systems. The bill strikes language that overrides the provision requiring the amount of tax exemption for energy storage systems to be 100 percent if the taxing locality has implemented a revenue share for such systems.

Patron - Durant

F SB651 Military benefits income tax subtraction; age requirement; emergency. Eliminates the age requirement to claim the individual income tax subtraction for military benefits beginning in taxable year 2023. Under current law, only taxpayers 55 years of age or older may claim the subtraction prior to taxable year 2024. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Carroll Foy

F SB703 General appropriations and revenue of the Commonwealth. Includes digital personal property, defined in the bill, in the definition of tangible personal property for the purposes of the retail sales and use tax. Amendments are made throughout the chapter to impose the sales and use tax on streaming services, also defined in the bill, in addition to tangible personal property.

Patron - Lucas

# **Carried Over**

C HB88 Virginia taxable income; standard deduction. Removes the sunset on elevated standard deduction amounts for single individuals and married persons that was scheduled to expire for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026.

Patron - McNamara

C HB116 Sales and use tax exemption; data cen-

ters. Requires data center operators to meet certain energy efficiency standards in order to be eligible for the sales and use tax exemption for data center purchases. Under the bill, a data center operator shall be eligible for the exemption only if such operator demonstrates that (i) its facilities either (a) have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or (b) for data centers co-located in buildings with other commercial uses, achieve an energy efficiency level of no less than the most efficient 15 percent of similar buildings constructed in the previous five years and (ii) it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates from facilities equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or that its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources.

Patron - Sullivan

C HB240 Income tax; contributions to Virginia College Savings Plan accounts; report. Increases the maximum individual income tax deduction for amounts paid or contributed to a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account entered into with the Virginia College Savings Plan from \$4,000 to \$7,500 in taxable year 2024, \$11,000 in taxable year 2025, and \$15,000 for taxable year 2026 and thereafter. Such amount shall be adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) beginning in taxable year 2024. The deduction is limited to \$4,000 for taxpayers with federal adjusted gross income that is greater than \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for married persons filing a joint return.

The bill also creates an individual or corporate deduction, as applicable, of up to \$4,000 for the amount a child day center or child day program paid or contributed to a customer's or client's prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account entered into with the Virginia College Savings Plan.

The bill also provides a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for 35 percent of expenses incurred by a business during the taxable year for contributions into a Virginia College Savings Plan account owned by an employee of the business. If the employee receiving the contribution is a qualified employee, as defined in the bill, the bill specifies that the credit shall not exceed \$500 annually for each such employee who is not highly compensated, as defined in the bill, the bill specifies that the credit shall not exceed \$1,000 annually for each such employee. The bill provides that the total amount of tax credits available for a calendar year shall not exceed \$5 million and that any unused tax credit may be carried over for five years.

Patron - McQuinn

C HB261 Income tax; rolling conformity. Provides that when Virginia does not conform on a rolling basis to federal tax laws due to any changes in a single act of Congress with an impact of more than \$15 million on revenues in the year in which the amendment was enacted or any of the next four years, such nonconformity shall not be considered for purposes of calculating the nonconformity threshold for all amendments in a year with a cumulative projected impact of more than \$75 million in the year in which the amendments were enacted or any of the next four years.

Patron - McNamara

C HB420 Temporary funding of federal park operations. Authorizes the Governor to provide funding and execute necessary agreements to allow the temporary operation of any Virginia property controlled by the National Park Service in the event of a federal government shutdown. Such authority shall be contingent on the U.S. Department of the Interior executing an agreement which authorizes the Commonwealth to operate such property. The bill states that the funds may come from the State Park Conservation Resources Fund, voluntary donations, funds allocated to the Department of Conservation and Recreation, or other sources. However, the bill clarifies that no funds originally allocated from the general fund shall be used to operate a federal park for more than 21 days without the approval of the General Assembly.

Patron - Bulova

C HB447 Motor vehicle rental and peer-to-peer vehicle sharing tax; disposition. Redirects revenues derived from motor vehicle rental and peer-to-peer vehicle sharing taxes from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund to the Special Fund for Administration of Aviation Laws, to be used for

the administration of aviation laws and the construction, maintenance, and improvement of airports.

Patron - Williams

C HB540 Sales tax; exemption for food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Provides an exemption from local sales and use tax beginning July 1, 2024, for food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. The bill also provides an allocation of state revenues to fund the distribution to localities for funding that would have been distributed to them absent the exemption created by the bill. Under current law, such products are exempt from state sales and use tax but are subject to the standard local rate of one percent. Patron - McNamara

C HB552 Corporate income tax; sourcing of sales other than sales of tangible personal property. Implements market-based corporate income tax sourcing for attributing sales, other than sales of tangible personal property, to Virginia beginning with taxable year 2025.

Patron - McNamara

C HB621 Earned income tax credit. Allows eligible low-income taxpayers to claim a refundable income tax credit equal to 20 percent of the federal earned income tax credit claimed that year by the taxpayer for the same taxable year. The bill also states that individuals who would have been entitled to the federal equivalent of this credit but for the fact that the individual, the individual's spouse, or one or more of the individual's children does not have a valid social security number are eligible to claim this credit.

Patron - Price

C HB762 Organ donation leave tax credit. Establishes a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for a taxpayer that is a private employer, as defined by the bill, for certain costs incurred during a period of organ donation leave received by an employee organ donor. *Patron - Delaney* 

C HB865 Imposition of income tax. Establishes a new income tax bracket beginning on and after January 1, 2024, that taxes income in excess of \$1 million at a rate of 10 percent. The bill provides that 50 percent of revenues generated by the new tax bracket will be dedicated to providing additional basic aid funding for public schools, 30 percent of such revenues will be dedicated to the Child Care Subsidy Program, and 20 percent of such revenues will be dedicated to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund.

Patron - Hernandez

C HB887 Income taxes. Creates a new income tax bracket for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024, for income in excess of \$600,000, which is to be taxed at seven percent. The bill also creates two new tax credits: a child and dependent care tax credit and a family caregiver tax credit. Both tax credits would be refundable for Virginia residents and would be available for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024, but before January 1, 2029. The child and dependent care tax credit would equal 50 percent of the federal tax credit allowed for employment-related expenses for household and dependent care services. A similar income tax deduction for employment-related expenses would be sunsetted by the bill. The family caregiver tax credit would apply to expenses incurred by an individual in caring for an eligible family member, defined in the bill, who requires assistance with one or more activities of daily living, also defined in the bill. The family caregiver tax credit equals 50 percent of eligible expenditures incurred by the caregiver up to \$1,000. The

family caregiver tax credit shall be available only to taxpayers that have federal adjusted gross income that is no greater than \$100,000 for individuals or \$200,000 for married persons. *Patron - Watts* 

C HB889 Sales and use tax on services. Levies the retail sales and use tax on the following services: admissions; charges for recreation, fitness, or sports facilities; nonmedical personal services or counseling; dry cleaning and laundry services; companion animal care; residential home repair or maintenance, landscaping, or cleaning services when paid for directly by a resident or homeowner; vehicle and engine repair; repairs or alterations to tangible personal property; storage of tangible personal property; delivery or shipping services; travel, event, and aesthetic planning services; and communications services that are not subject to the communications sales and use tax and are not digital personal property.

The bill also imposes the retail sales and use tax on digital personal property, defined in the bill as a digital product delivered electronically that the purchaser owns or has the ability to continually access without having to pay an additional subscription or usage fee to the seller after paying the initial purchase price.

Revenues generated by the taxes levied on services and digital personal property shall be allocated in the same manner as other sales and use taxes; however, revenues from the state portion of the sales and use tax that would be allocated to the general fund shall instead be allocated to school divisions as follows: (i) 60 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of school-age population and (ii) 40 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of the high-need student population in the locality. The bill clarifies that a high-need student population includes students who are (a) automatically certified for free school meals because of participation in social services programs, (b) participants in a program of special education, or (c) English language learners.

The bill provides certain exemptions to the sales and use tax on services, including health care services that must be performed by a person licensed or certified by the Department of Health Professions, veterinary services, professional services, Internet access services, and services provided by a person who does not receive more than \$2,500 per year in gross receipts for performance of such services. The bill exempts services purchased by a nonprofit organization and services purchased by a homeowners' association or by a landlord for the benefit of his tenant. The bill also repeals the service exemptions currently provided for the sale of custom programs and modification of prewritten programs.

The bill imposes the communications sales and use tax on prepaid calling services and on digital subscription services, defined in the bill as services for which the user pays in order to access and use software, reading materials, or other digital data or applications for a defined period of time, which products the user does not own or have permanent access to outside of such period of time.

Patron - Watts

C HB961 Virginia local journalism sustainability tax credits. Creates a nonrefundable income tax credit for eligible local newspaper publishers, defined in the bill, for compensation paid to local news journalists. The credit is equal to (i) for the first taxable year in which the credit is claimed, the lesser of 10 percent of the actual amounts paid in wages to local news journalists during such taxable year or \$5,000 and (ii) in subsequent taxable years, the lesser of five percent of the actual amounts paid in wages to local news journalists during such taxable year or \$2,500. The credit includes an aggregate cap of \$5 million per taxable year.

The bill also creates a nonrefundable income tax credit for eligible small businesses with fewer than 50 employees for cer-

tain expenses incurred for local media advertising in a local newspaper or in a broadcast of a local radio or television station. The credit is equal to (i) for the first taxable year in which the credit is claimed, the lesser of 80 percent of the actual amounts paid or incurred for qualified local media advertising expenses or \$4,000 and (ii) in subsequent taxable years, the lesser of 50 percent of the actual amounts paid or incurred for qualified local media advertising expenses during such taxable year or \$2,000. The credit includes an aggregate cap of \$10 million per taxable year.

Each of the credits may be claimed in taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024, but before January 1, 2029. *Patron - Lopez* 

C HB969 Child tax credit. Creates a tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for individuals whose households include dependents younger than the age of 18. The bill provides that the amount of the credit will be equal to \$500 for each such dependent for an individual or married persons filing a joint return whose family Virginia adjusted gross income, as defined by Virginia code, does not exceed \$100,000. The bill provides that if the taxpayer is a resident of the Commonwealth for the full taxable year, and the amount of such credit exceeds the taxpayer's liability for the taxable year, the excess shall be refunded by the Tax Commissioner.

Patron - Tran

C HB1078 Family caregiver tax credit. Creates a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for expenses incurred by an individual in caring for an eligible family member, defined in the bill, who requires assistance with one or more activities of daily living, also defined in the bill. The credit equals 50 percent of eligible expenditures incurred by the caregiver up to \$1,000. In order to qualify for the credit, the family caregiver must (i) not receive any compensation or reimbursement for the eligible expenditures and (ii) have federal adjusted gross income that is no greater than \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for married persons. The bill requires the Tax Commissioner to establish guidelines for claiming the credit and provides that any unused credit may be carried forward by the taxpayer for five taxable years following the taxable year for which the credit was issued.

Patron - Rasoul

C HB1096 Housing opportunity tax credit. Increases, for calendar years 2023 through 2025, the amount of housing opportunity tax credits that may be claimed from \$60 million per calendar year to \$100 million per calendar year. *Patron - Thomas* 

**C HB1281** Taxation. Decreases, beginning in taxable year 2025, the income tax imposed (i) on income less than \$3,000, from two percent to 1.75 percent; (ii) on income in excess of \$3,000 but less than \$5,000, from three percent to 2.65 percent; (iii) on income in excess of \$5,000 but less than \$17,000, from five percent to 4.4 percent; and (iv) on income in excess of \$17,000, from 5.75 percent to 5.1 percent.

The bill increases from 20 to 25 percent, beginning in taxable year 2025, the amount of credit eligible taxpayers may claim pursuant to the income tax credit for low-income taxpayers. The bill also increases the annual aggregate amount of Education Improvement Scholarships tax credits that are available from \$25 million to \$30 million beginning fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter.

The bill defines "digital personal property," "streaming," and "taxable service" for the purposes of the retail sales and use tax. The bill increases the sales and use tax from 4.3 percent to 5.2 percent. Amendments are made throughout the bill to impose the sales and use tax on taxable services in addition to

tangible personal property. The bill requires that one half of the additional sales and use tax revenues generated by taxable services and digital personal property that is deposited in the Commonwealth Transportation Fund be distributed to the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund, and the additional one half of such revenues be distributed to the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund until June 30, 2031, or until \$400 million has been deposited in the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Fowler

C HB1292 Income tax subtraction; professional firefighter pension. Establishes an income tax subtraction for up to \$20,000 of firefighter benefits in taxable year 2024, up to \$30,000 in taxable year 2025, and up to \$40,000 in taxable year 2026 and each year thereafter. The bill defines firefighter benefits to include retirement income related to firefighting services and benefits paid to the surviving spouse of a firefighter whose death occurred in the line of duty. Patron - Askew

C HB1414 Reinstatement of the estate tax. Reinstates the estate tax for persons dying on and after July 1, 2024. The bill provides that no estate tax shall be imposed on a gross estate if the majority of the assets of the estate are an interest in a closely held business or a working farm. The bill designates revenues from the estate tax to be used for early childhood care and education purposes.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

C HB1446 Real property tax; assessment of real property used for affordable housing. Requires the duly authorized real estate assessor of a locality to appraise affordable rental housing in accordance with the income approach, as described by the bill. The bill provides that, should the duly authorized real estate assessor fail to follow generally accepted appraisal practices, the assessment will not be entitled to a presumption of correctness, and if the owner then successfully appeals such assessment, the locality shall reimburse the owner for attorney fees and costs incurred.

Patron - Coyner

C HB1470 Income tax deduction; union dues. Provides an income tax deduction beginning in taxable year 2024 for the amount paid by an individual for union dues for participation in a labor organization.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

HB1524 Tax credit for purchase of mobile machinery and equipment used by road contractors for processing recyclable asphalt materials on pavements and roadways. Creates a nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2025 through 2029 in an amount equal to 20 percent of the purchase price paid, as defined in the bill, during the taxable year for machinery and equipment used to reclaim, recycle, or reprocess existing asphalt materials from pavements and roadways. The bill requires a taxpayer to submit invoices with an income tax return verifying the amount of purchase price paid for such machinery and equipment. The bill provides a \$3 million aggregate annual cap on the number of credits to be distributed, as administered by the Department of Taxation. Any credit not used for the taxable year in which the purchasing price for recycling machinery was paid may be carried over for the next 10 years until the total credit amount is used. Patron - Lopez

# C HB1536 Sales tax exemption; certain baby products.

Patron - Mundon King

# C HB1546 Sales and use tax; exemption for data centers.

Patron - Watts

C **SB10** Income tax subtraction; military retirement benefits; uniformed services. Expands the definition of "military benefits" to include an income tax subtraction of retirement income received for service in the uniformed services of the United States, which includes the United States Armed Forces, the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the commissioned corps of the United States Public Health Service. Under current law, the subtraction is only allowed for military retirement income received for service in the United States Armed Forces. *Patron - Reeves* 

C **SB61** Income tax subtraction; firefighter benefits. Establishes an income tax subtraction for up to \$20,000 of firefighter benefits in taxable year 2024, up to \$30,000 in taxable year 2025, and up to \$40,000 in taxable year 2026 and each year thereafter. The bill defines firefighter benefits to include retirement income related to professional firefighting services and benefits paid to the surviving spouse of a firefighter whose death occurred in the line of duty.

Patron - Craig

C SB108 Virginia taxable income; standard deduction. Removes the sunset on elevated standard deduction amounts for single individuals and married persons that was scheduled to expire for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026.

Patron - Suetterlein

C SB124 Sports betting; Virginia college sports. Permits betting, with the exception of proposition betting, on Virginia college sports. Under current law, betting other than proposition betting is allowed on all college sports except Virginia college sports.

Patron - VanValkenburg

C SB126 Personal property tax relief; qualifying vehicles; reimbursement and appropriation. Provides for a portion of the general fund surplus at the close of the immediately preceding fiscal year to be appropriated for increased car tax relief.

If more than \$250 million in general fund surplus remains after all mandatory assignments under current law, then the total amount the Commonwealth shall pay in reimbursements to localities for providing required tangible personal property tax relief on qualifying vehicles for the immediately following tax year, beginning in tax year 2025, shall be \$950 million plus up to 25 percent of the remaining surplus. In such case, the surplus amount would be held in reserve for appropriation for such tax relief and not further assigned by the Comptroller.

If less than \$250 million in general fund surplus remains after such mandatory assignments, the total amount of reimbursements from the Commonwealth to localities would remain at \$950 million, the fixed amount under current law, and the remaining surplus would be assigned by the Comptroller for nonrecurring expenditures.

Also beginning in tax year 2025, the bill increases from \$20,000 to \$30,000 the base vehicle value for which a county, city, or town shall establish its tangible personal property tax rate for each qualifying vehicle and reimbursements from the Commonwealth therefor.

Patron - Craig

C **SB183** Earned income tax credit. Allows eligible low-income taxpayers to claim a refundable income tax

credit equal to 20 percent of the federal earned income tax credit claimed that year by the taxpayer for the same taxable year. The bill also states that individuals who would have been entitled to the federal equivalent of this credit but for the fact that the individual, the individual's spouse, or one or more of the individual's children does not have a valid social security number are eligible to claim this credit.

Patron - Rouse

# C SB192 Sales and use tax exemption; data cen-

ters. Requires data center operators to meet certain energy efficiency standards in order to be eligible for the sales and use tax exemption for data center purchases. Under the bill, a data center operator shall be eligible for the exemption only if such operator demonstrates that (i) its facilities either (a) have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or (b) for data centers co-located in buildings with other commercial uses, achieve an energy efficiency level of no less than the most efficient 15 percent of similar buildings constructed in the previous five years and (ii) it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates from facilities equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or that its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources.

Patron - Subramanyam

# C SB251 Content manufacturing tax credit.

Removes the sunset for the motion picture tax credit, which currently is set to expire after taxable year 2026, and expands and redesignates the tax credit as the content manufacturing tax credit. The bill increases the total amount of credits that can be allocated to taxpayers to \$46.5 million beginning in fiscal year 2024; however, should less than \$100 million worth of certain new investments, as described by the bill, occur in Virginia by January 1, 2027, the cap will be reduced to \$10 million per fiscal year.

The bill also amends the definition of the "qualifying expenses" eligible for the content manufacturing tax credit to mean certain amounts spent in connection with the production of an eligible project filmed in the Commonwealth. The bill defines "eligible project" to be the production of a motion picture or an episodic television series.

Patron - Hashmi

C **SB419** Family caregiver tax credit. Creates a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2024 through 2028 for expenses incurred by an individual in caring for an eligible family member, defined in the bill, who requires assistance with one or more activities of daily living, also defined in the bill. The credit equals 50 percent of eligible expenditures incurred by the caregiver up to \$1,000. In order to qualify for the credit, the family caregiver must (i) not receive any compensation or reimbursement for the eligible expenditures and (ii) have federal adjusted gross income that is no greater than \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for married persons.

Patron - Head

C SB451 Corporate income tax; distribution of revenues; state parks. Requires five percent beginning July 1, 2024, of all corporate income tax revenues to be distributed to the State Park Conservation Resources Fund to provide (i) free entry to Virginia state parks and (ii) the conservation, development, maintenance, and operations of state parks acquired or held by the Department of Conservation and Recreation as provided in the appropriation act. The bill provides that such distribution shall not reduce the total amount of annual appropriations for the Department and the Fund below the total amounts appropriated for the most recent fiscal year ending

before July 1, 2024, except as provided by a subsequent appropriation act.

Patron - Marsden

C SB459 Income tax; rolling conformity. Provides that when Virginia does not conform on a rolling basis to federal tax laws due to any changes in a single act of Congress with an impact of more than \$15 million on revenues in the year in which the amendment was enacted or any of the next four years, such nonconformity shall not be considered for purposes of calculating the nonconformity threshold for all amendments in a year with a cumulative projected impact of more than \$75 million in the year in which the amendments were enacted or any of the next four years.

Patron - Marsden

**SB632** Taxation. Decreases, beginning in taxable year 2025, the income tax imposed (i) on income less than \$3,000, from two percent to 1.75 percent; (ii) on income in excess of \$3,000 but less than \$5,000, from three percent to 2.65 percent; (iii) on income in excess of \$5,000 but less than \$17,000, from five percent to 4.4 percent; and (iv) on income in excess of \$17,000, from 5.75 percent to 5.1 percent.

The bill increases from 20 to 25 percent, beginning in taxable year 2025, the amount of credit eligible taxpayers may claim pursuant to the income tax credit for low-income taxpayers. The bill also increases the annual aggregate amount of Education Improvement Scholarships tax credits that are available from \$25 million to \$30 million beginning fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter.

The bill defines "digital personal property," "streaming," and "taxable service" for the purposes of the retail sales and use tax. The bill increases the sales and use tax from 4.3 percent to 5.2 percent. Amendments are made throughout the bill to impose the sales and use tax on taxable services in addition to tangible personal property. The bill requires that one half of the additional sales and use tax revenues generated by taxable services and digital personal property that is deposited in the Commonwealth Transportation Fund be distributed to the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund, and the additional one half of such revenues be distributed to the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund until June 30, 2031, or until \$400 million has been deposited in the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Fund. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025. Patron - Stuart

C SB662 Income tax subtraction; state police retirement benefits. Establishes an income tax subtraction for up to \$10,000 of state police retirement benefits in taxable year 2024 and each year thereafter. The bill defines state police retirement benefits to include retirement income received by a Virginia State Police officer who is at least 55 years of age and benefits paid to the surviving spouse of such officer whose death occurred in the line of duty.

Patron - Peake

C SB675 Casino gaming; eligible host localities. Adds Fairfax County to the list of localities eligible to host a casino in the Commonwealth and provides that any proposed site for a casino gaming establishment considered by Fairfax County shall be (i) located within one-quarter of a mile of an existing station on the Metro Silver Line, (ii) part of a coordinated mixed-use project development, (iii) outside of the Dulles airport flight path, (iv) within two miles of a major shopping destination containing not less than 1.5 million square feet of gross building area, and (v) outside of the Interstate 495 Beltway. The bill also requires an eligible host locality in selecting a preferred casino gaming operator to consider and give substantial weight to the proposer's history of or com-

mitment to (a) paying or contracting for the payment of prevailing wages to those individuals providing construction labor during the initial construction of the casino gaming establishment and any hospitality facilities on the premises, and (b) entering into labor peace agreements with labor organizations that are actively engaged in representing or seeking to represent employees in the gaming or hospitality industries in the Commonwealth. The bill also requires an eligible host locality to provide with its submission of its preferred casino gaming operator to the Virginia Lottery an executed agreement with its preferred casino gaming operator certifying that such casino gaming operator and any subcontractor or sublessee responsible for the performance of casino gaming or hospitality operations at the proposed casino gaming establishment will enter into a labor peace agreement with each labor organization actively engaged in representing or seeking to represent employees in the gaming or hospitality industries in the Commonwealth that requests such labor peace agreement, and evidence of all such signed labor peace agreements.

Patron - Marsden

C **SB711** Taxation; secrecy of information; taxpayer waiver. Allows a taxpayer to waive confidentiality and secrecy of information provisions of Virginia law with respect to tax information upon executing a written acknowledgement waiver.

Patron - DeSteph

### **Trade and Commerce**

#### **Passed**

P HB61 Enterprise zones; renewal periods. Authorizes the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, to renew enterprise zones for up to four five-year renewal periods for zones designated on or after July 1, 2005, and for up to two five-year renewal periods for zones designated before July 1, 2005. Under current law, zones designated on or after July 1, 2005, may be renewed for up to three such periods and zones designated before July 1, 2005, may be renewed for up to one such period.

Patron - Wright

**HB318** Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability. Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection

Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages. This bill is identical to SB 491. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Helmer

P HB392 Virginia Petroleum Products Franchise Act; agreements between jobber/distributors and dealers; market valuation study. Provides that a term of an initial agreement between a jobber/distributor and a dealer relating to specific marketing premises shall not be less than one year and that the term of all subsequent agreements between the jobber/ distributor and the dealer relating to the same marketing premises shall not be for less than three years. The bill provides that rental provisions in any such agreement or franchise shall be based on commercially fair and reasonable standards at a fair market value of the leased marketing premises under an objectively reasonable analysis, uniformly applied to all similarly situated dealers of the same jobber/distributor in the same geographic area. If a dealer believes the terms of the agreement offered do not meet a fair market value, such dealer may hire, at his expense, an independent third-party appraisal company from a list of appraisal companies provided by the jobber/distributor to provide a market valuation study. The bill provides that such study shall (i) be for informational purposes only, (ii) not require either party to disclose confidential business information, and (iii) not bind either party. The provisions of the bill apply to Planning District 8 and to initial franchise agreements and renewals of franchise agreements entered into after July 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 248.

Patron - Reaser

P HB468 Financial Services Expansion Grant Fund. Creates the Financial Services Expansion Grant Fund to make grant payments to an eligible financial services company that makes a capital investment of at least \$87 million at a facility in Roanoke County and creates at least 1,100 new full-time jobs at the facility. The eligible financial services company would be eligible for an aggregate of \$15 million in grants paid out over a 10-year period if it meets such performance parameters. This bill is identical to SB 156. Patron - McNamara

P HB474 Restroom Access Act. Requires a retail establishment that does not have a public restroom but has an employee toilet facility to allow any customer with an eligible medical condition, as defined in the bill, to use such employee toilet facility during normal business hours if certain conditions are met. A customer who suffers loss as a result of a violation may bring an action to recover damages not to exceed \$100.

Patron - Coyner

P HB707 Consumer Data Protection Act; protections for children. Prohibits, subject to a parental consent requirement, a data controller from processing personal data of a known child (i) for the purposes of targeted advertising, the sale of such personal data, or profiling in furtherance of decisions that produce legal or similarly significant effects concerning a consumer; (ii) unless such processing is reasonably necessary to provide the online service, product, or feature; (iii) for any processing purpose other than the processing purpose that the controller disclosed at the time such controller collected such personal data or that is reasonably necessary for

and compatible with such disclosed purpose; or (iv) for longer than is reasonably necessary to provide the online service, product, or feature. The bill prohibits, subject to a parental consent requirement, a data controller from collecting precise geolocation data from a known child unless (a) such precise geolocation data is reasonably necessary for the controller to provide an online service, product, or feature and, if such data is necessary to provide such online service, product, or feature, such controller shall only collect such data for the time necessary to provide such online service, product, or feature and (b) the controller provides to the known child a signal indicating that such controller is collecting such precise geolocation data, which signal shall be available to such known child for the entire duration of such collection. The bill prohibits a data controller from engaging in the activities described in the bill unless the controller obtains consent from the child's parent or legal guardian in accordance with the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. This bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to SB 361. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB736 Department of Law; compensation for veterans' benefits matters; work group; report. Directs the Department of Law's Division of Consumer Counsel to convene a work group to examine and make recommendations regarding the practice of persons receiving compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual regarding any veterans' benefits matter, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Sewell

P HB744 Consumer protection; automatic renewal or continuous service offers. Requires a supplier making automatic renewal or continuous service offers that automatically renew after more than 30 days and extend the automatic renewal or continuous service offer for a period of more than 12 months to notify the consumer, as defined in the bill, of the option to cancel no less than 30 days and no more than 60 days before the cancellation deadline or the end of the current contract term.

Patron - Maldonado

P HB843 Pari-mutuel wagering; historical horse racing; percentage retained for distribution. Provides that with respect to all authorized historical horse racing terminals, of the amount that a horse racing licensee retains from wagering on historical horse racing pools, 0.025 percent shall be provided to each of the following: (i) the Virginia Breeders Fund; (ii) the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, for its equine programs; (iii) the Virginia Horse Center Foundation; and (iv) the Virginia Horse Industry Board. The bill also provides that, in addition to the amount horse racing licensees distribute to localities and the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund under current law, such licensees shall distribute the remainder of the percentage retained to the Commonwealth as a license tax. This bill is identical to SB 426.

Patron - Austin

P HB1069 Liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products; certification and directory; penalties. Requires every manufacturer of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products that are sold for retail sale in the Commonwealth to certify to the Attorney General that (i) the manufacturer has received a marketing authorization or similar order for the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or (ii) (a) the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product was marketed in the United States as of August 8, 2016, or (b) the manufacturer submitted a premarket tobacco

product application for the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product to the FDA on or before September 9, 2020, and such application either remains under review by the FDA or a final decision on the application has not otherwise taken effect. The bill requires a manufacturer to submit such a form for each liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product that such manufacturer sells for retail sale in the Commonwealth. Under the bill, any manufacturer that falsely represents any of the information required by the certification requirement is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor for each false representation.

The bill requires the Attorney General to establish and maintain a directory that lists all liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product manufacturers and liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products for which current and accurate certification forms have been submitted. The bill requires the Attorney General to remove or exclude from such directory any such product that is not in compliance and to notify the manufacturer of such noncompliance. The bill allows a 10-business-day period for a manufacturer to establish compliance. The bill requires that any such products that are removed from the list be sold or removed from retail sale within 30 days or become subject to seizure and requires a manufacturer, wholesaler, or retail dealer to notify each purchaser of a removed product that it has been removed from the directory at the time of delivery of such product. The bill entitles such a purchaser to a refund of the purchase price and creates a cause of action to recover such

The bill prohibits the sale, distribution, importation, or offer for sale of any liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product that is not listed in the directory. The bill provides for a civil penalty of \$1,000 per day for each product offered for sale in violation of the bill's provisions until the offending product is removed from the market or until the offending product is properly listed on the directory.

The bill requires any person that receives, stores, sells, handles, or transports liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products to preserve all records relating to the purchase, sale, exchange, receipt, or transportation of all liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products for a period of three years. The bill provides that all such records are subject to audit or inspection at any time by any duly authorized representative of the Attorney General. Any person who violates the recordkeeping provisions of the bill is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Additionally, the bill provides that the Department of Taxation, the Attorney General, any other law-enforcement agency of the Commonwealth, or any federal law-enforcement agency conducting a criminal investigation involving the trafficking of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products may access at any time such records. The bill requires the Department of Taxation to impose a penalty of \$1,000 for each day that a person fails or refuses to allow or cooperate with an audit, inspection, or investigation of such records.

The bill authorizes the Attorney General and, with the concurrence of the Attorney General, any attorney for the Commonwealth, or the attorney for any city, county, or town to cause an action to enjoin any violation of the provisions of the bill. The circuit courts are authorized by the bill to (a) issue temporary or permanent injunctions to restrain and prevent violations of the provisions of the bill and (b) order forfeiture of any property seized for such a violation. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to issue a civil investigative demand.

Under the bill, any retailer and wholesaler that sells or distributes any liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product in the Commonwealth is subject to scheduled or unscheduled compliance checks carried out by the Attorney General, or an agent thereof, for enforcement purposes.

The bill requires the Attorney General to provide an annual report to the General Assembly regarding the status of the directory, manufacturers and products included in the directory, and revenues and expenditures related to and enforcement activities undertaken pursuant to the requirements of the bill.

2024 Session Summary

Finally, the bill makes a violation of its provisions a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to SB 550. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Willett

P HB1243 Consumer protection; creation of Unfair Real Estate Service Agreement Act. Creates the Unfair Real Estate Service Agreement Act and adds any violations of the Act to the list of prohibited violations of relevant consumer protection laws in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any real estate service agreement, defined in the bill, that is effective and binding for more than one year from its effective date from (i) purporting to run with the land or bind future owners of interests in the residential real property identified in the service agreement; (ii) allowing the service provider to assign or transfer the right to provide services under the service agreement without notice to and written agreement of all parties to the service agreement; or (iii) purporting to create a lien, encumbrance, or other real property security interest on the residential real property identified in the service agreement. This bill is identical to SB 576.

Patron - Maldonado

HB1301 Virginia Post-Disaster Anti-Price Gouging Act; definitions. Provides that for the purposes of the Virginia Post-Disaster Anti-Price Gouging Act, "consumer transaction" includes transactions involving the advertisement, sale, lease, license, or offering for sale, lease, or license of goods or services to be used for business purposes and the advertisement, sale, lease, license, or contract of employment services to be provided or procured for business purposes. The bill also amends the definition of "time of disaster" to mean the longer of (i) the period of time when a state of emergency declared by the Governor or the President of the United States as the result of a disaster, emergency, or major disaster is in effect or (ii) 30 days after the occurrence of the disaster, emergency, or major disaster that resulted in the declaration of the state of emergency. Under current law, the definition of "time of disaster" means the shorter of the time periods specified in clauses (i) and (ii).

Patron - Kilgore

P HB1351 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; ignition interlock system. Provides that advertising for any ignition interlock system by a vendor not approved by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program to operate in Virginia; targeted advertising to a person before a determination of guilt; and any advertising, before or after a determination of guilt, without a conspicuous statement that such advertisement is not affiliated with any government agency is an unlawful consumer transaction in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill exempts advertisements approved by the Commission and provided at a Commission-approved location.

Patron - Williams

P HB1370 Reporting of medical debt to consumer reporting agencies by certain health care providers; prohibited. Prohibits certain medical care facilities, certain health care professionals, and emergency medical services agencies from reporting any portion of a medical debt, defined in the bill, to a consumer reporting agency. The bill prohibits collection entities collecting or attempting to collect a medical debt from reporting such collection or attempts to collect to a consumer reporting agency. The bill provides that a willful vio-

lation of such provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Patron - Delaney

P HB1519 Fees for electronic fund transfers; prohibited. Provides that charging any transaction or processing fee or similar surcharge for the purchase of a good or service through the use of an electronic fund transfer is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also prohibits landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act from charging a transaction or processing fee for the payment of a security deposit, rent, or any other amounts payable. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Srinivasan

P HB1539 Abortion or other reproductive health care services; prohibitions on extradition for certain crimes; prohibited practices under Virginia Consumer **Protection Act.** Provides that no demand for extradition of a person charged with a criminal violation of the law of another state shall be recognized by the Governor if such alleged violation involves the receipt of or assistance with reproductive health care services, defined in the bill, within the Commonwealth unless the alleged criminal violation would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that such limit on extradition shall not apply when the person who is subject to such demand for extradition by another state was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged offense and thereafter fled from such state. The bill adds obtaining, disclosing, selling, or disseminating certain enumerated personal reproductive or sexual health information without the consent of the consumer as a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill incorporates HB 1493. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Simon

P SB156 Financial Services Expansion Grant

**Fund.** Creates the Financial Services Expansion Grant Fund to make grant payments to an eligible financial services company that makes a capital investment of at least \$87 million at a facility in Roanoke County and creates at least 1,100 new full-time jobs at the facility. The eligible financial services company would be eligible for an aggregate of \$15 million in grants paid out over a 10-year period if it meets such performance parameters. This bill is identical to HB 468.

Patron - Head

P SB212 Virginia Small Business Economic Development Act established; regulation of skill game machines; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Small Business Economic Development Act for the purpose of providing a regulatory and registration scheme for skill game machines in the Commonwealth. The bill authorizes and specifies the registration requirements for the distribution, operation, hosting, and play of skill game machines, as defined in the bill. The bill imposes a 25 percent tax on the gross receipts from the play of each skill game machine from each distributor and provides for the use of such tax proceeds, with most being deposited into the PreK-12 Priority Fund, established in the bill. The bill directs the Virginia Lottery Board to promulgate regulations no later than January 1, 2027, to implement the provisions of the bill and authorizes the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant a provisional registration, beginning July 1, 2024, to any entity that provides a laboratory certification from a laboratory approved by the Authority that the game being distributed, operated, or placed in an establishment meets the

definition and requirements of a skill game machine. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rouse

**SB248** Virginia Petroleum Products Franchise Act; agreements between jobber/distributors and dealers; market valuation study. Provides that a term of an initial agreement between a jobber/distributor and a dealer relating to specific marketing premises shall not be less than one year and that the term of all subsequent agreements between the jobber/ distributor and the dealer relating to the same marketing premises shall not be for less than three years. The bill provides that rental provisions in any such agreement or franchise shall be based on commercially fair and reasonable standards at a fair market value of the leased marketing premises under an objectively reasonable analysis, uniformly applied to all similarly situated dealers of the same jobber/distributor in the same geographic area. If a dealer believes the terms of the agreement offered do not meet a fair market value, such dealer may hire, at his expense, an independent third-party appraisal company from a list of appraisal companies provided by the jobber/distributor to provide a market valuation study. The bill provides that such study shall (i) be for informational purposes only, (ii) not require either party to disclose confidential business information, and (iii) not bind either party. The provisions of the bill apply to Planning District 8 and to initial franchise agreements and renewals of franchise agreements entered into after July 1, 2024. This bill is identical to HB 392.

Patron - McPike

**P SB361** Consumer Data Protection Act; protections for children. Prohibits, subject to a parental consent requirement, a data controller from processing personal data of a known child (i) for the purposes of targeted advertising, the sale of such personal data, or profiling in furtherance of decisions that produce legal or similarly significant effects concerning a consumer; (ii) unless such processing is reasonably necessary to provide the online service, product, or feature; (iii) for any processing purpose other than the processing purpose that the controller disclosed at the time such controller collected such personal data or that is reasonably necessary for and compatible with such disclosed purpose; or (iv) for longer than is reasonably necessary to provide the online service, product, or feature. The bill prohibits, subject to a parental consent requirement, a data controller from collecting precise geolocation data from a known child unless (a) such precise geolocation data is reasonably necessary for the controller to provide an online service, product, or feature and, if such data is necessary to provide such online service, product, or feature, such controller shall only collect such data for the time necessary to provide such online service, product, or feature and (b) the controller provides to the known child a signal indicating that such controller is collecting such precise geolocation data, which signal shall be available to such known child for the entire duration of such collection. The bill prohibits a data controller from engaging in the activities described in the bill unless the controller obtains consent from the child's parent or legal guardian in accordance with the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. This bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and is identical to HB 707. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P SB426 Pari-mutuel wagering; historical horse racing; percentage retained for distribution. Provides that with respect to all authorized historical horse racing terminals, of the amount that a horse racing licensee retains from wagering on historical horse racing pools, 0.025 percent shall be provided to each of the following: (i) the Virginia Breeders Fund; (ii) the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary

Medicine, for its equine programs; (iii) the Virginia Horse Center Foundation; and (iv) the Virginia Horse Industry Board. The bill also provides that, in addition to the amount horse racing licensees distribute to localities and the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund under current law, such licensees shall distribute the remainder of the percentage retained to the Commonwealth as a license tax. This bill is identical to HB 843.

Patron - Deeds

SB491 Firearm industry members; standards of responsible conduct; civil liability. Creates standards of responsible conduct for firearm industry members and requires such members to establish and implement reasonable controls regarding the manufacture, sale, distribution, use, and marketing of the firearm industry member's firearm-related products, as those terms are defined in the bill. Such reasonable controls include reasonable procedures, safeguards, and business practices that are designed to (i) prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages. This bill is identical to HB 318. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Carroll Foy

SB550 Liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products; certification and directory; penalties. Requires every manufacturer of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products that are sold for retail sale in the Commonwealth to certify to the Attorney General that (i) the manufacturer has received a marketing authorization or similar order for the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or (ii) (a) the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product was marketed in the United States as of August 8, 2016, or (b) the manufacturer submitted a premarket tobacco product application for the liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product to the FDA on or before September 9, 2020, and such application either remains under review by the FDA or a final decision on the application has not otherwise taken effect. The bill requires a manufacturer to submit such a form for each liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product that such manufacturer sells for retail sale in the Commonwealth. Under the bill, any manufacturer that falsely represents any of the information required by the certification requirement is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor for each false representation.

The bill requires the Attorney General to establish and maintain a directory that lists all liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product manufacturers and liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products for which current and accurate certification forms have been submitted. The bill requires the Attorney General to

remove or exclude from such directory any such product that is not in compliance and to notify the manufacturer of such non-compliance. The bill allows a 10-business-day period for a manufacturer to establish compliance. The bill requires that any such products that are removed from the list be sold or removed from retail sale within 30 days or become subject to seizure and requires a manufacturer, wholesaler, or retail dealer to notify each purchaser of a removed product that it has been removed from the directory at the time of delivery of such product. The bill entitles such a purchaser to a refund of the purchase price and creates a cause of action to recover such refund.

The bill prohibits the sale, distribution, importation, or offer for sale of any liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product that is not listed in the directory. The bill provides for a civil penalty of \$1,000 per day for each product offered for sale in violation of the bill's provisions until the offending product is removed from the market or until the offending product is properly listed on the directory.

The bill requires any person that receives, stores, sells, handles, or transports liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products to preserve all records relating to the purchase, sale, exchange, receipt, or transportation of all liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products for a period of three years. The bill provides that all such records are subject to audit or inspection at any time by any duly authorized representative of the Attorney General. Any person who violates the recordkeeping provisions of the bill is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Additionally, the bill provides that the Department of Taxation, the Attorney General, any other law-enforcement agency of the Commonwealth, or any federal law-enforcement agency conducting a criminal investigation involving the trafficking of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products may access at any time such records. The bill requires the Department of Taxation to impose a penalty of \$1,000 for each day that a person fails or refuses to allow or cooperate with an audit, inspection, or investigation of such records.

The bill authorizes the Attorney General and, with the concurrence of the Attorney General, any attorney for the Commonwealth, or the attorney for any city, county, or town to cause an action to enjoin any violation of the provisions of the bill. The circuit courts are authorized by the bill to (a) issue temporary or permanent injunctions to restrain and prevent violations of the provisions of the bill and (b) order forfeiture of any property seized for such a violation. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to issue a civil investigative demand.

Under the bill, any retailer and wholesaler that sells or distributes any liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor product in the Commonwealth is subject to scheduled or unscheduled compliance checks carried out by the Attorney General, or an agent thereof, for enforcement purposes.

The bill requires the Attorney General to provide an annual report to the General Assembly regarding the status of the directory, manufacturers and products included in the directory, and revenues and expenditures related to and enforcement activities undertaken pursuant to the requirements of the bill. Finally, the bill makes a violation of its provisions a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to HB 1069. This bill received Governor's recom-

mendations.

Patron - Deeds

P SB576 Consumer protection; creation of Unfair Real Estate Service Agreement Act. Creates the Unfair Real Estate Service Agreement Act and adds any violations of the Act to the list of prohibited violations of relevant consumer protection laws in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any real estate service agreement, defined in the bill, that is effective and binding for more than one year from its effective date from (i) purporting to run with the land or bind future

owners of interests in the residential real property identified in the service agreement; (ii) allowing the service provider to assign or transfer the right to provide services under the service agreement without notice to and written agreement of all parties to the service agreement; or (iii) purporting to create a lien, encumbrance, or other real property security interest on the residential real property identified in the service agreement. This bill is identical to HB 1243.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB679 Enterprise zones; extension. Provides that any enterprise zone in existence as of June 30, 2024, shall be extended for a period of four years in addition to any renewal periods currently authorized by law and authorizes the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, to renew enterprise zones for up to four five-year renewal periods for zones designated on or after July 1, 2005, and for up to two five-year renewal periods for zones designated before July 1, 2005. This bill incorporates SB 722. Patron - Head

#### Failed

F HB277 Consumer protection; transparency in ticket fees; civil penalties. Requires any person selling or reselling a ticket to an event to clearly and conspicuously display the total cost of the ticket from the first time a price is displayed and any time thereafter. The bill allows for a civil penalty of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000 for each violation.

Patron - Helmer

F HB590 Regulation of electronic gaming devices; penalties. Authorizes and specifies the licensing requirements for the manufacture, distribution, operation, hosting, and playing of electronic gaming devices, as defined in the bill, under the regulatory authority of the Virginia Lottery Board. The bill imposes a 30 percent tax on all gross profits from the play of such electronic gaming devices and provides for the use of such tax proceeds. The bill also imposes criminal and civil penalties for violations of the law and regulations related to electronic gaming devices.

Patron - Hayes

F HB821 Consumer Data Protection Act; protections for children. Requires a controller or processor to obtain verifiable parental consent, defined in the bill, prior to registering any child with the operator's product or service or before collecting, using, or disclosing such child's personal data and prohibits a controller from knowingly processing the personal data of a child for purposes of (i) targeted advertising, (ii) the sale of such personal data, or (iii) profiling in furtherance of decisions that produce legal or similarly significant effects concerning a consumer. The bill also amends the definition of child for purposes of the Consumer Data Protection Act to include any natural person younger than 18 years of age. Patron - Cherry

F HB877 Virginia Social Media Regulation Act established; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Social Media Regulation Act for the purpose of prohibiting minors in Virginia from possessing an account on any social media platform, defined in the bill, without the express consent of a parent or guardian. The bill requires a social media company to provide a minor's parent or guardian with access to the minor's account and all posts and information on such account. The bill also places prohibitions on the type of data and personal information a social media platform may collect from a minor

account holder and prohibits the use of any practice, design, or feature on a social media company's platform that the company knows, or should reasonably know, could cause a minor account holder to have an addiction to the social media platform. Lastly, the bill provides that any violation of the Virginia Social Media Regulation Act shall constitute a prohibited practice and be subject to the enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Patron - Earley

F HB1115 Consumer Data Protection Act; social media platforms. Prohibits a person that operates a social media platform that has knowledge that a user of the social media platform is a child under the age of 18 from implementing certain practices, designs, and features of the social media platform for any interaction with such child that includes infinite scroll, auto-playing videos, push notifications, gamification, and virtual gifts.

Patron - Hodges

HB1155 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; electric vehicle battery suppliers; certification; penalty. Requires each supplier of electric vehicle batteries operating in the Commonwealth to certify under penalty of perjury to the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that no electric vehicle batteries sold in consumer transactions, as defined in the bill, are manufactured in or sourced from African cobalt mines and that the manufacture or sourcing of such electric vehicle batteries involves no child or slave labor. Certification is required by suppliers by July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter. Under the bill, it is unlawful for an electric vehicle battery supplier to sell, lease, or license any electric vehicle battery without first obtaining a certificate of compliance from the Commissioner, and a violation of this requirement constitutes a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1161 Consumer Data Protection Act; social media; parental consent. Requires social media platforms, defined in the bill, that are subject to the provisions of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act to obtain verifiable parental consent prior to permitting any minor to create an account with such social media platform and, with such account, use the social media platform. The bill requires such social media platforms to give the parent or guardian the option to consent to the collection and use of the minor's personal data without consenting to the disclosure of such minor's personal data to third parties.

Patron - Wyatt

**HB1265** Consumer reporting agencies; medical debt. Prohibits a consumer reporting agency from making any consumer report containing any adverse item of information that the consumer reporting agency knows or should know concerns medical debt except in the case of any consumer report to be used in connection with a credit transaction involving a principal amount that exceeds the national conforming loan limit value for a one-unit property as determined annually by the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

Patron - Willett

F HB1509 Restrictions on the sale of nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine and hemp products intended for smoking; civil penalties. Provides restrictions and prohibitions on certain retail sales that include (i) restrictions on the number of nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine, liquid nicotine containers, and hemp products intended for smoking, as such terms are defined in the bill, that may be sold in one transaction to a consumer; (ii) packag-

ing, labeling, and signage requirements for those selling any nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine or hemp products intended for smoking; (iii) advertising and marketing requirements for those selling any nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine or hemp products intended for smoking; (iv) education requirements for employees at retail establishments selling nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine or hemp products intended for smoking; and (v) online delivery sale requirements of nicotine vapor products containing liquid nicotine or hemp products intended for smoking. The Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as applicable, shall enforce such requirements and restrictions and shall impose civil penalties on violations thereof.

Patron - Seibold

F SB388 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; mandatory fees disclosure. Prohibits a supplier in connection with a consumer transaction from advertising, displaying, or offering any pricing information for goods or services without prominently displaying the total price, which shall include all mandatory fees or charges other than taxes imposed. The bill defines "mandatory fees or charges" as any fee or surcharge that must be paid in order to purchase the advertised good or service, that is not reasonably avoidable, and that a reasonable consumer would expect to be included. The bill clarifies that such term does not include shipping fees or taxes or fees imposed by a government or government-approved entity.

Patron - Pekarsky

F SB667 Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund; performance agreement. Removes the authority to make commitments related to accelerated permitting, property tax classifications, and other such issues in an agreement between a qualified company and a locality for purposes of the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund.

Patron - Stuart

F SB722 Enterprise zones; renewal periods. Authorizes the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, to renew enterprise zones for up to four five-year renewal periods for zones designated on or after July 1, 2005, and for up to two five-year renewal periods for zones designated before July 1, 2005. Under current law, zones designated on or after July 1, 2005, may be renewed for up to three such periods and zones designated before July 1, 2005, may be renew for up to one such period. This bill is incorporated into SB 679.

Patron - Mulchi

# **Carried Over**

C HB228 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; recycling information on products. Prohibits the sale or offering for sale of any product that indicates on the product's container or packaging that such container or packaging is recyclable unless such container or packaging is made out of a material that is recyclable under a majority of regional and local waste management plans. The bill requires the Virginia Waste Management Board to maintain a list of all materials that are recyclable under a majority of regional and local waste management plans adopted in the Commonwealth and to make such list available on the Department of Environmental Quality's website.

Patron - Cole

C HB747 Artificial Intelligence Developer Act established; civil penalty. Creates operating standards for developers and deployers, as those terms are defined in the bill, relating to artificial intelligence, including (i) avoiding certain risks, (ii) protecting against discrimination, (iii) providing disclosures, and (iv) conducting impact assessments and provides that the Office of the Attorney General shall enforce the provisions of the bill. The provisions of the bill related to operating standards for deployers have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Maldonado

C HB1280 Consumer protection; failure to honor service warranty. Prohibits a supplier in connection with a consumer transaction from failing to honor a service warranty of another supplier after acquiring the business of such other supplier. A violation of the provisions of the bill constitutes a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Patron - Hernandez

C HB1320 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; mandatory fees disclosure. Prohibits a supplier in connection with a consumer transaction from advertising, displaying, or offering any pricing information for goods or services without prominently displaying the total price, which shall include all mandatory fees or charges other than taxes imposed.

Patron - McClure

C SB164 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; artificial intelligence disclosure. Prohibits the dissemination or sale of an item created with artificial intelligence technology that contains a videographic or still image intending to depict an actual person or an audio or audio-visual recording intending to depict the voice of an actual person where the creator has not disclosed the use of artificial intelligence technology.

Patron - Reeves

C SB252 Consumer Data Protection Act; controller privacy notice; cookies; consumer consent. Requires the privacy notice that a controller must provide to consumers to include a method by which a consumer may opt out of the automatic placement of a data file, commonly referred to as a "cookie," on the consumer's computer or web browser and a disclosure of the purposes for which the data files are used. The bill prohibits controllers from using cookies, except those that are strictly necessary, without the prior express consent of the consumer and prohibits controllers from preventing access to their services if such consent is not granted. The bill also requires controllers to document and store proof of such consent and make available an easily accessible method by which consumers may withdraw such consent.

Patron - McDougle

C SB302 Virginia First Manufacturing Incentive Program. Directs the Manufacturing Development Commission (the Commission) to develop a budget and business plan to establish a Virginia First Manufacturing Incentive Program (the Program). The bill provides that the business plan shall identify existing manufacturers in the Commonwealth that are potential candidates for reshoring, near-shoring, or in-shoring manufacturing jobs and capital investments. The bill directs that the Program focus on expanding and recruiting manufacturing operations that produce products identified as critical infrastructure by providing discretionary incentive funding for trade adjustment assistance. Finally, the bill requires that the Commission present the budget and business plan to the Secre-

tary of Commerce and Trade and the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology by October 1, 2024. Patron - DeSteph

C SB359 Consumer Data Protection Act; social media platforms; addictive feed. Prohibits a person that operates a social media platform that has knowledge that a user of the social media platform is a child under the age of 18 from using an addictive feed, defined in the bill, unless such social media platform obtains verifiable parental consent. Patron - VanValkenburg

C SB432 Consumer Data Protection Act; protections for children. Requires a controller or processor to obtain verifiable parental consent, defined in the bill, prior to registering any child with the operator's product or service or before collecting, using, or disclosing such child's personal data and prohibits a controller from knowingly processing the personal data of a child for purposes of (i) targeted advertising, (ii) the sale of such personal data, or (iii) profiling in furtherance of decisions that produce legal or similarly significant effects concerning a consumer. The bill also amends the definition of child for purposes of the Consumer Data Protection Act to include any natural person younger than 18 years of age. Patron - Suetterlein

C SB684 Online Children's Safety Protection Act established; civil penalties. Creates the Online Children's Safety Protection Act, which requires certain duties of covered entities, defined in the bill, to protect the best interests of children who use online services, products, or features. The bill requires any covered entity that provides an online service, product, or feature likely to be accessed by a child to complete a data protection impact assessment, the details of which are described in the bill, within two years before any new online service, product, or feature is offered to the public on or after July 1, 2024. The bill also prohibits certain actions by covered entities and authorizes the Attorney General to impose penalties and initiate actions against any covered entity that violates the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Stanley

# **Unemployment Compensation**

#### Passed

P HB14 Unemployment compensation; employer failure to respond to requests for information; claim deter**mination; notice requirements.** Provides that an employer's account shall not be relieved of charges relating to an erroneous payment if the Virginia Employment Commission determines that (i) the employer has failed to respond timely or adequately to a written request for information related to the claim and (ii) the employer has established a pattern of failing to respond timely or adequately to such requests, as described in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to provide written notice for each instance of untimely or inadequate employer response to such requests. The bill provides that upon the Commission's third determination, and for each subsequent determination, within the applicable review period that an employer failed to respond timely or adequately to such a request, the employer shall be considered to have waived all rights in connection with the claim, including participation and appeal rights. The bill requires a deputy examining a claim to provide the reasoning behind the decision, as described in the bill, and a short statement of case-specific facts material to the

determination together with any notice of determination upon a claim. The provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Unemployment Compensation. This bill is identical to SB 381.

Patron - Ware

P HB938 Unemployment insurance; benefit eligibility conditions; lockout exception to labor dispute disqualification. Amends the Virginia Unemployment Compensation Act's labor dispute disqualification to provide that a lockout by an employer shall not constitute a labor dispute and that locked-out employees who are otherwise eligible for benefits shall receive such benefits unless (i) the recognized or certified collective bargaining representative of the lockedout employees refuses to meet under reasonable conditions with the employer to discuss the issues giving rise to the lockout, (ii) there is a final adjudication under the federal National Labor Relations Act that such representative has refused to bargain in good faith with the employer, or (iii) the lockout is the direct result of such representative's violation of an existing collective bargaining agreement. This bill is identical to SB 542. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P HB1103 Virginia Employment Commission; provision of certain confidential information to the Virginia Port Authority. Requires the Virginia Employment Commission to provide certain employment information to the Virginia Port Authority as may be necessary to facilitate the administration and enforcement by the Authority of performance agreements with businesses that have received incentive awards. The bill provides that any information provided to the Authority is confidential, requires that the information only be disclosed to members of the Authority who are public officials or employees of the Authority for the performance of their official duties, and prohibits redisclosure of any such confidential information to nonlegislative citizen members of the Authority or to the public.

Patron - Wyatt

P HB1261 Unemployment compensation; continuation of benefits; repayment of overpayments. Reinstates provisions of the Code that expired on July 1, 2022, relating to unemployment compensation. The bill provides that when a claimant has had a determination of initial eligibility for unemployment benefits, as determined by the issuance of compensation or waiting-week credit, payments shall continue, subject to a presumption of continued eligibility, until a determination is made that provides the claimant notice and an opportunity to be heard. The bill requires the Virginia Employment Commission to waive the obligation to repay any overpayment if (i) the overpayment was made without fault on the part of the individual receiving benefits and (ii) requiring repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience. Conditions for when overpayments are considered "without fault on the part of the individual" are outlined in the bill. The bill further provides that the Commission shall notify each person with an unpaid overpayment of benefits that he may be entitled to a waiver of repayment and provide 30 days to request such a waiver. This applies to outstanding overpayments established for claim weeks commencing on or after March 15, 2020. Finally, the bill adds overpayments that the Commission has waived the requirement to repay to the list of situations where specific employers are not responsible for benefit charges. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028. This bill is identical to SB 536.

Patron - Tran

P HB1453 Virginia Employment Commission; appeals proceedings; appeal tribunals and Board of Review; repeal. Specifies that any determination made by the Virginia Employment Commission in regard to any amount required to be deducted and withheld from unemployment compensation for purposes of child support obligations is final. The bill contains a number of technical amendments related to the Commission's appeals proceedings. The bill also repeals provisions related to appeal tribunals and the Commission-appointed Board of Review and contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to SB 655.

Patron - Price

SB373 Paid family and medical leave insurance program; notice requirements; civil action. Requires the Virginia Employment Commission to establish and administer a paid family and medical leave insurance program with benefits beginning January 1, 2027. Under the program, benefits are paid to covered individuals, as defined in the bill, for family and medical leave. The bill specifies that covered individuals shall not include state employees, constitutional and other local officers, and employees of local school divisions and that funding for the program is provided through premiums assessed to employers and employees beginning January 1, 2026. The bill provides that the amount of a benefit is 80 percent of the employee's average weekly wage, not to exceed 80 percent of the state weekly wage, which amount is required to be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the statewide average weekly wage. The bill caps the duration of paid leave at 12 weeks in any application year and provides self-employed individuals the option of participating in the program. Finally, the bill requires the Commission to update its 2021 Paid Family and Medical Leave study to include an assessment of the budgetary impacts of extending the benefits of the program to exempt individuals. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Boysko

SB381 Unemployment compensation; employer failure to respond to requests for information; claim determination; notice requirements. Provides that an employer's account shall not be relieved of charges relating to an erroneous payment if the Virginia Employment Commission determines that (i) the employer has failed to respond timely or adequately to a written request for information related to the claim and (ii) the employer has established a pattern of failing to respond timely or adequately to such requests, as described in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to provide written notice for each instance of untimely or inadequate employer response to such requests. The bill provides that upon the Commission's third determination, and for each subsequent determination, within the applicable review period that an employer failed to respond timely or adequately to such a request, the employer shall be considered to have waived all rights in connection with the claim, including participation and appeal rights. The bill requires a deputy examining a claim to provide the reasoning behind the decision, as described in the bill, and a short statement of case-specific facts material to the determination together with any notice of determination upon a claim. The provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Unemployment Compensation. This bill is identical to HB 14.

Patron - Ebbin

P **SB382** Unemployment compensation; collection of overpayments; limitations. Provides that collection activities for an overpayment, provided that such overpayment was not caused by fraud on the part of the claimant, shall be suspended and that the Virginia Employment Commission

shall determine as uncollectable and discharge the overpayment if it remains unpaid after the earliest of the following: (i) after the expiration of five years from the last day of the benefit year in which the overpayment was made, (ii) immediately upon the death of the claimant, (iii) upon the claimant's discharge in bankruptcy occurring subsequently to the determination of payment, or (iv) at any time where the Commission finds such overpayment to be uncollectible or the recovery of such overpayment to be administratively impracticable. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Unemployment Compensation.

Patron - Ebbin

P SB536 Unemployment compensation; continuation of benefits; repayment of overpayments. Reinstates provisions of the Code that expired on July 1, 2022, relating to unemployment compensation. The bill provides that when a claimant has had a determination of initial eligibility for unemployment benefits, as determined by the issuance of compensation or waiting-week credit, payments shall continue, subject to a presumption of continued eligibility, until a determination is made that provides the claimant notice and an opportunity to be heard. The bill requires the Virginia Employment Commission to waive the obligation to repay any overpayment if (i) the overpayment was made without fault on the part of the individual receiving benefits and (ii) requiring repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience. Conditions for when overpayments are considered "without fault on the part of the individual" are outlined in the bill. The bill further provides that the Commission shall notify each person with an unpaid overpayment of benefits that he may be entitled to a waiver of repayment and provide 30 days to request such a waiver. This applies to outstanding overpayments established for claim weeks commencing on or after March 15, 2020. Finally, the bill adds overpayments that the Commission has waived the requirement to repay to the list of situations where specific employers are not responsible for benefit charges. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028. This bill is identical to HB

Patron - Bagby

SB542 Unemployment insurance; benefit eligibility conditions; lockout exception to labor dispute disqualification. Amends the Virginia Unemployment Compensation Act's labor dispute disqualification to provide that a lockout by an employer shall not constitute a labor dispute and that locked-out employees who are otherwise eligible for benefits shall receive such benefits unless (i) the recognized or certified collective bargaining representative of the lockedout employees refuses to meet under reasonable conditions with the employer to discuss the issues giving rise to the lockout, (ii) there is a final adjudication under the federal National Labor Relations Act that such representative has refused to bargain in good faith with the employer, or (iii) the lockout is the direct result of such representative's violation of an existing collective bargaining agreement. This bill is identical to HB 938. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Bagby

P SB655 Virginia Employment Commission; appeals proceedings; appeal tribunals and Board of Review; repeal. Specifies that any determination made by the Virginia Employment Commission in regard to any amount required to be deducted and withheld from unemployment compensation for purposes of child support obligations is final. The bill contains a number of technical amendments related to the Commission's appeals proceedings. The bill also repeals provisions related to appeal tribunals and the Commission-

appointed Board of Review and contains technical amendments. This bill is identical to HB 1453.

Patron - DeSteph

Failed

HB82 Unemployment compensation; maximum

duration of benefits. Provides that the maximum duration for which a claimant may receive unemployment compensation benefits shall be calculated based on the average, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the Commonwealth for the three months preceding the month in which such claimant files his first claim in a benefit year.

Patron - Fowler

F HB543 Virginia Employment Commission; appeals proceedings; appeal tribunals and Board of Review; repeal. Specifies that any determination made by the Virginia Employment Commission in regards to any amount required to be deducted and withheld from unemployment compensation for purposes of child support obligations is final. The bill contains a number of technical amendments related to the Commission's appeals proceedings. The bill also repeals provisions related to appeal tribunals and the Commission-appointed Board of Review and contains technical amendments.

Patron - Walker

HB737 Paid family and medical leave insurance program; notice requirements; civil action. Requires the Virginia Employment Commission to establish and administer a paid family and medical leave insurance program with benefits beginning January 1, 2027. Under the program, benefits are paid to covered individuals, as defined in the bill, for family and medical leave. Funding for the program is provided through premiums assessed to employers and employees beginning January 1, 2026. The bill provides that the amount of a benefit is 80 percent of the employee's average weekly wage, not to exceed 80 percent of the state weekly wage, which amount is required to be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the statewide average weekly wage. The bill caps the duration of paid leave at 12 weeks in any application year and provides self-employed individuals the option of participating in the program.

Patron - Sewell

# **Uniform Commercial Code** — **General Provisions**

# **Passed**

P HB1286 Uniform Commercial Code; amendments. Makes a number of amendments to the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) as adopted in Virginia. The bill amends the definitions of "money" and "conspicuous" for purposes of the UCC and makes extensive amendments throughout provisions related to UCC Article 9 to accommodate emerging technologies. Such amendments include updating the traditional rules for attachment and perfection to apply to digital assets, such as controllable electronic records, and changes to several definitions, including "chattel paper," which is reconfigured to reflect the concept that chattel paper is a secured party's or lessor's right to payment that is secured by specific goods or owned by a lessee under an agreement that includes specific goods, if evidenced by a tangible or electronic record. Under

current law, UCC Article 9 provides that perfection of money is through possession; however, since the definition of "money" is amended by this bill to include intangible assets, the amended provisions related to UCC Article 9 describe perfection by control, requiring the electronic money to either be in a deposit account or evidenced through a controllable electronic record. Further amendments to provisions related to UCC Article 9 include updates to governing law provisions for perfection and priority of security interests in chattel paper and in controllable electronic records, controllable accounts, and controllable payment intangibles.

The bill includes amendments to provisions governing sales and leases to provide clarification regarding hybrid or bundled transactions and adds definitions for "hybrid transaction" and "hybrid lease." The bill provides the following approach to the application of provisions related to sales or leases in hybrid or bundled transactions: if the goods aspect of the hybrid transaction predominates, then the provisions that relate to sales or leases apply, but if other aspects predominate, then the provisions that relate primarily to the goods but not the transaction as a whole apply.

The bill also adds a new title that parallels UCC Article 12, relating to controllable electronic records, as defined in the bill, and explaining the payment rights of a purchaser of an electronic record when such record is transferred. To fall within the scope of these provisions, the bill specifies that an electronic record must be controllable. The bill provides that to transfer the economic value associated with the controllable electronic record, or to receive the benefits associated with the controllable electronic record free of competing property interests, a person must have control of the controllable electronic record, which depends on requirements as described in the bill. The new title that parallels UCC Article 12 also describes qualifying purchasers of controllable electronic records, debtor security interests in relation to the person identified as in control of the controllable electronic record, and how to demonstrate control for purposes of priority and order of payment rights. These new provisions also include choice of law provisions to determine jurisdiction of a controllable electronic record.

The bill includes a number of transition provisions to address perfection and priority issues that may arise after the effective date of the bill. Under the transition provisions of the bill, the Commonwealth may provide an adjustment date of one year after the effective date of the bill to allow persons with established perfection or priority to perfect their interests that may otherwise be affected or lost after the adjustment date based on the UCC amendments in the bill. Finally, the bill makes technical amendments throughout the UCC.

As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Commissioners to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

Patron - Hayes

# Waters of the State, Ports and Harbors

#### **Passed**

P HB71 Combined sewer overflow outfalls; compliance with regulations; Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Extends from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026, the date by which certain combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls that discharge into the Chesapeake Bay Watershed must be in compliance with Virginia law, the federal Clean Water Act, and the Presumption Approach described in the EPA CSO Control Policy,

unless a higher level of control is necessary to comply with a total maximum daily load. This bill is identical to SB 372.

Patron - Bulova

P HB656 Regulated land-disturbing activities; submission and approval of erosion and sediment control plan. Prohibits a person from engaging in any land-disturbing activity until, where Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit coverage is required, the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program (VESCP) authority has obtained evidence of such permit coverage from the Department of Environmental Quality's online reporting system prior to issuing its land-disturbance approval. Current law requires the VESCP authority to obtain such evidence of VPDES permit coverage prior to approving an erosion and sediment control plan. This bill is identical to SB 365.

Patron - Wiley

P HB870 Sewage sludge regulations; relief from administrative requirements; adverse and unusual weather events. Requires the State Water Control Board, with the assistance of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Department of Health, to adopt regulations that include procedures for addressing administrative, staging, signage, and additional on-site and alternative storage site requirements when routine and on-site storage facility capacity and holding times are anticipated to be exceeded for the purpose of protecting against the release of sewage sludge into state waters and to account for increased intensity, frequency, and duration of storm events. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality to form a regulatory advisory panel consisting of certain stakeholders for the purpose of assisting the Board in developing the regulations as required by the bill.

Patron - Bulova

**HB949** Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plans; civil penalties. Requires any person that is required to submit a facility response plan under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Worst Case Discharge Planning Regulations to submit evidence of an EPA-approved facility response plan to the Department of Environmental Quality within a certain time period and to comply with such plan. The bill provides certain requirements for reporting, recordkeeping, and inspection and authorizes the Department to initiate a civil action to obtain certain equitable relief for violations of the bill's provisions. The bill imposes civil penalties for any person that negligently, willfully, or knowingly (i) discharges or causes to discharge a hazardous substance from a facility or (ii) fails to implement or comply with an EPA-approved facility response plan. Finally, the bill provides a delayed effective date of the next fiscal year immediately following the effective date of the EPA's final rule on Clean Water Act Hazardous Substance Worst Case Discharge Planning and requires the Department to develop guidance to implement the provisions of the bill in the six months preceding such effective date. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Lopez

PHB985 High polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon pavement sealants; prohibition; civil penalty. Prohibits the sale or distribution of any pavement sealant that contains polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon concentrations greater than one percent by weight on or after July 1, 2024, except that a retailer may continue to sell any existing inventory that remains in stock on that date. The bill also prohibits the application or use of such sealants on or after July 1, 2025. Any person who violates either prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of \$250, to

be paid into the Virginia Environmental Emergency Response Fund.

Patron - Tran

P HB1085 Department of Environmental Quality; Department of Health; PFAS; identification; monitoring; PFAS Expert Advisory Council established; report. Requires, for every public water system, as defined in the bill, the Department of Health (VDH) to assist the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) by transferring to the Department quarterly all validated monitoring results available to VDH that indicate PFAS maximum containment level, as defined in the bill, exceedances. In such circumstances, the bill provides that the Department is required to develop and implement a plan to prioritize and conduct PFAS assessments for identifying significant sources of PFAS in such public water system's raw water source or sources. The bill requires any facility, if deemed by the Department to be a potentially significant source of PFAS in the public water system's raw water source, (i) to perform and promptly report the results of quarterly discharge monitoring for one year and (ii) to report to the Department, within 90 days after being directed by the Department, its manufacture or use of PFAS. The bill establishes a PFAS Expert Advisory Committee to assist the Department and VDH in its PFAS-related efforts and requires the Committee to meet at least two times per year through June 30, 2027. The bill requires the Department to annually report certain information to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1. This bill incorporates HB 245 and is identical to SB 243

Patron - Rasoul

SB243 Department of Environmental Quality; Department of Health; PFAS; identification; monitoring; PFAS Expert Advisory Council established; report. Requires, for every public water system, as defined in the bill, the Department of Health (VDH) to assist the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) by transferring to the Department quarterly all validated monitoring results available to VDH that indicate PFAS maximum containment level, as defined in the bill, exceedances. In such circumstances, the bill provides that the Department is required to develop and implement a plan to prioritize and conduct PFAS assessments for identifying significant sources of PFAS in such public water system's raw water source or sources. The bill requires any facility, if deemed by the Department to be a potentially significant source of PFAS in the public water system's raw water source, (i) to perform and promptly report the results of quarterly discharge monitoring for one year and (ii) to report to the Department, within 90 days after being directed by the Department, its manufacture or use of PFAS. The bill establishes a PFAS Expert Advisory Committee to assist the Department and VDH in its PFAS-related efforts and requires the Committee to meet at least two times per year through June 30, 2027. The bill requires the Department to annually report certain information to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1. This bill incorporates SB 462 and is identical to HB 1085.

Patron - McPike

P SB337 Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area; continued residential withdrawals. Directs the State Water Control Board to waive the expiration of any ground water withdrawal permit for a well that serves exclusively residential users, is located in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area north of the Occoquan River, and is located within five miles of any commercial or industrial permitted ground water withdrawal. The bill provides that such waiver shall continue in force until the commercial or industrial permitted ground water withdrawals have been halted for

five years. The Department of Environmental Quality shall then assess whether the termination of the commercial or industrial permitted ground water withdrawals has substantially mitigated the stress upon the aquifer and redetermine whether the permit for the residential well shall be renewed.

Patron - Stuart

P SB365 Regulated land-disturbing activities; submission and approval of erosion and sediment control plan. Prohibits a person from engaging in any land-disturbing activity until, where Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit coverage is required, the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program (VESCP) authority has obtained evidence of such permit coverage from the Department of Environmental Quality's online reporting system prior to issuing its land-disturbance approval. Current law requires the VESCP authority to obtain such evidence of VPDES permit coverage prior to approving an erosion and sediment control plan. This bill is identical to HB 656.

Patron - DeSteph

P **SB372** Combined sewer overflow outfalls; compliance with regulations; Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Extends from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026, the date by which certain combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls that discharge into the Chesapeake Bay Watershed must be in compliance with Virginia law, the federal Clean Water Act, and the Presumption Approach described in the EPA CSO Control Policy, unless a higher level of control is necessary to comply with a total maximum daily load. This bill is identical to HB 71. *Patron - Ebbin* 

P SB581 Department of Environmental Quality; data; groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits. Authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality to utilize and incorporate comprehensive groundwater, surface water, and aquifer data in its decision-making processes related to the issuance and renewal of groundwater withdrawal permits and surface water withdrawal permits. Such data may include information relating to water levels, flow rates, and water quality.

Patron - Stuart

# Failed

**HB245** Reports relating to PFAS; Department of Environmental Quality; one-time report. Requires all facilities that have engaged since January 1, 2021, in the manufacture of or knowing use in the production process of one or more chemicals listed as PFAS target analytes to produce a one-time report on the use of such chemicals. The report shall be limited to facilities that discharge to (i) a surface water under a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) or (ii) a publicly owned treatment works under an industrial pretreatment program permit or other written authorization issued by a local permit control authority. The report shall be submitted to the Department and, if such facility discharges to a publicly owned treatment works, also to the local permit control authority no later than October 1, 2024. The bill also requires certain facilities to perform a limited PFAS discharge characterization during the one-year period from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, for each waterway discharge outfall consisting of representative quarterly monitoring using the applicable laboratory test method, as specified in the bill. Such facilities shall report results to the Department and, if the facility discharges to a publicly owned treatment works, also to the local permit control authority, within 30 days after the end of each quarter. This bill was incorporated into HB 1085.

Patron - Bulova

HB530 Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act; local government ordinances; criteria for local governments; Resource Protection Area exceptions. Amends the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act to require the State Water Control Board, in developing criteria for local governments to use as they consider development in Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas, to allow use and development of land that is reasonable in the circumstances and does not deprive the owner of all economically viable use of the property. The bill also requires a locality subject to the Act to provide exclusive authority in its implementing ordinance to the local governing body and certain boards and commissions of the locality to grant exceptions to any land development within a Resource Protection Area, as defined by the State Water Control Board, or expanded by the locality in accordance with such rules of the Board. The bill allows any adjacent or otherwise affected property owner to seek certain equitable remedies against the locality in the appropriate circuit court. Patron - Hope

F HB1196 Virginia Port Authority; Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program; grant funding; projects. Clarifies the circumstances under which the Virginia Port Authority may award grant funding from the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program for the construction and management of dredged material. The bill provides that such funding may be used for the lease, purchase, or development of upland containment areas where dredged material can be selectively excavated and used beneficially for environmental restoration or for mitigation of coastal erosion. The bill also amends an existing provision allowing funding for the mitigation of coastal erosion or flooding of dredged materials to require such dredged materials be from an approved waterway dredging project conducted by the Commonwealth. Patron - Hodges

F HB1472 Water certificates or permits; compliance with water quality standards. Requires the State Water Control Board to ensure all activities allowed under any water certificate or permit are in compliance with the water quality standards promulgated by the Board. Patron - Gardner

**SB462** Reports relating to PFAS; Department of Environmental Quality; one-time report. Requires all facilities that have engaged since January 1, 2021, in the manufacture of or knowing use in the production process of one or more chemicals listed as PFAS target analytes to produce a one-time report on the use of such chemicals. The report shall be limited to facilities that discharge to (i) a surface water under a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) or (ii) a publicly owned treatment works under an industrial pretreatment program permit or other written authorization issued by a local permit control authority. The report shall be submitted to the Department and, if such facility discharges to a publicly owned treatment works, also to the local permit control authority no later than October 1, 2024. The bill also requires certain facilities to perform a limited PFAS discharge characterization during the one-year period from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, for each waterway discharge outfall consisting of representative quarterly monitoring using the applicable laboratory test method, as specified in the bill. Such facilities shall report results to the Department and, if the facility discharges to a publicly owned treatment works, also to the local permit control authority, within 30 days after the end of each quarter. This bill was incorporated into SB 243.

Patron - Marsden

F SB668 Department of Environmental Quality; groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits; five-year moratorium. Requires the Department of Environmental Quality to enforce a five-year moratorium on the issuance of any new groundwater or surface water withdrawal permits beginning July 1, 2024, except for any such permits that are for the purpose of providing drinking water for human consumption.

Patron - Stuart

SB673 Department of Environmental Quality; State Water Control Board; prioritization of water for human consumption and food production. Directs the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Water Control Board to prioritize the preservation of water for human consumption and food production in all permitting and regulatory processes related to groundwater and surface water resources.

Patron - Stuart

#### **Carried Over**

HB357 Department of Environmental Quality; protection of existing tidal and nontidal wetlands; wetland restoration and creation; work group; report. Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a work group to develop (i) strategies for protecting the existing tidal and nontidal wetlands of the Commonwealth and (ii) plans for wetland restoration and creation to address losses and adverse impacts from human activities and climate change. The bill specifies that such work group shall include certain relevant stakeholders and will focus on (a) evaluating existing approaches to wetland conservation strategies in the Commonwealth and other states, (b) identifying wetlands adaption areas where tidal wetlands can persist in the landscape, and (c) exploring the circumstances in which climate can impact the wetlands' health and survival. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by December 1, 2024.

Patron - Simonds

HB524 Permit applications for natural gas pipelines; State Water Control Law. Requires applicants for federal licenses or permits for natural gas transmission pipelines with an inside diameter of at least 24 inches to submit a separate application, erosion and sediment control plan, and stormwater management plan to the Department of Environmental Quality concurrently with a Joint Permit Application. Current law requires such application standards for pipelines with an inside diameter of greater than 36 inches. The provisions of the bill apply to any natural gas transmission pipeline project of at least 24 inches in inside diameter that is subject to a certificate of public convenience and necessity under the federal Natural Gas Act and that has not commenced construction by July 1, 2024, notwithstanding any previous certification previously issued or waived by the Department of Environmental Quality or the State Water Control Board.

Patron - Laufer

C SB289 Stormwater management regulations; enterprise data center operations. Directs the State Water Control Board to adopt regulations that require certain stormwater management techniques for land disturbances related to

the construction, expansion, or operation of an enterprise data center operation, as defined in the bill, that is located within one mile of any land owned or operated as a unit of the National Park Service or designated as a Virginia State Park or state forest.

Patron - Roem

C SB665 Southwest Regional Recreation Authority; soil erosion control and stormwater management plans; land-disturbing activities. Adds the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority to the list of entities that may submit standards and specifications for its conduct of land-disturbing activities to the Department of Environmental Quality for approval by the Department as an alternative to submitting soil erosion control and stormwater management plans. Patron - DeSteph

# Welfare (Social Services)

#### **Passed**

P HB27 Kinship foster care; alternative living arrangements; Parental Child Safety Placement Program established. Establishes the Parental Child Safety Placement Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the requirements for a parental child safety placement agreement, the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the placement. This bill is identical to SB 39.

Patron - Callsen

P HB150 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; applications. Prohibits the Board of Social Services from requiring persons applying to participate or renewing their participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to appear in person. The bill also codifies the Department of Health's authority to implement a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Program), which is currently authorized by regulation.

Patron - Helmer

# P HB453 Kinship foster care; barrier crimes.

Allows local boards of social services or child-placing agencies to approve kinship foster care parent applicants who have been convicted of certain felony drug offenses if five years have elapsed since the date of the conviction, where under current law 10 years must have elapsed in order to be eligible for approval as a kinship foster care parent. The bill also adds exceptions for certain misdemeanor assault and battery convictions not involving a minor if five years have elapsed since the date of the conviction. The bill directs the State Board of Social Services to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill to be effective no later than September 1, 2024. *Patron - Callsen* 

PHB472 TANF; child care services; reporting; repeal. Repeals the requirement that the Department of Social Services (i) identify strategies for Virginia to obtain the maximum amount of federal funds available for child care services for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program recipients and families whose incomes are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level and (ii) provide an annual report on these strategies to the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the

Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and on Rehabilitation and Social Services.

Patron - Gardner

P HB503 Department of Medical Assistance Services; credentialed addiction treatment professionals; licensed behavior analysts; definition. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend in its regulations the definition of "credentialed addiction treatment professional" to include licensed behavior analysts. Patron - Cohen

P HB783 Adoption; parental placement and agency adoption; discharge of newborn infant. Authorizes a hospital to release a child to his prospective adoptive parents when the birth parent has executed a health care power of attorney. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill incorporates HB 112.

Patron - Herring

P HB855 State Department of Social Services; Home Energy Assistance Program. Authorizes the State Department of Social Services to allow applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program to be submitted over an application period that provides adequate time for individuals to apply and is extended beyond the current application period subject to the availability of adequate funding.

Patron - Hernandez

P HB909 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule **modifications.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek federal authority through the necessary state plan amendments under Titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to (i) modify the 40-hour-per-week work limit to allow legally responsible individuals with more than one waiver-receiving child to receive reimbursement for 40 hours of work per week per child receiving a waiver; (ii) eliminate the requirement that, in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide services to the member; and (iii) modify the program rules to allow a legally responsible individual or stepparent to be the employer of record. The bill directs DMAS to evaluate the possibility of allowing for respite services under certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers and submit its recommendations, cost estimate, and methodology used for obtaining the cost estimate to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. This bill is identical to SB 488. Patron - Shin

P HB992 Local departments of social services; agreements with local workforce development boards; coordinated workforce development services. Directs each local department of social services (local department) to develop and enter into a written agreement with the local workforce development board serving the jurisdiction served by the local department. The bill requires that such agreement (i) provide for the coordinated provision of workforce development services to participants in the Virginia Initiative for Education and Work and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training and (ii) comply with any other requirements established by the Department of Social Services. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Tran

P HB1128 Children's advocacy centers; definitions; investigations by local departments of social services. Replaces the term "child advocacy center" with "children's advocacy center" and defines such term. The bill provides that if it is determined during a human trafficking assessment that a forensic interview of the child is needed, such interview may be conducted by a children's advocacy center within the jurisdiction; however, if the interview cannot be completed within 14 days, the forensic interview may be conducted by a children's advocacy center located in another jurisdiction. This bill is identical to SB 12. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HB1366 Local departments of social services; employee criminal background checks. Establishes a process for local departments of social services to conduct background checks for current or prospective employees and prohibits local departments from employing any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense that relates to his employment. The bill includes criteria for the local department to consider when deciding if a criminal offense related to employment is relevant when hiring a specific employment position.

Patron - Delaney

P HB1498 Adult day care centers; name change. Renames "adult day care centers" as "adult day centers" throughout the Code of Virginia. This bill is identical to SB 173.

Patron - Willett

P HB1542 Child abuse and neglect; mandatory reporters; statute of limitations; penalties. Adds aggravated sexual battery of a child and attempted rape, sodomy, aggravated sexual battery, or object sexual penetration of a child to the list of offenses for which a failure to report subjects a mandatory reporter to criminal liability. This bill incorporates HB 449.

Patron - Mundon King

P **SB12** Children's advocacy centers; definitions; investigations by local departments of social services. Replaces the term "child advocacy center" with "children's advocacy center" and defines such term. The bill provides that if it is determined during a human trafficking assessment that a forensic interview of the child is needed, such interview may be conducted by a children's advocacy center within the jurisdiction; however, if the interview cannot be completed within 14 days, the forensic interview may be conducted by a children's advocacy center located in another jurisdiction. This bill is identical to HB 1128. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Favola

P SB39 Kinship foster care; alternative living arrangements; Parental Child Safety Placement Program established. Establishes the Parental Child Safety Placement Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the requirements for a parental child safety placement agreement, the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the placement. This bill incorporates SB 162 and SB 467 and is identical to HB 27.

Patron - Favola

P **SB173** Adult day care centers; name change. Renames "adult day care centers" as "adult day centers"

throughout the Code of Virginia. This bill is identical to HB 1498.

Patron - Craig

P SB488 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek federal authority through the necessary state plan amendments under Titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to (i) modify the 40-hour-per-week work limit to allow legally responsible individuals with more than one waiver-receiving child to receive reimbursement for 40 hours of work per week per child receiving a waiver; (ii) eliminate the requirement that, in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide services to the member; and (iii) modify the program rules to allow a legally responsible individual or stepparent to be the employer of record. The bill directs DMAS to evaluate the possibility of allowing for respite services under certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers and submit its recommendations, cost estimate, and methodology used for obtaining the cost estimate to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024. This bill incorporates SB 149 and is identical to HB 909.

Patron - Aird

P SB683 Family and Children's Trust Fund; membership; powers and duties; counsel. Modifies the membership provisions of the Board of Trustees of the Family and Children's Trust Fund by (i) changing the ratio of appointed members such that the Governor appoints six, the Speaker of the House appoints five, and the Senate Committee on Rules appoints four; (ii) designating the Commissioner of Social Services or his designee as an ex officio member with nonvoting privileges; (iii) allowing Board members to be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties; and (iv) providing that the remainder of any term to which a member is appointed to fill a vacancy other than by expiration of term shall not constitute a term in determining the member's eligibility for reappointment with respect to the prohibition on members serving more than two successive terms. Under current law, the Commissioner is designated as a permanent member of the Board. The bill authorizes the Board to establish a nonprofit organization to assist in the details of administering its affairs and in raising funds and provides that legal services for the Board shall be provided by the Attorney General.

Patron - McDougle

#### **Failed**

F HB75 State Board of Social Services; regulations; application for and use of foster care benefits. Directs the State Board of Social Services to amend its regulations by January 1, 2025, to (i) require local departments of social services to apply for federal benefits on behalf of children in foster care that they may be eligible for, (ii) prohibit the use of federal benefits to pay for the care and support of children in foster care that the Commonwealth is otherwise obligated to pay for, and (iii) require local departments of social services that are representative payees for children in foster care to conserve such federal benefits in an appropriate trust instrument or

protected account that is exempt from federal asset and resource limits.

Patron - Hope

**HB148** Department of Social Services; human trafficking services. Adds to the responsibilities of the Department of Social Services certain duties related to human trafficking prevention and victim support. The bill requires the Department, among other things, to develop a tiered certification system for programs that provide services to victims of human trafficking, which shall consider (i) whether the program is accredited by a nationally recognized credentialing entity; (ii) the program's services, practices, governance, organizational structure, leadership, financial management, and compliance history; and (iii) any other criteria deemed relevant by the Department. The bill also authorizes the Department, subject to regulations of the Board of Social Services and the availability of state or federal funds, to receive state and federal funds for services to victims of human trafficking; disburse funds through matching grants to local public or private nonprofit agencies to provide service programs for the victims of human trafficking; and develop and implement grant mechanisms for funding such local services.

Patron - Tata

# F HB401 Child abuse; mandatory reporters.

Adds to the list of persons who are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect employees of the Department of Labor and Industry whose duties include ensuring compliance with child labor laws.

Patron - Cherry

F HB449 Child abuse and neglect; mandatory reporters; statute of limitations; penalties. Adds aggravated sexual battery of a child and attempted rape, sodomy, aggravated sexual battery, or object sexual penetration of a child to the list of offenses for which a failure to report subjects a mandatory reporter to criminal liability. The bill further requires that a prosecution for any misdemeanor violation for failing to report certain sexual acts committed against a minor be commenced within one year of the discovery of the offense. This bill was incorporated into HB 1542.

Patron - Obenshain

# F HB537 Home Visiting Program established;

report. Establishes the Home Visiting Program within the Department of Social Services to support pregnant people and parents with young children who face greater risks and barriers to achieving positive maternal and child health outcomes. The bill directs the Department to operate in accordance with the Virginia Plan for Home Visiting established by Early Impact Virginia, a consortium of government and private entities. The purpose of the Program is to (i) promote the health and wellbeing of pregnant people and parents, (ii) improve infant and child health and development, (iii) strengthen family functioning, (iv) promote school readiness, (v) reduce child maltreatment, (vi) promote economic mobility, and (vii) cultivate strong communities. The bill requires the Department to report biennially to the Governor and the General Assembly on outcomes for Program participants.

Patron - Cole

F HB1140 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid eligibility; asset limits. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to (i) submit an amendment to the state plan for medical assistance services to remove or lower any asset limits related to Medicaid eligibility and (ii) to the extent permitted under federal laws and regula-

tions, remove or lower any asset caps that may be removed or lowered without an amendment to the state plan.

Patron - Cordoza

F HB1313 Fostering Futures program; eligibility; age limit. Increases from 21 to 23 the age at which an individual may no longer participate in the Fostering Futures program.

Patron - Tata

F HB1426 Social services; Dynamic Benefit Adjustment System. Establishes a Dynamic Benefit Adjustment System that gradually reduces public assistance benefits in response to beneficiaries' earned income. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish the formula for the system, collect and analyze data on the System, and make regular reports on the System's performance to the General Assembly.

Patron - Glass

F HB1476 Child abuse; mandatory reporters.

Adds to the list of persons who are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect employees of the Department of Labor and Industry whose duties include ensuring compliance with child labor laws.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

**SB40** Department of Social Services; task force; application for and use of foster care benefits; report. Directs the Department of Social Services to establish a task force with relevant stakeholders to assess the feasibility of (i) requiring local departments of social services to apply for benefits administered by the U.S. Social Security Administration or the Department of Veterans Affairs on behalf of children in foster care, (ii) prohibiting the use of federal benefits to pay for the care and support of children in foster care that the Commonwealth is otherwise obligated to pay for, and (iii) requiring local departments of social services that are representative payees for children in foster care to conserve such federal benefits in an appropriate trust instrument or protected account that is exempt from federal asset and resource limits. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to report its findings to the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Rehabilitation and Social Services and the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Favola

F SB70 SNAP; employment and training. Requires all local departments of social services to offer a voluntary employment and training program for SNAP benefits program participants from funds so appropriated.

Patron - McPike

F SB162 Kinship as Foster Care Prevention Program established. Establishes the Kinship as Foster Care Prevention Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill provides that a child is eligible to participate in the Program if the local board determines that (i) the child is at imminent risk of being removed from his home and a preliminary protective order is insufficient to address the child's immediate safety concerns and (ii) the child's parent or guardian consents to the placement of the child with a relative pursuant to an agreement with the local board developed in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill is incorporated into SB 39.

Patron - McDougle

F SB320 Department of Health; WIC applications; information. Directs the Department of Health to provide information, resources, and education to food banks regarding providing assistance to individuals completing a Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) application. The bill also directs the Department of Health to explore strategies to support the outreach and education efforts for food banks pursuant to the bill and report its findings and recommendations to the

Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health and the House Committees on Appropriations

and Health and Human Services by November 1, 2024.

Patron - Roem

F SB467 Foster care; diversionary placements; alternative living arrangements. Allows a birth parent to identify an ALA caregiver, defined in the bill, with whom the birth parent would like to place his child in an alternative living arrangement, defined in the bill. The bill establishes background checks for potential ALA caregivers, establishes legal custody of the child by ALA caregivers, requires safety and welfare checks for children in alternative living arrangements, and requires local boards of social services to create an exit plan for reunification of the child and the birth parent or, if such reunification is not viable, for permanent placement of the child in an alternative living arrangement. This bill is incorporated into SB 39.

Patron - Obenshain

## **Carried Over**

C HB587 Study; Department of Social Services; Department of Housing and Community Development; unaccompanied minor housing program; report. Directs the Department of Social Services and the Department of Housing and Community Development to convene a work group to study the implementation of an unaccompanied minor housing program. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the relevant committees of the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2024.

Patron - McClure

C SB417 Adult protective services; central regis-

try. Creates a central registry of substantiated complaints of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation to be maintained by the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services. The bill establishes (i) investigation requirements for local departments of social services related to reports of adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation; (ii) record retention and disclosure requirements for the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and local departments of social services; (iii) notice requirements related to findings by local departments and central registry entries; and (iv) an appeals process to contest the findings of a local department related to substantiated reports of adult abuse. neglect, or exploitation. The bill directs the Commissioner for Aging and Rehabilitative Services to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and exempts the Commissioner's initial adoption of such regulations from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026.

Patron - Head

# Wildlife, Inland Fisheries and Boating

## **Passed**

P HB288 Stationary blinds for waterfowl; providing location of blinds to Department of Wildlife Resources. Requires a person that is obtaining a waterfowl blind license, at the time of the transaction, to provide the unique location of each stationary waterfowl blind to the Department of Wildlife Resources, identified as standardized latitude and longitude coordinates, using the decimal degrees format with a minimum of five digit precision. The bill further requires the Department to publish such coordinates by November 1 of each year, excluding any customer personal information, on its website in a searchable, publicly accessible, and conspicuous manner. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

Patron - Wiley

P HB879 Conveyance of easement. Authorizes the Department of Wildlife Resources to grant and convey an easement and right-of-way at Land's End Wildlife Management Area to Joseph C. Frank III, Betty J. Frank, Jacob C. Ackerman, and Crystal F. Ackerman. The easement will allow ingress and egress from State Route 625 (Salem Church Road) to the grantees' properties.

Patron - Kent

P HB1025 Claiming a deer, bear, turkey, or elk struck by motor vehicle. Allows any deer, bear, turkey, or elk that appears to have been killed in a collision with a motor vehicle to be claimed by and awarded to any person. Current law allows a deer or bear to only be claimed by and awarded to the driver of a motor vehicle who collides with such animal. Patron - Wilt

P HB1053 Destruction and disposal of abandoned watercraft by localities and state agencies. Allows localities and state agencies to apply, under certain conditions, to the Department of Wildlife Resources for an authorization to destroy and dispose of an abandoned watercraft.

Patron - Knight

P HB1058 Department of Wildlife Resources; singular license for waterfowl blinds in Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authorities. Requires the Department of Wildlife Resources to develop a singular license for all riparian stationary blinds issued to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority and the Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority and to develop a fee schedule for such license.

Patron - Hodges

## Failed

F HB709 Department of Wildlife Resources; killing of deer, elk, or bear damaging fruit trees, crops, livestock, or personal property. Allows the owner or lessee of lands upon which damage to fruit trees, crops, livestock, or personal property utilized for commercial agricultural production has occurred to solicit the opinion of a district biologist in a neighboring district when, after an assessment by the district biologist for the lands upon which such damage has occurred,

authorization to kill an animal is not granted by the Director of the Department of Wildlife Resources or his designee.

Patron - Webert

F HB789 Special lifetime hunting and fishing license; military veterans. Allows any resident of the Commonwealth who is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard and Reserve who applies for the resident lifetime hunting license or the resident lifetime fishing license to receive such license. The cost for such license is set for one of the following fees based on age: age 50 or younger, \$200; age 51 through 55, \$150; age 56 through 60, \$100; age 61 through 64, \$50; and age 65 or older, \$10.

Patron - Ennis

F HB999 Hunting within certain areas of Indian River prohibited; City of Chesapeake. Makes it unlawful for a person to take, attempt to take, or pursue wildlife within the Indian River from its confluence with the eastern branch of the Elizabeth River to its southern terminus at Military Highway in the City of Chesapeake, except that fishing is permitted in such area.

Patron - Anthony

F HB1406 Fishing license requirements; exemptions; free fishing days. Increases from three to six the maximum number of days that the Board of Wildlife Resources may designate as free fishing days for a person to fish in any inland waters of the Commonwealth without a fishing license.

Patron - Fowler

F SB455 Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund established; report. Establishes the Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund to provide grants for projects that conserve or enhance wildlife corridors prioritized by the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan and associated wildlife crossing infrastructure projects. The bill directs the Director of Wildlife Resources to administer the Fund and to consult with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Forestry, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Wildlife Resources on disbursing moneys from the Fund. The bill also requires the Director to submit a report to the General Assembly by November 1 of each odd-numbered year concerning funding of the Fund, the awarding of grants from the Fund, and the progress of projects funded by the Fund, including data on the use of project infrastructure by wildlife.

Patron - Marsden

## Wills, Trusts, and Fiduciaries

## **Passed**

P HB115 Guardians and conservators; order of appointment and certificate of qualification; annual report. Requires a petitioner to file with a petition for the appointment of a guardian, a conservator, or both a cover sheet on a form prepared by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill requires a guardian to file an initial annual report reflecting the first four months of guardianship since qualification within six months of the date of qualification and to file the second and each subsequent annual report for each succeeding 12-month period within four months from the last day of the last 12-month period covered by the previous annual report. The bill also specifies which documents the clerk shall forward to certain entities upon the qualification of a guardian or conservator. This bill is a recom-

mendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and is identical to SB 290.

Patron - Sullivan

P HB332 Termination of trust; notice requirements. Provides that a trustee seeking to terminate a trust consisting of trust property that has a total value of less than \$100,000 may do so without a court order, provided that the trustee sends notice, as specified in the bill, to any qualified beneficiaries or cotrustees. This bill is identical to SB 63. Patron - Jones

P HB336 Certain powers of attorney; transfer on death deeds. Provides that an agent under a power of attorney shall not have the authority to create, change, or revoke a transfer on death deed unless specifically granted the power to create or change a beneficiary designation as otherwise provided by law. This bill is identical to SB 471.

Patron - Jones

P HB678 Trustees; settlement of accounts; notice and statements to beneficiaries; requirements. Provides that the beneficiary of a trust shall be deemed to have released a trustee and ratified all actions of a trustee for the administration of a trust if, when the trust terminates or the trustee ceases to serve, the trustee sends the beneficiary notice and the beneficiary does not object within 60 days after the trustee sent such notice. The bill also requires the trustee to provide to the beneficiary certain financial information related to the trust. This bill is identical to SB 566.

Patron - Leftwich

P HB786 Guardianship and conservatorship; restoration of capacity or modification or termination of order; informal written communication. Allows a person subject to a guardianship or conservatorship who is not represented by counsel to initiate the process to be restored to capacity or have such guardianship or conservatorship modified or terminated by sending informal written communication to the court, in lieu of the petition requirement specified under current law. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hope

P **SB63** Termination of trust; notice requirements. Provides that a trustee seeking to terminate a trust consisting of trust property that has a total value of less than \$100,000 may do so without a court order, provided that the trustee sends notice, as specified in the bill, to any qualified beneficiaries or cotrustees. This bill is identical to HB 332.

Patron - McDougle

P SB102 Wills and trusts; tangible personal **property; nonexoneration.** Provides that if a trust instrument that was revocable, as defined in relevant law, immediately before the settlor's death refers to a written statement or list of items of tangible personal property and their intended recipients with reasonable certainty and is signed by the settlor, such written statement or list shall be given the effect of a specific bequest although it does not satisfy the requirements for a trust instrument. The bill also provides that real or personal property that is the subject of a specific devise or bequest in a trust instrument that was revocable immediately before the settlor's death shall be passed without the right of exoneration. Under current law, the provisions that govern separate writing identifying recipients of tangible personal property apply only to wills, and the provisions that govern the nonexoneration of a specific devise or bequest of real or personal property apply only to wills and transfer on death deeds.

Patron - Sturtevant

P \$B290 Guardians and conservators; order of appointment and certificate of qualification; annual report. Requires a petitioner to file with a petition for the appointment of a guardian, a conservator, or both a cover sheet on a form prepared by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill requires a guardian to file an initial annual report reflecting the first four months of guardianship since qualification within six months of the date of qualification and to file the second and each subsequent annual report for each succeeding 12-month period within four months from the last day of the last 12-month period covered by the previous annual report. The bill also specifies which documents the clerk shall forward to certain entities upon the qualification of a guardian or conservator. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia and is identical to HB 115.

Patron - Roem

P SB291 Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services; training; powers and duties of guardian; annual reports by guardians; information required. Directs the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services to develop and provide training for court-appointed guardians by July 1, 2025. The bill requires a court-appointed guardian and any skilled professional retained by such guardian to perform guardianship duties to complete the initial training developed by the Department within four months after the date of qualification of such guardian. Under the bill, guardians appointed prior to July 1, 2025, must complete such training by January 1, 2027. The bill further requires a guardian to include in his annual report to the local department of social services a statement as to whether such training has been completed.

Patron - Roem

P SB292 Guardianship and conservatorship; report of guardian ad litem. Adds to the considerations regarding the suitability and propriety of a prospective guardian or conservator that a guardian ad litem is required to address in his report to the court following a petition for guardianship or conservatorship. The bill provides that the guardian ad litem shall consider the prospective guardian's or conservator's work as a professional guardian, including whether the person does so on a full-time basis, the prospective guardian's or conservator's expected capacity as a guardian, and whether the prospective guardian or conservator is named as a perpetrator in any substantiated adult protective services complaint involving the respondent following allegations of abuse or neglect.

Patron - Roem

P **SB471** Certain powers of attorney; transfer on death deeds. Provides that an agent under a power of attorney shall not have the authority to create, change, or revoke a transfer on death deed unless specifically granted the power to create or change a beneficiary designation as otherwise provided by law. This bill is identical to HB 336.

Patron - Obenshain

P SB566 Trustees; settlement of accounts; notice and statements to beneficiaries; requirements. Provides that the beneficiary of a trust shall be deemed to have released a trustee and ratified all actions of a trustee for the administration of a trust if, when the trust terminates or the trustee ceases to serve, the trustee sends the beneficiary notice and the beneficiary does not object within 60 days after the trustee sent such notice. The bill also requires the trustee to provide to the beneficiary certain financial information related to the trust. This bill is identical to HB 678.

Patron - Deeds

## Failed

F HB210 Electronic execution of estate planning documents; Uniform Electronic Wills Act. Permits trusts, advance medical directives, and refusals to make anatomical gifts to be signed and notarized, as appropriate, by electronic means. The bill also codifies the Uniform Electronic Wills Act, which permits a testator to execute a will by electronic means. The Act requires that the will be signed by two witnesses who are in the physical or electronic presence of the testator and acknowledged by the testator and attesting witnesses in the physical or electronic presence of a notary public.

Patron - Martinez

## **Carried Over**

C HB512 Judicial Council of Virginia; work group to study conservatorship; report. Directs the Judicial Council of Virginia to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study issues relating to conservatorship in the Commonwealth and to develop recommendations for a best practices model. The bill requires the work group to submit its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2024, to the Chairmen of the House Committee for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Patron - Cohen

## C HB1013 Uniform Electronic Estate Planning

Documents Act. Permits electronic nontestamentary estate planning documents, defined in the bill as certain enumerated records relating to estate planning that are readable as text at the time of signing and are not wills or contained in wills, to be signed and notarized, as appropriate, by electronic means. The bill provides that such electronic nontestamentary estate planning documents shall not be denied legal effect or enforceability or excluded as evidence in a proceeding solely because such documents are in electronic form. The bill also allows for the electronic presence, as that term is defined in the bill, of any witness who is otherwise required by law to be in the physical presence of the person signing the nontestamentary estate planning document.

Patron - Laufer

C SB293 Guardianship and conservatorship; duties and powers of guardian and conservator; self-dealing prohibited. Provides that a guardian and conservator shall avoid all conflicts of interest and self-dealing, including all appearances of conflicts of interest and self-dealing, when addressing the needs of the incapacitated person to whom the guardian or conservator owes a fiduciary duty. The bill provides that a conflict of interest arises when the guardian or conservator has a personal or agency interest that can be perceived as self-serving or adverse to the position or best interest of the incapacitated person, and self-dealing arises when the guardian or conservator seeks to take advantage of his position as guardian or conservator and acts for his own interests rather than for the interests of the incapacitated person. The bill further provides that any sale or transaction that constitutes self-dealing shall be voidable by the court.

Patron - Roem

## **Workers' Compensation**

## **Passed**

P HB205 Workers' compensation; prompt payment; limitation on claims. Prohibits an employer or workers' compensation carrier from seeking recovery of a payment made to a health care provider for health care services rendered to a claimant unless such recovery is sought less than one year from the date payment was made to the health care provider. Under current law, such prohibition only applies to services rendered after July 1, 2014.

The bill also prohibits a health care provider from submitting a claim to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission contesting the sufficiency of payment for health care services rendered to a claimant unless such claim is filed within one year of the date the last payment is received by the health care provider. Under current law, such prohibition only applies to services rendered after July 1, 2014.

Patron - Simonds

P HB974 Workers' compensation; presumption that certain injuries arose out of employment. Provides that in any claim for workers' compensation, where the employee suffers an unexplained fall in the course of employment, such employee may satisfy the burden of proof by circumstantial evidence, testimony of others, other evidence, or any combination thereof. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P HB1418 Administrative Process Act; rules of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. Exempts certain rules of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission from the requirements of the Administrative Process Act, provided that the Commission provides an opportunity for public comment on the rules prior to adoption.

Patron - Kilgore

P **SB241** Workers' compensation; notice of right to dispute claim. Requires that when an employee's workers' compensation claim is denied, an employer or insurer shall include in its letter denying benefits a notice that the employee has a right to dispute the claim denial through the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission.

Patron - McPike

## Failed

## F HB1300 "Occupational disease" defini-

tion. Clarifies that for the purpose of worker's compensation claims, an "occupational disease" does not include certain physical conditions resulting from repetitive and sustained physical stressors.

Patron - Cordoza

## Carried Over

C HB68 Workers' compensation; post-traumatic stress disorder incurred by dispatchers. Allows dispatchers, as defined in the bill, to claim workers' compensation benefits relating to post-traumatic stress disorder under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act. Currently, only law-enforcement officers and firefighters may claim such benefits.

Patron - Bulova

C HB274 Workers' compensation; presumption of compensability of infertility for firefighters. Provides that firefighters who suffer from infertility are presumed to have developed infertility during the course and scope of employment as a firefighter in certain instances. The bill provides that such infertility is compensable under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act if diagnosed by a medical professional and that such compensation may include medical treatment, temporary total incapacity benefits, and temporary partial incapacity benefits for a maximum period of 52 weeks from the date of diagnosis. The bill also requires each employer of firefighters to refer a firefighter seeking infertility health care services to a licensed medical professional after January 1, 2025.

Patron - Helmer

C HB531 Workers' compensation; injuries caused by repetitive and sustained physical stressors. Provides that, for the purposes of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act, "occupational disease" includes injuries or diseases from conditions resulting from repetitive and sustained physical stressors, including repetitive and sustained motions, exertions, posture stresses, contact stresses, vibrations, or noises. The bill provides that such injuries or diseases are covered under the Act and that such coverage does not require that such repetitive or sustained physical stress occurred over a particular time period, provided that the time period over which such physical stress occurred can be reasonably identified.

Patron - Krizek

C HB1226 Workers' compensation benefits; post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters. Removes the provision in the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act requiring that benefits for post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters acting in the line of duty be provided for a maximum of 52 weeks from the date of diagnosis.

Patron - Rasoul

C SB520 Workers' compensation; injuries caused by repetitive and sustained physical stressors. Provides that, for the purposes of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act, "occupational disease" includes injuries or diseases from conditions resulting from repetitive and sustained physical stressors, including repetitive and sustained motions, exertions, posture stresses, contact stresses, vibrations, or noises. The bill provides that such injuries or diseases are covered under the Act and that such coverage does not require that such repetitive or sustained physical stress occurred over a particular time period, provided that the time period over which such physical stress occurred can be reasonably identified.

Patron - Williams Graves

C SB593 Workers' compensation benefits; post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and fire-fighters. Increases from 52 weeks to 104 weeks the maximum duration after the date of diagnosis that workers' compensation benefits are payable for post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety disorder, or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters acting in the line of duty.

Patron - McPike

## **Constitutional Amendments**

## **Passed**

P HB558 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. Provides for a referendum at the November 5, 2024, election to approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia that would expand the real property tax exemption that is currently available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to be available to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense. This bill is identical to SB 4.

Patron - Hernandez

P HJ45 Constitutional amendment (second reference); real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. Expands the current tax exemption for real property available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Patron - Tran

P **SB4** Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. Provides for a referendum at the November 5, 2024, election to approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia that would expand the real property tax exemption that is currently available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to be available to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense. This bill is identical to HB 558.

P SJ3 Constitutional amendment (second reference); real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. Expands the current tax exemption for real property available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Patron - McPike

Patron - McPike

## Failed

HJ18 Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; felon disenfranchisement; automatic restoration of voting rights. Provides that the General Assembly shall provide by general law an exemption to the prohibition that disqualifies a convicted felon from being qualified to vote. The amendment allows the exemption to be created for a person who has been convicted of a nonviolent felony and who has completed his sentence of imprisonment, including any period of probation or postrelease supervision, and has made payment in full of any restitution, fines, or fees assessed against him as a result of his conviction, at which time his voting rights shall be restored. The amendment also permits the General Assembly to include in such law a provision that a person who had his voting rights restored pursuant to such law is not eligible for restoration under such law for any subsequent conviction of a nonviolent felony. The amendment retains the Governor's authority to restore the civil rights of persons convicted of any felony.

Patron - Cherry

F HJ19 Constitutional amendment (first reference); Governor's term of office. Permits a Governor elected in 2029 and thereafter to succeed himself in office. The amendment allows two four-year terms (either in succession or not in succession) but prohibits election to a third term. Service for more than two years of a partial term counts as service for one term.

Patron - Garrett

HJ58 Constitutional amendment (first reference); tax and finance; exempt property; affordable housing tax exemption. Provides that the General Assembly may by general law authorize the governing body of any county, city, town, or regional government to provide for the exemption from local real property taxation, or a portion thereof, within such restrictions and upon such conditions as may be prescribed, of real estate owned and occupied by persons of low income. Such general law shall require that (i) the real property is a single family habitation and has been owned and continuously occupied as the sole dwelling of the owner of such real property for a prescribed minimum number of years, (ii) the assessment on the property has increased by a prescribed percentage or more from the previous year or over a number of previous years, and (iii) the taxes on such property are current or the owner of such property has entered into a plan for payment of any delinquent taxes and shall establish the annual household income limits to qualify for such exemption.

Patron - Carr

## Carried Over

C HJ1 Constitutional amendment (first reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that the right to make and effectuate one's own decisions about all matters related to one's pregnancy cannot be denied, burdened, or otherwise infringed upon by the Commonwealth, unless justified by a compelling state interest and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth from penalizing, prosecuting, or otherwise taking adverse action against an individual for exercising the individual's right to reproductive freedom or for aiding another individual in the exercise of such right, unless justified by a compelling state interest.

Patron - Herring

**HJ2** Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished. *Patron - Bennett-Parker* 

C HJ9 Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two individuals; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of persons and prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two parties and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The amendment provides that religious organizations and clergy acting in their religious capacity have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.

Patron - Sickles

C SJ1 Constitutional amendment (first reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that the right to make and effectuate one's own decisions about all matters related to one's pregnancy cannot be denied, burdened, or otherwise infringed upon by the Commonwealth, unless justified by a compelling state interest and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment prohibits the Commonwealth from penalizing, prosecuting, or otherwise taking adverse action against an individual for exercising the individual's right to reproductive freedom or for aiding another individual in the exercise of such right, unless justified by a compelling state interest.

Patron - Boysko

**SJ2** Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished. Patron - Locke

C SJ10 Constitutional amendments (first reference); executive branch of government; Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General; term limits. Prohibits any person from being eligible to be elected to more than two terms as Lieutenant Governor or Attorney General. The amendments

provide that service for a partial term does not preclude serving the allowed number of full terms and applies the limits to terms of service to persons elected to serve as Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General in 2029 and thereafter.

Patron - Peake

C SJ11 Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two individuals; repeal of samesex marriage prohibition; affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of persons and prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two parties and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The amendment provides that religious organizations and clergy acting in their religious capacity have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.

Patron - Ebbin

## Other Resolutions

## **Passed**

P HJ6 Energy Efficiency Day. Designates October 4, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Energy Efficiency Day in Virginia.

Patron - Sullivan

P HJ7 Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome Awareness Day. Designates October 25, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome Awareness Day in Virginia. This bill incorporates HJ 37.

Patron - Sullivan

P HJ8 Black Women's History Month. Designates April, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Black Women's History Month in Virginia.

Patron - Cole

P HJ13 Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month of Awareness. Designates May, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month of Awareness in Virginia.

Patron - Sullivan

P HJ17 Disability Pride Month. Designates July, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Disability Pride Month in Virginia.

Patron - Cole

P HJ27 Coach Appreciation Week. Designates the week of October 6, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Coach Appreciation Week in Virginia.

Patron - Price

P HJ28 Kidney Disease Awareness Month. Designates March, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Kidney Disease Awareness Month in Virginia.

Patron - Price

P HJ42 Nepali American Heritage Day. Designates April 15, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Nepali American Heritage Day in Virginia.

Patron - Shin

P HJ44 Black Maternal Health Week. Designates April 11 through April 17, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Black Maternal Health Week in Virginia. *Patron - LeVere Bolling* 

P HJ52 Student Appreciation Week. Designates the week of March 20, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Student Appreciation Week in Virginia.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P HJ57 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion Day. Designates September 16, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion Day in Virginia.

Patron - Glass

P HJ74 International Dark Sky Week. Designates the week of the new moon in April, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as International Dark Sky Week in Virginia. *Patron - Reid* 

P **HJ77** Designating Monday, January 22, 2024, as Recovery Day in Virginia.

P HJ78 FIRST Robotics Day. Designates March 31, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as FIRST Robotics Day in Virginia.

Patron - Carr

P HJ81 Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week. Designates the first week in May, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in Virginia. *Patron - Campbell* 

P HJ83 Burn Awareness Week. Designates the first full week of February, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Burn Awareness Week in Virginia.

Patron - Cousins

P HJ84 Encouraging public institutions of higher education in Virginia to display the VA250 logo on all men's and women's athletic uniforms for the 2025–2026 academic year.

P HJ87 Domestic Workers Day. Designates June 16, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Domestic Workers Day in Virginia.

Patron - Mundon King

P HR17 House of Delegates; portrait of the former Speaker. Authorizes and allocates funding for the painting of a portrait of former Speaker of the House of Delegates C. Todd Gilbert to be hung in the Chamber of the House of Delegates.

Patron - Herring

P **SJ13** Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Honorable Yvonne Bond Miller's service in the Virginia General Assembly.

Patron - Locke

P SJ16 Acknowledging with profound regret the unethical use of Black bodies by medical institutions. Expresses the sentiment of the General Assembly in acknowledging with profound regret the unethical use of Black bodies by medical institutions in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Boysko

P **SJ23** Black Maternal Health Week. Designates April 11 through April 17, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Black Maternal Health Week in Virginia. *Patron - Aird* 

P **SJ27** Epilepsy Heroes Day. Designates March 26, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Epilepsy Heroes Day in Virginia.

Patron - Diggs

P **SJ31** Confirming Governor's appointments; **December 1.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly December 1, 2023.

Patron - Rouse

P **SJ32** Confirming Governor's appointments; August 1. Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly August 1, 2023.

Patron - Rouse

P **SJ33** Confirming Governor's appointments; October 1. Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly October 1, 2023.

Patron - Rouse

P **SJ46** Chest Wall Deformity Awareness Month. Designates December, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Chest Wall Deformity Awareness Month in Virginia.

Patron - Williams Graves

P **SJ48** FIRST Robotics Day. Designates March 31, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as FIRST Robotics Day in Virginia.

Patron - Stanley

P SJ61 Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month of Awareness. Designates May, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month of Awareness in Virginia.

Patron - Perry

P **SR121** Senator Richard L. "Dick" Saslaw; portrait. Establishes a committee to contract for a portrait of Senator Richard L. "Dick" Saslaw to be painted, framed, and installed in the Capitol.

Patron - Locke

## Failed

F HJ23 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day. Designates April 24, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day in Virginia. Patron - Obenshain

F HJ37 Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome Awareness Day. Designates October 25, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome

drome Awareness Day in Virginia. This bill was incorporated into HJ 7.

Patron - Delaney

F HJ86 Recognizing rights of women; affirming biological differences between the sexes for purposes of laws of the Commonwealth. Recognizes the rights of women by affirming that for purposes of the laws of the Commonwealth, a person's sex is defined as his or her biological sex, either male or female, at birth.

Patron - Campbell

F HR5 Day of Tears. Recognizing January 22 as the Day of Tears in Virginia.

Patron - Griffin

F HR12 Processing Revival and Intrastate Meat Exemption Act; PRIME Act. Encourages the United States Congress to pass the Processing Revival and Intrastate Meat Exemption (PRIME) Act to allow intrastate distribution of custom-slaughtered meat.

Patron - Zehr

F HR26 Smithsonian; return of human bodily remains to Virginia descendants; review; compensation. Requests the Smithsonian to complete a full review of all human bodily remains within its care, to return the bodily remains of all ancestors of Virginia citizens that are within its care due to unethical practices, and to compensate families for the reasonable funeral and burial expenses related to such return. The bill also requests that, upon completion of such review, the Smithsonian publicly publish such review, including the circumstances resulting in its acquisition of such remains and any records that might assist in the identification of the descendants of the individuals whose human bodily remains are included in any of the Smithsonian's collections. Patron - Zehr

HR28 Directing the Speaker of the House of Delegates to order a study of the legal effects and consequences of a constitutional amendment enshrining a right to reproductive freedom. Directs the Speaker of the House of Delegates to order a study of the legal effects and consequences of a constitutional amendment enshrining a right to reproductive freedom, including whether the phrase "This right to make and effectuate one's own decisions about all matters related to one's pregnancy shall not be denied, burdened, or infringed upon...." would constitutionally protect abortion throughout all of pregnancy, create a constitutional right for the parents of a dead child to sell such child's body parts, and legally permit partial birth infanticide, born-alive murder, child pornography, sexual assault, and any other crime so long as the umbilical cord and placenta are still attached to both the mother and the child.

Patron - Zehr

F HR61 Encouraging the use of sustainable aviation fuel in the Commonwealth. Encourages the Commonwealth of Virginia to take all practical steps to increase the use of sustainable aviation fuel in the Commonwealth, regionally, and nationally.

Patron - Reid

F SJ49 Recognizing rights of women; affirming biological differences between the sexes for purposes of laws of the Commonwealth. Recognizes the rights of women by affirming that for purposes of the laws of the Commonwealth, a person's sex is defined as his or her biological sex, either male or female, at birth.

Patron - Mulchi

F SJ127 Encouraging the use of sustainable aviation fuel in the Commonwealth. Encourages the Commonwealth of Virginia to take all practical steps to increase the use of sustainable aviation fuel in the Commonwealth, regionally, and nationally.

Patron - DeSteph

F **SR1 Israel; support.** Expresses support for the State of Israel and condemns the actions of Hamas. *Patron - Sturtevant* 

#### Carried Over

C HJ14 Recognition of the Wolf Creek Cherokee Tribe of Virginia. Extends state recognition to the Wolf Creek Cherokee Tribe of Virginia within the Commonwealth. *Patron - McQuinn* 

# Miscellaneous (Including Budget and Bonds)

## **Passed**

P HB29 Budget Bill. Amends Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022, Special Session I, as amended by Chapter 769 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023, as further amended by Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023, Special Session I. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Torian

P HB30 Budget Bill. Provides for all appropriations of the Budget submitted by the Governor of Virginia in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-1509 of the Code of Virginia, and provides a portion of revenues for the two years ending respectively on the thirtieth day of June 2025 and the thirtieth day of June 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Torian

P HB715 Capital outlay plan. Updates the six-year capital outlay plan for projects to be funded entirely or partially from general fund-supported resources. This bill is identical to SB 585.

Patron - Torian

P SB489 Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia residential development infrastructure fund; work group; report. Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to convene a work group to assess the feasibility of and options for establishing a Virginia residential development infrastructure fund. The bill directs the work group to submit a report of its assessment to the General Assembly no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB585** Capital outlay plan. Updates the six-year capital outlay plan for projects to be funded entirely or partially from general fund-supported resources. This bill incorporates SB 601 is identical to HB 715.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB691** Conveyance of certain property from the Department of Corrections to the Town of Craigsville; Augusta Correctional Center. Provides for the transfer of cer-

tain property in Augusta County from the Department of Corrections to the Town of Craigsville.

Patron - Obenshain

## Failed

F **SB29** Budget Bill. Amends Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022, Special Session I, as amended by Chapter 769 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023, as further amended by Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023, Special Session I.

Patron - Lucas

F **SB30** Budget Bill. Provides for all appropriations of the Budget submitted by the Governor of Virginia in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-1509 of the Code of Virginia, and provides a portion of revenues for the two years ending respectively on the thirtieth day of June 2025 and the thirtieth day of June 2026.

Patron - Lucas

## **Charters**

#### **Passed**

P HB54 Charter; City of Falls Church; qualifications of members of boards and commissions. Repeals certain provisions in the City of Falls Church charter related to qualifications of persons appointed to boards and commissions. *Patron - Simon* 

P HB91 Charter; Town of Smithfield. Amends the charter for the Town of Smithfield in Isle of Wight County to reflect the town's shift from May to November municipal elections. The bill also updates or repeals outdated provisions of the town's charter. This bill is identical to SB 309.

Patron - Wachsmann

## P HB227 Charter; City of Colonial Heights.

Amends the charter of the City of Colonial Heights by updating language related to the duties of the City Manager and City Attorney, including elimination of the City Attorney's duties to the school board and school superintendent. The bill also includes the update or repeal of various outdated provisions related to appropriations, purchasing, and capital improvements. This bill is identical to SB 112.

Patron - Cherry

P HB376 Charter; Town of New Market. Establishes a new charter for the Town of New Market in Shenandoah County and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1972. The proposed charter sets out the organization of the town's government and contains powers typically granted to towns. This bill is identical to SB 375.

Patron - Gilbert

P HB415 Charter; City of Virginia Beach; board of equalization. Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach by expanding the board of equalization from four members to five members and an alternate. This bill is identical to SB 262.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P HB416 Charter; City of Virginia Beach. Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach to reflect the City's transition to a city council consisting solely of single-

member districts and the mayor. This bill incorporates HB 410 and is identical to SB 189. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P HB682 Charter; City of Bristol. Amends the City of Bristol's charter to provide for five voting precincts rather than four. The bill also replaces references to the personnel department with "human resources department" and makes changes related to the assignment of powers and duties. This bill is identical to SB 618.

Patron - O'Quinn

P HB1127 Charter; Town of Pulaski. Amends the charter for the Town of Pulaski in Pulaski County to reflect the town's shift from May to November municipal elections. The bill clarifies that the town council's membership consists of seven members, including the mayor, and provides that the mayor may vote in the council. The bill also changes the time of the election of the vice-mayor from even-numbered years to odd-numbered years at the first meeting of the council. This bill is identical to SB 475.

Patron - Arnold

P HB1208 Charter; City of Portsmouth; emergency. Amends the charter for the City of Portsmouth by aligning dates for nomination of candidates and the filling of city council vacancies with state law. The bill also updates a Code of Virginia reference and contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to SB 106.

Patron - Hayes

P HB1511 Charter; City of Martinsville; town status; referendum. Amends the charter for the City of Martinsville, prior to notifying the Supreme Court of the City's adoption of an ordinance and petition for an order granting town status to the City, to first require an election to be held on the following question: "Shall the City of Martinsville become a town?" The bill provides that if a majority of the qualified voters of the City voting on the question are in favor of the transition from city to town status, the special court shall enter the order granting town status in accordance with the procedures, requirements, and provisions of general law.

Patron - Phillips

## P HB1512 Charter; City of Martinsville.

Amends the charter for the City of Martinsville by (i) allowing notice of special meetings to council members to be given by electronic mail, text message, or telephone call; (ii) providing for compensation to members of the city council to be in accordance with general law; (iii) providing for action by resolution of the city council to make appropriations or contract indebtedness; and (iv) requiring the city manager to become a resident of the City or reside within a certain distance of the City. The bill makes numerous technical changes and repeals several outdated sections.

Patron - Phillips

P **SB106** Charter; City of Portsmouth; emergency. Amends the charter for the City of Portsmouth by aligning dates for nomination of candidates and the filling of city council vacancies with state law. The bill also updates a Code of Virginia reference and contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to HB 1208.

Patron - Lucas

P **SB112** Charter; City of Colonial Heights. Amends the charter of the City of Colonial Heights by updating language related to the duties of the City Manager and City

Attorney, including elimination of the City Attorney's duties to the school board and school superintendent. The bill also includes the update or repeal of various outdated provisions related to appropriations, purchasing, and capital improvements. This bill is identical to HB 227.

Patron - Sturtevant

## P SB189 Charter; City of Virginia Beach.

Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach to reflect the City's transition to a city council consisting solely of single-member districts and the mayor. This bill is identical to HB 416. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Rouse

P **SB262** Charter; City of Virginia Beach; board of equalization. Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach by expanding the board of equalization from four members to five members and an alternate. This bill is identical to HB 415.

Patron - Craig

P SB309 Charter; Town of Smithfield. Amends the charter for the Town of Smithfield in Isle of Wight County to reflect the town's shift from May to November municipal elections. The bill also updates or repeals outdated provisions of the town's charter. This bill is identical to HB 91.

Patron - Jordan

P SB375 Charter; Town of New Market. Establishes a new charter for the Town of New Market in Shenandoah County and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1972. The proposed charter sets out the organization of the town's government and contains powers typically granted to towns. This bill is identical to HB 376.

Patron - French

P **SB475** Charter; Town of Pulaski. Amends the charter for the Town of Pulaski in Pulaski County to reflect the town's shift from May to November municipal elections. The bill clarifies that the town council's membership consists of seven members, including the mayor, and provides that the mayor may vote in the council. The bill also changes the time of the election of the vice-mayor from even-numbered years to odd-numbered years at the first meeting of the council. This bill is identical to HB 1127.

Patron - Hackworth

P **SB618** Charter; City of Bristol. Amends the City of Bristol's charter to provide for five voting precincts rather than four. The bill also replaces references to the personnel department with "human resources department" and makes changes related to the assignment of powers and duties. This bill is identical to HB 682.

Patron - Pillion

## Failed

F HB236 Charter; City of Virginia Beach; board of equalization. Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach by expanding the board of equalization from four members to five members and an alternate.

Patron - Tata

F HB410 Charter; City of Virginia Beach. Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach to reflect the City's transition to a city council consisting solely of single-member districts and the mayor. This bill was incorporated into HB 416.

Patron - Askew

F HB1442 Charter; Town of Rocky Mount. Amends the charter for the Town of Rocky Mount in Franklin County to reflect the town's transition from May to November for municipal elections. The bill also imposes term limits of three consecutive terms for the mayor and members of the town council.

Patron - Davis

## Carried Over

HB331 Charter; City of Richmond. Makes extensive updates to the charter for the City of Richmond. Many changes in the bill have the effect of removing outdated or duplicative provisions and more closely aligning the city's powers with those set out in general law. Other changes include authorizing compensation to individual council members as may be set by the city council by resolution as compensation for attending meetings of standing committees or other meetings of the city council, in addition to the sums permitted by general law. In addition, the bill authorizes the city council to fix an additional sum to be paid to the president and vice president of the city council, notwithstanding the limitations set out in general law. The bill makes the city's chief administrative officer, rather than the mayor, responsible for making certain recommendations to the council concerning the personnel system. Further changes in the bill provide for additional protected classes to include all of the protected classes recognized under general law. The bill also removes the requirement that the mayor annually submit a capital budget program to the city council and authorizes the city's chief administrative officer, not the mayor, to make transfers between completed projects and projects that are incomplete. The bill contains numerous technical amendments.

Patron - Jones

## **Study Resolutions**

## **Passed**

P HJ10 Study; joint subcommittee; creation of Virginia Gaming Commission; report. Continues the Joint Subcommittee to Study the Feasibility of Establishing the Virginia Gaming Commission for two additional years, through November 30, 2025.

Patron - Krizek

P HJ30 Study; State Corporation Commission; electric utilities; performance-based regulatory tools; competitive service providers; report. Requests the State Corporation Commission, in consultation with the Department of Energy, to study performance-based regulatory tools for investor-owned electric utilities and the impact of competitive service providers in the Commonwealth. Patron - Sullivan

P HJ41 Study; Joint Commission on Health Care; policy solutions to the Commonwealth's fentanyl crisis; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care (JCHC) to study policy solutions to the Commonwealth's fentanyl crisis. The resolution directs JCHC to (i) study the causes of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth, (ii) study the impact of the rise in fentanyl prevalence and fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth on Virginians and the Commonwealth's health care system, (iii)

study and provide insight into the fentanyl crisis within the

context of other drug crises and addiction trends in recent his-

tory, and (iv) establish and make policy recommendations related to reducing the prevalence of fentanyl in the Commonwealth and reducing the number of fentanyl overdoses in the Commonwealth. The resolution requires JCHC to complete its meetings by November 30, 2025, and to submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly for each year. *Patron - Srinivasan* 

P HJ43 Study; Board of Veterinary Medicine; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report. Directs the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to complete a two-year study of the shortage of large animal veterinarians, with technical assistance provided by relevant stakeholders, including a member of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules, respectively.

Patron - Lopez

P SB338 Study; JLARC; effects of gun violence on communities; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the social, physical, emotional, and economic effects of gun violence on communities across the Commonwealth. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Salim

P SJ12 Study; joint subcommittee; creation of Virginia Gaming Commission; report. Continues the Joint Subcommittee to Study the Feasibility of Establishing the Virginia Gaming Commission for two additional years, through November 30, 2025.

Patron - Reeves

P SJ15 Study; Board of Veterinary Medicine; shortage of large animal veterinarians; report. Directs the Board of Veterinary Medicine, in consultation with the State Veterinarian, to complete a two-year study of the shortage of large animal veterinarians, with technical assistance provided by relevant stakeholders, including a member of the House of Delegates and a member of the Senate of Virginia, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules, respectively.

Patron - Hackworth

P SJ17 Study; JLARC; salaries and expenses of legislators; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the salaries, expense allowances, retirement benefits, and other emoluments received by members of the General Assembly and to make recommendations for any adjustments to such salaries or expenses. As part of this study, JLARC will review the current salaries, expense allowances, retirement benefits, and other emoluments of the members of the General Assembly; examine the Commonwealth's history of legislative compensation; review the compensation, expenses, and benefits for legislative service in other states; assess various state methodologies in determining reasonable legislative compensation, including the tying of salaries to certain indexes or economic indicators; and make recommendations for any adjustments to such salaries, expenses, benefits, or other emoluments.

Patron - Reeves

P SJ25 Study; Department of Environmental Quality; groundwater supply in the Commonwealth; report. Requests that the Department of Environmental Quality complete a one-year study of the groundwater supply in the Commonwealth with technical assistance provided by the State

Water Control Board. The Department shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2024, and submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Stuart

P SJ28 Study; joint subcommittee; funding needs in certain transit systems; report. Establishes a joint subcommittee to study long-term, sustainable, dedicated funding and cost-containment controls and strategies to ensure the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Virginia Railway Express, and the public transit systems that serve the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission transportation districts meet the growing needs of public transit in the region. Patron - Ebbin

P SJ47 Study; State Corporation Commission; electric utilities; performance-based regulatory tools; competitive service providers; report. Requests the State Corporation Commission, in consultation with the Department of Energy, to study performance-based regulatory tools for investor-owned electric utilities and competitive service providers in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Surovell

## Failed

F HJ5 Study; Department of Transportation; bridge from Surry County to James City County; report. Requests the Department of Transportation to study the need and options for constructing a bridge from Hog Island in Surry County to James City County and to submit a report of its finding no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Taylor

F HJ12 Study; JLARC; solar development; agriculture, forestry, and environment; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the impact of utility-scale solar development in the Commonwealth on agriculture, forestry, and the environment.

Patron - Orrock

F HJ20 Study; joint committee of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections to study the costs and benefits of 45 days of early voting. Establishes a joint committee of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections to study the costs and benefits of 45 days of early voting. In conducting its study, the joint committee shall survey several localities within the Commonwealth with different demographics, both urban and rural, to evaluate the fiscal impact on the locality and the ability of the locality to meet the burden imposed by the need to increase staffing and maintain adequate facilities for early voting and to examine trends in voter turnout. The joint committee shall gather data sufficient to allow it to determine if a shorter period of in-person voting could accomplish most of the benefits of early in-person voting while reducing the burden on localities.

Patron - Garrett

F HJ33 Study; JLARC; potential effects of revising the distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the potential effects of revising the distribution of 599 funding to distressed localities with high crime and poverty rates. Patron - Taylor

F HJ38 Study; JLARC; scope and cost of penalizing possession of drugs as a felony. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the scope and cost of the current laws in the Commonwealth penalizing possession of drugs as a felony.

Patron - Cousins

F HJ50 Study; JLARC; Department of Juvenile Justice; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, in conjunction with the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, to conduct a study to determine the feasibility and benefits of transferring responsibility for the Department of Juvenile Justice from the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

Patron - Mundon King

HJ53 Study; JLARC; effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on teacher recruitment and retention; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on recruiting and retaining high-quality, fully licensed teachers, including (i) examining salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention in each local school division; (ii) identifying disparities in salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention rates between high-poverty and rural school divisions, highincome school divisions, and the Commonwealth on average; (iii) reviewing salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to the rates of teacher recruitment and retention and the numbers of fully licensed teachers in adjoining states and the District of Columbia; and (iv) identifying factors that positively impact the recruitment and retention of high-quality, fully licensed teachers.

Patron - Batten

**HJ54** Study; Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council; charges for the production of public records; report. Directs the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council (the FOIA Council) to convene a work group consisting of citizens of the Commonwealth, representatives of state and local government entities, broadcast, print, and electronic media sources, open government organizations, and other interested parties to study whether the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) allowing public bodies to charge requesters for the production of public records should be amended to make access to public records easier for requesters. The resolution further directs the work group to examine the current FOIA provisions on charges and make recommendations on ways to amend such provisions to make the assessment of charges by public bodies for the production of public records more uniform, more transparent, easier to understand, and less costly.

Patron - Batten

F HJ55 Study; continuing the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding; report. Continues the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding for two additional years, through the 2025 interim.

Patron - Hodges

F HJ56 Study; JLARC; effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on teacher recruitment and retention; report. Directs the Joint Legisla-

tive Audit and Review Commission to study the effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on recruiting and retaining high-quality, fully licensed teachers, including (i) examining salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention in each local school division; (ii) identifying disparities in salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention rates between high-poverty and rural school divisions, highincome school divisions, and the Commonwealth on average; (iii) reviewing salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to the rates of teacher recruitment and retention and the numbers of fully licensed teachers in adjoining states and the District of Columbia; and (iv) identifying factors that positively impact the recruitment and retention of high-quality, fully licensed teachers.

Patron - Cordoza

F HJ60 Study; sickle cell disease in the Commonwealth; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to study sickle cell disease in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to submit an executive summary of its findings and recommendations to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Patron - Hayes

SJ9 Study; JLARC; effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on teacher recruitment and retention; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the effect of salaries, employment benefits, and other relevant factors on recruiting and retaining high-quality, fully licensed teachers, including (i) examining salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention in each local school division; (ii) identifying disparities in salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to teacher recruitment and retention rates between high-poverty and rural school divisions, highincome school divisions, and the Commonwealth on average; (iii) reviewing salaries, employment benefits, and other financial benefits and incentives available to teachers in relation to the rates of teacher recruitment and retention and the numbers of fully licensed teachers in adjoining states and the District of Columbia; and (iv) identifying factors that positively impact the recruitment and retention of high-quality, fully licensed teachers.

Patron - Sturtevant

SJ24 Study; JLARC; barrier crimes for employees of and persons regulated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study barrier crimes for employees of and persons regulated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. The resolution requires JLARC in conducting the study to (i) identify all barrier crimes and related exceptions for employees of and persons regulated by the Department; (ii) determine (a) whether any offenses should be removed from such list of barrier crimes, (b) whether any barrier crime exceptions and waiver processes should be broadened, and (c) whether the required amount of time that must pass after conviction of certain barrier crimes should be shortened; and (iii) identify other changes that could be made to such barrier crime laws that would improve the organization, effectiveness, and fairness of such provisions. The resolution requires JLARC to

report its finding to the Governor and the General Assembly by the first day of the 2025 Regular Session. Patron - Bagby

## **Carried Over**

C HJ15 Study; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; offering reduced rate in-state tuition rates at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth to dependents of public school instructional, administrative, and support personnel in the Commonwealth; report. Requests the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to study, in collaboration with the Department of Education, the feasibility and efficacy of offering the dependents of public school instructional, administrative, and support personnel in the Commonwealth reduced rate in-state tuition at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth for the purpose of improving retention rates of public school instructional, administrative, and support personnel in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Helmer

C HJ21 Study; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth; guaranteed first-year admission; report. Requests the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to study the feasibility of implementing a guaranteed first-year admission policy at each public institution of higher education for certain high school graduates in the Commonwealth and report its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Patron - Seibold

C HJ22 Study; JLARC; skilled nursing, long-term care, and community care facilities; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the capacity and condition of skilled nursing, long-term care, and community care facilities within the Commonwealth.

Patron - Walker

C HJ24 Study; joint subcommittee; Dillon Rule; report. Creates a 13-member joint subcommittee for a one-year study of the Dillon Rule and its impact on Virginia's localities.

Patron - Helmer

**HJ25** Study; joint committee of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health; challenges faced by and effective strategies for ensuring the sustainable, long-term success of the five historically black colleges and universities in the Commonwealth; report. Establishes a joint committee consisting of five members of the House Committee on Education and three members of the Senate Committee on Education and Health to study the challenges faced by and effective strategies for ensuring the sustainable, long-term success of the five historically black colleges and universities in the Commonwealth—Hampton University, Norfolk State University, Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, and Virginia University of Lynchburg—by discussing, adopting, and recommending to the Governor and the General Assembly for formal recognition and endorsement a comprehensive statewide HBCU Support Plan.

Patron - Askew

C HJ29 Study; Board of Workforce Development; adequacy of the funding model for noncredit workforce credential programs; work group; report. Requests the Virginia Board of Workforce Development to study the current

funding model for noncredit workforce credential programs offered at comprehensive community colleges in order to identify areas of inadequacy and make recommendations on options for reforming the funding model to address those inadequacies and improve the sustainability of offering and providing noncredit workforce credential programs to ensure that the Virginia Community College System as a whole is capable of continuing to meet the increasing demand for highly skilled credentialed workers in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Simonds

**HJ34** Study; Joint Commission on Health Care; impacts of cell phone possession and use on students in public schools; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to study the impacts of cell phone possession and use in public schools on student learning outcomes, including the quality of learning and the ability of students to retain and recall information, student attention and focus, and student mental and behavioral health.

Patron - Maldonado

**HJ35** Study; Department of Taxation; tax policy options for reforming the litter tax; report. Directs the Department of Taxation, in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Quality, to study tax policy options for reforming the litter tax.

Patron - Krizek

HJ36 Study; Department of Energy; local governments; purchases of clean energy; report. Requests the Department of Energy to study the barriers for local governments to directly purchase clean energy or to facilitate the purchase of clean energy by their constituents. In conducting its study, the Department shall consider existing ways for local governments to purchase clean energy and promote access to clean energy for their constituents, evaluate barriers and develop recommendations relating to reducing such barriers for local governments to purchase clean energy and encouraging the purchase of and access to clean energy by local governments and their constituents, and consult with relevant stakeholders as needed.

Patron - Sewell

C HJ39 Study; JLARC; waiver of tuition and mandatory fees at certain comprehensive community colleges; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the feasibility of waiving tuition and mandatory fees for Virginia students who attend Mountain Empire Community College, Southwest Virginia Community College, and Virginia Highlands Community College and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2024. Patron - Lopez

C HJ40 Study; Department of Housing and Community Development; tax implications of implementing a land value tax; report. Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to study tax implications of local governing bodies implementing a land value tax. Patron - Shin

C HJ46 Study; Department of State Police; Starr Alert Program; report. Requests the Department of State Police to study the need for an alert program, to be known as the Starr Alert Program, to notify vehicle repair shops of nearby hit-and-run incidents. Patron - Anthony

**HJ51** Study; procuring goods and services from employment service organizations; report. Requests the

Department of General Services, in tandem with the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, to examine the current process for procurement, potential set-asides or percentage goals that could be utilized or bolstered by employment service organizations, and whether employment service organizations should be housed within the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity.

Patron - Laufer

**HJ61** Study; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; \$10,000 per year baccalaureate degree; report. Requests that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (i) study the feasibility of implementing the option for students to pay \$10,000 annually for tuition and mandatory fees to earn a degree at a baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth by surveying each baccalaureate public institution of higher education to determine the likely impact of such an option on enrollment, revenue, costs, services, staffing, and such other factors as the institution deems relevant and (ii) report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2024.

Patron - Runion

C HJ63 Study; Virginia Cannabis Control Authority; creation of a retail cannabis market; report. Requests the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority to study the creation of a retail cannabis market in the Commonwealth and draft regulations governing the indoor cultivation, processing, manufacturing, testing, packaging, labeling, distribution, sale, and delivery of cannabis. The resolution requires that such regulations include (i) appropriate application and license fees; (ii) reasonable restrictions on cannabis advertising; (iii) restrictions on product size and potency; (iv) transaction limits; (v) comprehensive enforcement mechanisms; (vi) provisions regarding tax collection and revenue allocation; (vii) provisions regarding participation in the retail marijuana market by persons in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities; and (viii) any other restrictions or requirements necessary to protect public health and safety, prevent diversion, and enforce regulated sales. The resolution requires the Authority to include certain persons in its study and to submit its executive summaries and reports to the General Assembly by the first day of the 2026 Session of the General Assembly. Patron - Kilgore

**HJ64** Study; Department of Housing and Community Development; revenue sharing program for localities hosting data center infrastructure; report. Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to study creating a revenue sharing program for localities hosting data center infrastructure for data centers located in other localities. Patron - Webert

HJ65 Study; JLARC; rate of accidents that cause fatalities on roads maintained and managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation and localities; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the rate of accidents that cause fatalities on roads maintained and managed by the Virginia Department of Transportation and roads maintained and managed by locali-

Patron - Shin

HJ67 Study; joint committee of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health to study fair school funding reform; report. Establishes a joint committee consisting of five members of the House Committee on Education and three members of the Senate Committee on Education and Health to study fair school funding reform by, among other things, utilizing the recommendations from the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission in its July 2023 report, "Virginia's K-12 Funding Formula," and any stakeholder input and feedback received by the joint committee to produce and submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Services by the first day of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly an executive summary of its findings and recommendations.

Patron - Simonds

C HJ82 Study; Department of Conservation and Recreation; state park in Washington County; report. Requests the Department of Conservation and Recreation to study the feasibility of establishing a state park in Washington County at the Mendota Trail and Abrams Falls located within the Holston River Watersheds.

Patron - O'Quinn

C SJ14 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; study; advancements in artificial intelligence; report. Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science to study advancements in artificial intelligence (AI), including assessing (i) the impacts of deep fakes, data privacy implications, and misinformation; (ii) measures to ensure these technologies do not indirectly or directly lead to discrimination; (iii) strategies to promote equity in AI algorithms; and (iv) ways in which AI can be utilized to improve government operations and services, and to make recommendations on any appropriate legislation for consideration by the General Assembly.

Patron - Subramanyam

C SJ18 Study; joint subcommittee; Dillon Rule; report. Creates a 13-member joint subcommittee for a one-year study of the Dillon Rule and its impact on Virginia's localities.

Patron - Hashmi

C SJ19 Study; Department of Transportation; roadway and pedestrian improvements in Gainesville; report. Requests the Department of Transportation to study the feasibility of implementing certain roadway and pedestrian improvements in Gainesville in Prince William County, particularly along Somerset Crossing Drive.

Patron - Roem

C SJ20 Study; Board of Workforce Development; adequacy of the funding model for noncredit workforce credential programs; work group; report. Requests the Virginia Board of Workforce Development to study the current funding model for noncredit workforce credential programs offered at comprehensive community colleges in order to identify areas of inadequacy and make recommendations on options for reforming the funding model to address those inadequacies and improve the sustainability of offering and providing noncredit workforce credential programs to ensure that the Virginia Community College System as a whole is capable of continuing to meet the increasing demand for highly skilled credentialed workers in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Aird

C SJ21 Study; JLARC; creation of Secretariat of Rural Affairs; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the need for and feasibility of creating a Secretariat of Rural Affairs in the Commonwealth. *Patron - Aird* 

C SJ22 Study; Department of Taxation; reducing economic stress on retired Virginia State Police; report. Directs the Department of Taxation to study tax policy solu-

tions for reducing economic stress on retired Virginia State Police.

Patron - Carroll Foy

C SJ26 Study; JLARC; scope and cost of penalizing possession of drugs as a felony. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the scope and cost of the current laws in the Commonwealth penalizing possession of drugs as a felony.

Patron - Pekarsky

## **Appendix A: Session Statistics**

# 2024 SESSION STATISTICS

	Introduced	Passed	Carried Over	Failed
House Bills	1,547	656	227	664
<b>House Joint Resolutions</b>	427	382	24	21
House Resolutions	452	442	0	10
House Total	2,426	1,480	251	695
Senate Bills	737	390	143	204
Senate Joint Resolutions	246	228	11	7
Senate Resolutions	185	182	0	3
Senate Total	1,168	800	154	214
General Assembly Total	3,594	2,280	405	909

## Appendix B: 2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The 2024 Session Highlights summarizes significant legislation considered by the 2024 Session of the General Assembly as selected by the staff of the Virginia Division of Legislative Services. The brief overview of the 2024 Session covers legislative actions through sine die on Saturday, March 9, 2024. Bills are differentiated as Passed, Failed, or Carried Over. Passed bills are subject to review and veto by the Governor; thus, some of the bills listed as passed in this volume may be amended and some may not become law.

#### Agriculture/Natural Resources

#### **Passed**

HB 47/SB 306 Invasive plant species; retail sales; civil penalty. Requires, for the retail sale of any invasive plant species for outdoor use on a list established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant display signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2024, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in charge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Any retail establishment that violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500.

HB 892/SB 616 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department of Forestry; Office of Farmland Preservation transferred. Transfers from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Forestry the Office of Farmland Preservation and its powers and duties and reporting requirements, the Virginia Farm Link Program, the Century Farm Program, and the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund. The bill renames the Office as the Office of Working Lands

#### **Table of Contents**

Agriculture/Natural Resources 265
Alcoholic Beverages/Cannabis 266
Constitutional Amendments 267
Corrections
Courts/Civil Law 268
Courts/Criminal Justice 269
Education
Firearms/Weapons
Freedom of Information Act274
General Laws
Health
Labor and Commerce 278
Social Services
Taxation
Transportation/Motor Vehicles 283

Preservation. The bill makes technical amendments to effectuate the transfer and requires the Department of Environmental Quality to report to the Department of Forestry by July 1 of each year certain enumerated information about nonpoint source nutrient credits certified in the previous year that involve land use conversion.

HB 1085/SB 243 Department of Environmental **Department** Health; **Quality:** of **PFAS**: identification; monitoring; PFAS Expert Advisory Council established; report. Requires, for every public water system, as defined in the bill, the Department of Health (VDH) to assist the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) by transferring to the Department quarterly all validated monitoring results available to VDH that indicate PFAS maximum containment level, as defined in the bill, exceedances. In such circumstances, the bill provides that the Department is required to develop and implement a plan to prioritize and conduct PFAS assessments for identifying significant sources of PFAS in such public water system's raw water source or sources. The bill requires any facility, if deemed by the Department to be a potentially significant source of PFAS in the public water system's raw water source, (i) to perform and promptly report the results of quarterly discharge monitoring for one year and (ii) to report to the Department, within 90 days after being directed by the Department, its manufacture or use of PFAS. The bill establishes a PFAS Expert Advisory Committee to assist the Department and VDH in its PFAS-related efforts and requires the Committee to meet at least two times per year through June 30, 2027. The bill requires the Department to annually report certain information to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1.

HB 1531 Cruelty to elephants; pain-inflicting training tools prohibited; actions for attachment; civil penalty. Prohibits using devices such as a bullhook, axe handle, or block and tackle or engaging in certain practices in order to discipline, train, or control the behavior of an elephant. The bill provides that any person who uses such devices or engages in certain practices that inflict fear or pain on or cause

physical injury to an elephant is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 for the first offense and not to exceed \$5,000 for subsequent violations. Finally, the bill provides that an action in equity may be brought to request an attachment for any devices prohibited by the bill against a person violating the provisions of the bill.

#### Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

#### **Passed**

HB 688/SB 635 Alcoholic beverage control; sale and delivery of mixed beverages and pre-mixed wine for off-premises consumption; third-party delivery license; sunset; repeal. Repeals the July 1, 2024, sunset on provisions that allow (i) distillers that have been appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, mixed beverage restaurant licensees, and limited mixed beverage restaurant licensees to sell mixed beverages for off-premises consumption and (ii) farm winery licensees to sell pre-mixed wine for off-premises consumption. The bill also repeals, effective July 1, 2026, third-party delivery licenses. The bill requires the Authority to convene a work group to review thirdparty delivery licenses and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 15, 2024.

HB 698/SB 448 Cannabis control; retail market; penalties. Establishes a framework for the creation of a retail marijuana market in the Commonwealth, to be administered by the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. The bill allows the Authority to begin issuing all marijuana licenses on September 1, 2024, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2025.

#### **Failed**

SB 168 Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio. Reduces the current 45 percent food-to-beverage ratio for certain mixed beverage licensees.

The bill requires that a mixed beverage restaurant, caterer's, or limited caterer's licensee meet or exceed the following: (i) for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$4,000 but less than \$10,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall be 35 percent and (ii) for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$10,000, there shall be no food-to-beverage ratio requirement imposed.

#### **Constitutional Amendments**

#### **Passed**

HJ 45/SJ 3 Constitutional amendment (second reference); real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. Expands the current tax exemption for real property available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty with a Line of Duty determination from the U.S. Department of Defense.

#### **Carried Over**

HJ 9/SJ 11 Constitutional amendment (first reference); marriage between two individuals; same-sex marriage prohibition; repeal affirmative right to marry. Repeals the constitutional provision defining marriage as only a union between one man and one woman as well as the related provisions that are no longer valid as a result of the United States Supreme Court decision in Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644 (2015). The amendment provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right inherent in the liberty of persons and prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two parties and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such parties. The amendment provides that religious organizations and clergy acting in their religious

capacity have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.

#### Corrections

#### **Passed**

HB 159 Use of canines in correctional and juvenile correctional facilities; prohibited acts. Makes it unlawful for any correctional officer or other employee of a state correctional facility who is permitted to handle canines to use a patrol or security canine in any state correctional facility unless such correctional officer or other employee (i) reasonably believes that the use of a patrol or security canine is immediately necessary to protect any prisoner or any officer or employee from the threat of serious bodily injury or death or (ii) has the prior approval of the warden or a supervisor to use a patrol or security canine to intervene in an altercation, fight, or other incident between three or more prisoners. The bill also makes it unlawful for any juvenile correctional officer or other employee of a juvenile correctional facility to use a patrol or security canine in any juvenile correctional facility. The bill specifies that such provisions shall not apply to the training or use of detector canines or detector canine handlers.

HB 555/SB 456 Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman; created. Creates, within the Office of the State Inspector General, the Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman (the Office) headed by an Ombudsman who is selected by the State Inspector General. The bill creates the Corrections Oversight Committee (the Committee) made up of four members of the General Assembly, nine nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Governor, subject to criteria described in the bill, and two nonvoting members, appointed as described in the bill, who monitor the activities of the Ombudsman and the Department of Corrections (the Department). The bill provides the Office with authority to conduct inspections at least once every three years, and more often when warranted, of Department facilities and requires the Office to establish a statewide toll-free telephone number, website, mailing address, and paper and electronic forms for inmates, family members, friends, and advocates to submit complaints and inquiries. In addition, the bill requires the Committee to hold at least two public hearings per year and requires the Office to submit an annual report to be made available online and to be delivered to the Governor, the Attorney General, the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services, the House Committee on Public Safety, the Committee, and the Director of the Department. The bill directs the Office to develop a short-term and long-term strategic plan and to provide a report on its initial activities and strategic plan to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before November 15, 2025.

HB 801 Electronic communication systems within state correctional facilities; telephone calls and communication services; lowest available rates. Requires the Department of Corrections to provide telephone systems and web-based or electronic communications systems and requires that such systems be established at the lowest available rates. The maximum number of telephone numbers permitted on an approved call list must be no fewer than 20.

HB 912 Stores and telephone systems in local correctional facilities; fees. Provides that the net profits from the operation of stores and telephonic communication systems in local correctional facilities shall be used within each facility respectively for educational, recreational, or medical purposes for the benefit of the inmates to include behavioral health, substance abuse, reentry, and rehabilitative services and may be expended to pay for the training, salaries, and benefits of employees or contractors whose primary job is to provide such programs and services to the inmates.

#### **Failed**

HB 308 Conditional release of geriatric prisoners.

Expands the list of offenses that prohibit a person from petitioning the Parole Board for conditional release as a geriatric prisoner.

#### Courts/Civil Law

#### **Passed**

HB 174/SB 101 Marriage lawful regardless of sex, gender, or race of parties; issuance of marriage license. Provides that no person authorized to issue a marriage license shall deny the issuance of such license to two parties contemplating a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of the parties. The bill also requires that such lawful marriages be recognized in the Commonwealth regardless of the sex, gender, or race of the parties. The bill provides that religious organizations or members of the clergy acting in their religious capacity shall have the right to refuse to perform any marriage.

HB 418/SB 259 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions. Provides that one or more members of a class may, as representative parties on behalf of all members, bring a civil action or may be proceeded against in a civil action, provided that (i) the class is so numerous that joinder of all members or proceeding with such actions on an individual basis is impracticable or contrary to judicial economy; (ii) there are questions of law or fact common to the class; (iii) the claims or defenses of the representative parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class; and (iv) the representative parties shall fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class. The bill further sets out the procedure to certify a class action, the duties of counsel appointed in a class action, the various orders a court may issue during the course of a class action, and the process by which a settlement, voluntary dismissal, or compromise may occur. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

HB 893 Standards for attorneys appointed to represent parents or guardians; child dependency cases; compensation; multidisciplinary law offices or programs; report. Requires the Judicial Council of Virginia, in conjunction with the Virginia State Bar, beginning July 1, 2026, to adopt standards for the qualification and performance of attorneys appointed to represent a parent or guardian of a child when such child is the subject of a child dependency case, as

defined in the bill. The bill also requires the Judicial Council of Virginia, beginning July 1, 2026, to maintain a list of attorneys admitted to practice law in Virginia who are qualified to be appointed to represent indigent parents involved in a child dependency case. Prior to July 1, 2026, counsel must be appointed from the list of attorneys qualified to serve as guardians ad litem. The bill provides that beginning January 1, 2025, court-appointed counsel for a parent, guardian, or other adult in a child dependency case will be compensated in an amount no greater than \$330, or in a case for the termination of residual parental rights, \$680.

The bill authorizes the establishment of up to two multidisciplinary law offices or programs in localities, jurisdictions, or judicial districts that affirm they have met specified criteria for the purpose of representing parents in a child dependency court proceeding or in a child protective services assessment or investigation prior to such proceeding. During any calendar year that such an office or program is in effect for at least six months, the office or program must submit a report on program outcomes, expenses, recommendations, and other pertinent information to the Office of the Children's Ombudsman and the Chairmen of the House Committees for Courts of Justice and on Health and Human Services and Appropriations and the Senate Committees for Courts of Justice and on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations by November 1.

#### Courts/Criminal Justice

#### **Passed**

HB 18/SB 7 Hate crimes and discrimination; ethnic animosity; penalties. Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to safeguard all individuals within the Commonwealth from unlawful discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation because of such individual's ethnic origin and prohibits such discrimination. The bill also adds victims who are intentionally selected because of their ethnic origin to the categories of victims whose intentional selection for a hate crime involving assault, assault and battery, or

trespass for the purpose of damaging another's property results in a higher criminal penalty for the offense. The bill also provides that no provider or user of an interactive computer service on the Internet shall be liable for any action voluntarily taken by it in good faith to restrict access to material that the provider or user considers to be intended to incite hatred on the basis of ethnic origin.

HB 81 Common-law crime of suicide. Abolishes the common-law crime of suicide. Suicide is currently a common-law crime in Virginia, although there is no statutorily prescribed punishment. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025, and also requires the Bureau of Insurance of the State Corporation Commission to review the effect and implication of abolishing the common-law crime of suicide on insurance throughout the Commonwealth and submit its findings and any recommendations by November 1, 2024, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.

HB 102/SB 356 Compensation of court-appointed counsel. Raises the limitation of fees that court-appointed counsel can receive for representation on various offenses in district and circuit courts. The bill also limits the fees charged for the cost of court-appointed counsel or public defender representation to persons determined to be indigent to an amount no greater than the amount such person would have owed if such fees had been assessed on or before June 30, 2024. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

HB 267/SB 357 Assault and battery; affirmative defense; penalty. Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution of an individual for assault or assault and battery of certain specified individuals for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six-month mandatory minimum term of confinement apply if such individual proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the individual's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or a neurodevelopmental disability, including a developmental disability or intellectual disability, such

as autism spectrum disorder, as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association or (ii) the individual met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody order.

The bill provides that if such individual does not prove that his behaviors were a result of his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder but the evidence establishes that his mental illness, intellectual disability, developmental disability, or neurocognitive disorder otherwise contributed to his behaviors, the finder of fact may find the accused guilty of a misdemeanor assault or assault and battery. The bill also provides that such affirmative defense shall not be construed to allow an affirmative defense for voluntary intoxication.

HB 1420/SB 23 Juveniles; adjudication of delinquency. Specifies that a delinquent child is a child 11 years of age or older who has committed a delinquent act. Currently, there is no minimum age for a child to be adjudicated delinquent. The bill provides that if a juvenile younger than 11 years of age is found to have committed a delinquent act, the juvenile shall not be proceeded upon as delinquent; however, the court may make any orders of disposition authorized for a child in need of services or a child in need of supervision. The bill includes in the definition of "child in need of services" a child younger than 11 years of age who has committed a delinquent act.

Finally, the bill includes in the offense of causing or encouraging acts rendering children delinquent, abused, etc., any person 18 years of age or older, including the parent of any child, who willfully contributes to, encourages, or causes any act, omission, or condition that causes a child younger than 11 years of age to commit a delinquent act. Under current law, any person who commits such offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

**SB** 334 Plea agreements; prohibited provisions. Prohibits plea agreements and court orders executed or entered on or after July 1, 2024, from containing any provision that purports to waive, release, or extinguish

a defendant's (i) rights under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution of Virginia; (ii) right to file a petition requesting expungement of the police records and the court records; or (iii) right to have criminal history record information and court records sealed. The bill provides that any such prohibited provision of a plea agreement or court order is void and unenforceable as against public policy.

The bill provides that such prohibition does not apply to any plea agreements, written agreements, or court orders entered into by a defendant and the Commonwealth (a) as a condition for participation in a specialty docket or (b) in a case involving a sexual offense where the victim is under 18 years of age.

The bill further provides that any waiver, release, or extinguishment of rights under the Fourth Amendment permissible by law shall be no longer than the period of supervised probation or post-release supervision imposed against the defendant; if the defendant is not placed on supervised probation or post-release supervision, it shall be no longer than the period of suspension of sentence or post-release incarceration imposed against such defendant.

#### **Failed**

HB 520 Promise to appear after the issuance of a summons; issuance of summons instead of warrant in certain cases; nonviolent felonies. Provides that if any person refuses to give a written promise to appear after the issuance of a summons, the arresting officer shall give such person notice of the time and place of the hearing, note such person's refusal to give his written promise to appear on the summons, and forthwith release him from custody. Under current law, any person refusing to give such written promise to appear is required to be taken immediately by the arresting officer before a magistrate or other issuing officer having jurisdiction.

The bill also provides that a law-enforcement officer, at his discretion, may issue a summons instead of a warrant for certain felony offenses, described in the bill, if (i) in the judgment of the officer, the person charged will cease committing the illegal act; (ii) in the judgement of the officer, the person charged does not pose an immediate threat to public safety; and (iii) the person charged signs a written promise to appear at the time and place of the hearing. The bill prohibits a lawenforcement agency from creating a policy that requires or prohibits release for persons meeting such criteria.

HB 834 Petition for modification of a sentence; eligibility; procedures. Provides a process for a person serving a sentence for any conviction or a combination of any convictions who remains incarcerated in a state or local correctional facility or secure facility and meets certain criteria to petition the circuit court that entered the original judgment or order to (i) suspend the unserved portion of such sentence or run the unserved portion of such sentence concurrently with another sentence, (ii) place such person on probation for such time as the court shall determine, or (iii) otherwise modify the sentence imposed.

SB 52 Felony homicide; certain drug offenses; penalty. Provides that a person is guilty of felony homicide, which constitutes second degree murder and is punishable by confinement of not less than five nor more than 40 years, if the underlying felonious act that resulted in the killing of another involved the manufacture, sale, gift, or distribution of a Schedule I or II controlled substance to another and (i) such other person's death results from his use of the controlled substance and (ii) the controlled substance is the proximate cause of his death. The bill provides that venue for a prosecution of this crime shall lie in the locality where the underlying felony occurred, where the use of the controlled substance occurred, or where death occurred. The bill also provides that if a person gave or distributed a Schedule I or II controlled substance only as an accommodation to another individual who is not an inmate in a community correctional facility, local correctional facility, or state correctional facility, or in the custody of an employee thereof, and not with intent to profit thereby from any consideration received or expected nor to induce the recipient of the controlled substance to use or become addicted to or dependent upon such controlled substance, he is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

#### SB 503 License plate reader systems; civil penalty.

Provides requirements for the use of license plate reader systems, defined in the bill, by law-enforcement agencies. The bill limits the use of such systems to scanning, detecting, and recording data about vehicles and license plate numbers for the purpose of identifying a vehicle that is (i) associated with a wanted, missing, or endangered person or human trafficking; (ii) stolen; (iii) involved in an active law-enforcement investigation; or (iv) in the vicinity of a recent crime and may be connected to that crime. The bill authorizes and requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a permitting process for installing and using such systems in state highway rights-of-way.

#### Education

#### **Passed**

HB 48/SB 46 Public institutions of higher education; admissions applications; legacy admissions and admissions based on donor status prohibited. Prohibits any public institution of higher education from providing any manner of preferential treatment in the admissions decision to any student applicant on the basis of such student's legacy status, defined in the bill, or such student's familial relationship to any donor to such institution.

HB 624/SB 105 Public school staffing and funding; National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund; At-Risk Program; English language learner students. Renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund as the National Board Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund, expands eligibility for incentive grant awards from such Fund pursuant to such Program from solely teachers who have obtained national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to all public school staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification to cover certain costs of obtaining or maintaining such certification and

all public school staff who have successfully obtained or maintained such certification, and permits certain teachers to apply for additional incentive grants pursuant to such Program and Fund. The bill also establishes the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally risk. including prevention. at intervention, or remediation activities required pursuant to relevant law, teacher recruitment programs and initiatives, programs for English language learners, the hiring of additional school counselors and other support staff, and other programs relating to increasing the success of disadvantaged students in completing a high school degree and providing opportunities to encourage further education and training. The bill also contains provisions relating to certain funding requirements for the At-Risk Program. Finally, the bill requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students based on each such student's English proficiency level, as established in the general appropriation act.

HB 732/SB 726 Public schools; opioid antagonist procurement, possession, and administration; school board employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal instruction; guidelines and requirements. Requires each local school board to develop, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Health in collaboration with the Department of Education, plans, policies, and procedures for (i) providing at each public secondary school that includes grades nine through 12 a program of instruction on opioid overdose prevention and reversal and for encouraging each student to complete such program of instruction prior to graduation; (ii) the procurement, placement, and maintenance in each public elementary and secondary school of a supply of opioid antagonists in an amount equivalent to at least two unexpired doses for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal; and (iii) the possession and administration of an opioid antagonist by any employee of the school board who is authorized by a prescriber and trained in the administration of an opioid antagonist, including policies (a) requiring each public elementary and secondary school to ensure that at least one employee is authorized by a prescriber and trained and certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist, (b) for partnering with a program administered or approved by the Department of Health to provide such training and certification, and (c) for maintaining records of each such trained and certified employee.

The bill provides for the disciplinary, civil, and criminal immunity of any employee of a public school, school board, or local health department, regardless of whether such employee was trained or certified in opioid antagonist administration, for any act or omission made in connection with the good faith administration of an opioid antagonist for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal during regular school hours, on school premises, or during a schoolsponsored activity, unless such act or omission was the result of gross neglect or willful misconduct. The bill requires each school board to adopt and each public elementary and secondary school to implement policies and procedures in accordance with the provisions of the bill and, in doing so, to utilize to the fullest extent possible programs offered by the Department of Health for the provision of opioid antagonist administration training and certification and opioid antagonist procurement.

In addition, the bill modifies the school board employees who are authorized to administer opioid antagonists to include any school board employee who has completed training and is certified in the administration of an opioid antagonist by a program administered or authorized by the Department of Health.

Finally, the bill directs the Department of Health and the Department of Education to collaborate to develop guidelines and policies for the implementation of the provisions of the bill and requires each school board to implement the provisions of the bill by the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

#### Failed

HB 1164/SB 533 Education Excellence for All Program established. Permits the parents of qualified students, defined in the bill, to apply for a one-year, renewable Education Excellence for All Savings Account, defined in the bill, that consists of an amount that is equivalent to a certain percentage of all applicable annual Standards of Quality per pupil state funds appropriated for public school purposes and apportioned to the school division in which the qualified student resides, including the per pupil share of state sales tax funding in basic aid and any per pupil share of state special education funding for which the qualified student is eligible. The bill permits the parent of the qualified student to use the moneys in such account for certain qualified expenses of the qualified student, including tuition, deposits, fees, and required textbooks at a private elementary school or secondary school that is located in the Commonwealth. The bill also contains provisions relating to program and account administration by the Department of the Treasury and a third party that serves as program administrator pursuant to a contract with Department.

#### Firearms/Weapons

#### **Passed**

HB 2/SB 2 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, or transfers an assault firearm, as that term is defined in the bill, and prohibits a person who has been convicted of such violation from purchasing, possessing, or transporting a firearm for a period of three years from the date of conviction. The bill provides that an assault firearm does not include any firearm that is an antique firearm, has been rendered permanently inoperable, is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, or was manufactured before July 1, 2024. The bill also prohibits the sale of a large capacity ammunition feeding device, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill provides that any person who willfully and intentionally (i) sells an assault firearm to another person or (ii) purchases an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports, sells, barters, or transfers a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person younger than 21 years of age to import, sell, manufacture, purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm.

HB 22/SB 210 Manufacture, importation, sale, etc., of auto sears; prohibition; penalty. Prohibits the manufacture, importation, sale or offer to sell, possession, transfer, or transportation of an auto sear, defined in the bill as a device, other than a trigger activator, for use in converting a semi-automatic firearm to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. A violation is punishable as a Class 6 felony. The bill also provides for the forfeiture of any auto sear concealed, possessed, transported, or carried in violation of the prohibition.

HB 173/SB 100 Manufacture, import, sale, transfer, or possession of plastic firearms and unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms prohibited; penalties. Creates a Class 5 felony for any person who knowingly manufactures or assembles, imports, purchases, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening. The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony.

The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is

punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to knowingly import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any completed or unfinished frame or receiver, unless the completed or unfinished frame or receiver (i) is deemed to be a firearm pursuant to federal law and (ii) is imprinted with a valid serial number. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purchase, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2025.

HB 175/SB 99 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range of firearms, only in certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded.

HB 362/SB 642 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purchases, possesses, or transports any firearm following a

misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2024, for the offense of assault and battery against an intimate partner or an offense substantially similar under the laws of any other state or of the United States is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

HJ 76/SB 338 Study; JLARC; effects of gun violence on communities; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to conduct a two-year study of the social, physical, emotional, and economic effects of gun violence on communities across the Commonwealth.

#### Failed

HB 389 Carrying a concealed handgun; permit not required. Allows any person who is otherwise eligible to obtain a concealed handgun permit to carry a concealed handgun without a permit anywhere he may lawfully carry a handgun openly within the Commonwealth.

#### Freedom of Information Act

#### **Passed**

HB 816/SB 244 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; effective date of procedures for conducting meetings held through electronic communication means during declared states of emergency. Provides that the provisions for conducting a meeting by electronic means due to a state of emergency stated in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are declarative of existing law since March 20, 2020, with respect to the Governor's declared state of emergency due to COVID-19. Under the bill, any meeting by a public body using electronic communication means occurring from that date until July 1, 2021, and any otherwise lawful action taken at it is validated with respect to FOIA if the body provided public notice, public access, and public comment commensurate with the requirements of existing FOIA provisions regarding electronic and closed meetings. The bill is a response to the case Berry v. Bd. of Supervisors (Va. 2023) and is a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom Information Advisory Council.

HB 818/SB 36 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definitions of meetings and public business. Exempts certain public meetings from the definition of "meeting" under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to clarify that three or more members of a public body may appear and participate in such public meeting without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. The bill also exempts members of a public body who attend a public meeting of a second public body without violating the Act, provided that no public business is transacted or discussed. Finally, the bill defines "public business" as activity that a public body has undertaken or proposed to undertake on behalf of the people it represents. The bill states that its provisions are declarative of existing law.

HB 894/SB 734 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; electronic meetings. Amends the number of allvirtual public meetings that public bodies, with certain exceptions, may convene in a calendar year to no more than two times per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. Current law limits the number of all-virtual public meetings to no more than two times per calendar year or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater. The bill also provides that with respect to all-virtual public meetings, when audio-visual technology is available, a member of a public body shall, for purposes of a quorum, be considered absent from any portion of the meeting during which visual communication with the member is voluntarily disconnected or otherwise fails or during which audio communication involuntarily fails.

HB 1040/SB 85 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definition of "caregiver"; remote participation in meetings by persons with disabilities and caregivers; remote voting. Provides that for purposes of determining whether a quorum is physically assembled, an individual member of a public body who is a person with a disability or a caregiver, defined in the bill, and uses remote participation counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present. The bill also provides that the participation policy adopted

by a public body, as required by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, shall not prohibit or restrict any individual member of a public body who is participating in an all-virtual meeting or who is using remote participation from voting on matters before the public body. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council.

#### General Laws

#### **Passed**

HB 442 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement; payment plan. Requires a landlord who owns more than four rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, before terminating a rental agreement due to nonpayment of rent if the exact amount of rent owed is less than or equal to one month's rent plus any late charges contracted for in the rental agreement and as provided by law, to serve upon such tenant a written notice informing the tenant of the exact amount due and owed and offer the tenant a payment plan under which the tenant must pay the exact amount due and owed in equal monthly installments over a period of the lesser of six months or the time remaining under the rental agreement. The bill prohibits the landlord from charging any additional late fees during the payment plan period in connection with the unpaid rental amount for which the tenant entered into the payment plan so long as the tenant makes timely payments in accordance with the terms of the payment plan. The bill also outlines the remedies a landlord has if a tenant fails to pay the exact amount due and owed or enter into a payment plan within five days of receiving notice or if a tenant enters into a payment plan and after such plan becomes effective fails to pay rent when due or fails to make a payment under the terms of the agreed-upon payment plan.

HB 1108/SB 18 Virginia Public Procurement Act; construction management and design-build contracting. Requires state public bodies, covered institutions, and local public bodies to provide

documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a construction contract to all the unsuccessful applicants upon request. The bill adds certain requirements for covered institutions, including posting all documents that are open to public inspection exchanged between the Department of General Services and the covered institution on the central electronic procurement website eVA. The bill requires approval by a majority vote of the covered institution's board of visitors or governing board if the covered institution chooses to proceed with construction design-build management or against the recommendation of the Department for (i) projects funded by funds other than those provided from the state general fund or (ii) projects of \$65 million or more funded in whole or in part from state general funds. For projects under \$65 million funded in whole or in part by state general funds, the bill provides that the covered institution shall obtain approval from the Chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, or their designees, and a representative of the Department.

The bill requires a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build, if required by its local governing body, prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or eVA. The bill provides that the Department shall report annually, for any construction management or design-build project, on the qualifications that made such project complex. Finally, the bill requires the Department, with the assistance of staff of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, to assess the implementation and administration of construction management and design-build projects and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2029.

HB 1131/SB 541 Casino gaming; eligible host city. Removes the City of Richmond as an eligible host city for casino gaming establishments in the Commonwealth.

#### **Failed**

HB 877 Virginia Social Media Regulation Act established; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Social Media Regulation Act for the purpose of prohibiting minors in Virginia from possessing an account on any social media platform, defined in the bill, without the express consent of a parent or guardian. The bill requires a social media company to provide a minor's parent or guardian with access to the minor's account and all posts and information on such account. The bill also places prohibitions on the type of data and personal information a social media platform may collect from a minor account holder and prohibits the use of any practice, design, or feature on a social media company's platform that the company knows, or should reasonably know, could cause a minor account holder to have an addiction to the social media platform. Lastly, the bill provides that any violation of the Virginia Social Media Regulation Act shall constitute a prohibited practice and be subject to the enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

HB 1158 Administrative Process Act; executive branch agencies. Requires executive branch agencies to ensure that certain regulations and guidance documents under the Virginia Register Act and Administrative Process Act, as appropriate, are posted on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall according to instructions issued by the Department of Planning and Budget.

HB 1478/SB 689 Casino gaming; cruise ships. Authorizes the conduct of cruise ship casino gaming in the offshore waters of the Commonwealth by a cruise ship operator that applies for and receives a permit from the Virginia Lottery. The bill sets an annual permit fee of \$50,000 for any cruise ship that uses a port or other point of anchorage in the offshore waters of the Commonwealth for the purpose of embarkation or disembarkation of cruise ship passengers and an annual permit fee of \$125,000 for any cruise ship that transits the offshore waters of the Commonwealth without making a stop in the Commonwealth and conducts casino gaming activities while in such waters.

#### **Health**

#### **Passed**

HB 188/SB 154 Advance Health Care Planning Registry; amendment of regulations. Amends the list of documents that may be submitted to the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to include any other document that supports advance health care planning. The bill also changes the name of the Advance Health Care Directive Registry to the Advance Health Care Planning Registry. The bill directs the Department of Health to amend certain Advance Health Care Planning Registry regulations.

HB 609/SB 237 Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right.

HB 909/SB 488 Department of Medical Assistance Services: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; 1915(c) Home Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers; state plan amendments; program rule modifications. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to seek federal authority through the necessary state plan amendments under Titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to modify the program rules for certain 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers to (i) modify the 40-hour-per-week work limit to allow legally responsible individuals with more than one waiver-receiving child to receive reimbursement for 40 hours of work per week per child receiving a waiver; (ii) eliminate the requirement that, in order for a legally responsible individual to receive reimbursement for personal care services, no one else be available to provide services to the member; and (iii) modify the program rules to allow a legally responsible individual or stepparent to be the employer of record. The bill directs DMAS to evaluate the possibility of allowing for respite services under certain 1915(c) Home and

Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers and submit its recommendations, cost estimate, and methodology used for obtaining the cost estimate to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2024.

SB 553 Board of Nursing; certain nursing education programs; out-of-state clinical sites. Directs the Board of Nursing to amend its regulations to permit nursing education programs in the Commonwealth located within 60 miles of a bordering state or the District of Columbia to contract for an unlimited number of required clinical hours at out-of-state clinical sites. The bill requires the regulations to specify that the Board must accept such hours for licensure.

#### **Failed**

HB 970/SB 231 Comprehensive children's health care coverage program. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) to establish a program to provide state-funded comprehensive health care coverage for individuals in the Commonwealth who (i) are under 19 years of age, (ii) are not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, and (iii) but for their immigration status would be eligible for medical assistance services through the Commonwealth's program of medical assistance services established pursuant to Title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act. The bill also requires the Department to ensure that all program information is made available in a manner that is accessible to individuals with limited English proficiency and individuals with disabilities through the provision of language access services, including oral interpretation and written translations, free of charge and to ensure that information obtained by the program remains confidential and is not disclosed for any purpose not related to the administration of the program or any purpose related to civil immigration enforcement unless the subject of the information consents to such disclosure or the requesting agency presents a valid judicial order, subpoena, or warrant.

The bill also requires the Department to (a) consult with individuals with direct and lived experience with the program eligibility criteria established by the bill and individuals with experience conducting outreach to individuals who are eligible for the program established by the bill to advise and assist the Department in carrying out marketing and outreach activities required by the bill and (b) seek all federal waivers and other approvals necessary to maximize federal financial participation in the cost of carrying out the program established by the bill.

SB 499 Donor human milk banks, health insurance; coverage for donor human milk; penalty; **emergency.** Prohibits any person from establishing or operating a donor human milk bank, as defined in the bill, without first obtaining a license from the State Health Commissioner and makes it a Class 6 felony for any person to establish or operate a donor human milk bank in the Commonwealth without obtaining such license. The bill directs the State Board of Health to establish a regulatory and statutory scheme for the licensure and regulation of donor human milk banks operating or doing business in the Commonwealth. The bill also directs the Commissioner to implement and enforce numerous regulations relating to the issuance, renewal, denial, suspension, and revocation of such licenses. The bill specifies procedures relating to disciplinary actions, application fees, and inspections and interviews related to such donor human milk banks.

The bill requires health insurers, corporations providing health care coverage subscription contracts, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for expenses incurred in the provision of pasteurized donor human milk. The bill specifies that the requirement applies if the covered person is an infant younger than the age of six months and a licensed medical practitioner has issued an order for such infant who satisfies certain criteria enumerated in the bill. The bill applies to policies, contracts, and plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2026. The bill also requires the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for payment of medical assistance services incurred in the provision of pasteurized donor human milk. The bill specifies that certain provisions will not become effective until the State Board promulgates regulations for the licensure of donor human milk banks and directs the State Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement certain provisions of the bill.

#### Labor and Commerce

#### **Passed**

**HB 1/SB 1 Minimum wage.** Increases the minimum wage from the current rate of \$12.00 per hour to \$13.50 per hour effective January 1, 2025, and to \$15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2026. The bill satisfies a reenactment clause included in Chapters 1204 and 1242 of the Acts of Assembly of 2020.

HB 108/SB 255 Shared solar programs; American Electric Power; minimum bill; capacity. Requires the State Corporation Commission to establish by regulation a shared solar program, as defined in the bill, through which customers of American Electric Power may purchase electric power through a subscription in a shared solar facility, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to establish a minimum bill, which shall include the costs of all utility infrastructure and services used to provide electric service and administrative costs of the shared solar program, taking into account certain considerations. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding to recalculate such minimum bill within 30 days of its final order in a proceeding establishing the value of a solar renewable energy certificate as required by relevant law. The bill specifies that the Commission shall establish the shared solar program consistent with the requirements of the bill by January 1, 2025, and shall require each utility to file any associated tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementing the program by July 1, 2025. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Energy to convene a stakeholder work group to determine the amounts and forms of certain project incentives and to submit a written report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than November 30, 2024.

HB 570/SB 274 Prescription Drug Affordability Board established; drug cost affordability review. Establishes the Prescription Drug Affordability Board for the purpose of protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth and other stakeholders within the health care system from the high costs of prescription drug products. The bill requires the Board to meet in open session at least four times annually, with certain exceptions and requirements enumerated in the bill. Members of the Board are required to disclose any conflicts of interest, as described in the bill. The bill also creates a stakeholder council for the purpose of assisting the Board in making decisions related to drug cost affordability. The bill tasks the Board with identifying prescription, generic, and other drugs, as defined in the bill, that are offered for sale in the Commonwealth and, at the Board's discretion, conducting an affordability review of any prescription drug product. The bill lists factors for the Board to consider that indicate an affordability challenge for the health care system in the Commonwealth or high outof-pocket costs for patients. The bill also provides that any person aggrieved by a decision of the Board may request an appeal of the Board's decision and that the Attorney General has authority to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill provides that the Board shall establish no more than 12 upper payment limit amounts annually between January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2028.

The bill requires the Board to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly twice annually, beginning on July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. Provisions of the bill shall apply to state-sponsored and state-regulated health plans and health programs and obligate such policies to limit drug payment amounts and reimbursements to an upper payment limit amount set by the Board, if applicable, following an affordability review. The bill specifies that Medicare Part D plans shall not be bound by such decisions of the Board.

The bill also requires the nonprofit organization contracted by the Department of Health to provide prescription drug price transparency to provide the Board access to certain data reported by manufacturers. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025.

HB 990/SB 370 Prohibiting employer seeking wage or salary history of prospective employees; wage or salary range transparency; cause of action. Prohibits a prospective employer from (i) seeking the wage or salary history of a prospective employee; (ii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in determining the wages or salary the prospective employee is to be paid upon hire; (iii) relying on the wage or salary history of a prospective employee in considering the prospective employee for employment; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote a prospective employee or otherwise retaliating against a prospective employee for not providing wage or salary history; and (v) failing or refusing to disclose in each public and internal posting for each job, promotion, transfer, or other employment opportunity the wage, salary, or wage or salary range. The bill establishes a cause of action for an aggrieved prospective employee or employee and provides that an employer that violates such prohibitions is liable to the aggrieved prospective employee or employee for statutory damages between \$1,000 and \$10,000 or actual damages, whichever is greater, reasonable attorney fees and costs, and any other legal and equitable relief as may be appropriate.

HB 1404 Department of Small Business and **Small Supplier Diversity**; **SWaM Business** Procurement Enhancement Program established; disparity study; report. Establishes the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 42 percent of certified small SWaM business utilization in all discretionary spending by executive branch agencies and covered institutions in procurement orders, prime contracts, and subcontracts, as well as a target goal of 50 percent subcontracting to small SWaM businesses in instances where the prime contractor is not a small SWaM business for all new capital outlay construction solicitations that are issued. The bill provides that executive branch agencies and covered institutions are required to increase their small SWaM business utilization rate by three percent per year until reaching the 42-percent target level or, if unable to do so, to implement achievable goals to increase their utilization rate. In addition, the bill provides for a small SWaM business set-aside for executive branch agency and covered institution

purchases of goods, services, and construction, requiring that purchases up to \$100,000 be set aside for award to certified small SWaM businesses.

The bill creates the Division of Procurement Enhancement within the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity for purposes of collaborating with the Department of General Services, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, the Department of Transportation, and covered institutions to further the Commonwealth's efforts to meet the goals established under the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program, as well as implementing initiatives to enhance the development of small businesses, microbusinesses, women-owned businesses, minority-owned businesses, and service disabled veteran-owned businesses the Commonwealth.

Finally, the bill requires the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to conduct a disparity study every five years, with the next disparity study due no later than January 1, 2026. The bill specifies that the study shall evaluate the need for enhancement and remedial measures to address the disparity between the availability and the utilization of women-owned and minority-owned businesses. The provisions of the bill other than those requiring a disparity study have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and apply to covered institutions beginning July 1, 2025.

#### **Failed**

**HB 107 Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund created.** Creates the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund to assist private developers with non-utility costs associated with the installation of public electric vehicle charging stations in certain localities. The bill provides that a private developer is eligible to receive grants of 70 percent of such non-utility costs for public electric vehicle charging stations installed in a city or county that meets the criteria of a distressed locality, as defined in the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.

#### **Social Services**

#### **Passed**

HB 27/SB 39 Kinship foster care; alternative living arrangements; Parental Child Safety Placement Program established. Establishes the Parental Child Safety Placement Program to promote and support placements of children with relatives by local boards of social services in order to avoid foster care. The bill establishes the requirements for a parental child safety placement agreement, the procedure for assessing a proposed caregiver, and the process for terminating the placement.

HB 908/SB 676 Department of Medical Assistances Services; financial eligibility standards for certain waivers providing services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) to amend the financial eligibility standards for individuals receiving services under the Family and Individual Support Waiver, Community Living Waiver, and Building Independence Waiver (the DD Waivers). The bill requires the Department, when determining financial eligibility for the DD Waivers, to disregard any Social Security Disability Insurance income above the maximum monthly Supplemental Security Income determined the U.S. by Social Security Administration; however, such Social Security Disability Insurance income shall not be disregarded for purposes of determining an individual's patient pay obligation. The bill also requires the Department to (i) analyze the implications of such amendments to the financial eligibility standards for individuals under the DD waivers, which shall include a determination of the costs and the number of individuals who would benefit from such amendments and (ii) report its findings to the Chairmen of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2024. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2026.

#### **Failed**

SB 476 Earned sentence credits; inchoate offenses; concurrent and consecutive sentences. Provides that a person who is convicted of an inchoate offense will earn sentence credits at the same rate as someone who is convicted of the completed offense for certain enumerated offenses. The bill also specifies that the provision in current law providing that a person who has been convicted of certain enumerated offenses may earn a maximum of 4.5 sentence credits for each 30 days served on any sentence for such offenses also applies to any other sentence that is to be served concurrent with or consecutive to any such sentence. The bill also clarifies that the provisions regarding the earning of credits for concurrent and consecutive sentences apply retroactively.

#### **Taxation**

#### **Passed**

HB 25/SB 116 Annual retail sales and use tax holiday. Establishes an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning on July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2030. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or WaterSense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment.

HB 790/SB 582 Purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; retail tobacco products and liquid nicotine tax; penalties. Prohibits Internet sales of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products, except to a retail dealer, and prohibits the sale of retail tobacco products from vending machines. The bill updates, for the purpose of the crime of selling or distributing tobacco products to a person younger than 21 years of age, the definition of "retail tobacco products" by including in such definition products currently defined as "nicotine vapor products" or "alternative nicotine vapor products." The bill also removes provisions prohibiting the attempt to purchase, the purchase, or the

possession of tobacco products by persons younger than 21 years of age.

The bill provides that the punishment of a retail dealer that sells, gives, or furnishes a tobacco product to a person younger than 21 years of age or to a person who does not demonstrate that such person is at least 21 years of age is (i) a civil penalty of \$1,000 for a first offense within a 36-month period, (ii) a civil penalty of \$5,000 for a second offense within a 36-month period and becomes subject to specific age-verification requirements, (iii) a civil penalty of \$10,000 and a 30day suspension of such establishment's distributor's license for a third offense within a 36-month period, and (iv) revocation of such license and such distributor shall be ineligible to hold a license for a period of three years following the most recent violation for a fourth offense within a 36-month period. The bill requires the Department of Taxation, in collaboration with the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and local law enforcement, to conduct a compliance check every 24 months on any retailer selling retail tobacco products and to use a person younger than 21 years of age to conduct such checks.

The bill also imposes a tax upon liquid nicotine in closed systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of \$0.066 per milliliter and upon liquid nicotine in open systems, as defined in the bill, at the rate of 20 percent of the wholesale price for purchases on and after July 1, 2024. The bill applies licensing requirements to manufacturers, distributors, and retail dealers of liquid nicotine and creates new safety requirements related to the advertising, marketing, and labeling of liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products.

HB 805/SB 14 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum. Authorizes all counties and cities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for capital projects for the construction or renovation of schools if such levy is approved in a voter referendum. The bill removes the requirement that such a tax must have an expiration date on either (i) the date of the repayment of any bonds or loans used for such

capital projects or (ii) a date chosen by the governing body. Under current law, only Charlotte, Gloucester, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Northampton, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties and the City of Danville are authorized to impose such a tax.

#### **Failed**

## HB 1514/SB 718 Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority and Financing Fund established; report.

Establishes the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority as a political subdivision charged with financing the construction of a sports and entertainment campus. The Authority is composed of nine members, six of whom are appointed by the Governor and three of whom are appointed by the governing body of the City of Alexandria. Each appointed member is subject to specific criteria for appointment. The bill authorizes the Authority to hire independent contractors, enter contracts, acquire property, borrow money, and exercise other similar powers and exempts it from the Personnel Act and the Public Procurement Act. Under the bill, the Authority may issue bonds with a maximum maturity date of 40 years.

The bill entitles the Authority to the following revenues: (i) sales tax revenues from construction and transactions on the campus, defined in the bill, but certain revenues that current law dedicates to transportation and education are excluded; (ii) all pass-through entity tax revenues and corporate income tax revenues from income generated by the company, defined in the bill, or any professional sports team or any affiliates as well as in the development and construction of the campus; and (iii) all personal income tax revenues from income generated through employment and business activity on the campus. It also authorizes the City of Alexandria to appropriate tax revenues to the Authority.

The revenues shall be deposited in the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority Financing Fund, created in the bill, from which the Authority will deposit revenues into priority accounts for Authority revenues, debt service, subordinate debt service, reserves, and capital expenditures and maintenance. If the Authority determines that all such accounts are sufficiently funded, the bill directs the Authority to issue the excess to the Commonwealth and the City of Alexandria if so provided for in any bond or financing agreements.

#### Transportation/Motor Vehicles

#### **Passed**

#### HB 282 Moving violations; highway work zones.

Creates a traffic infraction for any moving violation in a highway work zone punishable by a fine of not less than \$300 for the first offense and not less than \$500 for any subsequent offense. The bill provides that for any subsequent offense that occurs within the same 12-month period as another such offense such fine shall be not less than \$750.

HB 812 Special license plates; Sons of Confederate Veterans and Robert E. Lee. Repeals authorization for the issuance of Sons of Confederate Veterans and Robert E. Lee special license plates and provides that such special license plates already in circulation will remain valid until their expiration and shall not be renewed.

HB 925 Towing; vehicles with expired registration; civil penalty. Requires a towing operator, defined in the bill, for a parking lot of a multifamily dwelling unit, defined in the bill, to post written notice on a vehicle providing at least 48 hours' notice to a resident prior to removing a resident's vehicle, defined in the bill, from such parking lot of the multifamily dwelling unit for an expired registration or expired vehicle inspection sticker and to provide a copy of such notice to the landlord of such multifamily dwelling unit. The bill provides that a towing operator who fails to comply with these requirements shall be required to reimburse the resident for the cost of the tow and shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$100.

HB 1454/SB 246 Limited-duration licenses and driver privilege cards and permits; expiration. Extends the validity of limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards, other than REAL ID credentials and commercial

driver's licenses and permits, to a period of time consistent with the validity of driver's licenses, which, under current law, is a period not to exceed eight years or, for a person age 75 or older, a period not to exceed five years, and permits and special identification cards. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for such documents upon reissuance.

SJ 28 Study; joint subcommittee; funding needs in certain transit systems; report. Establishes a joint subcommittee to study long-term, sustainable, dedicated funding and cost-containment controls and strategies to ensure the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, the Virginia Railway Express, and the public transit systems that serve the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission transportation districts meet the growing needs of public transit in the region.

#### **Failed**

HB 657 Pedestrian control signals; applicability to persons riding bicycles and other devices. Allows persons riding a bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, moped, or motorized skateboard or scooter to, while remaining in the travel lane, follow the pedestrian control signal corresponding to the person's direction of travel, provided that they travel straight or turn right and yield to pedestrians lawfully in the crosswalk and any vehicle approaching the intersection from the right.

HB 1077 Exception to stopping requirement; bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or motorized skateboard or scooter. Authorizes the operator of a bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or motorized skateboard or scooter to yield instead of stop at an intersection controlled by a stop sign if (i) each intersecting highway has no more than three motor vehicle travel lanes; (ii) the operator is at least 15 years of age or accompanied by an adult; (iii) the operator

slows to a reasonable speed based on existing conditions; and (iv) before proceeding into the intersection, the person stops for any pedestrian within the crosswalk and for any other vehicle approaching or entering such intersection from another direction.

#### HB 1266 Traffic; bicycles and certain other vehicles.

Clarifies that the roadways on which bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric powerassisted bicycles, motorized skateboards or scooters, or mopeds are exempt from the requirement to ride as close as safely practicable to the right curb include those not wide enough to allow an overtaking motor vehicle to pass as required by law. The bill removes the requirement for persons riding bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric powerassisted bicycles, or motorized skateboards or scooters on a highway two abreast to move into a single-file formation when being overtaken by a faster-moving vehicle and limits the requirement that such persons not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic to roadways with only one travel lane per direction and a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or more.

#### **DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES**

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Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
House B	ills	HB51	71	HB103	189	HB155	81
		HB52	144	HB104	167	HB156	28
HB1	170	HB53	199	HB105	203	HB157	170
HB2		HB54	255	HB106	209	HB158	79
HB3	39	HB55	123	HB107	176	HB159	189
HB4		HB56	127	HB108	209	HB160	170
HB5	151	HB57	154	HB109	215	HB161	64
HB6	139	HB58	10	HB110	88	HB162	187
HB7		HB59	43	HB111	123	HB163	
HB8	144	HB60		HB112	89	HB164	10
HB9	19	HB61	232	HB113	71	HB165	
HB10	103	HB62		HB114	137	HB166	104
HB11	70	HB63	80	HB115	248	HB167	
HB12		HB64	166	HB116	228	HB168	91
HB13		HB65	103	HB117	212	HB169	144
HB14		HB66	90	HB118	213	HB170	49
HB15		HB67	39	HB119	213	HB171	28
HB16		HB68	250	HB120	192	HB172	57
HB17		HB69	123	HB121	90	HB173	64
HB18		HB70	186	HB122	37	HB174	88
HB19		HB71	241	HB123	163	HB175	64
HB20		HB72	103	HB124	43	HB176	
HB21		HB73		HB125		HB177	
HB22		HB74		HB126		HB178	14
HB23		HB75		HB127		HB179	
HB24		HB76		HB128		HB180	
HB25		НВ77		HB129		HB181	
HB26		HB78		HB130		HB182	
HB27		HB79		HB131		HB183	
HB28		HB80		HB132		HB184	
HB29		HB81		HB133		HB185	
HB30		HB82		HB134		HB186	
HB31		HB83		HB135		HB187	
HB32		HB84		HB136		HB188	
HB33		HB85		HB137		HB189	
HB34		HB86		HB138		HB190	
		HB87		HB139		HB191	
HB35		HB88		HB140		HB192	
HB36		HB89		HB141		HB193	
HB37		НВ90		HB142		HB194	
HB38		HB91		HB143		HB195	
HB39		HB92		HB144		HB196	
HB40		НВ93		HB145		НВ190 НВ197	
HB41		НВ94		НВ146		НВ198	
HB42							
HB43		HB95		HB147		HB199	
HB44		HB96		HB148		HB200	
HB45		HB97		HB149		HB201	
HB46		HB98		HB150		HB202	
HB47		HB99		HB151		HB203	
HB48		HB100		HB152		HB204	
HB49		HB101		HB153		HB205	
HB50	26	HB102	81	HB154	62	HB206	19

Bill Number	Page						
HB207	159	HB259	39	HB311	3	HB363	132
HB208	43	HB260	85	HB312	203	HB364	49
HB209	71	HB261	228	HB313	23	HB365	104
HB210	250	HB262	222	HB314	23	HB366	161
HB211	161	HB263	222	HB315	28	HB367	213
HB212	137	HB264	28	HB316	40	HB368	155
HB213	177	HB265	123	HB317	3	HB369	161
HB214	192	HB266	57	HB318	232	HB370	172
HB215	91	HB267	64	HB319	79	HB371	200
HB216	39	HB268		HB320	17	HB372	118
HB217	199	HB269	91	HB321	32	HB373	135
HB218	163	HB270	79	HB322	193	HB374	137
HB219	182	HB271	104	HB323	201	HB375	133
HB220	140	HB272	200	HB324	193	HB376	255
HB221	19	HB273	90	HB325	172	HB377	49
HB222	104	HB274	251	HB326	193	HB378	49
HB223	17	HB275	210	HB327	23	HB379	62
HB224	91	HB276	132	HB328	117	HB380	177
HB225	192	HB277	237	HB329	193	HB381	10
HB226	222	HB278	145	HB330	17	HB382	155
HB227	255	HB279	175	HB331	257	HB383	193
HB228	238	HB280	71	HB332	249	HB384	222
HB229	49	HB281	91	HB333	3	HB385	210
HB230	168	HB282	177	HB334	49	HB386	118
HB231	187	HB283	138	HB335	170	HB387	223
HB232	34	HB284	104	HB336	249	HB388	186
HB233	3	HB285	154	HB337	49	HB389	71
HB234	177	HB286	149	HB338	54	HB390	71
HB235	49	HB287	193	HB339	222	HB391	182
HB236	256	HB288	248	HB340	213	HB392	233
HB237	3	HB289	71	HB341	10	HB393	127
HB238	164	HB290	10	HB342	3	HB394	72
HB239	145	HB291	140	HB343	135	HB395	72
HB240	228	HB292	64	HB344	49	HB396	223
HB241	145	HB293	49	HB345	49	HB397	213
HB242	3	HB294	57	HB346	89	HB398	92
HB243		HB295	59	HB347	117	HB399	72
HB244	59	HB296	182	HB348	173	HB400	86
HB245	243	HB297	19	HB349	193	HB401	246
HB246	81	HB298	71	HB350	193	HB402	213
HB247	209	HB299	17	HB351	64	HB403	213
HB248	201	HB300	187	HB352	203	HB404	139
HB249	34	HB301	49	HB353	140	HB405	43
HB250	32	HB302	222	HB354	140	HB406	42
HB251	35	HB303	86	HB355	91	HB407	92
HB252	140	HB304	35	HB356	3	HB408	118
HB253	91	HB305	222	HB357	244	HB409	49
HB254	127	HB306	81	HB358	92	HB410	256
HB255	140	HB307	21	HB359	118	HB411	105
HB256	172	HB308	191	HB360	118	HB412	10
HB257	193	HB309		HB361	81	HB413	128
HB258	218	HB310	61	HB362	65	HB414	62

Bill Number	Page						
HB415	255	HB467	44	HB519	194	HB571	93
HB416	255	HB468		HB520	86	HB572	203
HB417	128	HB469	214	HB521	182	HB573	119
HB418	29	HB470		HB522	20	HB574	218
HB419	92	HB471	155	HB523	65	HB575	35
HB420		HB472		HB524		HB576	
HB421		HB473		HB525		HB577	
HB422		HB474		HB526		HB578	
HB423		HB475		HB527		HB579	
HB424		HB476		HB528		HB580	
HB425		HB477		HB529		HB581	
HB426		HB478		HB530		HB582	
HB427		HB479		HB531		HB583	
HB428		HB480		HB532		HB584	
HB429		HB481		HB533		HB585	
HB430		HB482		HB534		HB586	
HB431		HB483		HB535		HB587	
HB432		НВ484		НВ536		НВ588	
HB433		HB485		HB537		HB589	
HB434		HB486		HB538		HB590	
HB435		HB487		HB539		HB591	
HB436		HB488		HB540		HB592	
HB437		HB489		HB541		HB593	
HB438		HB490		HB542		HB594	
HB439		HB491		HB543		HB595	
HB440		HB492		HB544		HB596	
HB441		HB493		HB545		HB597	
HB442		HB494		HB546		HB598	
HB443		HB495		HB547		HB599	
HB444		HB496		HB548		HB600	
HB445	167	HB497		HB549	223	HB601	
HB446		HB498		HB550	149	HB602	37
HB447	228	HB499	149	HB551		HB603	93
HB448	72	HB500	118	HB552	229	HB604	167
HB449		HB501	92	HB553	72	HB605	
HB450	72	HB502	14	HB554	191	HB606	200
HB451		HB503	245	HB555	189	HB607	137
HB452	65	HB504	26	HB556	62	HB608	26
HB453	244	HB505	182	HB557	152	HB609	141
HB454	65	HB506	105	HB558	251	HB610	169
HB455	194	HB507	105	HB559	21	HB611	32
HB456	44	HB508	92	HB560	167	HB612	81
HB457	189	HB509	156	HB561	93	HB613	3
HB458		HB510	169	HB562		HB614	81
HB459		HB511		HB563		HB615	
HB460		HB512		HB564		HB616	
HB461		HB513		HB565		HB617	
HB462		HB514		HB566		HB618	
HB463		HB515		HB567		HB619	
HB464		HB516		HB568		HB620	
HB465		HB517		HB569		HB621	
HB466		HB518		HB570		HB622	
1110+00	05	110,10		1100/0	1+1	111022	143

Bill Number	Page						
HB623	124	HB675	119	HB727	11	HB779	29
HB624	93	HB676	37	HB728	4	HB780	172
HB625	93	HB677	119	HB729	141	HB781	141
HB626	94	HB678	249	HB730	124	HB782	4
HB627	119	HB679	82	HB731	94	HB783	245
HB628	149	HB680	11	HB732	94	HB784	89
HB629	128	HB681	19	HB733	208	HB785	224
HB630	187	HB682	256	HB734	172	HB786	249
HB631	187	HB683	50	HB735	134	HB787	14
HB632	94	HB684	183	HB736	233	HB788	175
HB633	65	HB685	73	HB737	241	HB789	248
HB634	44	HB686	107	HB738	4	HB790	218
HB635	59	HB687	186	HB739	95	HB791	73
HB636	54	HB688	20	HB740	29	HB792	214
HB637		HB689		HB741		HB793	
HB638		HB690		HB742		HB794	
HB639		HB691		HB743		HB795	
HB640		HB692		HB744		HB796	
HB641		HB693		HB745		HB797	
HB642		HB694		HB746		HB798	
HB643		HB695		HB747		HB799	
HB644		НВ696		HB748		HB800	
HB645		HB697		HB749		HB801	
HB646		HB698		HB750		HB802	
HB647		HB699		HB751		HB803	
HB648		HB700		HB752		HB804	
HB649		HB701		HB753		HB805	
HB650		HB702		HB754		HB806	
HB651		HB703		HB755		HB807	
HB652		HB704		HB756		HB808	
HB653		HB705		HB757		HB809	
HB654		HB706		HB758		HB810	
HB655		HB707		HB759		HB811	
HB656		HB708		HB760		HB812	
HB657		HB709		HB761		HB813	
HB658		HB710		HB762		HB814	
HB659		HB711		HB763		HB815	
HB660		HB712		HB764		HB816	
HB661		HB713		HB765		HB817	
HB662		HB714		HB766		HB818	
HB663		HB715		HB767		HB819	
HB664		HB716		HB768		HB820	
HB665		HB717		HB769		HB821	
HB666		HB718		HB770		HB822	
HB667		HB719		HB771		HB823	
HB668		HB720		HB772		HB824	
HB669		HB721		HB773		HB825	
HB670		HB722		HB774		HB826	
HB671		HB723		HB775		HB827	
HB672		HB724		HB776		HB828	
HB673		HB725		HB777		HB829	
HB674		HB726		HB778		HB830	
11D0/T	13	1110/20	1/1	1110//0		111000	

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
HB831	142	HB883	183	HB935	164	HB987	164
HB832		HB884		HB936	108	HB988	192
HB833		HB885		HB937		HB989	
HB834		HB886		HB938		HB990	
HB835		HB887		HB939		HB991	
HB836		HB888		HB940		HB992	
HB837		HB889		HB941		HB993	
HB838		HB890		HB942		HB994	
HB839		HB891		HB943		HB995	
HB840		HB892		HB944		HB996	
HB841		HB893		HB945		HB997	
HB842		HB894		HB946		HB998	
HB843		HB895		HB947		НВ999	
HB844		HB896		HB948		HB1000	
HB845		HB897		HB949		HB1001	
HB846		HB898		HB950		HB1002	
НВ847		нв 898 НВ 899					
				HB951		HB1003	
HB848		HB900		HB952		HB1004	
HB849		HB901		HB953		HB1005	
HB850		HB902		HB954		HB1006	
HB851		HB903		HB955		HB1007	
HB852		HB904		HB956		HB1008	
HB853		HB905		HB957		HB1009	
HB854		HB906		HB958		HB1010	
HB855		HB907		HB959		HB1011	
HB856		HB908	142	HB960	219	HB1012	
HB857		HB909		HB961		HB1013	
HB858	200	HB910	176	HB962		HB1014	
HB859		HB911	138	HB963		HB1015	
HB860	74	HB912	190	HB964		HB1016	
HB861	23	HB913	190	HB965	11	HB1017	59
HB862	210	HB914	45	HB966	11	HB1018	4
HB863	209	HB915	153	HB967	205	HB1019	45
HB864	169	HB916	82	HB968	176	HB1020	109
HB865	229	HB917	195	HB969	230	HB1021	146
HB866	172	HB918	208	HB970	146	HB1022	33
HB867	51	HB919	95	HB971	195	HB1023	129
HB868	74	HB920	15	HB972	82	HB1024	96
HB869		HB921		HB973		HB1025	248
HB870		HB922		HB974		HB1026	74
HB871		HB923		HB975		HB1027	
HB872		HB924		HB976		HB1028	
HB873		HB925		HB977		HB1029	
HB874		HB926		HB978		HB1030	
HB875		HB927		HB979		HB1031	
HB876		HB928		HB980		HB1032	
HB877		HB929		HB981		HB1033	
HB878		HB930		HB982		HB1034	
НВ879		НВ931		НВ983		НВ1034 НВ1035	
HB880		HB932		HB984		HB1036	
HB881		HB933		HB985		HB1037	
HB882	120	HB934	58	HB986	185	HB1038	200

HB1039	Bill Number	Page						
HBI041	HB1039	96	HB1091	120	HB1143	75	HB1195	66
HBI041	HB1040	4	HB1092	156	HB1144	59	HB1196	243
HBI042			HB1093	55	HB1145	51		
HB1044	HB1042	74	HB1094	110			HB1198	75
HB1044	HB1043	36	HB1095	12			HB1199	137
HB1045			HB1096	230	HB1148	110	HB1200	130
HB1047	HB1045	129	HB1097	74	HB1149	129	HB1201	153
HB1048	HB1046	109	HB1098	171	HB1150	75	HB1202	75
HB1048	HB1047	183	HB1099	219	HB1151	136	HB1203	219
HB1049	HB1048	109			HB1152	111	HB1204	154
HB1051			HB1101	15	HB1153	51	HB1205	12
HB1051			HB1102	75	HB1154	12	HB1206	75
HB1053			HB1103	239	HB1155	237	HB1207	205
HB1054	HB1052	146	HB1104	31	HB1156	224	HB1208	256
HB1055					HB1157	38		
HB1056	HB1054	55	HB1106	179	HB1158	12	HB1210	137
HB1057	HB1055	157	HB1107	179	HB1159	224	HB1211	45
HB1058	HB1056	41	HB1108	5	HB1160	173	HB1212	111
HB1059	HB1057	183	HB1109	179	HB1161	237	HB1213	184
HB1060	HB1058	248	HB1110	179	HB1162	51	HB1214	31
HB1061	HB1059	146	HB1111	183	HB1163	179	HB1215	171
HB1062	HB1060	164	HB1112	179	HB1164	111	HB1216	111
HB1063	HB1061	191	HB1113	5	HB1165	188	HB1217	83
HB1064	HB1062	210	HB1114	82	HB1166	200	HB1218	111
HB1065         .27         HB1117         .22         HB1169         .189         HB1221         .97           HB1066         .160         HB1118         .22         HB1170         .130         HB1222         .130           HB1067         .195         HB1119         .51         HB1171         .130         HB1223         .225           HB1068         .195         HB1120         .110         HB172         .130         HB1224         .179           HB1069         .233         HB1121         .192         HB1173         .152         HB1225         .55           HB1070         .55         HB1123         .59         HB1175         .152         HB1226         .251           HB1071         .178         HB1123         .59         HB1175         .152         HB 1227         .41           HB1072         .183         HB1124         .156         HB1176         .130         HB1228         .62           HB1073         .78         HB1125         .5         HB1177         .125         HB1229         .111           HB1072         .181         HB1126         .89         HB1178         .5         HB1230         .112           HB1075 <td>HB1063</td> <td>150</td> <td>HB1115</td> <td>237</td> <td>HB1167</td> <td>45</td> <td>HB1219</td> <td>111</td>	HB1063	150	HB1115	237	HB1167	45	HB1219	111
HB1066         160         HB1118         22         HB1170         130         HB1222         130           HB1067         195         HB1119         51         HB1171         130         HB1223         225           HB1068         195         HB1120         110         HB172         130         HB1224         179           HB1069         233         HB1121         192         HB1173         152         HB1225         55           HB1070         .55         HB1122         .55         HB1174         .66         HB1226         .251           HB1071         .178         HB1123         .59         HB1175         .152         HB1227         .41           HB1072         .183         HB1124         .156         HB1176         .130         HB1228         .62           HB1073         .178         HB1125         .5         HB1177         .125         HB1229         .111           HB1074         .215         HB1126         .89         HB1178         .5         HB1230         .112           HB1075         .96         HB1127         .256         HB1178         .5         HB1230         .112           HB1076         .96	HB1064	147	HB1116	5	HB1168	12	HB1220	217
HB1067         195         HB1119         51         HB1171         130         HB1223         225           HB1068         195         HB1120         110         HB1172         130         HB1224         179           HB1069         233         HB1121         192         HB1173         152         HB1225         55           HB1070         55         HB1122         55         HB1174         66         HB1226         251           HB1071         178         HB1123         59         HB1175         152         HB127         41           HB1072         183         HB1124         156         HB1176         130         HB128         62           HB1073         178         HB1125         5         HB1177         125         HB1229         111           HB1074         215         HB1126         89         HB1178         5         HB1230         112           HB1075         96         HB1127         256         HB1179         191         HB1231         97           HB1076         96         HB1128         245         HB1180         225         HB1231         97           HB1077         183         HB1129<	HB1065	27	HB1117	22	HB1169	189	HB1221	97
HB1068         195         HB1120         110         HB1172         130         HB1224         179           HB1069         233         HB1121         192         HB1173         152         HB1225         55           HB1070         55         HB1122         55         HB1174         66         HB1226         251           HB1071         178         HB1123         59         HB175         152         HB1227         41           HB1072         183         HB1124         156         HB1176         130         HB1228         62           HB1073         178         HB1125         5         HB1177         125         HB1229         111           HB1074         215         HB1125         5         HB1177         125         HB1230         112           HB1075         96         HB1127         256         HB1179         191         HB1231         97           HB1076         96         HB1128         245         HB1180         225         HB1232         147           HB1077         183         HB1129         90         HB1181         36         HB1233         153           HB1078         230         HB130	HB1066	160	HB1118	22	HB1170	130	HB1222	130
HB1069         233         HB1121         192         HB1173         152         HB1225         55           HB1070         .55         HB1122         .55         HB1174         .66         HB1226         .251           HB1071         178         HB1123         .59         HB1175         .152         HB1227         .41           HB1072         183         HB1124         .156         HB1176         .130         HB128         .62           HB1073         178         HB1125         .5         HB1177         .125         HB1229         .111           HB1074         215         HB1126         .89         HB1178         .5         HB1230         .112           HB1075         .96         HB1127         .256         HB1179         .191         HB1231         .97           HB1076         .96         HB1128         .245         HB1180         .225         HB1232         .147           HB1077         .183         HB1129         .90         HB1181         .36         HB1233         .153           HB1078         .230         HB1130         .195         HB1818         .195         HB1234         .225           HB1089	HB1067	195	HB1119	51	HB1171	130	HB1223	225
HB1070         .55         HB1122         .55         HB1174         .66         HB1226         .251           HB1071         .178         HB1123         .59         HB1175         .152         HB1227         .41           HB1072         .183         HB1124         .156         HB1176         .130         HB1228         .62           HB1073         .178         HB1125         .5         HB1177         .125         HB1229         .111           HB1074         .215         HB1126         .89         HB1178         .5         HB1230         .112           HB1075         .96         HB1127         .256         HB1179         .191         HB1231         .97           HB1076         .96         HB1128         .245         HB1180         .225         HB1232         .147           HB1077         .183         HB1129         .90         HB1818         .36         HB1232         .147           HB1078         .230         HB1130         .195         HB1818         .36         HB1234         .225           HB1080         .178         HB1131         .219         HB183         .225         HB1235         .79           HB1081	HB1068	195	HB1120	110	HB1172	130	HB1224	179
HB1071       178       HB1123       59       HB1175       152       HB1227       41         HB1072       183       HB1124       156       HB1176       130       HB1228       62         HB1073       178       HB1125       5       HB1177       125       HB1229       111         HB1074       215       HB1126       89       HB1178       5       HB1230       112         HB1075       96       HB1127       256       HB1179       191       HB1231       97         HB1076       96       HB1128       245       HB1180       225       HB1232       147         HB1077       183       HB1129       90       HB1181       36       HB1233       153         HB1078       230       HB1130       195       HB182       195       HB1234       225         HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB183       225       HB1235       79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082	HB1069	233	HB1121	192	HB1173	152	HB1225	55
HB1072         183         HB1124         156         HB1176         130         HB1228         62           HB1073         178         HB1125         5         HB1177         125         HB129         111           HB1074         215         HB1126         89         HB1178         5         HB1230         112           HB1075         96         HB1127         256         HB1179         191         HB1231         .97           HB1076         96         HB1128         245         HB1180         225         HB1232         147           HB1077         183         HB1129         90         HB1181         36         HB1233         153           HB1078         230         HB1130         195         HB1182         195         HB1234         225           HB1079         110         HB1131         219         HB1183         225         HB1235         79           HB1080         178         HB1132         165         HB184         75         HB1236         51           HB1081         110         HB1133         158         HB1185         150         HB1237         196           HB1082         178         HB1	HB1070	55	HB1122	55	HB1174	66	HB1226	251
HB1073       178       HB1125       5       HB1177       125       HB129       111         HB1074       215       HB1126       89       HB1178       5       HB1230       112         HB1075       .96       HB1127       256       HB1179       191       HB1231       .97         HB1076       .96       HB1128       245       HB1180       .225       HB1232       .147         HB1077       .183       HB1129       .90       HB1181       .36       HB1233       .153         HB1078       .230       HB1130       .195       HB1182       .195       HB1234       .225         HB1079       .110       HB1131       .219       HB1183       .225       HB1235       .79         HB1080       .178       HB1132       .165       HB1184       .75       HB1236       .51         HB1081       .110       HB1133       .158       HB1185       .150       HB1237       .196         HB1082       .178       HB1134       .165       HB1186       .38       HB1238       .130         HB1083       .4       HB1135       .18       HB1187       .195       HB1239       .202 <t< td=""><td>HB1071</td><td>178</td><td>HB1123</td><td>59</td><td>HB1175</td><td>152</td><td>HB1227</td><td>41</td></t<>	HB1071	178	HB1123	59	HB1175	152	HB1227	41
HB1074       215       HB1126       89       HB1178       5       HB1230       112         HB1075       96       HB1127       256       HB1179       191       HB1231       .97         HB1076       96       HB1128       245       HB1180       225       HB1232       .147         HB1077       183       HB1129       90       HB1181       36       HB1233       .153         HB1078       230       HB1130       195       HB182       195       HB1234       .225         HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB183       .225       HB1235       .79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       .75       HB1236       .51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       .196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       .202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       .75         HB1085 <td>HB1072</td> <td>183</td> <td>HB1124</td> <td>156</td> <td>HB1176</td> <td>130</td> <td>HB1228</td> <td>62</td>	HB1072	183	HB1124	156	HB1176	130	HB1228	62
HB1075         .96         HB1127         .256         HB1179         .191         HB1231         .97           HB1076         .96         HB1128         .245         HB1180         .225         HB1232         .147           HB1077         .183         HB1129         .90         HB1181         .36         HB1233         .153           HB1078         .230         HB1130         .195         HB182         .195         HB1234         .225           HB1079         .110         HB1131         .219         HB1183         .225         HB1234         .225           HB1080         .178         HB1132         .165         HB1184         .75         HB1236         .51           HB1081         .110         HB1133         .158         HB1185         .150         HB1237         .196           HB1082         .178         HB1134         .165         HB1186         .38         HB1237         .196           HB1083         .4         HB1135         .18         HB1187         .195         HB1239         .202           HB1084         .178         HB1136         .168         HB1188         .147         HB1240         .75           HB1085	HB1073	178	HB1125	5	HB1177	125	HB1229	111
HB1076       96       HB1128       245       HB1180       225       HB1232       147         HB1077       183       HB1129       90       HB1181       36       HB1233       153         HB1078       230       HB1130       195       HB1182       195       HB1234       225         HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB1183       225       HB1235       79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1088	HB1074	215	HB1126	89	HB1178	5	HB1230	112
HB1077       183       HB1129       90       HB1181       36       HB1233       153         HB1078       230       HB1130       195       HB1182       195       HB1234       225         HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB1183       225       HB1235       79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1089 <t< td=""><td>HB1075</td><td>96</td><td>HB1127</td><td>256</td><td>HB1179</td><td>191</td><td>HB1231</td><td>97</td></t<>	HB1075	96	HB1127	256	HB1179	191	HB1231	97
HB1078       230       HB1130       195       HB1182       195       HB1234       225         HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB183       225       HB1235       79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1076	96	HB1128	245	HB1180	225	HB1232	147
HB1079       110       HB1131       219       HB1183       225       HB1235       79         HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB193       12       HB1245       135	HB1077	183	HB1129	90	HB1181	36	HB1233	153
HB1080       178       HB1132       165       HB1184       75       HB1236       51         HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1078	230	HB1130	195	HB1182	195	HB1234	225
HB1081       110       HB1133       158       HB1185       150       HB1237       196         HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       .75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1079	110	HB1131	219	HB1183	225	HB1235	79
HB1082       178       HB1134       165       HB1186       38       HB1238       130         HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1080	178	HB1132	165	HB1184	75	HB1236	51
HB1083       4       HB1135       18       HB1187       195       HB1239       202         HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1081	110	HB1133	158	HB1185	150	HB1237	196
HB1084       178       HB1136       168       HB1188       147       HB1240       .75         HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       .205         HB1086       .74       HB1138       .5       HB1190       .196       HB1242       .24         HB1087       .96       HB1139       .5       HB1191       .12       HB1243       .234         HB1088       .96       HB1140       .246       HB1192       .15       HB1244       .190         HB1089       .96       HB1141       .75       HB1193       .12       HB1245       .135	HB1082	178	HB1134	165	HB1186	38	HB1238	130
HB1085       242       HB1137       224       HB1189       130       HB1241       205         HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1083	4	HB1135	18	HB1187	195	HB1239	202
HB1086       74       HB1138       5       HB1190       196       HB1242       24         HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1084	178	HB1136	168	HB1188	147	HB1240	75
HB1087       96       HB1139       5       HB1191       12       HB1243       234         HB1088       96       HB1140       246       HB1192       15       HB1244       190         HB1089       96       HB1141       75       HB1193       12       HB1245       135	HB1085	242	HB1137	224	HB1189	130	HB1241	205
HB1088 <t< td=""><td>HB1086</td><td>74</td><td>HB1138</td><td>5</td><td>HB1190</td><td>196</td><td>HB1242</td><td>24</td></t<>	HB1086	74	HB1138	5	HB1190	196	HB1242	24
HB108996 HB114175 HB119312 HB1245135	HB1087	96	HB1139	5	HB1191	12	HB1243	234
HB108996 HB114175 HB119312 HB1245135								
HR1090 74 HR1142 168 HR1194 200 HR1246 33								
1121070200 11217T200 11217T200 11217T	HB1090	74	HB1142	168	HB1194	200	HB1246	33

Bill Number	Page						
HB1247	97	HB1299	75	HB1351	234	HB1403	42
HB1248		HB1300	250	HB1352		HB1404	
HB1249		HB1301	234	HB1353	112	HB1405	192
HB1250		HB1302		HB1354		HB1406	
HB1251		HB1303		HB1355		HB1407	
HB1252		HB1304		HB1356		HB1408	
HB1253		HB1305		HB1357		HB1409	
HB1254		HB1306		HB1358		HB1410	
HB1255		HB1307		HB1359		HB1411	
HB1256	66	HB1308		HB1360		HB1412	
HB1257		HB1309		HB1361		HB1413	
HB1258		HB1310		HB1362		HB1414	
HB1259		HB1311		HB1363		HB1415	
HB1260		HB1312		HB1364		HB1416	
HB1261		HB1313		HB1365		HB1417	
HB1262		HB1314		HB1366		HB1418	
HB1263		HB1315		HB1367		HB1419	
HB1264		HB1316		HB1368		HB1420	
HB1265		HB1317		HB1369		HB1421	
HB1266		HB1318		HB1370		HB1422	
HB1267		HB1319		HB1371		HB1423	
HB1268		HB1320		HB1372		HB1424	
HB1269		HB1321		HB1373		HB1425	
HB1270		HB1322		HB1374		HB1426	
HB1271		HB1323		HB1375		HB1427	
HB1272		HB1324		HB1376		HB1428	
HB1273		HB1325		HB1377		HB1429	
HB1274		HB1326		HB1378		HB1430	
HB1275		HB1327		HB1379		HB1431	
HB1276		HB1328		HB1380		HB1432	
HB1277		HB1329		HB1381		HB1433	
HB1278		HB1330		HB1382		HB1434	
HB1279	97	HB1331	151	HB1383	112	HB1435	83
HB1280		HB1332		HB1384		HB1436	226
HB1281		HB1333		HB1385	60	HB1437	
HB1282		HB1334		HB1386	45	HB1438	187
HB1283	112	HB1335		HB1387	202	HB1439	
HB1284	174	HB1336	196	HB1388	188	HB1440	13
HB1285	147	HB1337	196	HB1389	196	HB1441	131
HB1286	241	HB1338	139	HB1390	16	HB1442	257
HB1287	179	HB1339	154	HB1391	153	HB1443	66
HB1288	215	HB1340	201	HB1392	45	HB1444	226
HB1289	147	HB1341	36	HB1393	187	HB1445	162
HB1290	201	HB1342	158	HB1394	225	HB1446	230
HB1291	147	HB1343	62	HB1395	46	HB1447	226
HB1292	230	HB1344	174	HB1396	61	HB1448	13
HB1293	150	HB1345	97	HB1397	206	HB1449	41
HB1294	201	HB1346	125	HB1398	155	HB1450	201
HB1295	150	HB1347	169	HB1399	18	HB1451	97
HB1296	112	HB1348	15	HB1400	226	HB1452	6
HB1297	225	HB1349	20	HB1401	186	HB1453	240
HB1298	22	HB1350	13	HB1402	165	HB1454	179

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
HB1455	158	HB1507	226	НЈ10	257
HB1456	13	HB1508	219	НЈ12	258
HB1457	6	HB1509	237	НЈ13	253
HB1458		HB1510		HJ14	
HB1459		HB1511		HJ15	
HB1460		HB1512		НЈ17	
HB1461		HB1513		НЈ18	
HB1462		HB1514		НЈ19	
HB1463		HB1515		HJ20	
HB1464		HB1516		HJ21	
HB1465		HB1517		HJ22	
HB1466		HB1518		HJ23	
HB1467		HB1519		HJ24	
HB1468		HB1520		HJ25	
HB1469		HB1521		HJ26	
HB1470		HB1522		HJ27	
HB1471		HB1523		HJ28	
HB1472		HB1524		HJ29	
HB1473		HB1525		HJ30	
HB1474		HB1526		HJ32	
HB1475		HB1527		HJ33	
HB1476		HB1528		HJ34	
HB1477		HB1529		HJ35	
HB1478		HB1530		HJ36	
HB1479		HB1531		HJ37	
HB1480		HB1532		HJ38	
HB1481		HB1533		HJ39	
HB1482		HB1534		HJ40	
HB1483		HB1535		HJ41	
HB1484		HB1536		HJ42	
HB1485		HB1537		HJ43	
HB1486		HB1538		HJ44	
HB1487		HB1539		HJ45	
HB1488		HB1540		HJ46	
HB1489		HB1541		HJ50	
HB1490		HB1542		HJ51	
HB1491		HB1543		HJ52	
HB1492		HB1544		HJ53	
HB1493		HB1545		HJ54	
HB1494		HB1546		HJ55	
HB1495		HB1547		HJ56	
HB1496		IID1547	70	HJ57	
HB1497		House Is	int	НЈ58	
НВ1498		House Jo			
НВ 1499 НВ 1499		Resolution	ons	НЈ60 НЈ61	
				НЈ63	
HB1500		HJ1			
HB1501		HJ2		HJ64	
HB1502		HJ5		HJ65	
HB1503		HJ6		НЈ67	
HB1504		HJ7		НЈ74 НЈ76	
HB1505 HB1506		HJ8		НЈ76 НЈ77	
пр1300	43	НЈ9	252	П <b>J</b> / /	233

Bill Number	Page					
НJ78	253					
НЈ81	253					
HJ82	261					
HJ83	253					
HJ84	253					
НЈ86	254					
НЈ87	253					
<b>House Resolutions</b>						
HR5	254					
HR12	254					

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
Senate Bi	lls	SB51	188	SB103	226	SB155	143
		SB52	76	SB104	99	SB156	235
SB1	171	SB53	41	SB105	99	SB157	30
SB2	67	SB54	98	SB106	256	SB158	151
SB3	41	SB55	77	SB107	132	SB159	159
SB4	251	SB56	77	SB108	231	SB160	41
SB5	98	SB57	77	SB109		SB161	114
SB6	180	SB58		SB110		SB162	
SB7	67	SB59		SB111		SB163	
SB8	185	SB60		SB112		SB164	
SB9		SB61		SB113		SB165	
SB10	231	SB62		SB114		SB166	
SB11	18	SB63		SB115		SB167	
SB12	245	SB64		SB116		SB168	
SB13	98	SB65		SB117		SB169	
SB14	220	SB66		SB118		SB170	
SB15	83	SB67		SB119		SB171	
SB16		SB68		SB120		SB172	
SB17	38	SB69		SB121		SB173	
SB18		SB70		SB122		SB174	
SB19		SB71		SB123		SB175	
SB20		SB72		SB124		SB176	
SB21		SB73		SB125		SB177	
SB22		SB74		SB126		SB178	
SB23		SB75		SB127		SB179	
SB24		SB76		SB128		SB180	
SB25		SB77		SB129		SB181	
SB26		SB78		SB130		SB182	
SB27		SB79		SB131		SB183	
SB28		SB80		SB132		SB184	
SB29		SB81		SB133		SB185	
SB30		SB82		SB134		SB186 SB187	
SB31		SB83		SB135		SB187	
SB32		SB84 SB85		SB136 SB137		SB189	
SB33				CD 120	20	SB190	
SB34		SB86SB87	31	SB138		SB190 SB191	
SB35		SB88		SB140		SB191	
SB36		SB89		SB141		SB192	
SB37		SB90		SB142		SB193	
SB38		SB91		SB142		SB194	
SB39		SB92		SB144		SB196	
SB40		SB93		SB145		SB190	
SB41		SB94		SB146		SB197	
SB42		SB95		SB147		SB199	
SB43		SB96		SB148		SB200	
SB44		SB97		SB149		SB201	
SB45		SB98		SB150		SB202	
SB46		SB99		SB151		SB202	
SB47 SB48		SB100		SB152		SB204	
		SB100		SB153		SB205	
SB49		SB101		SB154		SB206	
SB50	200	OD102	∠¬ノ	OD107	1)1	SD200	133

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
SB207	34	SB259	30	SB311	148	SB363	69
SB208		SB260		SB312	188	SB364	69
SB209	30	SB261	180	SB313	197	SB365	243
SB210	68	SB262	256	SB314	100	SB366	53
SB211	68	SB263	191	SB315	134	SB367	69
SB212	235	SB264	115	SB316	53	SB368	69
SB213	206	SB265	87	SB317	22	SB369	78
SB214	30	SB266	19	SB318	162	SB370	171
SB215	7	SB267	136	SB319	77	SB371	56
SB216	152	SB268	136	SB320	247	SB372	243
SB217	7	SB269	136	SB321	84	SB373	240
SB218	187	SB270	134	SB322	153	SB374	173
SB219	162	SB271	211	SB323	152	SB375	256
SB220	99	SB272	100	SB324	8	SB376	169
SB221		SB273		SB325		SB377	
SB222		SB274		SB326		SB378	
SB223		SB275		SB327		SB379	
SB224		SB276		SB328		SB380	
SB225		SB277		SB329		SB381	
SB226		SB277		SB330		SB382	
SB227		SB279		SB331		SB383	
SB228		SB280		SB332		SB384	
SB229		SB281		SB333		SB385	
SB230		SB282		SB334		SB386	
SB231		SB283		SB335		SB387	
SB232		SB284		SB336		SB388	
SB233		SB285		SB337		SB389	
SB234		SB286		SB338		SB390	
SB235		SB287		SB339		SB390 SB391	
SB236		SB288		SB340		SB392	
SB237		SB289				SB392 SB393	
		SB299		SB341			
SB238				SB342		SB394	
SB239		SB291		SB343		SB395	
SB240		SB292		SB344		SB396	
SB241		SB293		SB345		SB397	
SB242	8	SB294		SB346		SB398	
SB243		SB295		SB347		SB399	
SB244		SB296		SB348		SB400	
SB245		SB297		SB349		SB401	
SB246		SB298		SB350		SB402	
SB247		SB299		SB351		SB403	
SB248		SB300		SB352		SB404	
SB249		SB301		SB353		SB405	
SB250		SB302		SB354		SB406	
SB251		SB303		SB355		SB407	
SB252		SB304		SB356		SB408	
SB253		SB305		SB357		SB409	
SB254		SB306		SB358		SB410	
SB255		SB307		SB359		SB411	
SB256		SB308		SB360		SB412	
SB257		SB309		SB361		SB413	
SB258	68	SB310	227	SB362	69	SB414	42

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
SB415	13	SB467	247	SB519	90	SB571	80
SB416		SB468		SB520		SB572	
SB417		SB469		SB521	198	SB573	
SB418		SB470		SB522		SB574	
SB419		SB471		SB523		SB575	
SB420		SB472		SB524		SB576	
SB421		SB473		SB525		SB577	
SB422		SB474		SB526		SB578	
SB423		SB475		SB527		SB579	
SB424		SB476		SB528		SB580	
SB425		SB477		SB529		SB581	
SB426		SB478		SB530		SB582	
SB427		SB479		SB531		SB583	
SB428		SB480		SB532		SB584	
SB429		SB481		SB532		SB585	
SB429 SB430		SB482		SB534		SB586	
SB430 SB431		SB483		SB535		SB587	
SB432		SB484		SB536		SB588	
SB433		SB485		SB537		SB589	
SB434		SB486		SB538		SB590	
SB435		SB487		SB539		SB591	
SB436		SB488		SB540		SB592	
SB437		SB489		SB541		SB593	
SB438	60	SB490		SB542		SB594	
SB439		SB491		SB543	166	SB595	
SB440		SB492		SB544	207	SB596	209
SB441		SB493	31	SB545	181	SB597	
SB442	78	SB494	172	SB546	25	SB598	207
SB443	101	SB495	139	SB547	34	SB599	139
SB444	60	SB496	220	SB548	187	SB600	207
SB445	122	SB497	25	SB549	53	SB601	140
SB446	42	SB498	101	SB550	236	SB602	78
SB447	181	SB499	148	SB551	78	SB603	26
SB448	21	SB500	216	SB552	116	SB604	14
SB449	190	SB501	163	SB553	198	SB605	
SB450		SB502		SB554		SB606	
SB451		SB503		SB555		SB607	
SB452		SB504		SB556		SB608	
SB453		SB505		SB557		SB609	
SB454		SB506		SB558		SB610	
SB455		SB507		SB559		SB611	
SB456		SB508		SB560		SB612	
SB457		SB509		SB561		SB613	
SB458		SB510		SB562		SB614	
SB459		SB510		SB563		SB615	
SB460		SB512		SB564		SB616	
SB461		SB512 SB513		SB565		SB617	
SB462		SB514		SB566		SB618	
SB463		SB515		SB567		SB619	
SB464		SB516		SB568		SB620	
SB465		SB517		SB569		SB621	
SB466	36	SB518	122	SB570	9	SB622	187

Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page	Bill Number	Page
SB623	174	SB675	232	SB727	48		
SB624		SB676		SB728			
SB625		SB677		SB729			
SB626		SB678		SB730			
SB627		SB679		SB731			
SB628		SB680		SB732			
SB629		SB681		SB733			
SB630		SB682		SB734			
SB631		SB683		SB735			
SB632		SB684		SB736			
SB633		SB685		SB737			
SB634		SB686		~=			
SB635		SB687		Senate Joint			
SB636		SB688		Resolutions			
SB637		SB689		Kesolutions			
SB638		SB690		SJ1	252		
SB639		SB691		SJ2			
SB640		SB692		SJ3			
SB641		SB693		SJ9			
SB642		SB694		SJ10			
SB643		SB695		SJ10			
SB644		SB696		SJ12			
SB645		SB697		SJ12			
SB646		SB698		SJ14			
SB647		SB699		SJ14			
SB648		SB700		SJ16			
SB649		SB701		SJ17			
SB650		SB702		SJ17			
SB651		SB703		SJ19			
SB652	53	SB704	9	SJ20			
SB653	27	SB705	166	SJ21			
SB654	85	SB706	70	SJ22			
SB655	240	SB707	102	SJ23			
SB656	53	SB708	217	SJ24			
SB657	21	SB709	221	SJ25			
SB658	21	SB710	61	SJ26			
SB659	36	SB711	232	SJ27			
SB660	166	SB712	184	SJ28			
SB661	151	SB713	212	SJ31			
SB662	232	SB714	185	SJ32	-		
SB663	199	SB715	54	SJ33			
SB664	217	SB716	199	SJ46			
SB665	244	SB717	163	SJ47			
SB666		SB718	54	SJ48			
SB667		SB719		SJ49			
SB668		SB720	54	SJ61			
SB669		SB721	57	SJ127			
SB670		SB722	238				
SB671		SB723		Senate Resolution	ons		
SB672		SB724					
SB673		SB725		SR1	255		
SB674	39	SB726	102	SR121			