Virginia General Assembly

2026 Session Summary

Virginia Division of Legislative Services

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Introduction

This publication presents a summary of legislation considered by the Virginia General Assembly at its 2026 Regular Session through adjournment sine die on **March 14, 2026.** 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 relevant 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 22, 2026, 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 2027 Session of the General Assembly, its provisions will not become effective on July 1, 2026, 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 **HB54 Department of Human Resource Management; State Government Internship Coordinator.** Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to establish and employ a State Government Internship Coordinator to attract high quality interns to the service of the Commonwealth with the goal of developing such interns in a manner that supports their ability to compete for positions in agencies of the Commonwealth upon conclusion of their internships and completion of their educational programs. The bill also requires the Department to establish and administer a system to provide professional development opportunities for state agency interns, intern supervisors, and human resources staff. This bill is identical to SB 286.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB61 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program established.** Establishes the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 42 percent of certified small SWaM business, as such term is defined in the bill, 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 rates by three percent per year until reaching the 42-percent target or, if unable to do so, to implement achievable goals to increase their utilization rates. 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 between $10,000 and $200,000 be set aside for award to certified small SWaM businesses, and a microbusiness set-aside for such purchases, requiring that such purchases up to $10,000 be set aside for award to microbusinesses.

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, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, 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 Director of the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to conduct, or contract with an independent entity to conduct, a disparity study every five years, with the next disparity study due no later than January 1, 2031. The bill specifies that such 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 received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Ward

P **HB108 Department of Veterans Services; Honor Guard Grant Program established.** Requires the Department of Veterans Services to establish the Honor Guard Grant Program for the purpose of providing grants to veteran service organizations, defined in the bill, to offset expenses incurred by the organizations and members of the organizations' honor guards in providing honor guard burial details at the funerals of veterans in the Commonwealth, including expenses for training, transportation, food, equipment, and supplies.

Patron - Ballard

P **HB346 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exclusions to application of chapter; public utility account numbers.** Excludes account numbers of any person or public body for an account with a public utility, as defined in the bill, from the mandatory disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. However, such information may be disclosed by the custodian in his discretion, except where such disclosure is prohibited by law.

Patron - McLaughlin

P **HB356 Department of Housing and Community Development; local housing policy; report to Department.** Expands the range of local housing policy changes that are required to be submitted annually in a report to the Department of Housing and Community Development by any locality with a population greater than 3,500. This bill is identical to SB 665.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB460 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; employment services organizations.** Amends provisions related to the powers and duties of the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to allow the Department to implement any remediation or enhancement measure for employment services organizations as may be authorized by the Governor pursuant to existing law and develop regulations for program implementation. The bill also directs the Department to amend relevant regulations of the Virginia Administrative Code to reflect the intent of the General Assembly to specifically reference "employment services organizations" in such regulations. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cohen

P **HB494 Virginia Personnel Act; hiring preference in state government; certain former federal employees.** Allows for an applicant's status as a former federal employee to be given consideration when applying for employment with the Commonwealth if such applicant was terminated from a position of employment with the federal government on or after January 1, 2025, due to a reduction in the federal budget or initiatives put in place by the federal Department of Government Efficiency, provided that such person meets all of the knowledge, skill, and ability requirements for the available position. The bill directs the Department of Human Resource Management, on or before January 1 of each year, to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly that includes the number of job applications submitted by candidates who self-identified as former federal employees, as well as the number of jobs offered to such candidates. The bill has an expiration date of January 21, 2029.

Patron - Guzman

P **HB512 Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry; Virginia Farm and Forest Prosperity Plan; report.** Directs the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, during the first year of each new gubernatorial administration, to develop and

implement a written comprehensive Virginia Farm and Forest Prosperity Plan that is designed to be enacted over the course of such gubernatorial administration's term. The Secretary is directed to submit a report detailing the progress made toward the development and implementation of the Plan to the Governor and to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by December 1 of the first year of each new gubernatorial administration. This bill is identical to SB 719.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB523 Department of Veterans Services; Department of Health Professions; military medical personnel; program; work group; report.** Expands the definition of "military medical personnel" for the purposes of the program established by the Department of Veterans Services (the Department), in collaboration with the Department of Health Professions, that allows such military medical personnel to practice and perform certain delegated acts that constitute the practice of medicine or nursing to include other enlisted service members who have successfully completed appropriate technical training and any required certifications and who were discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable. Under current law, "military medical personnel" means an individual who has recently served as a medic in the United States Army, medical technician in the United States Air Force, medical personnel in the United States Space Force, or corpsman in the United States Navy or the United States Coast Guard.
The bill allows such military medical personnel participating in the program to be supervised by any licensed practitioner, as defined in the bill. Current law allows such personnel to be supervised by a physician or podiatrist. The bill directs the Department of Veterans Services to convene a work group to provide guidance on the implementation and further development of the Military Medics and Corpsmen program and to report its findings to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Willett

P **HB554 State officers and employees; state agencies to establish alternative work schedules; reporting requirement.** Adds to the annual reporting requirements of each state agency the requirement to include what percentage of changes to the number of employees participating in telecommuting and alternative work is a result of changes in workforce size, a reclassification of positions, or an expansion of telecommuting and alternative work opportunities and the number of employees approved and denied telecommuting and alternative work eligibility. The bill also requires the Department of Human Resource Management to review and publish on its website the statewide telecommuting and alternative work schedule policy every two years.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB580 Division of Consumer Counsel; duties; artificial intelligence fraud and abuse.** Expands the duties of the Division of Consumer Counsel to include establishing mechanisms for receiving and investigating complaints by the Commonwealth's consumers involving emerging technologies, including referring appropriate complaints to the federal, state, and local departments or agencies charged with the enforcement of applicable consumer laws.
Patron - Glass

P **HB644 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exemption for records of minors participating in certain programs run by state bodies.** Exempts from the mandatory disclosure requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act the personal contact information of minors who are participating in a program, such as an apprenticeship or unpaid internship or externship, run by a state public body. The bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council.
Patron - Kent

P **HB693 Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; workforce development programs; apprenticeship program.** Recognizes the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement as the federally and state designated agency responsible for workforce development in the Commonwealth. The bill additionally makes technical changes to reflect the previous transfer of administration of apprenticeship programs from the Department of Labor and Industry to the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement. The bill also amends the seventh enactments of Chapters 624 and 625 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023 to exempt the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement's initial adoption and any additional regulations from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act provided that, prior to the final adoption of such regulations, the Department publishes in the Virginia Register of Regulations and posts on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall an action that provides (i) a 30-day comment period; (ii) a summary of the proposed regulations, the text of the proposed regulations, and the name, address, email address, and telephone number of the agency contact person responsible for receiving public comments; and (iii) the statutory authority to promulgate the regulations.
Patron - McAuliff

P **HB772 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Adult and Dislocated Worker funds; minimum allocation requirement waived.** Authorizes the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to waive the 40 percent allocation requirement of certain funding under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 for a local workforce development board that submits a request for a waiver and demonstrates that the board is unable to meet the requirement due to (i) a lack of available training providers in the local workforce development area, (ii) a lack of demand for training services among eligible participants, or (iii) other extraordinary circumstances. The bill requires the Department to develop and publish a process for the application and approval of such waivers.
Patron - Thornton

P **HB797 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; artificial intelligence; independent verification organizations.** Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) to evaluate the feasibility and impact of developing a framework for any person or entity seeking to act as an independent verification organization that assesses artificial intelligence models' or applications' adherence to standards reflecting best practices for the prevention of personal injury and property damage. The bill directs JCOTS to submit a report with its recommendations and any findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology and the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 384.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB925 Virginia Human Rights Act; unlawful discriminatory practices; civil actions; statute of limitations.** Provides that a complaint alleging discrimination in employment in violation of the Virginia Human Rights Act shall be filed no later than two years from the day upon which

the alleged discriminatory practice occurred. Under current law, the filing requirement is no later than 300 days. The bill further provides that if 180 days have passed since a complaint was filed in a local human rights commission, an aggrieved person may commence a timely civil action in an appropriate general district or circuit court. Under current law, such allowance is limited to filings in the Office of Civil Rights of the Department of Law. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB1046 Virginia Public Procurement Act; additional public works contract requirements; report.** Provides that public bodies shall require the contractor and its subcontractors for any construction contract, as defined in the bill, to complete certain safety training programs and maintain records of compliance with applicable laws. The bill requires written authorization from a state public body before any party to a construction contract provides remuneration to more than one independent contractor when such contract is valued at greater than $5 million. If a construction contract with a local public body is valued at greater than $5 million the prime contractor shall provide written notification to the local public body justifying remuneration to any independent contractor. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Effective in due course, the bill requires the Secretary of Labor to conduct an 18-month evaluation regarding the feasibility of requiring public bodies to hire apprentices on public works contracts. The bill also directs the Department of General Services and the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines to assist state public bodies in making the determinations required to issue an authorization allowing a contractor, subcontractor, or other party to a public works contract to provide remuneration to an independent contractor in connection with such contract. The Department of General Services shall publish such guidelines on its website no later than July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 324. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carr

P **HB1047 Department of Veterans Services; Virginia War Memorial division.** Clarifies that the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services shall provide supervision of the Virginia War Memorial Foundation and any other nonprofit corporation established as an instrumentality to provide fundraising for the Memorial and assist in the details of administering the affairs of the Memorial as delineated by memoranda of understanding. This bill is identical to SB 112.
Patron - Carr

P **HB1086 Virginia Public Procurement Act; preference for Virginia goods; school nutrition programs; sunset extension.** Provides that, in the case of procurement of goods by manufacturers, if the lowest responsive and responsible bidder is not a resident of Virginia and the bid is for agricultural products that are produced or processed in Virginia and intended for school nutrition programs, including fresh fruits, vegetables, and dairy products, and is within 20 percent of such bid, such bidder for agricultural products that are produced or processed in Virginia shall be granted the option to match the price of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bill amends provisions of law providing preference for Virginia goods in procurement that are set to expire on July 1, 2027. The bill extends the sunset date of these provisions to July 1, 2028.
Patron - Laufer

P **HB1161 Government Data Collection and Dissemination Practices Act; dissemination of personal information to federal government; civil penalties.** Provides that any agency or political subdivision of the Commonwealth shall only disseminate personal information (i) to the extent necessary to comply with state or federal law, including the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; (ii) to the extent necessary to carry out the administration of a state or federal program pursuant to state or federal law; (iii) to comply with a subpoena, court order, or administrative proceeding; (iv) to the extent necessary to ensure fulfillment of the obligations of a purchase or contract made in accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act or a memorandum of understanding or management agreement made in accordance with the Restructured Higher Education Financial and Administrative Operations Act; (v) when the data subject has given consent; or (vi) to the extent necessary to accomplish a proper purpose of the agency. The bill also prohibits an agency or political subdivision from selling personal information. The bill authorizes a court, in the case of a willful and knowing violation, to subject a specific public officer, appointee, or employee of any agency to civil penalties.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1173 Virginia Human Rights Act; menopause or perimenopause; discrimination prohibited; report.** Prohibits discrimination under the Virginia Human Rights Act on the basis of menopause or perimenopause for purposes of nondiscrimination in government programs, public accommodation, employment hiring, and reasonable employer accommodation. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, to conduct a study on menopause and perimenopause in the workforce, menopause and perimenopause accommodations in employment environments, and the scope of existing menopause-related and perimenopause-related policies and to develop best practices related to menopause and perimenopause accommodations in employment environments. The bill directs the Commissioners to submit such report to the Governor and General Assembly by July 1, 2028, and to post such report on the Department of Labor and Industry's website. This bill is identical to SB 258. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1308 Virginia Public Procurement Act; definitions; "professional services."** Adds to the definition of "professional services," for use throughout the Virginia Public Procurement Act, services of a licensed investment advisor, financial advisor, or insurance broker procured by the Department of the Treasury.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB1311 Employees of state government; personal interest in certain contracts prohibited; certain exception for certain employees of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind.** Excludes from the prohibition against any officer or employee of any governmental agency of state government having a personal interest in a contract with the governmental agency of which he is an officer or employee, other than his own contract of employment, the personal interest of an employee of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind in a contract between the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind and a publisher or wholesaler of textbooks or other educational materials for students that accrues to him solely because he has authored or otherwise created such textbooks or materials. This bill is identical to SB 816.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1385 Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; membership and duties; work groups.** Revises the membership and duties of the governing

board of each public institution of higher education by, among other things, increasing from four years to six years the terms of each member of the governing board and requiring the governing board of each public institution of higher education to adopt policies defining and implementing shared governance among the components of the institution's organizational structure. The bill also directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene work groups for the purpose of developing model shared governance policies, in accordance with the provisions of the bill, and for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on (i) institutional structures and processes relating to legal counsel; (ii) the current selection and use of outside legal counsel by public institutions of higher education; (iii) a process by which (a) the governing board of any public institution of higher education, the Governor, or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility, upon determining that the legal counsel of a public institution of higher education is not acting in the best interests of the institution, including due to a conflict of interest, failure to defend the lawful authority of the public institution of higher education, or failure to comply with state law, may request the Attorney General to review the adequacy of such legal representation and (b) upon a determination by the Attorney General or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility that such institution is not receiving adequate legal representation, the governing board of any public institution of higher education may request additional representation or approve alternate counsel as necessary to protect the interests of the institution; and (iv) policies for requiring any individual member of a governing board of a public institution of higher education to recuse himself from or not participate in any vote or decision of the governing board on any matter in which he has a personal or pecuniary interest or any partisan or ideological interest that would compromise his ability to vote or act objectively and in accordance with the primary duties set forth in relevant law. This bill incorporates HB 780, HB 939, and HB 1069 and is identical to SB 494. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Franklin, L.V.

P **HB1444 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. An advisory board consisting of nonlegislative citizen members and ex officio members shall oversee the Bank and provide recommendations related to the Bank and its effectiveness. The bill contains provisions for (i) the powers and duties of the Bank, (ii) lending practices, (iii) a strategic plan, (iv) an investment strategy, (v) public outreach requirements, (vi) audits, and (vii) reporting requirements. This bill is identical to SB 225. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB1476 Law-enforcement civilian oversight bodies; closed meetings; disclosure of certain law-enforcement records.** Provides an exemption to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to allow closed meetings for discussion or consideration by any law-enforcement civilian oversight body established pursuant to general law or established by a local governing body before July 1, 2020, and operating in a manner consistent with such law of the criminal investigative files, audit findings, and deliberations regarding police operations related to a specific complaint before the body involving any violation or attempted violation of certain offenses. The bill allows inspection of certain law-enforcement records concerning juveniles by such civilian oversight bodies when required to perform their duties and by any independent policing auditor, manager, director, or other person appointed by the local governing body to support such civilian oversight body. Finally, the bill allows disclosure of certain information regarding crimes involving sexual assault, sexual abuse, or family abuse to such civilian oversight body and independent policing auditor, manager, director, or other person appointed by the local governing body.

Patron - Schmidt

P **SB112 Department of Veterans Services; Virginia War Memorial division.** Clarifies that the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services shall provide supervision of the Virginia War Memorial Foundation and any other nonprofit corporation established as an instrumentality to provide fundraising for the Memorial and assist in the details of administering the affairs of the Memorial as delineated by memoranda of understanding. This bill is identical to HB 1047.

Patron - DeSteph

P **SB125 Office of the Children's Ombudsman; powers and duties; report; recommendations.** Makes a number of changes to the Office of the Children's Ombudsman (the Office). The bill expands the Office's access to certain records and reports and allows the Office to report certain complaints to the Office of the Inspector General. Under the bill, the Office is required to report findings and recommendations related to failures by state agencies to protect children to the Governor or General Assembly upon request. Under current law, such reports are made to the General Assembly. The bill makes certain changes to the Office's reporting and recommendation requirements. Finally, the bill adds and amends several definitions related to the Office. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Favola

P **SB149 State-facilitated IRA savings program.** Makes various changes to the state-facilitated IRA savings program administered by the Commonwealth Savers Plan. For purposes of defining an eligible employer, the bill (i) reduces the minimum number of eligible employees an organization must have in its employ from 25 to five for the period ending December 31 of the preceding calendar year prior to the program's open enrollment period for that calendar year and (ii) clarifies that such term does not include employers offering and sponsoring a qualified retirement plan, including 401(k) plans. The bill also removes the requirement that an eligible employee, for purposes of the program, works at least 30 hours a week and adds the requirement that participating individuals enrolling in the program independent of an employment relationship with an eligible employer be at least 18 years of age.

The bill also expands the powers and duties of the governing board of the Commonwealth Savers Plan to include (a) procedures for reenrollment of participating employees and participating individuals; (b) allowing program participants to invest in a lifetime income option; (c) establishing the resources, tools, and incentives to promote greater financial education and literacy; (d) procedures for receiving and crediting federal matching contributions to an IRA or qualified retirement savings account; and (e) exploring and establishing incentives that encourage participation by eligible employers and eligible employees, including initiatives that incentivize compliance or that defray any costs incurred by an eligible employer to facilitate participation.

The bill also requires eligible employers that withhold a program contribution from a participating employee's wages to remit such contribution not later than 10 business days following the date upon which such withholding was made and notes that eligible employers who fail to submit contributions to the

program may be in violation of law and incur penalties. This bill is identical to HB 176.
Patron - McPike

P **SB225 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. An advisory board consisting of nonlegislative citizen members and ex officio members shall oversee the Bank and provide recommendations related to the Bank and its effectiveness. The bill contains provisions for (i) the powers and duties of the Bank, (ii) lending practices, (iii) a strategic plan, (iv) an investment strategy, (v) public outreach requirements, (vi) audits, and (vii) reporting requirements. This bill is identical to HB 1444. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB258 Virginia Human Rights Act; menopause or perimenopause; discrimination prohibited; report.** Prohibits discrimination under the Virginia Human Rights Act on the basis of menopause or perimenopause for purposes of nondiscrimination in government programs, public accommodation, employment hiring, and reasonable employer accommodation. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, to conduct a study on menopause and perimenopause in the workforce, menopause and perimenopause accommodations in employment environments, and the scope of existing menopause-related and perimenopause-related policies and to develop best practices related to menopause and perimenopause accommodations in employment environments. The bill directs the Commissioners to submit such report to the Governor and General Assembly by July 1, 2028, and to post such report on the Department of Labor and Industry's website. This bill is identical to HB 1173. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB286 Department of Human Resource Management; State Government Internship Coordinator.** Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to establish and employ a State Government Internship Coordinator to attract high quality interns to the service of the Commonwealth with the goal of developing such interns in a manner that supports their ability to compete for positions in agencies of the Commonwealth upon conclusion of their internships and completion of their educational programs. The bill also requires the Department to establish and administer a system to provide professional development opportunities for state agency interns, intern supervisors, and human resources staff. This bill is identical to HB 54.
Patron - Aird

P **SB324 Virginia Public Procurement Act; additional public works contract requirements; report.** Provides that public bodies shall require the contractor and its subcontractors for any construction contract, as defined in the bill, to complete certain safety training programs and maintain records of compliance with applicable laws. The bill requires written authorization from a state public body before any party to a construction contract provides remuneration to more than one independent contractor when such contract is valued at greater than $5 million. If a construction contract with a local public body is valued at greater than $5 million the prime contractor shall provide written notification to the local public body justifying remuneration to any independent contractor. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Effective in due course, the bill requires the Secretary of Labor to conduct an 18-month evaluation regarding the feasibility of requiring public bodies to hire apprentices on public works contracts. The bill also directs the Department of General Services and the Department of Labor and Industry to develop guidelines to assist state public bodies in making the determinations required to issue an authorization allowing a contractor, subcontractor, or other party to a public works contract to provide remuneration to an independent contractor in connection with such contract. The Department of General Services shall publish such guidelines on its website no later than July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1046. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McPike

P **SB326 Virginia Public Procurement Act; cooperative procurement; re-roofing.** Excludes roofing maintenance, repair, restoration, and component replacement of existing facilities that do not involve modification to the structure from the prohibition on using cooperative procurement to purchase construction.
Patron - McPike

P **SB384 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; artificial intelligence; independent verification organizations.** Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) to evaluate the feasibility and impact of developing a framework for any person or entity seeking to act as an independent verification organization that assesses artificial intelligence models' or applications' adherence to standards reflecting best practices for the prevention of personal injury and property damage. The bill directs JCOTS to submit a report with its recommendations and any findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology and the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 797.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB447 Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission established; report; emergency.** Establishes the Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission as an advisory commission in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of advising the General Assembly on issues of concern, including education inequity, economic opportunities, disparity in health outcomes, and the impact of social media use, as such issues relate to boys and men in the Commonwealth. The bill contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to HB 1188.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB518 Prevailing wage rate for public works contracts; localities.** Requires each state agency or locality, when procuring services or letting contracts for public works paid for in whole or in part by state or local funds, or when overseeing or administering such contracts for public works, to ensure that its bid specifications or other public contracts applicable to the public works require bidders, offerors, contractors, and subcontractors to pay wages, salaries, benefits, and other remuneration to any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform services in connection with the public contract for public works at a rate no less than the prevailing wage rate. The bill also amends the definition of "public works" to include work performed at certain institutions of higher education and to exclude work performed at a non-governmental property or facility used to provide broadband or other telecommunications services. Under the bill, a contractor or subcontractor may be liable to the Commissioner

of Labor and Industry for liquidated damages for violating the prevailing wage requirements in the bill. Under the bill, any interested party shall have standing to challenge bid specifications, project agreements, or other public contracts for public works that violate the provisions of the bill. The bill requires institutions of higher education to expressly agree to comply with the public works contract requirements. Under the bill, the Commissioner shall determine the prevailing wage based on a survey of wages and benefits paid in each area, as defined in the bill, conducted every two years. The bill includes factors for the Commissioner to consider in determining a prevailing wage rate. The bill directs the Commissioner to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill incorporates SB 370 and is identical to HB 569. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Rouse

P **SB530** **State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act; electronic disclosure by local government officers and employees.** Requires local government officers and employees to file annual disclosure statements electronically with the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council in accordance with approved standards. Such officers and employees shall be able to file the annual disclosure statement electronically beginning January 1, 2027, but such electronic filing shall be required (i) for localities with populations in excess of 250,000, beginning January 1, 2028; (ii) for localities with populations in excess of 100,000 but not more than 250,000, beginning January 1, 2029; and (iii) for localities with populations not exceeding 100,000, beginning January 1, 2030. The bill provides that the Department of Elections shall be responsible for coordinating the electronic filing by candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, the Senate, or the House of Delegates, and the general registrars shall be responsible for coordinating the electronic filing by candidates for constitutional offices, local governing bodies, and elected school boards.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB575** **Virginia Public Procurement Act; joint and cooperative procurement; construction exception.** Excludes certain intergovernmental support agreements pursuant to federal law from provisions of law under the Virginia Public Procurement Act that provide an exception for construction where a public body may purchase from another public body's contract if the request for proposal or invitation to bid specified that the procurement was a cooperative procurement being conducted on behalf of other public bodies.
Patron - Reeves

P **SB637** **Virginia Human Rights Act; procedures for a charge of unlawful discrimination.** Provides that, for the purposes of nondiscrimination in places of public accommodation, "place of public accommodation" includes educational institutions. The bill reduces from 15 to five the number of employees in the definition of "employer" for purposes of nondiscrimination in employment. The bill also amends from 300 days to two years the timeframe for filing a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination with the Office of the Attorney General.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB699** **Virginia Freedom of Information Act; public bodies to post meeting agendas.** Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to post the proposed agenda on the public body's official government website, if any, prior to the meeting. The bill provides that no final action may be taken on any items added to an agenda after a meeting commences unless the matter is time-sensitive or is the subject of a closed meeting properly identified in a motion in accordance with FOIA requirements and defines "final action." This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB719** **Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry; Virginia Farm and Forest Prosperity Plan; report.** Directs the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, during the first year of each new gubernatorial administration, to develop and implement a written comprehensive Virginia Farm and Forest Prosperity Plan that is designed to be enacted over the course of such gubernatorial administration's term. The Secretary is directed to submit a report detailing the progress made toward the development and implementation of the Plan to the Governor and to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by December 1 of the first year of each new gubernatorial administration. This bill is identical to HB 512.
Patron - Marsden

P **SB816** **Employees of state government; personal interest in certain contracts prohibited; certain exception for certain employees of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind.** Excludes from the prohibition against any officer or employee of any governmental agency of state government having a personal interest in a contract with the governmental agency of which he is an officer or employee, other than his own contract of employment, the personal interest of an employee of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind in a contract between the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind and a publisher or wholesaler of textbooks or other educational materials for students that accrues to him solely because he has authored or otherwise created such textbooks or materials. This bill is identical to HB 1311.
Patron - Head

Failed

F **HB179** **Virginia Fleet Modernization Advisory Council; established; report.** Establishes the Virginia Fleet Modernization Advisory Council to coordinate cost-effective, resilient, and decarbonization-aligned strategies for public and private fleet modernization in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Council to report annually by the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly to the Governor and the General Assembly regarding its activities and recommendations. The Council has a sunset date of July 1, 2031.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB310** **Artificial Intelligence Workforce Impact Act established; report.** Establishes reporting requirements for each state agency in the Commonwealth relating to the impact of artificial intelligence on the workforce. The bill requires each agency to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Human Resource Management detailing workforce impacts as a result of the use of one or more artificial intelligence systems during the preceding quarter. If an agency reports 10 or more workforce impacts as a result of the use of one or more artificial intelligence systems within a fiscal year, the bill requires such agency to submit an Artificial Intelligence Workforce Transition Plan to the Department within 120 days of such quarterly report in which the threshold was reached.
The bill provides that a state employee whose job is eliminated, materially changed, or restructured due to the use of one or more artificial intelligence systems shall be eligible for (i) retraining or upskilling programs coordinated through the Department and the Virginia Community College System; (ii)

priority consideration for vacancies for which such employee is qualified within any state agency; (iii) career transition services offered through the Virginia Employment Commission; and (iv) any additional support measures offered by the Department.
The bill requires the Department to review the information received by agencies under the bill and submit annual reports to the Governor, the Secretary of Administration, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1 of each year.
Patron - Feggans

F **HB313 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; public records to be open to inspection; non-citizen property owners.** Includes non-citizens owning property within the Commonwealth among the list of persons to whom all public records shall be open under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB363 Commonwealth of Virginia Innovation Partnership Act; Regional Innovation Fund; Commonwealth Commercialization Fund; matching funds.** Provides that, for purposes of the Regional Innovation Fund and the Commonwealth Commercialization Fund, any awards from such funds of $100,000 or less shall not require matching funds.
Patron - Dougherty

F **HB366 Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund; award guidelines.** Provides that the Governor shall prioritize awarding grants pursuant to the Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program to projects that receive federal matching funds. The bill also updates the definition of "military community" to be one where more than five percent of the economy is derived from (i) military funding and (ii) supporting partner entities who aid in the planning, design, construction, or completion of infrastructure projects that enhance military readiness, installation resiliency, or quality of life for such locality's community, rather than only from military funding under current law.
Patron - Tata

F **HB367 Consultation with federally recognized tribes; permits and reviews with potential impacts on environmental, cultural, and historic resources.** Adds to the duties of the Ombudsman for Tribal Consultation requirements to (i) facilitate communication between federally recognized tribes and relevant state agencies and local governments to ensure an opportunity for meaningful and timely consultation on environmental, cultural, and historical permits and reviews; (ii) assist the Department of Transportation in developing consultation policies; (iii) make recommendations to the Governor on the basis of communications with federally recognized tribes about (a) circumstances under which tribal consent should be required for issuance of certain permits and (b) additional agencies that should develop policies and procedures to ensure meaningful, timely, and appropriate consultation with federally recognized tribes; (iv) provide training at least once a year to certain state agency personnel on issues of concern to the federally recognized tribes to support effective communication, collaboration, and positive government-to-government relations between the Commonwealth and the federally recognized tribes; and (v) submit an annual report to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on the activities undertaken to implement such provisions and the issues that have arisen in that pursuit. The bill also requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Historic Resources, Department of Transportation, and Marine Resources Commission to engage in consultation with federally recognized tribes on certain issues. During such consultation, the burden is on the agency to show that it has made a good faith effort to elicit meaningful and timely feedback, including formal communication between agency employees and the federally recognized tribe. When a burial permit will result in the disturbance of a burial site of an individual that has a cultural affiliation with a particular federally recognized tribe, the bill requires the Department of Historic Resources to acquire the consent of such federally recognized tribe before issuing a permit for the archaeological excavation of human remains. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB610 Commonwealth Food Security and Coordination Act established.** Establishes the Commonwealth Food Security and Coordination Act to coordinate state-level food security responses during federal nutrition benefit interruptions, natural disasters, and other emergencies affecting household food access. Under the bill, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Department of Emergency Management are directed to work together to coordinate the provisions of the Act.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB698 Virginia Workforce Development and Career Connection and Training Foundation and Fund.** Establishes as a body politic and corporate the Virginia Workforce Development and Career Connection and Training Foundation to support the interests of the Commonwealth's workforce and its employers and contributors through the Secretary of Labor and the programs and services of the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement. The bill sets out the membership and powers and duties of the Foundation, provides that the Foundation may hire an Executive Director and employees, and creates the Virginia Workforce Development and Career Connection and Training Fund. The bill provides that funds or property to the Fund are gifts to the Commonwealth and the Fund is exempt from all state and local taxes.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB709 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; exclusions of general application to public bodies; personnel contact information.** Exempts personnel information such as the home address, personal email address, and home and personal phone numbers of any officer, official, or employee of a public body from the mandatory disclosure provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
Patron - Hayes

F **HB850 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 provisions of the bill do not apply to transportation-related construction projects. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB988 Virginia Human Rights Act; unlawful discrimination.** Prohibits any state agency or political subdivi-

sion 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

F **HB992 Administrative Process Act; regulatory economic analysis required.** Provides that executive branch agencies shall ensure that all regulations and guidance documents are posted on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall in accordance with instructions issued by the Department of Planning and Budget. Such postings shall include a regulatory economic analysis, defined in the bill, that is prepared by the executive branch agency, along with any other information as determined by the Department of Planning and Budget's instructions.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1009 Administration of government; language access equity; report.** Requires each public-facing state agency, defined in the bill, to designate a language access coordinator who will be responsible for the agency's annual language access report, the requirements of which are set out in the bill. The Secretary of Health and Human Resources is directed to establish criteria for state agencies to procure language interpretation and translation services and to establish a policy for compensating multilingual state employees who are required as part of their job to provide interpretation, translation, or other bilingual skills at least once a month.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1033 Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority; Division of Incentives; due diligence for major projects.** Requires the due diligence review performed by the Division of Incentives at the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority for proposed economic development projects to include whether and to what extent the business involved has executed a labor peace agreement, as defined in the bill, with its employees if the project is a major one for which (i) incentives require a change to the law, (ii) incentives involve cash payments in excess of $3.5 million prior to any performance, or (iii) the aggregate amount of state incentives exceeds $10 million in value.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1118 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; work group; one-stop small business permitting program.** Directs the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to convene a work group to determine methods of modernizing the existing one-stop small business permitting program.
Patron - Nivar

F **HB1121 Investment of public funds; precious metals commodities; virtual currency.** Authorizes public entities to invest public funds, except sinking funds, in (i) commodities exchange-traded products, defined in the bill, that invest in precious metals and (ii) virtual currencies. The bill requires the Treasury Board to establish and maintain strict guidelines concerning any investments authorized in the bill and requires public entities making such investments to monitor the performance of such investments for compliance with the guidelines.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1138 Economic development incentives; wage requirements.** Requires companies to pay an average wage for the jobs eligible for assistance under the component programs of the Virginia Jobs Investment Program that is no less than the prevailing average wage, defined in the bill, or, in the case of an economically distressed locality, defined in the bill, no less than 85 percent of the prevailing average wage. Under current law, to be eligible for the component programs, companies must pay a minimum entry-level wage rate per hour of at least 1.2 times the federal minimum wage or the Virginia minimum wage, whichever is higher, and in areas that have an unemployment rate of 1.5 times the statewide average unemployment rate, the wage rate minimum may be waived.
The bill also authorizes the payment of Virginia Investment Performance Grants if the average wage paid by the eligible manufacturer or research and development service, excluding fringe benefits, is no less than 85 percent of the prevailing average wage in localities with either (i) an annual unemployment rate for the most recent calendar year for which such data is available that is greater than the final statewide average unemployment rate for that calendar year or (ii) a poverty rate for the most recent calendar year for which such data is available that exceeds the statewide average poverty rate for that year. Under current law, such authorization is limited to those localities meeting both the unemployment rate and poverty rate thresholds.
Patron - Austin

F **HB1206 Study; Department of Human Resource Management; required annual trainings; state employees; public elementary and secondary school teachers; report.** Directs the Department of Human Resource Management (the Department), in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Board of Education, to review the number of annual trainings required of employees of the Commonwealth and public elementary and secondary school teachers and determine if certain trainings could be reduced in frequency. The bill directs the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2027.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1239 Virginia Public Procurement Act; contract formation and administration; methods of procurement; competitive sealed bids or negotiation exemption.** Establishes that any public body that has adopted purchase procedures not requiring competitive sealed bids or competitive negotiation for certain contracts shall, through such procedures, allow for purchases from a supplier of goods and services other than professional services to be procured under such procedures when the aggregate value of the purchases exceeds the thresholds established by law or by the public body, if such supplier provides documentation to the public body certifying it has fewer than 25 employees and annual gross receipts not exceeding $3 million.
Patron - Oates

F **HB1250 Department of Law; Technology Governance and Coordination Program; report.** Directs the Office of the Attorney General to establish a Technology Governance and Coordination Program to support the Commonwealth's response to emergent technologies, including artificial intelligence, algorithmic systems, biometric systems, and automated decision-making tools. The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to submit an annual report to the Joint Commission on Technology and Science by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB1369 State agency administration of federal funds; eligibility determination exemption for nonprofit organizations.** Prohibits a state agency responsible for the administration of federal funds from imposing a requirement on a nonprofit charitable organization providing a federal

public benefit to determine, verify, or otherwise require proof of eligibility of any applicant for such benefits.
Patron - Anderson

F **HB1514 Employment decisions; automated decision systems; civil penalty.** Provides that the Director of the Department of Human Resource Management shall require any state agency that uses an automated decision system as a substantial factor in any employment decision, as those terms are defined in the bill, to (i) ensure that such system and the use of such system complies with federal and state law, (ii) make certain disclosures, (iii) provide an opt-out mechanism, (iv) annually test such system, (v) ensure data security, and (vi) train agency staff on such system. The bill requires the Department and local government employers to establish and publicize a process for applicants for employment and employees to file concerns and complaints regarding the use of automated decision systems in such employment decisions and a process for the investigation and resolution of any such concerns and complaints.
The bill also provides that no final employment decision shall be made by an employer without the involvement of a human decision maker, and no employer shall solely use any recommendation or prediction from an automated decision system to make a final employment decision. The bill subjects violating employers to civil penalties.
Patron - Tran

F **SB50 Lobbying; registration; local governments; penalty.** Expands the definition of "lobbying" to include influencing or attempting to influence local government action, defined in the bill, or solicitation of others to influence a local government official, also defined in the bill. Current law limits such influencing to executive or legislative action and soliciting to executive or legislative officials. The bill requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to prepare a list of the positions and names of local government officials to be revised at least semi-annually and made available to lobbyists to assist them in complying with the provisions of the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of May 1, 2027.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB56 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; procedure for responding to requests; charges; posting of notice of rights and responsibilities.** Limits the fees charged for producing public records to the median hourly rate of pay of employees of the public body or the actual hourly rate of pay of the person performing the work, whichever is less, and provides that a public body may petition a court for relief from this fee limit if there is no one who can process the request at the median hourly rate of pay or less. The bill makes corresponding amendments to the required statement on charges in the notice of rights and responsibilities that must be posted on a public body's website. The bill also amends existing law providing that a public body may petition a court for additional time to respond to a request for public records to allow such petitions to be heard in either general district or circuit court, to give such petitions priority on the court's docket, and to toll the response time while such a petition is pending before a court. The bill makes technical amendments, including moving provisions regarding charges for the production of public records into a separate section of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
Patron - Roem

F **SB195 Virginia Gaming Commission established; penalties.** Establishes the Virginia Gaming Commission as an independent agency of the Commonwealth, exclusive of the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of government, to oversee and regulate all forms of legal gambling in the Commonwealth except for the state lottery. The bill sets eligibility requirements for the appointment of a Commissioner and Virginia Gaming Commission Board members, provides powers and duties of such Commissioner and Board members, and provides for the transfer of current employees of relevant state agencies to the Commission. The bill contains numerous technical amendments.
Patron - Aird

F **SB366 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 provisions of the bill do not apply to transportation-related construction projects. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB460 State employee health insurance plan; coverage for prosthetic devices.** Provides that the plan established by the Department of Human Resource Management for the provision of health insurance coverage for state employees shall include coverage for medically necessary prosthetic devices and their repair, fitting, replacement, and components.
Patron - Roem

F **SB484 Department of General Services; independent agency; evaluation.** Directs the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee and the House Appropriations Committee to convene a work group to assess the process and provide recommendations related to the transition of the Department of General Services from an executive branch agency to an independent agency of the Commonwealth pursuant to the intent of the General Assembly that (i) the Department transition to better serve the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, as well as independent agencies of the Commonwealth, and political subdivisions thereof, equally and (ii) such transition be finalized in the 2027 Regular Session. The Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee and the House Appropriations Committee shall submit a joint report of the work group's findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 15, 2026.
Patron - Deeds

F **SB557 Commonwealth Strategic Cryptocurrency Reserve Fund established; report.** Establishes the Commonwealth Strategic Cryptocurrency Reserve Fund (the Reserve Fund) in the Department of the Treasury for the purpose of investing in bitcoin or other cryptocurrency. The bill also establishes the Commonwealth Strategic Cryptocurrency Reserve Fund Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the State Treasurer regarding the administration and management of the Reserve Fund. Finally, the bill specifies that the State Treasurer shall submit to the General Assembly a biennial report on the content, administration, and management of the Reserve Fund.
Patron - Reeves

F **SB558 Virginia Gaming Commission established.** Establishes the Virginia Gaming Commission as an independent agency of the Commonwealth, exclusive of the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of government, to oversee and regulate all forms of legal gambling in the Commonwealth except for the state lottery. The bill sets eligibility requirements for the appointment of a Commissioner and Virginia Gaming Commission Board members, provides powers

and duties of such Commissioner and Board members, and provides for the transfer of current employees of relevant state agencies to the Commission. The bill contains numerous technical amendments.
Patron - Reeves

F **SB566** **Virginia Workforce Housing Assistance Program; report.** Establishes the Virginia Workforce Housing Assistance Program to provide grants to eligible employers, defined in the bill, that set up housing down payment assistance programs for employees in amounts equal to the lesser of 15 percent of housing down payment assistance expenses incurred by an eligible employer during the fiscal year or $25,000. The bill specifies that an eligible employer may only receive grants in the aggregate of up to $150,000 across all fiscal years or $250,000 for housing down payment assistance expenses incurred for employees in certain fiscally stressed localities. The bill requires weighting grants according to the household income of participating employees, as measured against the area median income (AMI) for the locality in which the dwelling is located. Any participating employee shall have an annual household income at or below 120 percent of the AMI for the locality in which the employee's dwelling is located and have never owned or purchased under contract for deed, either individually or jointly, a single-family residence in the Commonwealth or outside of the Commonwealth. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.
Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB610** **Revenue reserves and budgetary amendments.** Provides that any withdrawal from the Revenue Stabilization Fund made to comply with the 20 percent combined amount limitation for the Revenue Stabilization Fund and the Revenue Reserve Fund shall be assigned by the Comptroller and be considered a portion of the committed fund balance of the general fund of the state treasury, subject to the provisions of the general appropriation act.
Patron - Lucas

F **SB636** **Department of General Services; removal of Confederate monuments and memorials.** Directs the Department of General Services to remove all Confederate monuments and memorials from Capitol Square. The bill directs the Department to store such monuments and memorials until such time as the General Assembly determines their final disposition. The bill also requires the Department, in coordination with the Department of Historic Resources, to review the most appropriate options for the final disposition of all monuments, memorials, and artifacts in its possession and report its findings to the Joint Committee on Rules by October 15, 2026.
Patron - Ebbin

F **SB679** **Office of Regulatory Management established.** Codifies the Office of Regulatory Management in the Office of the Governor. The purpose of the Office is to review all regulations and guidance documents issued by executive branch agencies prior to such regulation or document being finalized and to provide guidelines for agencies to follow when engaging in regulatory activities. Currently, the Office of Regulatory Management operates within the Office of the Governor pursuant to Executive Order 19 (2022).
Patron - Head

F **SB705** **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 25 percent by January 1, 2029. The bill requires the Department to report to the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules on the status of the Program no later than October 1 of each year, beginning October 1, 2026. Finally, the bill provides that the Department, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and the Registrar of Regulations, 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, 2029.
Patron - Durant

F **SB830** **Official terminology for certain geographic locations.**
Patron - Obenshain

Carried Over

C **HB83** **Virginia Information Technologies Agency; powers of the CIO; creation of Cyber Civilian Corps.** Allows the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) to select persons to serve as Virginia Cyber Civilian Corp (the Corps) volunteers and Corps advisors and deploy such volunteers to provide rapid response assistance under the direction of VITA upon request of a client affected by a cybersecurity incident, defined in the bill. The bill also establishes an advisory board within VITA to review and make recommendations regarding the creation and administration of the Corps. The bill instructs the Chief Information Officer to consult with the advisory board in decisions related to deployment of the Corps during cybersecurity incidents.
Patron - Feggans

C **HB143** **Surplus real property; prioritization of disposition for affordable and middle-income housing.** Requires the Department of General Services to determine whether, following an offer of surplus property to the chief administrative officer of the locality within which the surplus property is located, as well as to any economic development entity for such locality, such surplus property is suitable for the development of affordable housing, as defined by the bill. If the Department so determines, the bill provides that such property shall be offered for at least 90 days exclusively to eligible organizations, as defined by the bill, for the purpose of developing affordable housing, provided that the terms of the disposition include a recorded covenant to provide affordable housing for at least 30 years.
The bill also requires the chief administrative officer of each locality to prepare and maintain an inventory of all real property within its jurisdiction to which the locality holds fee simple title and that the locality has determined to be feasible for the development of affordable and middle-income housing. If the governing body of a locality chooses to dispose of such a property, such property shall be offered for at least 90 days exclusively to public or private entities, for the purpose of developing affordable and middle-income housing, through purchase, lease, exchange, or donation in return for a recorded covenant to provide affordable housing for at least 30 years.
Patron - Gardner

C **HB159** **Virginia Freedom of Information Act; proceedings for enforcement; petition for mandamus or injunction.** Specifies that service of process or a summons for a hearing shall not be required when a petition for mandamus or injunction to enforce rights granted under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act has been filed.
Patron - Simon

C **HB160** **Virginia Freedom of Information Act; officers, employees, or members of a public body; alleged**

willful and knowing violations; mitigating factors to be considered. Specifies that civil penalties may only be imposed on officers, employees, or members of a public body in actions brought against them in their individual capacity for certain violations of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The bill further requires a court, when determining whether an officer, an employee, or a member of a public body has committed certain violations of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act willfully and knowingly, to consider certain mitigating factors, including good faith reliance on (i) opinions of the Attorney General; (ii) court cases substantially supporting such officer's, employee's, or member's actions; (iii) advisory opinions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council; and (iv) advice of counsel for the public body, as evidence that such officer, employee, or member did not willfully and knowingly commit such violation. Current law provides any officer, employee, or member of a public body the right to introduce at any proceeding regarding such willful and knowing violation a copy of a relevant advisory opinion issued by the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Simon

C **HB203 Middle Eastern and North African Advisory Board established.** Establishes the Middle Eastern and North African Advisory Board in the executive branch for the purpose of advising the Governor on ways to develop economic, professional, cultural, educational, and governmental links between the Commonwealth and the Middle Eastern and North African community in Virginia. The bill provides for the expiration of the advisory board on June 30, 2029.
Patron - Reaser

C **HB271 Virginia Gaming Commission established; penalties.** Establishes the Virginia Gaming Commission as an independent agency of the Commonwealth, exclusive of the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of government, to oversee and regulate all forms of legal gambling in the Commonwealth except for the state lottery. The bill sets eligibility requirements for the appointment of a Commissioner and Virginia Gaming Commission Board members, provides powers and duties of such Commissioner and Board members, and provides for the transfer of current employees of relevant state agencies to the Commission. The bill contains numerous technical amendments.
Patron - Krizek

C **HB326 Disposition of Fort Whitworth.** Authorizes the Governor to convey Fort Whitworth to the Petersburg Battlefields Foundation. The conveyance shall be made without consideration and in as-is condition.
Patron - Pope Adams

C **HB354 Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services; powers and duties; online portal.** Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services to develop and maintain an online portal to connect veterans, members of the Virginia National Guard, and Virginia residents in the Armed Forces Reserves who qualify for veteran status, and their immediate family members, to available resources, programs, and services in the Commonwealth and provide a means to submit electronic applications for such resources, programs, and services. The bill requires the online portal to collect, maintain, use, disseminate, and safeguard personal information in compliance with state and federal law.
Patron - Thomas

C **HB368 Definitions; American Indians; Virginia recognized tribes; federally recognized tribes; sovereignty.** Provides that the Commonwealth acknowledges the inherent sovereignty of federally recognized tribes within the present-day external boundaries of the Commonwealth. The bill also establishes definitions for "American Indian," "federally recognized tribe," and "Virginia recognized tribe" and amends various sections throughout the Code for the purpose of uniformity in terminology. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Krizek

C **HB463 Virginia Freedom of Information Act; definitions; meetings; quorum and electronic communication.** Amends the definition of "meeting" for purposes of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act such that any assemblage of a quorum of the constituent membership of a public body constitutes a meeting. Under current law, as many as three members or a quorum, if less than three, of the constituent membership of a public body constitutes a meeting. The bill additionally authorizes members of a public body participating through electronic communication in a meeting in which other members are participating in person to count toward the quorum as if the individual were physically present, should such member's physical absence be due to an approved cause of absence.
Patron - Cohen

C **HB485 Children's Cabinet established; report.** Establishes the Children's Cabinet to advise the Governor on matters pertaining to children in the Commonwealth and ways to improve their health, safety, and well-being.
Patron - Shin

C **HB514 Department of Veterans Services; benefit awareness and access; program.** Establishes an outreach program to ensure military service members transitioning from military to civilian life, veterans, members of the Virginia National Guard, residents of the Commonwealth in the Armed Forces Reserves, and their family members can easily access federal, state, and local benefits and other programs and services available to them. The bill requires the outcomes of such program to be published in the annual report submitted to the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, the Governor, and the General Assembly.
Patron - Martinez

C **HB560 Administrative Process Act; exemptions; limitations; appeals of case decisions regarding benefits sought.** Specifies that the Administrative Process Act applies to case decisions regarding the grant or denial, including determinations of eligibility and approved levels of service, of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, general relief, auxiliary grants, or state-local hospitalization. The bill also removes provisions limiting review of case decisions to ascertaining whether there was evidence in the agency record to support the case decision of the agency.
Patron - Hope

C **HB707 State government; transaction of public business; prohibited website domains.** Prohibits a public body, defined in the bill, from maintaining an official website for public use with a domain other than a .gov, .edu, or .museum domain. The bill provides that any email address that a public body provides to its employees shall utilize a .gov domain and directs the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - Hayes

C **HB777** **Virginia Public Procurement Act; procurement of goods transported by privately owned commercial vessels; required contract provisions.** Provides that any contract a state agency enters into for goods that exceeds $10,000 shall contain a provision that the contractor must comply with federal law relating to the transportation of goods on privately owned commercial vessels, defined in the bill.
Patron - Hayes

C **HB842** **Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Virginia Public Procurement Act; definition of "small business"; direct procurement; set-asides.** Amends the definition of "small business," for purposes of provisions related to the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity and the Virginia Public Procurement Act, to mean a business that is at least 51 percent independently owned and controlled by one or more individuals, or in the case of a cooperative association, is at least 51 percent independently controlled by one or more members, who are U.S. citizens or legal resident aliens and, together with affiliates, has 50 or fewer employees or average annual gross receipts of $5 million or less averaged over the previous three years and for which the individual owners do not have a combined net worth exceeding $1.5 million. Current law defines a small business as such, but with 250 or fewer employees and average annual gross receipts of $10 million or less averaged over the previous three years, with no limit on the combined net worth of individual owners.
The bill allows any public body to directly solicit or award a contract of less than $200,000 to a small, women-owned, or minority-owned business, or to a business identified by a public body as a service disabled veteran-owned or military family-owned business, without engaging in the competitive sealed bidding or competitive negotiation process. The bill also provides that purchases made by a public body for goods, services, and construction up to $100,000 that are not directly awarded shall be set aside for award to small businesses.
Patron - Downey

C **HB858** **Legal holidays; Indigenous Peoples' Day.** Replaces Columbus Day, the second Monday in October, with Indigenous Peoples' Day as a state holiday.
Patron - Cousins

C **HB869** **Virginia Public Procurement Act; purchase programs for local farm or food products.** Directs all state agencies to implement a purchase program for local farm or food products, defined in the bill, in order to reach a goal by 2035 of 20 percent of all the food and food products purchased by state agencies being local farm or food products. The bill also provides that for any public body partially or wholly funded by the Commonwealth, in which the total contract cost for food or food products is in excess of $25,000 per year, such public body shall implement a purchase program for local farm or food products in order to reach a goal by 2035 of 10 percent of all the food and food products purchased by such public bodies being local farm or food products. In order to meet such goals, state agencies and public bodies are authorized to give a preference to an otherwise qualified bidder who will fulfill the contract through the use of local farm or food products over the lowest responsible bidder so long as the cost included in the bid for the local farm or food products is not more than 10 percent greater than the cost included in the other bids.
Patron - Cousins

C **HB890** **Director of the Department of General Services; electric vehicles and charging stations; state targets.** Directs the Director of the Department of General Services (the Director) to set a goal for the electrification of the Commonwealth's centralized fleet that is aligned with the Commonwealth Clean Energy Policy, with interim targets set for 2028, 2030, and 2032. The bill also requires the Director to set targets for the number and type of electric vehicle charging stations installed at state facilities by those same years that are achievable under the current Department of General Services appropriations and for the same years if additional funds were made available. The Director is required to report his findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 1, 2026.
Patron - Sullivan

C **HB1018** **Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs; work group; report.** Directs the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs to convene a work group every four years to study and develop recommendations for implementing a statewide strategic plan to guide legislation and budget decisions relating to veterans in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the work group to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2026, and every four years thereafter.
Patron - Reaser

C **HB1044** **Virginia Public Procurement Act; cooperative procurement; re-roofing.** Excludes re-roofing that does not involve modification to the structure from the prohibition on using cooperative procurement to purchase construction.
Patron - Carr

C **HB1249** **Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority; Creative Economy Task Force established; strategic plan; report; sunset.** Establishes within the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority the Creative Economy Task Force for the purpose of developing a strategic plan to improve the creative economy, defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth. The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2027. The bill contains an expiration date of January 1, 2028.
Patron - Glass

C **HB1293** **Department of Juvenile Justice; transfer of responsibility from Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to Secretary of Health and Human Resources; stakeholder work group.** Directs the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a stakeholder work group to create a plan and recommended timeline for 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. The bill requires the work group to be composed of interested parties, including representatives from civil liberty organizations, organizations engaged in the daily work of youth justice and violence prevention, formerly incarcerated persons and their families, and mental health experts. The bill directs the work group to submit its plan and recommended timeline for executing the transfer to the Chairs of the House Committee for Courts of Justice, House Committee on Public Safety, Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, and Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Hope

C **HB1456** **Government efficiency; agency reporting requirements; healthcare financing reform; Interagency Health Financing Task Force; managed care organization performance review; housing regulatory**

review; procurement reform; technology consolidation; real property management; personnel efficiency; federal funding contingency; establishment of the Joint Subcommittee on Government Efficiency; data integration and transparency.
Patron - Williams

C **HB1507 Fraud and Abuse Whistle Blower Protection Act; Auditor of Public Accounts.** Adds the Auditor of Public Accounts to the definition of "appropriate authority" for purposes of whistle blower reporting pursuant to the Fraud and Abuse Whistle Blower Protection Act. The bill also requires additional notice and posting requirements related to the Act for local governments. Finally, the bill grants authority to the Auditor of Public Accounts to perform any type of audit, review, or investigation of the accounts and records of a locality that may be required pursuant to the Act.
Patron - Phillips

C **SB21 Department of Juvenile Justice; transfer of responsibility from Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to Secretary of Health and Human Resources; stakeholder work group.** Directs the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a stakeholder work group to create a plan and recommended timeline for 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. The bill requires the work group to be composed of interested parties, including representatives from civil liberty organizations, organizations engaged in the daily work of youth justice and violence prevention, formerly incarcerated persons and their families, and mental health experts. The bill directs the work group to submit its plan and recommended timeline for executing the transfer to the Chairs of the House Committee for Courts of Justice, House Committee on Public Safety, Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, and Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Locke

C **SB65 Virginia Personnel Act; certain Department of Elections officers and employees not exempt.** Excludes the Department of Elections from the provision of the Virginia Personnel Act that exempts employees of executive branch agencies who have accepted serving in the capacity of chief deputy, or equivalent, and of a confidential assistant for policy or administration.
Patron - VanValkenburg

C **SB263 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Virginia Public Procurement Act; certification for service disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses; participation requirements; penalty.** Provides that the Director of the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity may adopt regulations to implement certification programs for service disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses in the Commonwealth and adds such businesses to the definition of "SWaM" and relevant provisions. The bill requires each public body to annually award at least one percent of its contract dollars to service disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned businesses under the Virginia Public Procurement Act and requires each public body that has annual procurement expenditures exceeding $10 million to designate a Veteran Business Procurement Liaison.
The bill requires the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Services, to develop a plan to implement the provisions of the bill and make such plan available to the public on the electronic procurement system known as eVA by December 1, 2026. The bill requires the Department of General Services to update eVA to reflect the procurement opportunities available to service disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned businesses. The bill directs the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Stanley

C **SB318 Virginia Public Procurement Act; preference for local products and firms; by localities.** Allows the governing body of a county, city, or town to give preference to goods, services, and construction produced in such locality or provided by persons, firms, or corporations having principal places of business in the locality if the bid price is not more than five percent greater than the bid price of the lowest responsive and active bidder. In such a circumstance, the bill permits the bidder of goods, services, and construction produced in such locality or provided by persons, firms, or corporations having principal places of business in the locality to match the price of the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Under current law, such preference may only be given in the case of a tie bid.
Patron - Ebbin

C **SB353 Consultation with federally recognized tribes; permits and reviews with potential impacts on environmental, cultural, and historic resources.** Adds to the duties of the Ombudsman for Tribal Consultation requirements to (i) facilitate communication between federally recognized tribes and relevant state agencies and local governments to ensure an opportunity for meaningful and timely consultation on environmental, cultural, and historical permits and reviews; (ii) assist the Department of Transportation in developing consultation policies; (iii) make recommendations to the Governor on the basis of communications with federally recognized tribes about (a) circumstances under which tribal consent should be required for issuance of certain permits and (b) additional agencies that should develop policies and procedures to ensure meaningful, timely, and appropriate consultation with federally recognized tribes; (iv) provide training at least once a year to certain state agency personnel on issues of concern to the federally recognized tribes to support effective communication, collaboration, and positive government-to-government relations between the Commonwealth and the federally recognized tribes; and (v) submit an annual report to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on the activities undertaken to implement such provisions and the issues that have arisen in that pursuit. The bill also requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Historic Resources, Department of Transportation, and Marine Resources Commission to engage in consultation with federally recognized tribes on certain issues. During such consultation, the burden is on the agency to show that it has made a good faith effort to elicit meaningful and timely feedback, including formal communication between agency employees and the federally recognized tribe. When a burial permit will result in the disturbance of a burial site of an individual that has a cultural affiliation with a particular federally recognized tribe, the bill requires the Department of Historic Resources to acquire the consent of such federally recognized tribe before issuing a permit for the archaeological excavation of human remains. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - McDougle

C **SB356 Definitions; American Indians; Virginia recognized tribes; federally recognized tribes; sovereignty.**

Provides that the Commonwealth acknowledges the inherent sovereignty of federally recognized tribes within the present-day external boundaries of the Commonwealth. The bill also establishes definitions for "American Indian," "federally recognized tribe," and "Virginia recognized tribe" and amends various sections throughout the Code for the purpose of uniformity in terminology. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - McDougle

C **SB590 Department of Veterans Services; benefit awareness and access; program.** Establishes an outreach program to ensure military service members transitioning from military to civilian life, veterans, members of the Virginia National Guard, residents of the Commonwealth in the Armed Forces Reserves, and their family members can easily access federal, state, and local benefits and other programs and services available to them. The bill requires the outcomes of such program to be published in the annual report submitted to the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, the Governor, and the General Assembly.
Patron - Peake

C **SB606 General funds, bonds, and capital outlay.** Removes the Executive Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Secretary of Finance from the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee. The bill also provides that the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee consists of four members, with voting privileges, including the staff directors of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, and the Director of the Department of General Services.
Patron - Lucas

C **SB611 Economic development incentives; wage requirements.** Requires companies to pay an average wage for the jobs eligible for assistance under the component programs of the Virginia Jobs Investment Program that is no less than the prevailing average wage, defined in the bill, or, in the case of an economically distressed locality, defined in the bill, no less than 85 percent of the prevailing average wage. Under current law, to be eligible for the component programs, companies must pay a minimum entry-level wage rate per hour of at least 1.2 times the federal minimum wage or the Virginia minimum wage, whichever is higher, and in areas that have an unemployment rate of 1.5 times the statewide average unemployment rate, the wage rate minimum may be waived.
The bill also authorizes the payment of Virginia Investment Performance Grants if the average wage paid by the eligible manufacturer or research and development service, excluding fringe benefits, is no less than 85 percent of the prevailing average wage in localities with either (i) an annual unemployment rate for the most recent calendar year for which such data is available that is greater than the final statewide average unemployment rate for that calendar year or (ii) a poverty rate for the most recent calendar year for which such data is available that exceeds the statewide average poverty rate for that year. Under current law, such authorization is limited to those localities meeting both the unemployment rate and poverty rate thresholds.
Patron - Deeds

C **SB737 Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; accreditation of nondegree workforce training programs.** Directs the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to establish an accreditation pathway for nondegree workforce training programs in order to align the skills of the Commonwealth's workforce with the needs of industry in the Commonwealth and to provide a workforce entrance pathway for underserved populations in the Commonwealth. The bill includes minimum standards, admissions requirements, and reporting requirements for such programs. Additionally, the bill includes provisions related to the eligibility of accredited programs for state and federal workforce funding, including the federal Workforce Pell Grant.
Patron - Diggs

C **SB750 Workforce Transition Act of 1995; eligibility for transitional severance benefit; officers and employees of the Fort Monroe Authority.** Provides that employees of the Fort Monroe Authority are eligible for transitional severance benefits conferred by the Workforce Transition Act of 1995 if (i) reemployment with the Commonwealth is not possible because there is no available position for which the employee is qualified or the position offered to the employee requires relocation or a reduction in salary and (ii) involuntary separation was due to causes other than job performance or misconduct.
Patron - Locke

Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food

Passed

P **HB65 Apple Board; repeal.** Repeals the Apple Board and Apple Fund effective July 1, 2028, and provides that any funds remaining in the Apple Fund as of July 1, 2028, shall be transferred to the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund. The bill provides that the excise tax levied on apples grown in the Commonwealth shall not be collected for the 2026 harvest season and requires the chair of the Apple Board to file a report with the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services no later than June 30, 2028, with a statement of total receipts and disbursements of the Apple Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028. This bill is identical to SB 390.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB109 Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services; noxious weeds; commercial viability; report.** Amends the definition of noxious weed to remove the exclusion for living plants or parts thereof that are commercially viable or commercially propagated in Virginia and removes the requirement that the Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee include in its recommendations to the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services an analysis of the current and potential in-state commercial viability of a plant species. The bill requires a plant that is designated by the Board as a noxious weed and commercially propagated in Virginia to be subject to a phase-out period of two years for grasses, forbs, and vines; four years for shrubs; and seven years for trees. The bill directs the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to conduct a review of the legislative and regulatory authority of the Board pertaining to the control of noxious weeds and report his findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB322 Misbranded food; manufactured-protein food products; civil penalty.** Provides that a food is misbranded if it purports to be or is represented as a meat food product or poultry product and such food product (i) bears or contains a manufactured-protein food product, as defined in the bill; (ii) is offered for sale; and (iii) has a label that is part of or placed on the food product package or other container storing such product that identifies the food as a meat food product or poultry product, unless such label bears a conspicuous and prominent qualifying term and is in close proximity to an identifying meat term, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill exempts a meat food product that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services determines contains a trace amount of a manufactured-protein food product, prohibits the sale or offering for sale of a food product that is misbranded pursuant to the provisions of the bill, and makes doing so a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill provides that a person who violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $500 and allows the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt increased civil penalties not to exceed $500 for first, second, and subsequent violations of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 186.
Patron - Glass

P **HB360 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; kratom products.** Prohibits selling or offering for sale (i) any kratom product to a person younger than 21 years of age; (ii) any kratom product that does not include a label listing all ingredients and the required disclosure; (iii) any kratom product not stored in an area that is not directly accessible to consumers, including behind a retail counter or in a locked display case, except for kratom products required to be refrigerated which may be stored, in accordance with relevant Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority regulations, in the same beverage cooler or refrigerator as wine and beer; (iv) any kratom product containing any synthesized material, semi-synthetic alkaloid, or synthetic kratom-like compound; (v) any kratom product containing 7-hydroxymitragynine in an alkaloid fraction exceeding one percent of total alkaloids in the container or providing more than one milligram of 7-hydroxymitragynine per serving; (vi) any kratom product adulterated with any dangerous, poisonous, or otherwise deleterious non-kratom ingredient, including any substance listed as a controlled substance under state or federal law; (vii) any kratom product that is combustible or intended for vaporization or injection; (viii) any kratom product that is manufactured, packaged, or marketed in a manner attractive to children; or (ix) any kratom extract product containing residual solvent levels exceeding applicable statutory or pharmacopeial limits.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB402 Cottage food laws; sale of certain food over phone and internet; work group; report.** Expands the exemption from state inspection requirements for private homes where the resident processes and prepares certain food products, including pickles and other acidified vegetables, to allow for such person to sell such products at any location, through the internet, or by telephone to an individual in the Commonwealth for his own consumption and deliver such products in person, by mail, or by delivery service subject to certain restrictions. Current law only allows for the sale to take place in person at the private home, a temporary event, or a farmer's market. The bill also directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group to examine the structural, equipment, and facility standards for private homes in the Commonwealth producing products that do not meet the cottage food law exemptions. The bill requires the work group to complete its meetings by November 1, 2026, and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB710 Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services; invasive plant species installation; written notification to property owners; civil penalty.** Provides that the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services may assess a civil penalty in an amount of not more than $250 for a first violation, $500 for a second violation, and $1,000 for each subsequent violation to any tradesperson involved with proposing or installing plants who fails to provide written notification to property owners when such plants are on the Department of Conservation and Recreation's list of invasive plant species. Current law provides that any such tradesperson who fails to provide such written notice is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 383.
Patron - Pence

P **HB749 Fertilizer and lime permit requirements.** Amends the provisions governing the permit requirements for bulk lime materials to add a distributor who holds a valid license to distribute a regulated product, as defined in the bill, to the list of people who can sell bulk liming material. The bill also removes duplicative language relating to (i) when a permit expires, (ii) the cost of obtaining a permit, and (iii) the authority of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to issue written notices and collect fees for failing to obtain a permit.
Patron - Runion

P **SB163 Pesticide control; agencies or persons exempt or partially exempt.** Provides that volunteers associated with state agencies, municipal corporations, or other governmental agencies shall be certified as commercial applicators or registered technicians for the use of pesticides, provided that such certification is valid only when applying or supervising application of pesticides used by such governmental agencies. The bill also exempts from applicator certification requirements any unpaid volunteer who uses any nonrestricted herbicide with the express authorization of a state agency for the sole purpose of controlling invasive plants or noxious weeds on properties owned by such state agency.
Patron - McDougle

P **SB186 Misbranded food; manufactured-protein food products; civil penalty.** Provides that a food is misbranded if it purports to be or is represented as a meat food product or poultry product and such food product (i) bears or contains a manufactured-protein food product, as defined in the bill; (ii) is offered for sale; and (iii) has a label that is part of or placed on the food product package or other container storing such product that identifies the food as a meat food product or poultry product, unless such label bears a conspicuous and prominent qualifying term and is in close proximity to an identifying meat term, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill exempts a meat food product that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services determines contains a trace amount of a manufactured-protein food product, prohibits the sale or offering for sale of a food product that is misbranded pursuant to the provisions of the bill, and makes doing so a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill provides that a person who violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $500 and allows the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt increased civil penalties not to exceed $500 for first, second,

and subsequent violations of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 322.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB302 Excise tax on peanuts; sunset extended.** Extends from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027, the sunset date of the excise tax on all peanuts grown in and sold in Virginia for processing.
Patron - Jordan

P **SB390 Apple Board; repeal.** Repeals the Apple Board and Apple Fund effective July 1, 2028, and provides that any funds remaining in the Apple Fund as of July 1, 2028, shall be transferred to the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund. The bill provides that the excise tax levied on apples grown in the Commonwealth shall not be collected for the 2026 harvest season and requires the chair of the Apple Board to file a report with the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services no later than June 30, 2028, with a statement of total receipts and disbursements of the Apple Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028. This bill is identical to HB 65.
Patron - French

P **SB707 Devocalization of dogs prohibited.** Makes it unlawful for any person engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine to perform a surgical devocalization procedure on a dog, except when such procedure is necessary to treat or relieve any injury, disease, or congenital defect that is causing or may cause the dog physical pain or harm.
Patron - Diggs

Failed

F **HB105 State Forester; bicentennial farm program established.** Directs the State Forester to establish and administer a bicentennial farm program to honor farm families in the Commonwealth whose property has been in the same family for 200 years or more. In order to be eligible for recognition under the program, a farm shall (i) have been owned by the same family for at least 200 consecutive years; (ii) be lived on, or actually farmed, by a descendant of the original owners; and (iii) gross more than $2,500 annually from the sale of farm products. The bill also repeals a provision of law to reflect the transfer of the Century Farm Program from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Forestry's Office of Farmland Preservation as a result of the passage of HB 892 and SB 616 in the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB321 Agricultural Workforce Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Program established; report**. Requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (the Department) to establish and administer the Agricultural Workforce Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Program (the Program) to support the mental health and well-being of the agricultural workforce, as defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Program to (i) increase public awareness of mental health and suicide prevention, (ii) provide access to culturally and contextually appropriate mental health services, and (iii) address mental health challenges arising from certain stressors affecting agricultural communities in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to submit a report on the Program's progress, including data collected and any recommendations, to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by September 1, 2027, and biennially thereafter.
Patron - Glass

F **HB506 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; animal slaughterhouse; report.** Directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group composed of relevant stakeholders to consider the benefits, feasibility, and impact of an additional animal slaughterhouse located in Northern Virginia and to submit a report of the work group's 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 no later than December 1, 2027.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB699 Food establishment inspection exemptions; private homes and farms.** Exempts from required food establishment operation inspections any private home or farm where the resident or farmer processes, prepares, or otherwise produces food if such food is (i) sold in person in the Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment; (ii) sold at the private home or farm; (iii) not offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments; and (iv) affixed with a label placed on the principal display panel or, for a product packaging not large enough to bear such a label, offered for sale with a sign displaying the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person preparing the food, the date the food was processed, and the statement "NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION."
Patron - Zehr

F **HB730 Cruelty to animals; malicious killing of a dog or cat; penalty.** Creates, under the animal cruelty provisions, a Class 6 felony for any person who maliciously kills any dog or cat that is a companion animal whether belonging to him or another. Currently, such felony applies only to a person who (i) tortures, willfully inflicts inhumane injury or pain not connected with bona fide scientific or medical experimentation, or cruelly and unnecessarily beats, maims, or mutilates any dog or cat that is a companion animal whether belonging to him or another and (ii) as a direct result causes serious bodily injury to such dog or cat that is a companion animal, the death of such dog or cat that is a companion animal, or the euthanasia of such animal on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian upon determination that such euthanasia was necessary due to the condition of the animal.
Patron - Davis

F **HB761 Fertilizer and lime permit requirements.** Amends the provisions governing the permit requirements for bulk lime materials to add a distributor who holds a valid license to distribute a regulated product, as defined in the bill, to the list of people who can sell bulk liming material. The bill also removes duplicative language relating to (i) when a permit expires, (ii) the cost of obtaining a permit, and (iii) the authority of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to issue written notices and collect fees for failing to obtain a permit.
Patron - Runion

F **HB1053 GO Virginia grants; matching funds.** Reinstates the program that previously expired on July 1, 2025, allowing a locality to use grant funds awarded by the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission as matching funds for GO Virginia grants.
Patron - Phillips

F **HB1160 Dangerous dogs; deferred adjudication; waiver of appeal.** Provides that an owner waives the right to appeal any adjudication that an animal is a dangerous dog if the owner (i) consents to, and is granted by the trial court, a deferral of proceedings and (ii) fails to fulfill the conditions as specified by the court. The bill requires the trial court, prior to granting a deferral of proceedings, to notify the owner that he would be waiving such right.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1169 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Office of Small Farms and Virginia Small Farms Fund established; report.** Creates, within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Office of Small Farms, headed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The bill authorizes the Office to facilitate the growth and development of small farms, as defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth and support and expand programs for such farms. The bill creates the Virginia Small Farms Fund to provide funding to administer the provisions of the bill. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Resources to submit a written report on the operation of the Office by December 1 of each year to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources.

Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **SB152 State Forester; bicentennial farm program established.** Directs the State Forester to establish and administer a bicentennial farm program to honor farm families in the Commonwealth whose property has been in the same family for 200 years or more. In order to be eligible for recognition under the program, a farm shall (i) have been owned by the same family for at least 200 consecutive years; (ii) be lived on, or actually farmed, by a descendant of the original owners; and (iii) gross more than $2,500 annually from the sale of farm products. The bill also repeals a provision of law to reflect the transfer of the Century Farm Program from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Forestry's Office of Farmland Preservation as a result of the passage of HB 892 and SB 616 in the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Hackworth

F **SB261 Cruelty to animals; malicious killing of a dog or cat; penalty.** Creates, under the animal cruelty provisions, a Class 6 felony for any person who maliciously kills any dog or cat that is a companion animal whether belonging to him or another. Currently, such felony applies only to a person who (i) tortures, willfully inflicts inhumane injury or pain not connected with bona fide scientific or medical experimentation, or cruelly and unnecessarily beats, maims, or mutilates any dog or cat that is a companion animal whether belonging to him or another and (ii) as a direct result causes serious bodily injury to such dog or cat that is a companion animal, the death of such dog or cat that is a companion animal, or the euthanasia of such animal on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian upon determination that such euthanasia was necessary due to the condition of the animal.
Patron - Stanley

F **SB567 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Virginia Family Grocery Basket; civil penalty.** Directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (the Department) to establish and maintain on its website a standardized list of no more than 25 essential grocery items known as the Virginia Family Grocery Basket that includes common household staple food items including milk, bread, eggs, and various types of proteins, grains, and produce. The bill requires a large grocery retail chain, as defined in the bill, to submit to the Department average retail prices for such Basket items on a monthly basis for each locality in which the large grocery retail chain operates and to publish such information on its website beginning on April 1, 2027. The bill directs the Department to issue a written notice of noncompliance for violations of the bill and to provide a 30 day period to rectify such violations, after which the Department may assess a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000 for each day of violation following such 30 day period.
Patron - Sturtevant

Carried Over

C **HB1016 Virginia Cooperative Extension Service; cats and dogs; list of toxic houseplants.** Requires the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service to create a list of common houseplants that are toxic to cats and dogs no later than November 1, 2026, and to update such list at least every four years thereafter. The bill requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to make such list publicly available on its website.
Patron - Tran

C **HB1091 Right to farm; solar panels.** Adds any operation for the production of electricity from solar panels concurrent with the bona fide production of crops, animals, or fowl to the definition of "agricultural operation" in the Right to Farm law, which limits the circumstances under which agricultural operations may be deemed a nuisance by preventing certain actions by localities.
Patron - Laufer

C **HB1110 Marine Products Board; blue catfish; Chesapeake Wild Harvest certification.** Directs the Marine Products Board to establish and maintain a voluntary Chesapeake Wild Harvest certification and labeling program for any blue catfish that is taken or caught in the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries and is processed in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any person from labeling any product as Chesapeake Wild Harvest unless such product conforms to the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Hodges

C **HB1238 Local ordinances; regulation of pet shops.** Authorizes the governing body of any locality to, by ordinance, regulate or prohibit the sale of animals in a pet shop. Such ordinance may distinguish between certain types of pet shops and include provisions for special licensing, inspections, reporting, restrictions, or prohibitions on the sale of certain types of animals. The bill also includes certain existing statewide provisions related to pet shops in the list of sections for which a locality may adopt parallel or more stringent ordinances. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Shin

C **HB1375 Pesticides; manufacture, distribution, use, or sale of paraquat prohibited.** Prohibits any person from manufacturing, distributing, using, or selling any pesticide containing paraquat, defined in the bill, as an active ingredient. The bill allows the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to seize any such pesticide containing paraquat on complaint to the circuit court in the area where the pesticide is located.
Patron - Clark

C **HB1465** **Powers and duties of the Marine Products Board; full-time equivalent position established; marketing and production of blue catfish.** Directs the Marine Products Board to establish a full-time equivalent position to identify grants and other funding opportunities for the marketing and production of blue catfish in the Commonwealth and disburse moneys from such grants and funds.
Patron - Simonds

C **SB266** **Companion Animal Surgical Sterilization Program and Fund.** Directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to establish the Companion Animal Surgical Sterilization Program and Fund to reimburse participating veterinarians for the surgical sterilizations they perform on eligible cats or dogs beginning July 1, 2027. The bill provides that a surcharge of $50 per ton of pet food distributed in the Commonwealth be deposited in the Fund and that such pet food be exempted from the existing litter tax. An animal will be eligible for sterilization under the Program beginning July 1, 2027, if it is a feral or free-roaming cat, is owned by a low-income individual, or is in the possession of a releasing agency such as an animal shelter.
Patron - Stanley

C **SB792** **Pet shops; sale of puppy mill dogs prohibited; civil penalty.** Makes it unlawful for any pet shop to knowingly sell, offer for sale, or transfer any puppy mill dog, as defined in the bill. Any pet shop violating the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty of $2,000 per dog offered for sale, sold, or transferred.
Patron - Stanley

Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control

Passed

P **HB385** **Alcoholic beverage control; operation of government stores; tastings.** Allows an authorized employee of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to conduct an organized tasting event at a government store. The bill also clarifies that any products used in connection with distilled spirits as approved by the Board may be sold at government stores. The bill also removes the option to obtain a permit to purchase certain grain spirits or alcohol with a proof greater than 151 from government stores for commercial or culinary use.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB391** **Medical cannabis program; product labels; delivery.** Changes the requirements for what is included on medical cannabis product labels affixed by pharmaceutical processors to include (i) the total milligrams of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD) included in the edible cannabis product or topical cannabis product, both defined in the bill; (ii) the number of milligrams of THC and CBD in each serving of the edible cannabis product or topical cannabis product; and (iii) the total percentage of THC and CBD included in the inhalable cannabis product, defined in the bill. Under current law, the product label of any medical cannabis product is required to include the total percentage and milligrams of THC and CBD included in the product and the number of milligrams of THC and CBD in each serving.
The bill also allows a pharmaceutical processor or cannabis dispensing facility to dispense or deliver cannabis products in person to a patient or such patient's registered agent, parent, or legal guardian at any residence, including a temporary residence or business. However, the bill prohibits dispensing or delivering cannabis products to (a) any military base, child day center, school, or correctional facility; (b) the State Capitol; or (c) any public gathering places, including sporting events, festivals, fairs, races, concerts, and terminals of public transportation companies. The bill also specifies that all transportation or delivery of usable cannabis, botanical cannabis, cannabis oil, or cannabis products, whether by an employee or delivery agent, shall comply with all relevant laws and regulations and provides that the Board of Directors of the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority may suspend or revoke the privileges of any employee or delivery agent to transport or deliver such products for failure to comply.
The bill also provides that the 12-month stability testing period for medical cannabis products begins on the date the cannabis product is tested, rather than the date of product registration approval and that any medical cannabis product with an expiration date exceeding 12 months shall be supported by stability testing measured from the testing date, rather than the date of product registration approval. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Askew

P **HB642** **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 provides that no retail sales may occur prior to January 1, 2027. Effective January 1, 2027, the bill also moves oversight of the retail sale of certain regulated hemp products from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. This bill is identical to SB 542. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB975** **Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio; report.** 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 averaging at least $48,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall not apply; (ii) for such licensees with monthly food sales averaging at least $25,000 but less than $48,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 30 percent; and (iii) for such licensees with monthly food sales averaging at least $4,000, but less than $25,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 45 percent, except that for any licensee with monthly food sales averaging less than $25,000 with a seating capacity of less than 30 seats and an occupancy permit for less than 60 people total, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 30 percent. The bill also requires that restaurants have at least as many seats at tables as at counters.
The bill requires the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to collect data regarding the compliance of mixed beverage licensees with the provisions of the bill and the impact of the change to the food-to-beverage ratio on the gross amount of food consumed on a licensee's premises. The bill requires the Authority to report such data to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2027.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB1045** **Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority; annual mixed beverage performing arts facility license.** Allows the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to issue an annual mixed beverage performing arts facility license to persons operating food concessions at any performing arts facility located in the

City of Richmond, provided that the performing arts facility (i) is occupied under a bona fide long-term lease or concession agreement, the original term of which was more than five years; (ii) has a capacity in excess of 400 patrons; (iii) has either been rehabilitated in accordance with historic preservation standards or has been in continuous operation for a period of at least 10 years at the same location and is located in the TOD-1 transit-oriented nodal district; and (iv) has monthly gross receipts from the sale of food cooked, or prepared, and consumed on the premises and nonalcoholic beverages served on the premises that meet or exceed the monthly minimum established by Board regulations for mixed beverage restaurants. The bill has an expiration date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Carr

P **HB1343 Alcoholic beverage control; banquet license; municipality or nonprofit organization.** 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 municipality or nonprofit organization has been issued a banquet license when such special event is to be held on the grounds of a museum or a government-registered national, state, or local historic site at which the municipality or nonprofit organization is licensed to operate a gift shop, provided that any retail license issued to the premises has been deactivated by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for the duration of such special event. The bill limits such municipalities or nonprofit organizations to no more than eight banquet licenses for such special events per year. This bill is identical to SB 532.
Patron - Bulova

P **SB14 Alcoholic beverage control; retail licenses; commercial lifestyle center licenses.** Allows the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to grant a commercial lifestyle center license and a performing arts facility license for the same designated area in any municipality with a population in excess of 450,000 and an annual tourism fiscal impact in excess of $3.5 billion provided that (i) the performing arts facility license is limited to prescheduled events and (ii) such licenses shall not be used simultaneously.
Patron - DeSteph

P **SB424 Alcoholic beverage control; government stores; distiller's licensees as agents of the Board; sale of alcoholic beverages.** Allows certain holders of a distiller's license appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to sell spirits, beer, wine, or cider for on-premises or off-premises consumption, provided that the spirits, beer, wine, or cider are manufactured within the same licensed premises or on contiguous premises of such agent licensed as a distillery, brewery, or winery. Under current law, such agents of the Board are permitted to give samples of such alcoholic beverages.
The bill also increases the amount of spirits such distiller's licensees may give or sell to any person per day from three ounces to six ounces and requires such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available at all times when spirits are served. The bill provides that such food may be provided by food trucks, patrons providing their own food, or the agent of the Board and specifies that failure of such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available may result in the Board's reconsideration of the agency agreement appointing such holder of a distiller's license or its officers and employees as agents of the Board.
The bill requires the Authority to collect data regarding the compliance of distiller's licensees with the provisions of this bill and report such data to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026, and again by November 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Authority to convene a stakeholders group to review the manufacturer event licenses and off-site sales privileges granted to manufacturing licensees and report its findings and any recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services no later than December 1, 2026. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2028.
Patron - Perry

P **SB532 Alcoholic beverage control; banquet license; municipality or nonprofit organization.** 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 municipality or nonprofit organization has been issued a banquet license when such special event is to be held on the grounds of a museum or a government-registered national, state, or local historic site at which the municipality or nonprofit organization is licensed to operate a gift shop, provided that any retail license issued to the premises has been deactivated by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for the duration of such special event. The bill limits such municipalities or nonprofit organizations to no more than eight banquet licenses for such special events per year. This bill is identical to HB 1343.
Patron - Stuart

P **SB542 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 provides that no retail sales may occur prior to January 1, 2027. Effective January 1, 2027, the bill also moves oversight of the retail sale of certain regulated hemp products from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority. This bill incorporates SB 671 and SB 826 and is identical to HB 642. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Aird

P **SB543 Marijuana and hemp products; enforcement.** Amends various provisions of law to increase enforcement and penalties related to the illegal sale of marijuana or marijuana products by persons licensed by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, and the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (CCA). The bill also requires the Board of Directors of the CCA to create and require a decal for retail marijuana store licensees to prominently display on the premises of such store that allows consumers to electronically verify the validity of such store's license from the Board. The bill requires such decal to be displayed by licensees, with a civil penalty of $10,000 for each day that such decal is not displayed in the establishment. The bill also creates a $10,000 civil penalty for creating or falsifying such decal. The bill allows the Board to issue a notice of violation and order to cease unlicensed activity to any person who is engaged in the cultivation, processing, distribution, or selling of marijuana or marijuana products in violation of current law, and if the Board issues such notice and order, it may also order the seizure of such marijuana or marijuana products. Any person who intentionally removes such notice and order or sticker without authorization of the Board is subject to a civil penalty prescribed by the Board, not to exceed $5,000. The bill also specifies that the Chief Executive Officer of the Board or investigators appointed by him shall be sworn to enforce the provisions of the Cannabis Control Act and Board regulations and have the authority to investigate violations of the statutes and regulations the CCA is required to enforce. The bill also

revises certain provisions related the assessment of civil penalties against manufacturers and sellers of certain industrial hemp extracts and foods containing industrial hemp extracts and makes it a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to sell or offer for sale a substance intended for human consumption, orally or by inhalation, that (i) contains more than 0.3 percent total tetrahydrocannabinol or (ii) contains more than two milligrams of total tetrahydrocannabinol per package. Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to analyze the current efforts in the Commonwealth to combat the sale of illicit cannabis products and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations, on General Laws, and for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations, on General Laws and Technology, on Rehabilitation and Social Services, and for Courts of Justice by October 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Aird

P **SB788** **Alcoholic beverage control; payment of excise tax on beer, wine coolers, and wine; penalties.** Specifies that the civil penalty imposed on a manufacturer, bottler, or wholesaler who fails to make any return, pay the full amount of certain taxes imposed on wine and beer, and submit certain reports is not to exceed five percent of the proper tax due if the failure is for not more than 30 days, with an additional five percent for each additional 30 days, or fraction thereof, during which the failure continues. The bill also specifies that certain taxes collected by wholesale wine licensees at the time of or prior to sale to retail licensees and reports required to be submitted along with such taxes shall be postmarked or submitted electronically no later than the fifteenth of the month.

The bill also provides a 60-day period for any such manufacturer, bottler, wholesaler, or retailer to make such return, pay the full amount of the excise tax, and submit such reports prior to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority suspending or revoking a license. The bill further provides that (i) absent willful intent to defraud the Commonwealth, a violation is deemed cured and no further action may be taken against the licensee if the manufacturer, bottler, wholesaler, or retailer files the required return, pays the full excise tax, submits all reports, and pays any civil penalties within the 60-day period and (ii) except in cases involving a false or fraudulent return with willful intent to defraud, the specified penalties are the sole penalties the Board may impose, notwithstanding any other law or regulation.

The bill also requires the Authority to implement an online electronic system for wholesale wine licensees to (a) report to the Authority the purchases and sales made during the preceding month and the amount of state wine tax collected from retailers and (b) provide payment for the amount of taxes collected, less any refunds, replacements, or adjustments by January 1, 2027.

Patron - Perry

Failed

F **HB384** **Alcoholic beverage control; advertising materials; purchase and display of barrels.** Allows a retail licensee to elect to receive the physical barrel or lid in addition to purchasing the bottled contents of a distilled spirits barrel from a manufacturer through a barrel purchase agreement supplied to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill provides that such physical barrel or lid shall not be considered a gift and may be displayed on the retail licensee's premises.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

F **HB741** **Alcoholic beverage control; retail licenses; public golf courses.** Allows the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to issue an on-and-off premises wine and beer license to public golf courses that authorizes the licensee to sell wine and beer for on-premises consumption in areas of the golf course approved by the Board. The bill provides that such licenses shall not be subject to any monthly food sales requirement and may be issued to a golf course that offers either nine-hole or 18-hole layout and is open to the general public for play on a fee or permit basis.

Patron - Williams

F **HB934** **Alcoholic beverage control; government stores; distiller's licensees as agents of the Board; sale of alcoholic beverages.** Allows certain holders of a distiller's license appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Authority to sell spirits, beer, wine, or cider for on-premises or off-premises consumption, provided that the spirits, beer, wine, or cider are manufactured within the same licensed premises or on contiguous premises of such agent licensed as a distillery, brewery, or winery. Under current law, such agents of the Board are permitted to give samples of such alcoholic beverages.

The bill also increases the amount of spirits such distiller's licensees may give or sell to any person per day from three ounces to four and one-half ounces and requires such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available at all times when spirits are served. The bill provides such food may be provided by food trucks, patrons providing their own food, or the agent of the Board and specifies that failure of such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available may result in the Board's reconsideration of the agency agreement appointing such holder of a distiller's license or its officers and employees as agents of the Board.

The bill requires the Authority to collect data regarding the compliance of distiller's licensees with the provisions of this bill and report such data to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026 and again by November 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Authority to convene a stakeholders group to review the manufacturer event licenses and off-site sales privileges granted to manufacturing licensees and report its findings and any recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services no later than December 1, 2026. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2028.

Patron - Simon

F **HB980** **Alcoholic beverage control; voluntary no-buy program; court-ordered inclusion on list of excluded persons.** Requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to establish and implement a voluntary no-buy program which allows a person to agree to refrain from purchasing any alcoholic beverage for a chosen period of two years, five years, or a lifetime. The bill provides that the name of a person participating in the program shall be included on a list of excluded persons and that the personal information of the participants shall be confidential, with dissemination by the Board limited to persons authorized to sell alcoholic beverages, law-enforcement officers acting in the performance of their official duties, and any other parties the Board deems necessary for purposes of enforcement.

The bill also provides that a court may order any person be placed on the list of excluded persons as a condition of probation or suspension of sentence or upon a conviction of certain enumerated alcohol-related offenses.

Patron - Garrett

F **HB1197** **Alcoholic beverage control; suspension or revocation of certain retail licenses; reinstatement.** Provides that if the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority suspends or revokes the license of a retail establishment solely due to the fact that the establishment's food establishment permit from the Department of Health was revoked or suspended, the Board shall automatically reinstate such license once the Department of Health has reinstated the food establishment permit, provided that the licensee is in compliance with all applicable provisions of law.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1272** **Regulation and taxation 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 **HB1484** **Alcoholic beverage control; designated outdoor refreshment areas.** Allows up to two permitted breweries or wineries to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption in an area designated for the designated outdoor refreshment area during an event held by the designated outdoor refreshment area licensee. The bill allows designated outdoor refreshment area licensees that are nonprofit organizations to sell tickets or charge for wristbands for an event to cover expenses of the event and also only requires such licensee to provide adequate security for an event as deemed appropriate by the local law-enforcement agency.
The bill also provides that a designated outdoor refreshment area licensee that is a nonprofit organization shall be permitted to receive in-kind and financial sponsorships and donations from a manufacturer and may collect participation fees from breweries, wineries, and retail licensees for events held under a designated outdoor refreshment area license.
Lastly, the bill allows (i) a designated outdoor refreshment area licensee that is a nonprofit organization to obtain a banquet special event license or a mixed beverage special event license and (ii) a brewery, winery, cidery, or distillery to obtain a manufacturer's beer or wine event license for an event to be held within the boundaries of the designated outdoor refreshment area, including an event hosted by the designated outdoor area licensee that is a nonprofit organization, as long as any such event held pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) is not held at the same time as an event utilizing the designated outdoor refreshment area license. The bill provides that any such event held pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) shall not count toward the 16 events per-year limit for designated outdoor refreshment area licenses.
Patron - Wilt

F **SB671** **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, 2026, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2027. This bill was incorporated into SB 542.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB698** **Alcoholic beverage control; designated outdoor refreshment areas.** Allows a permitted brewery or winery to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption in an area designated for the designated outdoor refreshment area during an event held by the designated outdoor refreshment area licensee. The bill also removes the requirement that alcoholic beverages consumed at such event be contained in paper, plastic, or similar disposable containers that clearly display the name or logo of the retail on-premises licensee from which the alcoholic beverage was purchased. The bill allows designated outdoor refreshment area licensees that are nonprofit organizations to sell tickets or charge for wristbands for an event to cover expenses of the event and also only requires such licensee to provide adequate security for an event if deemed necessary by the locality.
The bill also provides that a designated outdoor refreshment area licensee that is a nonprofit organization shall be permitted to receive in-kind and financial sponsorships and donations from a manufacturer and may collect participation fees from breweries, wineries, and retail licensees for events held under a designated outdoor refreshment area license.
Lastly, the bill allows, with the concurrence of the designated outdoor refreshment area licensee, a nonprofit organization that is not the designated outdoor refreshment licensee, or a brewery, winery, or distillery, to obtain a banquet special event license or a mixed beverage special event license for a special event to be held within the boundaries of the designated outdoor refreshment area as long as there is no event being held by the designated outdoor refreshment area licensee at the same time as such special event.
Patron - Durant

F **SB809** **Alcoholic beverage control; manufacturer license; small commercial winery; sale at events.** Allows a licensed small commercial winery, defined in the bill, to sell at retail (i) wine manufactured by such licensee, (ii) wine manufactured by a contract winemaking facility with which the licensee has entered into an agreement pursuant to regulations of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, and (iii) wine purchased from a wholesale wine licensee at the site of an event licensed by the Board and conducted for the purpose of featuring and educating the consuming public about wine. The bill specifies that such small commercial wineries shall be limited to five such events per year.
Patron - Stuart

F **SB826** **Taxation, revenues, and cannabis.** Creates a regulatory framework for retail marijuana sales in the Commonwealth, upon which a 12.875 percent marijuana tax, a 1.125 percent sales tax, and a three percent mandatory local tax are imposed under the renamed Virginia Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control Authority. This bill was incorporated into SB 542.
Patron - Lucas

Carried Over

C **HB1181** **Alcoholic beverage control; special events; mixed beverage caterer's licenses.** Expands the definition of "special event" used in the context of alcoholic beverage control to include events where a duly organized nonprofit corporation or association is engaged to be the concession operator entitled to the net proceeds from the sale of alcoholic beverages for such event. The bill also allows mixed beverage caterers' licenses to be granted to a person regularly engaged in the business of providing food and beverages to others for service at cultural or sporting events sponsored by a locality, destination marketing organization, or regional attractions marketing agency.
Patron - Krizek

C **HB1429 Alcoholic beverage control; definitions; designer and vintage spirit bottles**. Defines, for the purposes of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, "designer spirit bottle" and "vintage spirit bottle."

Patron - Simon

C **HB1432 Underage consumption or possession of alcoholic beverage or marijuana or marijuana products; consequences; procedures.** Reduces the penalties for underage consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages or marijuana or marijuana products to a written warning for a first violation, a written warning and the provision of informational materials about how to access community services for a second violation, and a write-up and an optional referral for accessing community services for a third or subsequent violation. Under current law, underage consumption, purchase, or possession of alcoholic beverages is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor with a period of license suspension and an option for a deferred dismissal in certain circumstances. The current penalties for underage consumption or possession of marijuana or marijuana products is a civil penalty of $25 and an order to enter a substance abuse treatment or education program.

The bill also provides that such underage persons are not capable of giving lawful consent to a search and that the unconcealed possession of an alcoholic beverage or marijuana or marijuana products shall not constitute probable cause to initiate a search of a person or that person's personal property to determine any further violations of law. The bill specifies that such underage persons shall not be subject to arrest or otherwise detained or taken into custody by a law-enforcement officer and that a law-enforcement officer's body-worn camera system shall be activated during any encounter involving an underage person suspected to be in violation of such provisions. The bill also puts limits on the dissemination and retention of any law-enforcement records related to violations of such provisions.

Patron - Mehta

C **SB614 Alcoholic beverage control; advertising materials; purchase and display of barrels.** Allows a retail licensee to elect to receive the physical barrel or lid in addition to purchasing the bottled contents of a distilled spirits barrel from a manufacturer through a barrel purchase agreement supplied to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill provides that such physical barrel or lid shall not be considered a gift and may be displayed on the retail licensee's premises.

Patron - Pillion

C **SB833 Open containers; prohibition on consumption and possession in the passenger area of motor vehicles.**

Patron - Roem

Aviation

Passed

P **SB293 Capital Region Airport Commission; plan for discontinuing the use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting materials at Richmond International Airport; report.** Directs the Capital Region Airport Commission to develop a plan for discontinuing by January 1, 2030, the use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting materials at Richmond International Airport and to complete such plan and provide a report to the Virginia Aviation Board no later than November 15, 2026.

Patron - Aird

Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Passed

P **HB32 Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; duties; Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Advisory Committee; appointment of members.** Requires the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to appoint two additional members of the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Advisory Committee: an employee of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services who specializes in recovery and treatment services and a representative from the Virginia State Police Gaming Enforcement Unit.

Patron - Krizek

P **HB225 Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force creation.** Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene and adjust and update the membership of a Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force to assist in determining the effectiveness of the Marcus Alert system. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to SB 514.

Patron - Hope

P **HB309 Temporary detention in hospital for testing, observation, or treatment.** Provides that while seeking the issuance of an order for temporary detention in a hospital for testing, observation, or treatment, or an extension of such order, the person who would be subject to such order and is currently subject to an order issued pursuant to current law shall remain in the custody of the facility where he is located for up to two hours, and any security personnel shall ensure that such person does not leave the facility while such person is unable to provide informed consent. The bill states that the person shall be permitted to leave the facility if (i) such order is not issued; (ii) the physician determines the person does not meet the requirements for temporary detention; or (iii) the person's guardian or person legally authorized to make an informed decision on his behalf refuses to consent to continued detention, testing, observation, or treatment. The bill also provides that any licensed health professional, licensed hospital, including a hospital licensed by the Department of Health pursuant to relevant law, or security personnel assisting a licensed health professional shall have no liability arising out of a claim to the extent the claim is based on a lack of consent to the detention of a person when such professional or hospital is seeking the court's or magistrate's authorization for such detention.

Patron - Hope

P **HB453 Comprehensive crisis system; Marcus alert system; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; comprehensive mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability crisis services; written plan.** Allows the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, in collaboration with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, to amend the written plan created pursuant to relevant law after the publication of such written plan, provided that (i) the stakeholders listed in relevant law are consulted during the development of any new language to

be added to such written plan and (ii) a public comment period of no less than 30 days is held prior to the finalization of such written plan. The bill also provides that the written plan shall serve as the operational framework for relevant components of the comprehensive crisis system and the Marcus alert system and that state agencies and local implementing partners shall align their policies, procedures, and operations on an ongoing basis with the requirements and guidance set forth in the written plan, as amended. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to SB 513.
Patron - Willett

P **HB681 Retired law-enforcement officers; emergency and temporary detention admissions.** Clarifies that the term "law-enforcement officer" as used in relevant law relating to emergency and involuntary civil admissions includes retired law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, for the purposes of laws related to emergency custody and involuntary temporary detention.
The provisions of this bill are identical to relevant provisions of SB 75.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB931 Recovery residences; regulations.** Establishes certain requirements for recovery residences and directs the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Board) to promulgate regulations to establish minimum certification standards for recovery residences. The bill also requires that the regulations promulgated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) related to the certification of recovery residences include provisions that no recovery residence, or operator, employee, or agent of a recovery residence, may require a resident to participate in medical or psychological services, including clinical substance use treatment, that such recovery residence receives financial benefit from, either directly or indirectly, as a condition of entering or continuing residence at such recovery residence. The bill requires the Department to monitor credentialing agencies providing credentials to recovery residences to ensure criteria related to certification comply with regulations and specifies that no such credentialing agency shall provide credentials to a recovery residence that is owned or operated by an individual who is employed by or in a position of authority at such credentialing agency, or an immediate family member of any such individual. The bill also requires that referrals to recovery residences made by the Department, any agency of the Commonwealth, or by a court may only be made to recovery residences that are certified. This bill is identical to SB 270. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Simon

P **HB976 Transportation of person in the temporary detention process.** Provides that an alternative transportation provider shall be deemed to be able to provide transportation of a person in the temporary detention process in a safe manner if the alternative transportation provider is (i) an employee of, or the person providing services pursuant to a contract with, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or (ii) an employee of a private or state hospital within the confines of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides further requirements for an alternative transportation provider to be deemed available to provide transportation for a minor in the temporary detention process in a safe manner. The bill also permits law-enforcement agencies or alternative transportation providers to transfer custody of a minor to a facility or location where the minor is awaiting transport if such facility or location (i) agrees to accept custody of the minor and (ii) is capable of providing the level of security necessary to protect the minor and others from harm. Finally, the bill provides restrictions on the use of restraint related to the transportation of a minor for the purposes outlined in the bill.
The provisions of this bill are identical to relevant provisions of SB 75.
Patron - Price

P **HB1292 Temporary detention; certified evaluators; sunset extended.** Extends from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027, the sunset date on the current provisions of law authorizing 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 current law also requires participating hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments in the City of Hampton to submit monthly and annual reports on temporary detentions and crisis evaluations. This bill is identical to SB 735.
Patron - Price

P **HB1304 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; individuals receiving services; right to send and receive mail.** Allows state facilities operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to process sealed letter mail for electronic delivery. This bill is identical to SB 580.
Patron - Ware

P **HB1370 Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; regulations; service providers; emergency medical simulations; cardiopulmonary resuscitation.** Directs the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to adopt regulations requiring certain providers to (i) conduct regular emergency medical simulations and train employees that regularly engage with people receiving services to prepare such employees to recognize and respond to situations where individuals receiving services require emergency medical treatment and (ii) require at least one employee trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation to be on duty at each location where services are delivered.
Patron - Mehta

P **SB75 Emergency and temporary detention transportation.** Clarifies that the term "law-enforcement officer" as used in relevant law relating to emergency and involuntary civil transportation includes retired law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, for the purposes of laws related to emergency custody and involuntary temporary detention. The bill also permits an alternative transportation provider to provide transportation of a person in the temporary detention process in a safe manner if the alternative transportation provider is (i) an employee of, or the person providing services pursuant to a contract with, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or (ii) an employee of a private or state hospital within the confines of the Commonwealth.
The bill provides that, for purposes of transporting a minor during the temporary detention process, an alternative transportation provider is deemed available if it states it is available to take custody from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider. The bill also provides the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody from the time custody is transferred by the primary law-enforcement agency until custody is transferred to the temporary detention facility, including while awaiting transport and during transport.
The bill also specifies when a law-enforcement agency or alternative transportation provider providing transportation of a minor in the temporary detention process may transfer custody of such minor to a facility or location where the minor is awaiting transport. When a bed becomes available at the temporary

detention facility, the bill provides that facility or location shall notify the law-enforcement agency or alternative transportation provider specified on the order, which shall then return to transport the minor to the facility of temporary detention.

This bill incorporates SB 395. The provisions of this bill are identical to both HB 681 and HB 976.

Patron - Lucas

P **SB177** **Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; consumer reproductive or sexual health information.** Provides that, for the Virginia Consumer Protection Act prohibition on obtaining, disclosing, selling, or disseminating any personally identifiable reproductive or sexual health information without consumer consent, such prohibition does not apply to nonpublic personal information subject to the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

Patron - Favola

P **SB270** **Recovery residences; regulations.** Establishes certain requirements for recovery residences and directs the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Board) to promulgate regulations to establish minimum certification standards for recovery residences. The bill also requires that the regulations promulgated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) related to the certification of recovery residences include provisions that no recovery residence, or operator, employee, or agent of a recovery residence, may require a resident to participate in medical or psychological services, including clinical substance use treatment, that such recovery residence receives financial benefit from, either directly or indirectly, as a condition of entering or continuing residence at such recovery residence. The bill requires the Department to monitor credentialing agencies providing credentials to recovery residences to ensure criteria related to certification comply with regulations and specifies that no such credentialing agency shall provide credentials to a recovery residence that is owned or operated by an individual who is employed by or in a position of authority at such credentialing agency, or an immediate family member of any such individual. The bill also requires that referrals to recovery residences made by the Department, any agency of the Commonwealth, or by a court may only be made to recovery residences that are certified. This bill is identical to HB 931. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB513** **Comprehensive crisis system; Marcus alert system; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; comprehensive mental health, substance abuse, and developmental disability crisis services; written plan.** Allows the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, in collaboration with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, to amend the written plan created pursuant to relevant law after the publication of such written plan, provided that (i) the stakeholders listed in relevant law are consulted during the development of any new language to be added to such written plan and (ii) a public comment period of no less than 30 days is held prior to the finalization of such written plan. The bill also provides that the written plan shall serve as the operational framework for relevant components of the comprehensive crisis system and the Marcus alert system and that state agencies and local implementing partners shall align their policies, procedures, and operations on an ongoing basis with the requirements and guidance set forth in the written plan, as amended. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to HB 453.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB514** **Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force creation.** Requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene and adjust and update the membership of a Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force to assist in determining the effectiveness of the Marcus Alert system. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to HB 225.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB580** **Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; individuals receiving services; right to send and receive mail.** Allows state facilities operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to process sealed letter mail for electronic delivery. This bill is identical to HB 1304.

Patron - Peake

P **SB735** **Temporary detention; certified evaluators; sunset extended.** Extends from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027, the sunset date on the current provisions of law authorizing 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 current law also requires participating hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments in the City of Hampton to submit monthly and annual reports on temporary detentions and crisis evaluations. This bill is identical to HB 1292.

Patron - Diggs

Failed

F **HB754** **Emergency custody, involuntary temporary detention, and commitment hearings; special justice and judge fees.** Increases from $120 to $150 the fee that any special justice, any retired judge sitting by designation, or any district court substitute judge who presides over hearings relating to emergency custody, involuntary temporary detention, and commitment is to receive for each such hearing.

Patron - Runion

F **HB1380** **Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; regulations; providers; sanctions; emergency medical drills.** Directs the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to adopt regulations requiring providers of services for individuals with developmental disabilities to conduct regular emergency medical drills that prepare employees for situations where individuals receiving services require emergency medical treatment and train staff to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The bill also requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to impose sanctions on providers for human rights violations if such violations pose a threat to health, safety, or the life of individuals receiving services.

Patron - Seibold

F **HB1423** **Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services; group homes; oversight and accountability; report.** Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to analyze and make recommendations on the oversight and accountability of group homes and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.

Patron - McGuire

F **SB395 Emergency and temporary detention transportation.** Clarifies that the term "law-enforcement officer" as used in relevant law relating to emergency and involuntary civil transportation includes retired law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, for the purposes of laws related to emergency custody and involuntary temporary detention. The bill also permits an alternative transportation provider to provide transportation of a person in the temporary detention process in a safe manner if the alternative transportation provider is (i) an employee of, or the person providing services pursuant to a contract with, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or (ii) an employee of a private or state hospital within the confines of the Commonwealth. This bill was incorporated into SB 75.
Patron - Jordan

Carried Over

C **HB11 Emergency custody orders; transportation to treatment center or to residence of the person subject to emergency custody order.** Provides that transportation provided pursuant to an emergency custody order shall include, upon completion of emergency medical evaluation or treatment, transportation to an approved treatment center or to the residence of the person subject to the emergency custody order.
Patron - McNamara

C **SB534 Emergency custody orders; transportation to treatment center or to residence of the person subject to emergency custody order.** Provides that transportation provided pursuant to an emergency custody order shall include, upon completion of emergency medical evaluation or treatment, transportation to an approved treatment center or to the residence of the person subject to the emergency custody order.
Patron - Suetterlein

Civil Remedies and Procedure

Passed

P **HB107 Underinsured motorist benefits; actions against released defendant.** Provides that any action brought by an injured person to recover underinsured motorist benefits after payment of the liability insurer's available limits is required to be brought against the released defendant by name and that the complaint is required to be served on any insurer providing underinsured motorist benefits but is not required to be served on the released defendant. Additionally, the bill provides that an underinsured motorist is presumed to have failed to reasonably cooperate in the defense of any lawsuit brought against him if he fails or refuses to meet with defense counsel for a reasonable period of time after reasonable notice after the underinsured motorist benefits insurer is served with any lawsuit and again prior to his deposition and trial. Under current law, such presumption is based on such underinsured motorist's failure or refusal to meet with defense counsel for a reasonable period of time after reasonable notice within 21 days of being served with any lawsuit and again prior to deposition or trial.
Patron - Ballard

P **HB185 Orders closing a proceeding; petitions for review.** Provides that when a circuit court acts on or issues an order pertaining to the closure of a proceeding, such order is eligible for immediate appellate review with the Supreme Court of Virginia. The bill further provides that any person aggrieved by such an order may, within 15 days of the entry of such an order, file a petition for review with the Supreme Court of Virginia. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Mehta

P **HB221 Requirement for appeals bond; indigent parties; appeal of unlawful detainer.** Removes the requirement for an indigent defendant, as defined in the bill, to post an appeal bond in an unlawful detainer action appealed from the general district court.
Patron - Hope

P **HB273 Law-enforcement officers; duty to render aid upon danger to life or limb; civil immunity.** Provides that a law-enforcement officer, while engaged in the performance of his duties, has a duty to render aid to any person that he observes suffering from a serious bodily injury or life-threatening condition, as circumstances objectively permit and provided that such aid may be rendered without endangering the law-enforcement officer, the person, or others. The bill also immunizes a law-enforcement officer from civil liability for any personal injury or wrongful death resulting from such rendering or withholding of such aid absent gross negligence or willful misconduct. The bill directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to adopt regulations to provide law-enforcement officers with basic medical training, including emergency first aid training.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB350 Exemption from jury service; fire marshals.** Adds the State Fire Marshal and any officer appointed as a fire marshal to the list of persons automatically exempt from jury service.
Patron - McLaughlin

P **HB444 Uniform Consumer Debt Default Judgments Act established.** Creates the Uniform Consumer Debt Default Judgments Act for the award of a default judgment in actions for the collection of certain consumer debts, defined in the bill as an obligation or alleged obligation of an individual to pay money that arises out of a transaction in which the money, property, insurance, or service that is the subject of the transaction is primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose. The bill provides that a default judgment in such actions shall only be entered if the warrant in debt or civil action to recover a consumer debt includes certain statements and the required notice to the consumer, as described in the bill. Finally, the bill directs the Office of the Executive Secretary to promulgate a form for the consumer notice provisions created by the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Simon

P **HB449 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions; violations of Virginia Consumer Protection Act; award of damages.** 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 is impracticable, (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 also applies the procedure by which an individual may be awarded damages in an action for a viola-

tion of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to a class action. Finally, the bill permits the Court of Appeals to permit an appeal to be taken from an order certifying a class in accordance with the provisions of the bill or any other order that is not a final order of the circuit court in a class action. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 229. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Simon

P **HB528 Compromise of claim for death by wrongful act; approval without a hearing.** Allows the court to approve a proposed compromise of a claim for death by wrongful act if the parties in interest agree to and endorse an approval order relating to such proposed compromise. The bill further requires that the endorsement of any such approval order by a beneficiary shall be notarized unless the endorsement is made by an attorney acting as guardian ad litem for such beneficiary. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Thornton

P **HB555 Signing of pleadings, motions, and other papers of a party represented by an attorney; attorney information required.** Provides that every initial pleading, motion, or other paper of a party filed in any action in a court of record represented by an attorney shall include the attorney's mailing address, Virginia State Bar number, email address, and telephone number on the first pleading filed by that attorney in the action. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB581 Unauthorized use of voice or likeness; punitive damages; statute of limitations.** Expands the existing ability for any person to maintain a suit in equity, including the accompanying remedies available and statute of limitations, for the unauthorized use of his name, portrait, or picture for advertising purposes or for the purposes of trade to include the unauthorized use of his voice or likeness. This bill is identical to SB 753.
Patron - Glass

P **HB593 Summons for unlawful detainer; additional information; legal resources; plain-language overview of process.** Provides that any summons for an unlawful detainer issued may, with the approval of the chief judge of the general district court or the chief judge of the circuit court, have attached additional information prepared by the Commonwealth, the locality in which the unlawful detainer hearing is to be held, or a nonprofit organization serving the jurisdiction in which such hearing is to be held regarding (i) legal resources available to the plaintiff and defendant, (ii) a plain-language overview of the unlawful detainer process, and (iii) the Eviction Diversion Program eligibility and applicability.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB601 Exemptions from garnishment; minimum protected account balance; certain benefit payments; procedure for financial institutions.** Requires certain financial institutions to automatically exempt from garnishment (i) a minimum protected account balance, defined in the bill as the combined total of not more than $1,000 in a judgment debtor's account or across multiple accounts in the same financial institution, and (ii) a protected amount of certain benefit payments, defined in the bill, that have been deposited into the account via direct deposit or electronic deposit within the two months immediately preceding the day before a financial institution commences an account review. The bill describes an account review as a process of examining an account of a judgment conducted by a financial institution upon such financial institution's receipt of a garnishment summons to determine if any eligible benefit payments have been deposited within the applicable time period and, if so, to calculate the total sum of such benefit payments and establish the total as a protected amount that shall be automatically exempt from garnishment. The bill provides that such procedure to automatically exempt such funds shall not apply if the debt arises from a child support or spousal support obligation or if an exemption is otherwise prohibited by law.
The bill further provides that a judgment debtor is not required to claim nor request a hearing for such automatic exemptions. Finally, the bill makes updates to the relevant provisions governing garnishment proceedings, notices to the garnishee and judgment debtor, and the form of a garnishment summons consistent with the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 301.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB650 Prohibiting certain acts in furtherance of federal immigration enforcement in certain protected areas; exceptions; penalties.** Prohibits certain federal civil immigration enforcement activities in certain protected areas including any courthouse, within 40 feet of any polling place or building used as a meeting place for the local electoral board while the electoral board meets to ascertain the results of an election, and any place or facility owned by the Commonwealth that is a hospital or other health care facility, a school or public institution of higher education, or an office of the attorney for the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any civil arrest in a courthouse pursuant to a civil administrative warrant, subject to certain exceptions such as service or enforcement of an order for failure to pay child support or for any arrest occurring in connection with a court proceeding that is taking place or is scheduled to take place. The bill provides that such provisions shall not apply when such arrest is authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial subpoena.
The bill also authorizes a local school board to include in its written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan a procedure for notifying school board employees and parents of enrolled students of the presence of certain individuals on school property for immigration investigation or enforcement purposes. The bill requires each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy that requires an individual present on campus to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in an investigation or enforcement of any federal immigration law to present a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena before accessing any nonpublic area of the campus. This bill incorporates HB 1260, HB 1265, HB 1440, and HB 1442 and is identical to SB 351. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB671 Jurors; exemptions from jury service upon request; competency to perform jury duty.** Provides that no person shall be deemed incompetent to serve on any jury on the basis of disability if the person would otherwise be competent to serve if provided with reasonable accommodation. The bill also provides that any person under a disability that substantially impairs the person's ability to perform jury duty shall be exempt from jury duty upon such person's request.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB733 Owner of a servient estate; reasonable rules of use for easement.** Provides that an owner of a servient estate upon which an easement lies may establish reasonable rules of use of such easement, including establishing a reasonable speed limit. The bill further provides that a servient estate owner may bring a civil action against someone in violation of

such reasonable rules and may recover actual damages or $500, whichever is greater, and reasonable attorney fees and costs and may seek injunctive relief.
Patron - Leftwich

P **HB845 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.
Patron - Cousins

P **HB872 Possession of portable electronic device in district or circuit court.** Requires the chief judge of each general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court, and circuit court to set a policy regarding the use and possession of portable electronic devices by visitors to the court. The bill authorizes such chief judge to condition the use and possession of portable electronic devices upon certain limitations. The bill also requires that any such policy be conspicuously posted at the entrance of the courthouse and available on the Virginia Judicial System's website, the district or circuit court's individual website, or a local government website that also has information about such district or circuit court. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Cousins

P **HB1020 Sexual abuse during infancy or incapacity; accrual.** Adds to the accrual provisions for personal injury actions resulting from sexual abuse during the infancy or incapacity of a person that accrual occurs when corroborative evidence, as defined in the bill, is discovered or by the exercise of due diligence reasonably should have been discovered.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB1111 Civil litigation; suspension bonds and irrevocable letters of credit upon appeal.** Increases the cap currently in place for suspension bonds and irrevocable letters of credit for appellants during the pendency of an appeal of a civil action from $25 million to $50 million. The bill also requires, beginning April 1, 2031, and at each five-year interval ending on April 1 thereafter, this monetary cap to be adjusted to reflect the change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1426 Limitations on enforcement of judgments; docketing of general district court judgments in the circuit court.** Provides that, for judgments entered in the general district court on or after July 1, 2026, where enforcement of such judgments is sought by a debt buyer, the docketing of an abstract of such judgment in the circuit court shall not effect the 10-year limitation period to enforce such judgment. Under current law, such docketing allows a general district court judgment to be treated as a judgment entered by the circuit court and may be extended in the same manner as a judgment entered by the circuit court.
Patron - Simon

P **HB1479 Punitive damages; hit and run drivers.** Provides that in any action for personal injury or death arising from conduct that constitutes a felony hit and run, punitive damages may be awarded to the plaintiff.
Patron - Davis

P **HB1500 Civil and criminal actions; service of subpoena for certain electronic records.** Provides that, in addition to methods for how service of process may be effected on certain corporations, any subpoena issued pursuant to a civil or criminal proceeding for electronic records, electronically stored information, or other documents or records that are stored outside of the Commonwealth by a nonparty commercial enterprise may be served within or outside of the Commonwealth by hand, certified mail, commercial delivery service, facsimile, or electronic means.
Patron - Schmidt

P **HB1516 Appointment of administrator; property damage claims.** Allows for the appointment of an administrator in any case in which it is represented that a civil action for property damage arising within the Commonwealth is contemplated against or on behalf of the estate or the beneficiaries of the estate of a resident or nonresident of the Commonwealth who has died within or outside the Commonwealth. Under current law, such appointments are limited to civil actions for personal injury and wrongful death. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Bloxom

P **SB37 Sexual abuse during infancy or incapacity; accrual.** Adds to the accrual provisions for personal injury actions resulting from sexual abuse during the infancy or incapacity of a person that accrual occurs when corroborative evidence, as defined in the bill, is discovered or by the exercise of due diligence reasonably should have been discovered. This bill is identical to HB 1020.
Patron - Favola

P **SB107 Exemptions from jury service upon request; certain caretakers of persons with serious health conditions.** Adds as persons who may be exempt from jury service upon request (i) a person with legal custody of and responsible for the care of a child under 18 years of age who has a serious health condition and (ii) the familial caretaker, defined in the bill, of a person with a serious health condition. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB227 Arbitration; high-volume arbitration service providers; selection of arbitrator; civil remedies.** Requires a high-volume arbitration service provider, defined in the bill as a person or entity that administers, facilitates, or provides arbitration services in the Commonwealth and that conducts more than 100 arbitrations per year that arise from a predispute arbitration agreement involving a Virginia-connected transaction, to establish and maintain certain procedures related to the selection of an arbitrator. Under the bill, a party aggrieved by a high-volume arbitration service provider that has failed to comply with such requirements may seek injunctive relief or other appropriate civil remedy or make an application with a circuit court to vacate an arbitration award in accordance with current law. The bill also requires all high-volume arbitration service providers to report information related to certain arbitrations annually with the State Corporation Commission and permits the Commission to impose a $10,000 civil penalty per violation on high-volume arbitration service providers who fail to comply with the provisions of the bill. Finally, the bill provides that these provisions shall apply to arbitration agreements entered into on or after July 1, 2026.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB229 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions; violations of Virginia Consumer Protection Act; award of damages.** 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 is impracticable, (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 also applies the procedure by which an individual may be awarded damages in an action for a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to a class action. Finally, the bill permits the Court of Appeals to permit an appeal to be taken from an order certifying a class in accordance with the provisions of the bill or any other order that is not a final order of the circuit court in a class action. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 449. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB301** **Exemptions from garnishment; minimum protected account balance; certain benefit payments; procedure for financial institutions.** Requires certain financial institutions to automatically exempt from garnishment (i) a minimum protected account balance, defined in the bill as the combined total of not more than $1,000 in a judgment debtor's account or across multiple accounts in the same financial institution, and (ii) a protected amount of certain benefit payments, defined in the bill, that have been deposited into the account via direct deposit or electronic deposit within the two months immediately preceding the day before a financial institution commences an account review. The bill describes an account review as a process of examining an account of a judgment conducted by a financial institution upon such financial institution's receipt of a garnishment summons to determine if any eligible benefit payments have been deposited within the applicable time period and, if so, to calculate the total sum of such benefit payments and establish the total as a protected amount that shall be automatically exempt from garnishment. The bill provides that such procedure to automatically exempt such funds shall not apply if the debt arises from a child support or spousal support obligation or if an exemption is otherwise prohibited by law.

The bill further provides that a judgment debtor is not required to claim nor request a hearing for such automatic exemptions. Finally, the bill makes updates to the relevant provisions governing garnishment proceedings, notices to the garnishee and judgment debtor, and the form of a garnishment summons consistent with the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 601.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB351** **Prohibiting certain acts in furtherance of federal immigration enforcement in certain protected areas; exceptions; penalties.** Prohibits certain federal civil immigration enforcement activities in certain protected areas including any courthouse, within 40 feet of any polling place or building used as a meeting place for the local electoral board while the electoral board meets to ascertain the results of an election, and any place or facility owned by the Commonwealth that is a hospital or other health care facility, a school or public institution of higher education, or an office of the attorney for the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any civil arrest in a courthouse pursuant to a civil administrative warrant, subject to certain exceptions such as service or enforcement of an order for failure to pay child support or for any arrest occurring in connection with a court proceeding that is taking place or is scheduled to take place. The bill provides that such provisions shall not apply when such arrest is authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial subpoena. The bill also authorizes a local school board to include in its written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan a procedure for notifying school board employees and parents of enrolled students of the presence of certain individuals on school property for immigration investigation or enforcement purposes. The bill requires each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy that requires an individual present on campus to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in an investigation or enforcement of any federal immigration law to present a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena before accessing any nonpublic area of the campus. This bill is identical to HB 650. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Salim

P **SB352** **Law-enforcement officers; restrictions on wearing of facial coverings; exceptions; penalty.** Prohibits any law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, from wearing a facial covering, defined in the bill, while engaged in the performance of his official duties. The bill sets out several exceptions to such prohibition, including protective facial coverings to protect against disease, infection, and exposure to toxic substances and facial coverings worn by any law-enforcement officer assigned to a special weapons and tactics team while engaged in the performance of his official duties with such team. The bill subjects the law-enforcement officer to disciplinary action, including dismissal, demotion, suspension, transfer, or decertification, and creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any law-enforcement officer who wears a facial covering in violation of the provisions of the bill unless the law-enforcement agency that employs such law-enforcement officer has adopted and established a written policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings. The bill also directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop a model policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings by law-enforcement officers. This bill is identical to HB 1482. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Salim

P **SB536** **Medical malpractice information disclosures; report.** Requires insurers who issue medical malpractice liability insurance polices covering health care providers in the Commonwealth to disclose, for the preceding calendar year, information regarding (i) premiums; (ii) claims activity; (iii) claim payments and litigation costs; and (iv) insurer financial condition. The bill further requires every hospital or health system licensed in the Commonwealth that maintains self-insurance, captive insurance, risk retention arrangements, or other retained financial risk for medical malpractice liability to disclose information regarding (a) the numbers of physicians and health care providers covered under the malpractice liability program; (b) claims activity; (c) malpractice expenditures; and (d) the total malpractice liability expenditures for the reporting year. The bill further requires such insurers, hospitals, and health care systems to provide a list of verdicts during the reporting year in medical malpractice actions in which the jury verdict exceeded the medical malpractice limitation on recovery. The bill provides that such disclosures and information be submitted to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice and to the ranking Delegate and Senator of the minority party serving on such Committees on or before September 1, 2026, for the 2025 calendar year and on or before March 31 of each year thereafter for the preceding calendar year. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Obenshain

P **SB540** **Undue influence; presumption in actions contesting validity of certain trust or instrument.** Provides that, in an action contesting the validity of a trust or trust instrument, where a presumption of undue influence arises, the fact finder shall presume that the undue influence was exerted over the decedent unless evidence leads the fact finder to determine that the decedent did intend for the real or personal property to be conveyed or transferred as indicated. Current law applies this presumption of undue influence only to actions contesting the validity of a will.

Patron - Obenshain

P **SB597** **Wage garnishments; treasurers' liens for unpaid taxes and charges.** Limits a treasurer's lien issued with respect to wages or salary to 25 percent of the delinquent taxpayer's disposable earnings in a single pay period. The 25 percent limitation shall not apply (i) if the lien issuer determines that the adjusted gross income of the delinquent taxpayer exceeds 250 percent of the poverty guideline amount adjusted for household size; (ii) if the treasurer determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the delinquent taxpayer or the property assessed with such taxes is no longer in the jurisdiction, or the taxpayer is attempting to flee the jurisdiction or is improperly disposing of assets with the intent to hinder or delay the collection of the delinquent taxes; or (iii) to any portion of the delinquent obligation collected by the delinquent taxpayer and held in trust to remit to the local governing authority. This bill is identical to HB 1100. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Aird

P **SB753** **Unauthorized use of voice or likeness; punitive damages; statute of limitations.** Expands the existing ability for any person to maintain a suit in equity, including the accompanying remedies available and statute of limitations, for the unauthorized use of his name, portrait, or picture for advertising purposes or for the purposes of trade to include the unauthorized use of his voice or likeness. This bill is identical to HB 581.

Patron - Reeves

Failed

F **HB538** **Statute of limitations; sexual abuse of a minor; act by a person of authority.** Provides that an action for an injury to a person resulting from sexual abuse occurring during the infancy of such person by a person of authority may be brought at any time without limitation.

Patron - Hamilton

F **HB1265** **Certain civil arrests prohibited in courthouses; penalty.** Provides that a party who is required to attend any court of the Commonwealth, or such party's family or household member or person attending the court with such party to serve as a witness, shall be privileged from civil arrest, defined in the bill, while attending, going to, or coming from the court. The bill also prohibits a person with the lawful authority to perform civil arrests from entering a courthouse to conduct a civil arrest unless he complies with certain requirements, including presenting a judicial warrant or judicial order authorizing the civil arrest to the appropriate courthouse officer or employee. Additionally, the bill requires that any judicial warrant or judicial order authorizing the civil arrest be reviewed by a designated judicial officer or attorney before a civil arrest pursuant to such warrant or order can be performed. Finally, the bill provides that any person who conducts a civil arrest, or facilitates or assists with the performance of, a civil arrest in violation of the provisions of the bill shall be punished with contempt of court.

Patron - Glass

F **SB262** **Tort claims against the Commonwealth; liability for dangerous condition on public roadway.** Provides that the Commonwealth or a transportation district of the Commonwealth shall be liable for injury or death caused by a dangerous condition on a public roadway that the Commonwealth or transportation district had knowledge of and negligently or wrongfully failed to remedy or maintain. Current law immunizes the Commonwealth or a transportation district against such liability.

Patron - Stanley

F **SB451** **Duty of care and liability of landowner; injury or death of person operating off-road motorcycle.** Provides that a landowner, defined in the bill, owes no duty of care to another person (i) who operates an off-road motorcycle, defined in the bill, on such landowner's land or (ii) to whom the landowner has provided an off-road motorcycle for use on such landowner's land, regardless of whether such landowner has given such person permission or has received a fee from such other person to use the land or off-road motorcycle for such purpose. The bill immunizes the landowner from civil liability for any injury or death arising from the operation of an off-road motorcycle on the landowner's land except in cases of gross negligence or willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, provision of an off-road motorcycle that such landowner knew was unsafe to the extent that operation of such off-road motorcycle would likely result in an injury, or other act or omission resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

Patron - Jordan

F **SB537** **Certain civil actions against employees; liability of employer to vulnerable victims.** Clarifies that when determining an employer's vicarious liability in an action for personal injury or death brought by a vulnerable victim against an employee, the definition of "vulnerable victim" shall include only those persons enumerated in the bill.

Patron - Obenshain

Carried Over

C **HB604** **Specialty civil court dockets; business and complex litigation dockets established; criteria for eligible actions.** Establishes a specialty docket, known as the business and complex litigation docket, to assist circuit courts with certain civil actions that involve specialized legal issues, complex contexts, intricate transactions, multiple parties, or other complicating factors. The bill provides that for an action to be eligible to be considered for a business and complex litigation docket, the action shall (i) present special complexity, including specialized issues or acute litigation management needs, and (ii) fall into one or more of several enumerated categories of civil actions. The bill also requires that such eligible action has a minimum amount in controversy of $100,000. The bill also enumerates several types of civil actions that are ineligible for such specialty docket but creates an exception for any such action that demonstrates extraordinary circumstances that would require specialized docket management. The bill creates a process by which counsel for any party or the circuit court judge initially assigned to an eligible action may request that the matter be transferred to the specialty docket and directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, in collaboration with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Specialty Docket Advisory Committee studying business and complex litigation dockets, to estab-

lish any rules or procedures as necessary for the transfer of such eligible actions.
Patron - Willett

C **HB1314 Civil action for deprivation of rights; liability of persons acting under color of law.** Creates a state civil cause of action for violations of rights guaranteed by the constitutions or laws of the United States and the Commonwealth. The bill provides that a person acting under color of law who deprives an individual of such rights and any supervisor of such person who is responsible for directing or overseeing such person's conduct shall be liable to such individual for compensatory damages, punitive damages, equitable relief, and reasonable attorney fees and costs.
Patron - Maldonado

C **SB99 Medical malpractice; limitation 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, 2026, and occurred against a patient age 10 or younger.
Patron - Stanley

C **SB369 Civil actions; assignment as business litigation action; requirements.** Allows counsel for any party or the judge of the circuit court initially assigned to certain civil actions to request to have such action assigned by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia to have such civil action assigned as a business litigation action. The bill provides that an action to be eligible to be considered a business litigation action, the action shall (i) have a minimum amount in controversy of $1,000,000, (ii) present special complexity, including specialized issues or acute litigation management needs, and (iii) fall into one or more of several enumerated categories of civil actions. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Carroll Foy

C **SB376 Motor vehicle collisions; preservation and collection of certain mobile telephone data; collision reports.** Allows an attorney who has certified that he represents a party involved in a motor vehicle collision to request in writing that the mobile telephone provider of another party alleged to have caused or contributed to the cause of such collision preserve for a period of 180 days from the date of such preservation request certain information related to such other party's mobile telephone. In addition, the bill requires any collision report filed as a result of such collision to include the mobile telephone number, mobile telephone provider, and International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number for any driver involved in a motor vehicle collision. The bill also creates a rebuttable presumption of spoliation of evidence where a person refuses to provide such information to a law-enforcement officer for such collision report and where such refusal materially prevents another person involved in such collision from showing liability for the collision.
Patron - Surovell

C **SB406 Virginia State Bar; work group to study the use of nondisclosure or confidentiality provisions in certain settlement agreements; report.** Directs the Virginia State Bar to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study and make recommendations relating to the use of nondisclosure or confidentiality provisions or agreements pursuant to or contained in settlement agreements reached in civil actions for personal injury arising from an unlawful act that would constitute criminal sexual assault, commercial sex trafficking, or other sexual offense that occurred during the infancy or incapacity of the injured person. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Boysko

Commercial Code -- Secured Transactions

Carried Over

C **SB715 Land records; certain financing statements; recording and indexing fees.** Sets forth the fees that a clerk of the circuit court shall charge for recording and indexing a multipurpose deed of trust or mortgage, described in the bill as a deed of trust or mortgage, whether or not commercial, that serves multiple purposes and contains two or more components that may serve as independent legal instruments for independent legal purposes. The bill provides that no clerk of a circuit court shall assess separate recording and indexing fees for such multipurpose deed of trust or mortgage 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 or deed to correct a fraudulently recorded deed, including a deed of trust, between a grantor and grantee when no consideration has passed between the parties.
Patron - Deeds

Commonwealth Public Safety

Passed

P **HB249 Marcus alert system; external database information removal.** Clarifies that an individual's information may continue to appear on a voluntary Marcus alert system external database that cannot be modified by a locality after such individual reaches 18 years of age. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission.
Patron - Watts

P **HB325 Department of Fire Programs; mental health awareness training.** Provides that the Department of Fire Programs shall develop a standardized, two-hour virtual asynchronous training program on mental health awareness tailored to firefighters that includes training on each subject matter set forth in current law. The bill provides the option for each fire department to use such standardized training program as guidance in developing its own mental health awareness training for its personnel. This bill is identical to SB 140.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB454 Department of Criminal Justice Services; powers and duties; local and regional jails; repeal of model addiction recovery program.** Removes the requirement that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, develop a model addiction recovery program that may be administered by sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, jail officers, administrators, or superintendents in any local or regional jail. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care and identical to SB 690.
Patron - Willett

P **HB455 Virginia Opioid Use Reduction and Jail-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Transition Fund; grant procedures.** Requires the grant procedure to govern funds awarded to local and regional jails for the planning or operation of substance use disorder treatment services and transition services for persons with substance use disorder who are incarcerated in local and regional jails to include requirements that (i) any grant awarded shall be made for up to three years and (ii) an applicant for a grant submit a plan demonstrating how such applicant will become independently financially viable within the time period for which the grant is awarded. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care and is identical to SB 599. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Willett

P **HB680 Forensic Science Board; Scientific Advisory Committee; members; service after expiration of term.** Provides that a member of the Forensic Science Board and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee appointed by the Governor shall serve after expiration of his term until his successor is appointed. The bill also removes the requirement that meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee take place in the City of Richmond. The bill contains technical amendments. The bill also contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Zehr

P **HB896 Substantial risk orders; Substantial Risk Order Training Program established; annual report.** Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish the 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 directs all law-enforcement officers to receive training in the use and implementation of substantial risk orders. The bill requires the programming to 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 also includes efforts to educate the public on and increase awareness of the substantial risk order law. The bill requires the Department to report by November 1 each year to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security regarding the use of Program funds, details of the content of programming developed, and the effectiveness of the Program in assisting law-enforcement agencies and other public institutions in the use of the substantial risk order law. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

The bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to evaluate all potential funding sources for the Program and submit a report on its findings, including the availability of federal funding, to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and for Courts of Justice and the House Committees on Appropriations and for Courts of Justice no later than November 1, 2026.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB1097 Driver communication improvement program for drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; education for law-enforcement officers and emergency medical services providers; educational materials for driver training schools.** Requires law-enforcement officers and emergency medical service providers, as a condition of such providers' certification and recertification, to undergo education on the driver communication improvement program for drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to display information about the driver communication improvement program on its website and distribute educational materials to all driver training schools licensed by the Department of Motor Vehicles. As introduced, this bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Disability Commission.

Patron - Laufer

P **HB1333 Hours of work for paid firefighters.** Provides that the Department of Fire Programs shall encourage employers to implement work schedules that do not require any paid firefighter's normally scheduled shifts to exceed 42 hours per workweek.

Patron - Feggans

P **SB140 Department of Fire Programs; mental health awareness training.** Provides that the Department of Fire Programs shall develop a standardized, two-hour virtual asynchronous training program on mental health awareness tailored to firefighters that includes training on each subject matter set forth in current law. The bill provides the option for each fire department to use such standardized training program as guidance in developing its own mental health awareness training for its personnel. This bill is identical to HB 325.

Patron - McPike

P **SB364 Secretary of Public Safety; firearm violence.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety to convene a work group to develop policy and legislative recommendations to establish the Virginia Gun Violence Prevention Center. The bill allows the work group to (i) meet both in-person and virtually, (ii) have small group breakouts for the purpose of advancing work in a timely and efficient manner, and (iii) collaborate with experts and other representatives as needed. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and any legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by December 15, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 969. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB599 Virginia Opioid Use Reduction and Jail-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Transition Fund; grant procedures.** Requires the grant procedure to govern funds awarded to local and regional jails for the planning or operation of substance use disorder treatment services and transition services for persons with substance use disorder who are incarcerated in local and regional jails to include requirements that (i) any grant awarded shall be made for up to three years and (ii) an applicant for a grant submit a plan demonstrating how such applicant will become independently financially viable within the time period for which the grant is awarded. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care and is identical to HB 455. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB690 Department of Criminal Justice Services; powers and duties; local and regional jails; repeal of model addiction recovery program.** Removes the requirement that the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, develop a model addiction recovery program that may be administered by sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, jail officers, administrators, or superintendents in any local or regional jail. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to HB 454.

Patron - Srinivasan

Failed

F **HB227** **Line of Duty Act; transitional coverage.** Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to acquire and provide temporary transitional health insurance coverage to disabled persons, eligible spouses, and eligible dependents during the period of transition into the LODA (Line of Duty Act) Health Benefits Plans. Current law authorizes but does not require the Department to acquire and provide such temporary transitional health insurance coverage to disabled persons, eligible spouses, and eligible dependents during such period.
Patron - Cornett

F **HB475** **Mass Violence Care Fund established.** Creates the Mass Violence Care Fund as a subfund within the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund for the purpose of reimbursing victims or claimants of mass violence, defined in the bill, for unreimbursed medical expenses related to a mass violence event, defined in the bill. The bill directs the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission to promulgate guidelines and criteria for the payment of claims from the Mass Violence Care Fund within one year of the effective date of the bill.
Patron - Watts

F **HB874** **Domestic and Sexual Assault Conviction Database**. Requires the Superintendent of State Police to establish a Domestic and Sexual Assault Conviction Database that will include information about persons who were convicted of certain offenses against a family or household member, as defined in relevant law, or an intimate partner, defined in the bill. The bill specifies that the Database will be available to the public on the Department of State Police's website. The bill provides that any person whose information is on the Database may petition for removal of such information from the Database if certain requirements are met and that the State Police shall include such petition information on the Database website. Under the bill, the Superintendent of State Police is required to complete the Database by July 1, 2027.
Patron - Kent

F **HB927** **Human trafficking digital identification and reporting platforms; duties of Human Trafficking Response Coordinator; quarterly reports.** Creates a process for the use of digital identification and reporting platforms, defined in the bill, to report suspected instances of human trafficking. The bill requires the Human Trafficking Response Coordinator to certify such platforms and requires the administering organization, defined in the bill, of such platform to submit quarterly performance reports to the Coordinator and the General Assembly on certain data. The bill expands the use of funds from the existing Virginia Prevention of Sex Trafficking Fund to be utilized for such programs. Lastly, the bill states that the provisions of the bill are subject to the availability of funds appropriated for such purposes.
Patron - Tata

F **HB947** **Virginia Youth Empowerment and Mentoring Grant Fund and Program; established.** Establishes the Virginia Youth Empowerment and Mentoring Grant Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, for the purpose of awarding grants to community-based organizations for the purpose of placing mentors with high-risk youth in an effort to transition such youth into careers in certified high-wage trades.
Patron - Askew

F **HB1054** **Virginia Fire Personnel and Equipment Grant Program established; report.** Establishes the Virginia Fire Personnel and Equipment Grant Program (the Program) for the purpose of awarding grants to localities to hire additional firefighters and to improve their firefighting and emergency medical services. The bill specifies that the Department of Fire Programs (the Department) 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 second shall award grants to localities for improving firefighting and emergency medical services, including by acquiring firefighting and emergency medical services vehicles and equipment and modifying facilities. For both grants, the bill provides that 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 bill requires the Department to submit a report annually, beginning November 1, 2027, to the Governor and the General Assembly containing 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 - Phillips

F **HB1170** **Department of Criminal Justice Services; law-enforcement agencies and sheriff's departments; policy on use of covered artificial intelligence systems.** Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a model policy for the use of a covered artificial intelligence system, defined in the bill, by any state or local law-enforcement agency or sheriff's department by October 1, 2026. The bill also requires each local law-enforcement agency and sheriff's department and the Department of State Police to establish and adopt a written policy for the use of a covered AI system by such agency or department that meets or exceeds the model policy established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services by January 1, 2027. The bill requires such policies be publicly available on the law-enforcement agency's or sheriff's department's website.
Patron - Carroll

F **SB602** **Marcus alert system; external database information removal.** Clarifies that an individual's information may continue to appear on a voluntary Marcus alert system external database that cannot be modified by a locality after such individual reaches 18 years of age. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission.
Patron - Durant

Carried Over

C **HB80** **Civilian deaths in custody; failure to comply with annual report; funding for local and regional adult correctional facilities.** Requires the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to notify the Office of the Governor if any local or regional correctional facility fails to send reports with information required by law regarding civilian deaths in custody within 10 days. If such facility fails to comply within 10 days, the bill allows the Governor discretion to direct the Comptroller to withhold all further payment to such facility of all funds, or of any part of them, appropriated and payable by the Commonwealth to such facility, for any and all purposes, until such correctional facility complies.
Patron - Price

C HB393 Firefighters Cancer Screening Grant Program and Fund established. Creates the Firefighters Cancer Screening Grant Program and Fund to award grants to localities for costs incurred in providing certain cancer detection tests to firefighters. The bill provides that in any year that the amount of funds in the Firefighters Cancer Screening Fund reduces to zero and the Fund does not receive a separate appropriation, the Grant Program and Fund shall expire.
Patron - Askew

C HB1257 Law-enforcement agencies; use of certain technologies and interrogation practices; forensic laboratory accreditation. Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a comprehensive framework for the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning systems, audiovisual surveillance technologies, and custodial and noncustodial interrogations of adults and juveniles by law-enforcement agencies, which shall include (i) developing policies and procedures and publishing model policies for the use of generative AI, machine learning systems, and audiovisual surveillance technologies and interrogation practices and (ii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of law-enforcement officers on the use of generative AI, machine learning systems, audiovisual surveillance technologies, and conducting interrogations. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policies by January 1, 2027, and that all law-enforcement agencies shall adopt policies consistent with such model policies by July 1, 2027. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to July 1, 2026, to complete the training required by the bill by January 1, 2030.

The bill also prohibits local law-enforcement agencies and campus police departments from purchasing any equipment or instrument that is intended to be used in forensic laboratory analysis or any breath test device, presumptive chemical test, or presumptive mobile instrument unless such equipment, instrument, device, or test has been approved by the Department of Forensic Science or the Forensic Science Board. Such provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2030.
Patron - Glass

C HB1261 Law-enforcement agencies; use of certain technologies and interrogation practices; forensic laboratory accreditation. Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services (the Department) to establish a comprehensive framework for the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) systems, machine learning systems, audiovisual surveillance technologies, and custodial and noncustodial interrogations of adults and juveniles by law-enforcement agencies, which shall include (i) developing policies and procedures and publishing model policies for the use of generative AI, machine learning systems, and audiovisual surveillance technologies and interrogation practices and (ii) establishing compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of law-enforcement officers in the use of generative AI, machine learning systems, and audiovisual surveillance technologies and in conducting interrogations. The bill provides that the Department shall establish and publish such model policies by January 1, 2027, and that all law-enforcement agencies shall adopt policies consistent with such model policies by July 1, 2027. The bill requires any person employed as a law-enforcement officer prior to July 1, 2026, to complete the training required by the bill by January 1, 2030.

The bill also provides that no local law-enforcement agency or campus police department shall operate a forensic laboratory, defined in the bill, unless such forensic laboratory is accredited by an accrediting body that requires conformance to forensic-specific requirements and that is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement with a scope of accreditation that covers the testing being performed. The bill also prohibits local law-enforcement agencies and campus police departments from purchasing any equipment or instrument that is intended to be used in forensic laboratory analysis or any breath test device, presumptive chemical test, or presumptive mobile instrument unless such equipment, instrument, device, or test has been approved by the Department of Forensic Science or the Forensic Science Board. Such provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2030.
Patron - Glass

C HB1264 Virginia Accountability Commission established. Creates the Virginia Accountability Commission (the Commission). The Commission shall (i) create a public record of the conduct of federal agents and any federal military-style operations throughout the Commonwealth, (ii) examine the impact of that conduct on individuals and communities, and (iii) consider policy recommendations to prevent future harms to these individuals and communities. The bill requires the Commission to provide, not later than January 31, 2027, an initial status report outlining its findings and recommendations to the Governor, and not later than April 30, 2027, any supplementary reports the Commission deems appropriate. The bill provides that the Commission shall be composed of a chair, vice-chair, and up to seven additional members, for a total membership of up to nine uncompensated members, as appointed by the Governor, the House of Delegates, and the Senate. The bill also provides that the term of each Commission member shall expire one year from the date of his appointment, and Commissioners may be reappointed or replaced at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Finally, the bill requires the Office of Civil Rights with the Office of the Attorney General to provide administrative and professional staff support to the operations of the Commission. The Commission may also work with subject matter experts and non-profit organizations as it deems appropriate.
Patron - Shin

C HB1294 Use of artificial intelligence-based tools; covered artificial intelligence; disclosure of use. Requires the use of covered artificial intelligence, as defined in the bill, in a criminal investigation to be disclosed in a police report filed for that investigation. Such a report shall be submitted to the attorney for the Commonwealth upon arrest or issuance of a summons and made available to the individual under investigation or such individual's counsel. The bill provides that any use of covered artificial intelligence subsequent to arrest shall be disclosed to the attorney for the Commonwealth and the individual under investigation as soon as practicable but no later than 30 calendar days following such use. The bill enumerates what each report shall include regarding the use of covered artificial intelligence and provides that the first draft of any report or record created in whole or in part by generative artificial intelligence shall be retained for as long as the final report is retained. The bill also provides that the program used to generate a draft or final report shall maintain an audit trail that identifies (i) the person who used artificial intelligence to create or edit the report; (ii) any changes made to the report following the initial draft; and (iii) the video and audio footage used to create a report, if any. The bill provides that the Attorney General may investigate and, if warranted, bring a civil action against any law-enforcement agency to obtain equitable or declaratory relief to enforce the provisions of the bill and provides that a resident of the jurisdiction may bring a civil action against the law-enforcement agency to obtain equitable or declaratory relief to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill requires such plaintiff to provide written notice of any

alleged violation to the law-enforcement agency at least 90 days prior to filing suit, in a manner that is reasonably calculated to enable the law-enforcement agency to cure the alleged violation.
Patron - Clark

C **HB1295 Law enforcement; artificial intelligence inventory; civil action.** Requires all law-enforcement agencies, defined in the bill as any state or local law-enforcement agency or sheriff's department, to conduct an inventory of any covered artificial intelligence system, defined in the bill, used by such agency and to make such inventory publicly available by November 1 of each year. The bill also provides that the Attorney General may investigate and, if warranted, bring a civil action against any law-enforcement agency to obtain equitable or declaratory relief to enforce the provisions of the bill and provides that a resident of the jurisdiction may bring a civil action against the law-enforcement agency to obtain equitable or declaratory relief to enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill requires such plaintiff to provide written notice of any alleged violation to the law-enforcement agency at least 90 days prior to filing suit, in a manner that is reasonably calculated to enable the law-enforcement agency to cure the alleged violation.
Patron - Clark

C **HB1317 Line of Duty Act; payments to beneficiaries.** Provides that if a deceased person, as that term is defined in the Line of Duty Act, died as a result of certain cancers within 10 years from his date of retirement, his beneficiary shall be entitled to the payment of certain benefits. Under current law, such beneficiary shall be entitled to such payment if the deceased person's death (i) arose out of and in the course of his employment or (ii) was within five years from his date of retirement.
Patron - Willett

C **HB1388 Police Chief Bill of Rights.** Creates independent protections and procedures for certain chiefs of police, defined in the bill, by requiring a showing of just cause when a chief of police is proposed for removal from office. The bill requires that a police chief be given written notice of the specific grounds for his proposed removal and that such police chief be afforded an opportunity to be heard in his own defense, personally and with counsel, before an impartial hearing panel.
Patron - Cherry

C **SB80 Virginia Fire Personnel and Equipment Grant Program established; report.** Establishes the Virginia Fire Personnel and Equipment Grant Program (the Program) for the purpose of awarding grants to localities to hire additional firefighters and to improve their firefighting and emergency medical services. The bill specifies that the Department of Fire Programs (the Department) 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 second shall award grants to localities for improving firefighting and emergency medical services, including by acquiring firefighting and emergency medical services vehicles and equipment and modifying facilities. For both grants, the bill provides that 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 bill requires the Department to submit a report annually, beginning November 1, 2027, to the Governor and the General Assembly containing 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 - Mulchi

C **SB523 Line of Duty Act; payments to beneficiaries.** Provides that if a deceased person, as that term is defined in the Line of Duty Act, died as a result of certain cancers within seven years from his date of retirement, his beneficiary shall be entitled to the payment of certain benefits. Under current law, such beneficiary shall be entitled to such payment if the deceased person's death (i) arose out of and in the course of his employment or (ii) was within five years from his date of retirement.

Patron - Deeds

C **SB539 Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund established.** Establishes the Virginia Public-Private Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund, to be managed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, 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

C **SB672 Emergency Response Exposure Grant Fund and Program.** Creates the Emergency Response Exposure Grant Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Fire Programs, to award grants to localities to support certain emergency responders who were exposed to a qualifying emergency, defined in the bill. The bill requires funding to be used for annual cancer screenings and health care expenses incurred by eligible emergency responders, defined in the bill, in the event such emergency responders are diagnosed with cancer from toxic material exposure. The bill permits funding to be used for out-of-pocket medical expenses not otherwise covered by insurance, workers' compensation, or other available funding.

Patron - Rouse

C **SB739 Virginia Youth Empowerment and Mentoring Grant Fund and Program; established.** Establishes the Virginia Youth Empowerment and Mentoring Grant Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, for the purpose of awarding grants to community-based organizations for the purpose of placing mentors with high-risk youth in an effort to transition such youth into careers in certified high-wage trades.

Patron - Jones

C **SB741 Line of Duty Act; transitional coverage.** Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to acquire and provide temporary transitional health insurance coverage to disabled persons, eligible spouses, and eligible dependents during the period of transition into the LODA (Line of Duty Act) Health Benefits Plans. Current law authorizes but does not require the Department to acquire and provide such temporary transitional health insurance coverage to disabled persons, eligible spouses, and eligible dependents during such period.

Patron - Hackworth

Conservation

Passed

P **HB70 Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund; projects; low-income geographic areas and 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. The bill allows the Virginia Resources Authority to contract with any person to serve as a program administrator to be approved by the Department to assist in the distribution of loans and grants to local governments. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding.
Patron - Feggans

P **HB86 Mattress Stewardship Program established; report.** Establishes the Mattress Stewardship Program that allows certain industry associations to administer the Program as a mattress recycling organization with the approval and certification from the Department of Environmental Quality. The bill requires certain producers, retailers, and renovators of mattresses to register with a certified mattress recycling organization and requires a producer to identify each mattress brand it sells or offers for sale in the Commonwealth on or before June 1, 2027. Prior to the Program going into effect, the bill requires a mattress recycling organization to submit a plan with certain criteria relating to the collection and recycling of mattresses and the implementation of the Program. The bill establishes annual reporting requirements for the mattress recycling organization. Finally, the bill establishes the powers and duties of the Department as they relate to the bill. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Laufer

P **HB237 Department of Conservation and Recreation; Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan.** Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation, when updating the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan, to identify areas where marshes may migrate in the face of sea level rise.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB397 Clean energy and community flood preparedness; market-based trading program.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Air Pollution Control Board to establish and maintain a market-based trading program consistent with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative program, as defined in existing law, to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generating units in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 802.
Patron - Herring

P **HB507 Permit requirements for data centers; emission limits for certain engine-generator sets.** Prohibits the Department of Environmental Quality from issuing an air permit for any application submitted for a data center on or after July 1, 2026, unless the emission limit for each engine-generator, defined in the bill, established by such permit is equal to or less than the emissions achieved by a Tier 4 equivalent engine-generator.
Patron - McAuliff

P **HB508 Small renewable energy projects; agrivoltaics definition.** Provides a definition of "agrivoltaics" for the purposes of small renewable energy projects. This bill incorporates HB 899 and is identical to SB 340.
Patron - McAuliff

P **HB543 Office of Working Lands Preservation; powers and duties; Forest Sustainability Fund.** Adds management of the Forest Sustainability Fund to the powers and duties of the Office of Working Lands Preservation within the Department of Forestry. This bill is identical to SB 522.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB714 Conveyance of property; Leesylvania State Park.** Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to convey property to and acquire property from the Newport Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. at Leesylvania State Park. The conveyances will provide a permanent access from Neabsco Road in Prince William County to property owned by the Association that is otherwise inaccessible to allow the Association to complete repairs and restoration to a slope failure due to poor soils on the Association's neighborhood open space property while ensuring that the Department retains property of recreational utility at Leesylvania State Park.
Patron - Henson

P **HB846 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation.** Allows the Virginia Land Conservation Board of Trustees to waive the requirement for a holder of a conservation easement to have such easement jointly held with a public body whenever such holder acquires any interest in land other than a fee simple interest from a grant or transfer from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, provided that such holder is accredited by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission or meets a similar set of standards and practices adopted by the Board of Trustees and the easement contains a third party right of enforcement, as defined in relevant law, in favor of the Department of Conservation and Recreation or another public body.
Patron - Kent

P **HB1081 Office of Working Lands Preservation; powers and duties; small renewable energy projects fees.** Requires the Office of Working Lands Preservation to serve as a trustee to administer the in-lieu fees in trust for small renewable energy projects. The bill requires such fees to be used to acquire conservation easements and cover any expenses associated with acquiring such easements.
Patron - Webert

P **HB1266 Department of Environmental Quality; Environmental Justice in the Permitting Process Guidance Memo; cumulative impacts.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to publish an updated version of the Environmental Justice in the Permitting Process Guidance Memo for public comment. The bill requires the updated memo to consider how to assess the cumulative impacts of the types of permits covered in the guidance memo and outreach strategies to engage communities impacted by any such permit. The bill requires the public comment period process to include two public town halls held no later than July 31, 2026, and requires the Department to respond to the public comments by October 31, 2026. The Department is required to issue the final guidance memo by December 31, 2026.
Patron - Tran

P **SB197 Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund; loan and grant program; deferment of interest accrual and repayment obligations.** Provides that for funds disbursed to localities, federally recognized tribes, and Virginia recognized tribes primarily for the purpose of implement-

ing flood prevention and protection projects and studies in areas that are subject to recurrent flooding, interest on loans shall not accrue and repayment obligations shall not come into effect for loans or grants until completion of the project or study for which such funds are disbursed. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB340** **Small renewable energy projects; agrivoltaics definition.** Provides a definition of "agrivoltaics" for the purposes of small renewable energy projects. This bill is identical to HB 508.
Patron - Perry

P **SB342** **Condemnation of conservation or open-space easement; compensation.** Provides that if a person takes by condemnation any land subject to a conservation easement or open-space easement, such person shall compensate the Commonwealth and the locality in which such land is located for certain tax credits and values enumerated in the bill. The bill specifies that any such compensation paid to the Commonwealth shall be in addition to compensation required by other provisions of law. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Perry

P **SB383** **Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services; invasive plant species installation; written notification to property owners; civil penalty.** Provides that the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services may assess a civil penalty in an amount of not more than $250 for a first violation, $500 for a second violation, and $1,000 for each subsequent violation to any tradesperson involved with proposing or installing plants who fails to provide written notification to property owners when such plants are on the Department of Conservation and Recreation's list of invasive plant species. Current law provides that any such tradesperson who fails to provide such written notice is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to HB 710.
Patron - French

P **SB522** **Office of Working Lands Preservation; powers and duties; Forest Sustainability Fund.** Adds management of the Forest Sustainability Fund to the powers and duties of the Office of Working Lands Preservation within the Department of Forestry. This bill is identical to HB 543.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB645** **Air Pollution Control Board regulations; small renewable energy projects; anaerobic digestion technology; report.** Provides that for the purposes of a permit by rule for a small renewable energy project under existing law, a small renewable energy project includes an electrical generation facility in a locality in Planning District 8 with a rated capacity not exceeding 100 megawatts that generates electricity from biomass, energy from waste, or municipal solid waste and its dedicated associated interconnection facilities, provided that such facility is capable of processing the majority of its organic waste, including food waste and municipal sludge, with anaerobic digestion technology by January 1, 2030. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality, in coordination with relevant stakeholders, to (i) assess all practicable technologies available to waste-to-energy facilities to reduce carbon dioxide and methane emissions, (ii) assess technologies to create biomethane, and (iii) recommend any legislative changes necessary to create market conditions to ensure the viability of such program. The bill also directs the Department to report its findings to the Air Pollution Control Board by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB802** **Clean energy and community flood preparedness; market-based trading program.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Air Pollution Control Board to establish and maintain a market-based trading program consistent with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative program, as defined in existing law, to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generating units in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 397.
Patron - Locke

Failed

F **HB104** **Virginia Historic Landmarks Register; bicentennial farms.** Directs the Department of Historic Resources to include bicentennial farms as a property that can be nominated for listing on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register to honor farm families in the Commonwealth whose property has been in the same family for 200 years or more. In order to be eligible for such nomination, the bill requires the farm to (i) have been owned by the same family for at least 200 consecutive years; (ii) be lived on, or actually farmed, by a descendant of the original owners; and (iii) comply with any other nomination requirements the Department deems appropriate.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB115** **Waste to Energy Grant Program established; report.** Establishes the Waste to Energy Grant Program to incentivize eligible localities, defined by the bill as counties, cities, and towns located in Planning District 23, to dispose of their waste through use of a qualifying waste to energy plant, as defined by the bill. The bill provides that, for any year in which at least one grant is awarded by the Program, the Department of Environmental Quality must submit a report to the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations detailing information on the utilization of the Program and its impact on waste management in grant recipient localities.
Patron - Ward

F **HB154** **Department of Environmental Quality; data centers; use of emergency generation unit; disclosure requirements.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to require each data center that operates an emergency generation unit, as those terms are defined in the bill, to report on a publicly accessible website within 24 hours the times when such emergency generation unit will be in operation.
Patron - Thomas

F **HB239** **Department of Conservation and Recreation; acceptance of property to establish a state park; Loudoun County.** Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to accept from The Conservation Fund approximately 1,240 acres of real property and any buildings or structures thereon between Little River Turnpike, James Monroe Highway, and Tail Race Road in Loudoun County, known as Oak Hill Farm, for the purpose of establishing and operating a state park on such property.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB270** **State parks; access for veterans; free entry and discounted services.** Requires the Department of

Conservation and Recreation to establish a Veteran's Passport that entitles the bearer to (i) enter state parks in the Commonwealth without the payment of a parking or admission fee and (ii) receive a 50 percent discount on camping and swimming fees, picnic shelter rentals, and other Department-provided equipment rentals. Current law provides that such free entry and discounted services are available only to veterans who have a service-connected disability rating of 100 percent and have been issued a Disabled Veteran's Passport by the Department.
Patron - Wright

F **HB407 Light pollution education and dark sky preservation.** Provides that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) shall serve as the lead agency for public education and outreach related to light pollution. The bill requires DEQ, in coordination with the Department of Energy, the Department of Wildlife Resources, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), to develop and implement an education and outreach program to (i) inform the public about the impacts of light pollution on public health, safety, wildlife, and the environment; (ii) promote best practices for outdoor lighting, including energy-efficient and properly shielded outdoor lighting fixtures; and (iii) encourage voluntary adoption of lighting practices that reduce light pollution and energy waste. The bill further provides that DCR may designate qualifying areas within the Commonwealth as Dark Sky Preserves, as defined in the bill, and that a Dark Sky Preserve designation shall be voluntary and advisory and shall not create additional land use or lighting restrictions beyond those established by local ordinance. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Reid

F **HB847 Extreme Weather Taxpayer Protection Program and Fund established.** Establishes the Extreme Weather Taxpayer Protection Program and Fund, administered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, for the purpose of holding parties responsible for covered greenhouse gas emissions between the covered period of January 1, 1995, and December 31, 2025, for the parties' share of the Commonwealth's costs due to climate change. The bill defines responsible parties as fossil fuel extractors or crude oil refiners causing emissions of one billion metric tons or more of covered greenhouse gases during the covered period. Under the bill, responsible parties are strictly liable for cost recovery payments to the Commonwealth. The bill requires the State Treasurer to conduct an assessment of the costs to the Commonwealth and its residents of the emissions of covered greenhouse gases during the covered period. The bill establishes the Extreme Weather Relief Fund into which the cost recovery payments from responsible entities are deposited and used to pay for extreme weather relief projects, as defined in the bill.
Patron - Cousins

F **HB899 Small renewable energy projects; agrivoltaics definition; advisory panel.** Defines under the provisions relating to small renewable energy projects the term "agrivoltaics" to mean the intentional co-location of agricultural production and solar energy generation on the same land that (i) is designed to prioritize and sustain agricultural productivity while integrating renewable energy; (ii) allows the ongoing production and sale of agricultural products throughout the solar array's life; (iii) is a part of an existing farm business; and (iv) ensures flexibility for farmers to adapt to market conditions and support operational needs. The bill also directs the Virginia Cooperative Extension, in consultation with the Department of Energy, to convene a stakeholder advisory panel to develop recommendations to (i) establish criteria to determine qualifying agrivoltaic projects that are eligible for grant funding through the Virginia Power Innovation Fund and Program, (ii) identify how to monitor and sustain the integrity of agrivoltaic projects, and (iii) consider permitting or provide other incentives that may be effective in promoting agrivoltaic projects in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the stakeholder advisory panel to submit a report on its recommendations to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Forestry and Natural and Historic Resources by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Shin

F **HB1064 Department of Conservation and Recreation; federal National Flood Insurance Program; guidance document.** Requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation, in collaboration with the Department of Health, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Transportation, Marine Resources Commission, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, representatives from localities, and any other state agency issuing permits in a floodplain, to develop and maintain a comprehensive guidance document to assist localities in complying with federal floodplain management requirements under the National Flood Insurance Program. The bill requires such guidance document to provide the proper implementation of enforcement provisions regulating development in floodplain management areas, including floodplain permitting requirements for all man-made development, within localities that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. The bill requires the Department to review and revise the guidance document, with input from other state agencies and representatives of localities, at least every five years.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1152 Department of Environmental Quality; carbon market participation; coastal and marine resources.** Allows the Department of Environmental Quality to participate in any carbon market for the preservation, restoration, and sustainable management of the Commonwealth's coastal and marine resources on state-owned bottomlands and property and enter into agreements necessary to facilitate such participation. The bill requires the Department to hold exclusive title to such credits until such credits are sold. Any revenues resulting from the sale of such credits are required to be distributed as follows: 75 percent to the Oyster Replenishment Fund and 25 percent to the qualifying leaseholder.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1236 Historical African American cemeteries and graves; qualified organization; Fairfax burial grounds.** Expands the definition of a qualified organization that may receive funds for maintenance of a historical African American cemetery to include any authority created pursuant to the Park Authorities Act. The bill also adds the African American Cemetery at Bull Run Park with 101 known graves, the Enslaved Burial Ground at Bull Run Marina with five known graves, and the Enslaved Burial Ground at Ford's Mill with seven known graves in Fairfax County to the list of cemeteries for which qualified organizations may receive funds from the Department of Historic Resources for the care of historical African American cemeteries and graves.
Patron - Delaney

F **HB1425 Geoengineering prohibited; civil penalties.** Prohibits any person from engaging in geoengineering, defined in the bill as the intentional injection, release, or dispersion, by any means, of chemicals, chemical compounds, substances, or apparatus into the atmosphere with the express purpose of affecting temperature, weather, or the intensity of sunlight, in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that any person who violates such prohibition shall be subject to civil penalties authorized by relevant law.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB1435 Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program; small farms.** Provides that no less than 30 percent of the funds distributed to the Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program used for matching grants for agricultural best management practices shall be granted to small farms, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB1466 Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund; Department of Conservation and Recreation; extending application deadline.** Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to extend the deadline by 30 days for a person to submit an application to the Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund.

Patron - Griffin

F **SB11 Expanded polystyrene food service containers; repeal of prohibition.** Repeals the statute prohibiting food vendors and certain restaurants from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a single-use expanded polystyrene food service container.

Patron - DeSteph

F **SB68 Designating or nominating historic landmarks; notice requirements.** Removes the requirements for the Department of Historic Resources to provide written notice to an owner or his agent of property abutting or immediately across the street or road from property proposed to be designated or nominated as a historic landmark. The bill also changes the timeframe in which the Department must publish notice of the public hearing on such designation in a newspaper having general circulation in the locality from once a week for two successive weeks to at least seven and not more than 30 days prior to the date of the hearing.

Patron - Diggs

F **SB157 Department of Conservation and Recreation; acceptance of property to establish a state park; Loudoun County.** Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to accept from The Conservation Fund approximately 1,240 acres of real property and any buildings or structures thereon between Little River Turnpike, James Monroe Highway, and Tail Race Road in Loudoun County, known as Oak Hill Farm, for the purpose of establishing and operating a state park on such property.

Patron - Perry

F **SB420 Extreme Weather Taxpayer Protection Program and Fund established.** Establishes the Extreme Weather Taxpayer Protection Program and Fund, administered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, for the purpose of holding parties responsible for covered greenhouse gas emissions between the covered period of January 1, 1995, and December 31, 2025, for the parties' share of the Commonwealth's costs due to climate change. The bill defines responsible parties as fossil fuel extractors or crude oil refiners causing emissions of one billion metric tons or more of covered greenhouse gases during the covered period. Under the bill, responsible parties are strictly liable for cost recovery payments to the Commonwealth. The bill requires the State Treasurer to conduct an assessment of the costs to the Commonwealth and its residents of the emissions of covered greenhouse gases during the covered period. The bill establishes the Extreme Weather Relief Fund into which the cost recovery payments from responsible entities are deposited and used to pay for extreme weather relief projects, as defined in the bill.

Patron - Boysko

F **SB552 Department of Environmental Quality; siting of large data centers; site assessment; standards; civil penalties.** Requires a locality, prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception, or special use permit for the siting or major expansion of a large data center, as those terms are defined in the bill, to conduct an initial public hearing regarding such siting or expansion and to require the applicant to perform a site assessment including certain specified information and to submit such site assessment to the locality and the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department). The bill directs the locality to hold a second public hearing upon such submission. The bill requires the Department to review such site assessment to ensure compliance with site assessment standards established by the Department, including standards for noise impacts, light pollution and illumination at night, water usage and source impacts, air emissions, traffic and other construction-phase impacts, and other impacts of proximity to residential units and schools. The bill permits the Department to issue a notice of any violation of its provisions to a large data center, to require corrective or supplemental mitigation actions as a condition of continued approval, and to assess civil penalties against or revoke any approval for a large data center that continues such violation for more than 60 days after receiving such notice. The bill authorizes the Office of the Attorney General to bring an action against a large data center for injunctive or other appropriate relief to enforce the bill's provisions. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. In addition, the bill directs the Department to develop site assessment standards for large data centers by July 1, 2027.

Patron - Sturtevant

Carried Over

C **HB134 Virginia Conservation Easement Act; definitions; federally recognized tribes.** Provides that a federally recognized tribe, as defined in the bill, can be a conservation easement holder and that such a tribe is not bound by the same restrictions on the location of a principal office or the duration of existence that are placed on other types of easement holders. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.

Patron - Simon

C **HB500 Department of Conservation and Recreation; acquisition of property to establish a state park; Loudoun County.** Allows the Department of Conservation and Recreation to acquire from the Conservation Fund approximately 1,240 acres of real property and any buildings or structures thereon between Little River Turnpike, James Monroe Highway, and Tail Race Road, known as Oak Hill Farm, in Loudoun County for the purpose of establishing and operating a state park on such property. This bill incorporates HB 239.

Patron - McAuliff

C **HB607 Department of Environmental Quality; study of aggregate air pollution; data center generators; report.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to conduct a three-year study to research and model a variety of scenarios regarding aggregate air pollution in areas with a large volume of data centers and provide recommendations for future handling of minor air permits for data center generators and the need for increased air quality monitoring in the Commonwealth. The Department is directed to report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairs 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 by October 1, 2029.
Patron - Laufer

C **HB1340 Virginia Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program; public, private, or nonprofit entity under contract with public school division.** Amends the Virginia Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program to allow moneys from the Fund to be awarded to any public, private, or nonprofit entity currently under contract with, or expected to be under contract with, a public school division to cover certain costs associated with transitioning from diesel school buses and other commercial motor vehicles, heavy equipment, or other machinery to electric school buses or other equipment that reduces air emissions. The bill also removes a provision that prohibits the allocation of funds to the Fund or the Program unless federal funds or nonstate funds are available to cover the entire cost of such allocation.
Patron - Bulova

C **HB1475 Virginia Fungi Task Force established; report.** Requires the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to establish the Virginia Fungi Task Force to assess, categorize, and protect the Commonwealth's natural fungi species and explore the economic potential of fungi. The bill directs the Task Force to develop recommendations to (i) conduct a gap analysis and needs assessment on the Commonwealth's natural fungi species; (ii) identify economic development opportunities for fungi; (iii) build a Virginia database of native and invasive fungi species; (iv) conduct statewide fungal monitoring and research; (v) support forest health, agriculture, and water quality in the Commonwealth; (vi) provide guidance on toxic mushrooms and public safety; and (vii) build public education and identification resources on fungi in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Task Force to report its initial findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by December 1, 2027, and update such report at least every five years.
Patron - Schmidt

C **HB1502 Department of Environmental Quality; standby generators study; report.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to conduct a one-year study of all standby generators used by a commercial facility with an air permit in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the study to (i) identify commercial facilities with an air permit that use standby generators, (ii) identify the type of pollutants emitted from such standby generators, and (iii) analyze and describe the amount of pollutants from such standby generators. The Department is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources by July 1, 2027.
Patron - Guzman

C **SB336 State Corporation Commission; data center generators.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to evaluate the impact of requiring data centers to limit the use of Tier 2 generators and prioritize the use of Tier 4 equivalent or better generators. The bill requires the Commission to submit a report on any findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committees on Appropriations and Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources no later than October 15, 2026.
Patron - Roem

C **SB422 Virginia Conservation Easement Act; definitions; federally recognized tribes.** Provides that a federally recognized tribe, as defined in the bill, can be a conservation easement holder and that such a tribe is not bound by the same restrictions on the location of a principal office or the duration of existence that are placed on other types of easement holders. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Stuart

C **SB519 Department of Conservation and Recreation; permanent land conservation feasibility; report.** Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to assess how best to achieve permanent conservation by 2036 of (i) 20 percent of the land area of the Commonwealth and (ii) 10 percent of urban areas of the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to submit a report on its findings and any recommendations to achieve such permanent conservation goals to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committees on Appropriations and Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Deeds

C **SB571 Department of Conservation and Recreation; Disabled Veteran's Family Passport; free entry into state parks and discounted services.** Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to establish a Disabled Veteran's Family Passport that entitles the bearer to enter state parks in the Commonwealth without the payment of a parking or admission fee. The bill provides that the Passport will be issued upon request to any immediate family member, as defined in the bill, of a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States who provides certain documentation to the Department. The bill authorizes the Department to require passport holders to re-certify such documentation no more than once every five years.
Patron - Sturtevant

C **SB684 Establishing the Virginia Recycling Development Center and the Virginia Recycling Infrastructure Fund; supporting statewide recycling infrastructure; incentivizing voluntary stewardship programs; authorizing public-private partnerships; and addressing priority materials including waste tires, mattresses, and bulky waste.**
Patron - Head

C **SB768 Commonwealth Flood Prevention Match Assistance Fund and Program; established.** Establishes the Commonwealth Flood Prevention Match Assistance Fund and Program for the purpose of supporting local governments with grants to finance the cost share required of a local government for storm and flood risk management projects, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill also requires an annual audit and an annual report to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Finance and Appropriations.
Patron - Locke

C **SJ31 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 Watershed.
Patron - Pillion

Contracts

Passed

P **SB165 Contracts; retainage bonds permitted in construction contracts.** Allows, in any construction contract between an owner and a general contractor or between a general contractor and a subcontractor, such contractor or subcontractor to tender a retainage bond, defined in the bill, as a substitute for retainage withheld as security in such contracts. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - McPike

Corporations

Passed

P **HB69 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, except as a term of sale in the event that a franchisee sells a franchise to a third party or back to the franchisor. This bill is identical to SB 240.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB316 Virginia Stock Corporation Act.** Makes various changes to the Virginia Stock Corporation Act, many of which conform the Act to recent changes to the Model Business Corporation Act produced by the Corporate Laws Committee of the American Bar Association's Business Law Section. Among other things, the bill (i) addresses the authority of a board of directors to delegate authority with respect to the issuance of shares to a committee of the board and one or more of the corporation's officers, (ii) removes the requirement for the cessation of shareholder agreements when a corporation becomes a public corporation, (iii) requires a corporation to maintain in its records certain shareholder agreements, (iv) removes the requirement for a corporation to maintain its financial statements for the three most recent fiscal years, and (v) authorizes a corporation to submit a matter to a vote of its shareholders even if, after approving the matter, the board of directors determines it no longer recommends such matter. This bill is identical to SB 479.
Patron - Hope

P **HB439 Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act.** Provides for numerous revisions to the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act. Among other revisions, the bill (i) authorizes certain actions to derive from its bylaws in addition to its articles of incorporation, (ii) makes changes to the process of amending articles of incorporation and bylaws, (iii) authorizes inclusion of an exclusive forum provision in the bylaws, (iv) permits transfer of membership interests, (v) authorizes members to bring derivative proceedings, (vi) permits a court to remove a director in certain circumstances, (vii) provides for abandonment of an amendment or restatement of the articles of incorporation, (viii) extends the current provisions related to mergers to include interest exchanges and to provide for parent-subsidiary mergers, (ix) replaces existing provisions on conversion with provisions based on the Virginia Stock Act, and (x) adds provisions governing charitable corporations and charitable assets, including the authority of the Office of the Attorney General with respect to such. The bill includes technical amendments and has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 246.
Patron - Hope

P **HB479 Securities Act; investment advisor advertising.** Permits an investment advisor to solicit, disseminate, or otherwise use advertisements, including client testimonials and endorsements, provided such advertisements comply with the requirements for an advertisement solicited, disseminated, or used by a federally registered investment advisor under federal law.
Patron - Helmer

P **SB240 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, except as a term of sale in the event that a franchisee sells a franchise to a third party or back to the franchisor. This bill is identical to HB 69.
Patron - Head

P **SB479 Virginia Stock Corporation Act.** Makes various changes to the Virginia Stock Corporation Act, many of which conform the Act to recent changes to the Model Business Corporation Act produced by the Corporate Laws Committee of the American Bar Association's Business Law Section. Among other things, the bill (i) addresses the authority of a board of directors to delegate authority with respect to the issuance of shares to a committee of the board and one or more of the corporation's officers, (ii) removes the requirement for the cessation of shareholder agreements when a corporation becomes a public corporation, (iii) requires a corporation to maintain in its records certain shareholder agreements, (iv) removes the requirement for a corporation to maintain its financial statements for the three most recent fiscal years, and (v) authorizes a corporation to submit a matter to a vote of its shareholders even if, after approving the matter, the board of directors determines it no longer recommends such matter. This bill is identical to HB 316.
Patron - Marsden

Failed

F **HB293 Corporations; limited liability decentralized autonomous organizations (LLDs).** Creates the Limited Liability Decentralized Autonomous Organization (LLD) Act, which establishes requirements for an LLD, defined as a distinct legal entity that operates through decentralized governance using blockchain technology and smart contracts that execute decentralized decision-making mechanisms. The bill permits the formation of an LLD by filing articles of organization with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission), and, if certain requirements are met, the Commission may issue a certificate of organization. The bill includes requirements for amending an LLD's articles of organization and also includes requirements for LLD bylaws, operating agreements, underlying smart contracts, and participant interests and management of the LLD. Under the bill, an LLD and its participants have limited liability for debts, obligations, and

liabilities of the LLD. The bill also includes provisions related to recordkeeping, transferring interests, withdrawal of participants, and dissolution of the LLD. The provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2028.

Patron - Helmer

F **HB1447 Corporations and other entities; authority to engage in election activity or ballot-issue activity.** Provides that corporations, limited liability companies, business trusts, limited partnerships, registered limited liability partnerships, and unincorporated associations do not have the authority to engage in election activity or ballot-issue activity, as those terms are defined in the bill.

Patron - Glass

Carried Over

C **SB782 Corporations; limited liability decentralized autonomous organizations (LLDs).** Creates the Limited Liability Decentralized Autonomous Organization (LLD) Act, which establishes requirements for an LLD, defined as a distinct legal entity that operates through decentralized governance using blockchain technology and smart contracts that execute decentralized decision-making mechanisms. The bill permits the formation of an LLD by filing articles of formation with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission), and, if certain requirements are met, the Commission may issue a certificate of formation. The bill includes requirements for amending an LLD's articles of formation and also includes requirements for LLD bylaws, operating agreements, underlying smart contracts, and participant interests and management of the LLD. Under the bill, an LLD and its participants have limited liability for debts, obligations, and liabilities of the LLD. The bill also includes provisions related to recordkeeping, transferring interests, withdrawal of participants, and dissolution of the LLD. The bill directs the Commission to adopt emergency regulations to implement certain provisions of the bill. Except for the emergency rulemaking, the provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

Patron - Salim

Counties, Cities and Towns

Passed

P **HB63 Southwest Regional Recreation Authority; certification of Southwest Regional Recreation Area rangers.** Provides that Southwest Regional Recreation Area rangers appointed by the board of the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority may be certified through the successful completion of training at an approved criminal justice academy as necessary and proper to protect and enforce the safe use and enjoyment of the Authority's properties.

Patron - Morefield

P **HB135 Virginia Code Commission; subdivision plats work group; report.** Extends by one year the work of the work group established by the Virginia Code Commission to review existing provisions of the Code of Virginia related to the submission, review, and approval of subdivision plats and site plans. The work group shall submit a report to the General Assembly by November 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Code Commission.

Patron - Simon

P **HB153 Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility.** Provides that, prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception application, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF on residential units and schools located within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bill also allows a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed facility on (i) ground and surface water resources, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, and (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land. The provisions of the bill shall not apply to a site with an existing legislative or administrative approval where an applicant is seeking an expansion or modification of an already existing or approved facility and such expansion does not exceed an additional 100 megawatts or more of electrical power. Finally, the bill provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, or otherwise supersede existing local zoning authority. This bill incorporates HB 511 and is identical to SB 94.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB164 Housing for local employees; grants for homeownership and workforce housing alternatives.** Eliminates the maximum amount a locality may provide (i) to employees of the locality, employees of the school board, and employees of constitutional officers for homeownership grants to purchase primary residences in the locality and (ii) to school division personnel for residential housing assistance grants to provide affordable workforce housing alternatives. The bill also eliminates the requirement that such grants adhere to the Virginia Housing and Development Authority regional sales price and household income limitation guidelines. Current law imposes a maximum grant amount of $25,000 for individual grants per employee, as well as a maximum lifetime cumulative amount of $25,000 per employee. This bill is identical to SB 328.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB168 Election of certain governing bodies; conversion to single-member districts.** Requires every locality with a population of 400,000 or greater to elect the members of its governing body by individual single-member districts. The bill provides that a governing body's presiding officer may be elected at large. The bill further provides that any such governing body that does not already meet the requirements of the bill shall establish the required districts and shall reapportion the representation in the governing body in accordance with general law. Finally, the bill provides that for any such governing body that, prior to 2026, adopted an ordinance with a map to elect its members by individual single-member districts, such ordinance shall become effective upon the effective date of this act. This bill is identical to SB 51 and contains an emergency clause. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Askew

P **HB177 Fee for passing bad checks to localities.** Makes clarifying amendments to existing provisions related to the imposition of a fee by a locality for the passing of a bad check and adds a reference to electronic payment orders to such provisions. The bill also provides that no fee shall be imposed as the result of an electronic payment order that is not honored as the result of the nonexistence of any account matching the account information provided by the taxpayer, provided that the taxpayer has not tendered any other elec-

tronic payment order that was not honored during the 12 months preceding the tender of the payment order in question.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB181 Affordable dwelling unit program; City of Roanoke.** Adds the City of Roanoke to the list of localities with authority to provide for an affordable dwelling unit program. The bill provides that such change shall not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also requires the Virginia Housing Development Authority to analyze the potential efficacy of the provisions of the bill for the provision of affordable housing in the City of Roanoke and to report the results of such analysis no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB198 Local governing body; review of decision by board of zoning appeals; procedures for filing petition.** Makes various changes and clarifications to the procedures following the filing of a petition in a circuit court by a party aggrieved by a decision of the board of zoning appeals. Current law provides that a circuit court, upon presentation of the petition, shall allow a writ of certiorari to review such decision and includes certain timing requirements for service upon and response by the board of zoning appeals. The bill clarifies that the petition shall be served upon the secretary or chair of the board of zoning appeals within 30 days after the petition is filed with the clerk of the circuit court and that, within 21 days of being served with the petition, the secretary of the board of zoning appeals shall file the record of the proceedings at issue in the petition. The bill also updates other procedures, such as the time requirements for the filing of responsive pleadings, to be consistent with the various changes and clarifications throughout the bill. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB226 County manager plan of government; independent policing auditor.** Allows the governing body of any county with the county manager plan of government (Arlington County) to appoint an independent policing auditor. The independent policing auditor shall support any law-enforcement civilian oversight body created by the governing body and shall have all the powers of the law-enforcement civilian oversight body, to the extent such powers are delegated to the independent policing auditor by the oversight body. The independent policing auditor shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body.
Patron - Hope

P **HB248 Interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements; behavioral health co-response teams.** Provides that interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements may allow for the development of co-response teams staffed by one or more law-enforcement agencies that respond to behavioral health-related calls in multiple jurisdictions. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to SB 317.
Patron - Watts

P **HB256 Comprehensive plan; environmental justice strategy.** Requires cities with populations greater than 20,000 and counties with populations greater than 100,000 to consider, beginning July 1, 2026, at the next and all subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan, adopting an environmental justice strategy. The bill provides that the locality's strategy shall be to identify environmental justice and fenceline communities within the jurisdiction of the local planning commission and identify objectives and policies to reduce health risks, to promote civic engagement, to prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of environmental justice and fenceline communities, as those terms are defined in the bill, and to establish baseline environmental and health conditions to characterize any disproportionate public health conditions in the identified fenceline communities. This bill is identical to SB 425.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB257 Comprehensive plan; social determinants of health.** Encourages localities to utilize relevant and available data and research related to social determinants of health to consider how the locality's adopted comprehensive plan will impact the locality's overall public health and access to health care services.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB277 Zoning; wireless facility modifications; application process.** Prohibits a locality from denying an application for the modification of an existing wireless facility if (i) the modification would not substantially change the physical dimensions of the existing wireless facility; (ii) the modification involves the co-location of new transmission equipment, the removal of transmission equipment, or the replacement of transmission equipment; and (iii) the request meets the requirements of the bill. The bill provides that a modification does not substantially change the physical dimensions of the existing wireless facility if it entails the excavation or deployment of transmission equipment within 30 feet, in any direction, of the existing wireless support structure or base station. The bill also provides various requirements for local approval within a specified timeframe, permits any applicant or locality to bring claims related to the bill to any court of competent jurisdiction, and prohibits any party, other than the applicant or locality, from having an actionable appeal for the issuance of permits or authorizations made pursuant to the bill.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB292 Agricultural and forestal districts advisory committee; membership.** Allows the commissioner of revenue or the local government's chief property assessment officer to have a representative from his office serve on his behalf on the agricultural and forestal districts advisory committee.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB305 Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority; quorum.** Changes from 10 to eight the number of members required for a quorum of the board of directors for the Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority.
Patron - Morefield

P **HB338 Authority of local governments; service employees.** Permits a locality to provide for certain requirements concerning 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 an 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. This bill is identical to SB 430.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB352 Local authority; affordable housing performance grant programs.** Allows any locality that has created an industrial development authority or economic development authority (the Authority) to establish, by ordinance, an

affordable housing performance grant program. The bill outlines that such ordinance authorizes the Authority to award affordable housing performance grants to qualifying applicants. Such an ordinance must include: (i) a definition of affordable housing; (ii) grant application guidelines and processes, including an identification of the local officer that is designated to receive applications; (iii) criteria for determining whether the construction or improvement of property qualifies for the awarding of the grant; (iv) provisions that require an applicant seeking the award of a grant to acquire appropriate permits and complete the construction or improvement to develop affordable housing before such a grant will be awarded; (v) provisions that require an applicant seeking the award of a grant to present evidence demonstrating that he has filed and recorded a restrictive covenant to provide affordable housing on the property for a set term, as determined by the ordinance, provided that such term shall be no more than 30 years, on the subject qualifying property before such a grant will be awarded; and (vi) a timeline for the Authority to award grants to qualifying applicants, which may be either upon the completion of the construction or improvement of the property, or on January 1 of the year following the completion of the construction or improvement of the property. The bill also limits the total amount of any such grant to being no more than the amount equal to the increase in assessed value resulting from the construction or improvement of a property. Finally, the bill permits a locality that adopts such ordinance to impose a fee, not to exceed $250, to offset the costs of processing an application.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB388 Powers of service districts; control of invasive plant species.** Allows a service district created within a locality to control the spread of any plant that is identified on the list of invasive plant species established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. This bill is identical to SB 89.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB496 Certain data from water users; water use consumption for domestic, commercial, and industrial purposes and from data centers.** Requires any water user required to register water withdrawal and use data to the State Water Control Board that provides water to another person offsite to include in its report, submitted on its regular reporting schedule, the total volume of potable water and, reported separately, the total volume of reclaimed water, as defined in the bill, provided during each month for each of the following categories: (i) a data center with an air permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality and (ii) to the extent available without utility billing system modifications, (a) domestic purposes, (b) commercial and industrial purposes, separately or combined as available, and (c) all other non-categorized purposes. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 553.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB505 Local government; certain towns; suspension of officers, study, remedial plan, and meeting requirements.** Provides that any member of a governing body in any locality, who has been employed by any governmental agency that is a component part of and that is subject to the ultimate control of the governing body of which he is a member, is deemed to have continuing personal interest in that agency for a period of two years following the termination of such employment. The bill also requires the court, in a criminal proceeding against an officer of any town in Planning District 8 with a population between 8,000 and 10,000 alleging the commission of a felony offense, to enter an order suspending the officer pending the resolution of such proceeding and any related proceeding for the officer's removal. The bill requires any such town to also procure a study by a public institution of higher education to evaluate the condition and status of the town's debt, infrastructure, utilities, and other significant liability risks. Such town is required to adopt a plan consistent with the study to address such town's needs, as identified in the study, in a fiscally appropriate manner that does not jeopardize the town's bond rating. The bill also prohibits the town council of any such town from voting on matters that have not been properly published at least three days prior to the vote as part of a town council agenda or otherwise approved as additional agenda items or as amendments to existing agenda items by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the council at the start of the meeting. The bill requires that any full-time town manager of such town must be a resident of the Commonwealth unless the town council has waived such requirement by a majority vote. This bill is identical to SB 648. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McAuliff

P **HB524 Tourism improvement districts; administering nonprofits; county manager plan; transient occupancy tax.** Allows tourism entities, defined in the bill, to enter into written agreements for the provision of professional services to an administering nonprofit that is under contract with a locality to administer or implement activities specified in a tourism improvement district plan. Current law does not permit such public-private partnerships in tourism improvement districts. The bill also requires a newly formed administering nonprofit's board of directors to be wholly composed of business owners and an existing administering nonprofit to create a committee of business owners to oversee the activities prescribed in the tourism improvement district plan. Finally, the bill permits any locality with the county manager plan of government (Arlington County) to impose an additional transient occupancy tax of up to one percent. This bill is identical to SB 314.
Patron - McClure

P **HB547 Private companies providing public transportation services; employee protections; report.** Requires the governing body of any county or city that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services to (i) require such company to provide any employee of such company providing such services compensation and benefits that are, at a minimum, equivalent to the compensation and benefits provided to a public employee, as defined in the bill, with a position requiring equivalent qualifications and years of service; (ii) provide transportation services through such company's own employees; and (iii) if such county or city subsequently elects to provide its own system of public transportation, adopt an ordinance or resolution providing for collective bargaining and ensure all employees of such private company are offered employment with such subsequent public transportation system without loss of compensation or benefits. The bill clarifies that the bill only applies to actions occurring on or after the effective date and excludes any action taken, contract signed, liability incurred, or right accrued prior to July 1, 2026, from the requirements. Finally, the bill directs the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to convene a work group to develop recommendations on how to implement the provisions of the bill and requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and Senate Committee on Local Government by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 731. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB549 Conservation and replacement of trees during development process; work group; report.** Expands

certain existing local government authority to plant 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 modifying a provision that requires the granting of an exception when the 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 a determination. The bill permits localities to monitor and assess the condition and coverage of tree canopies at development sites during a period of up to 20 years after the trees are planted. The bill also allows any town within Planning District 8 belonging to an eight-hour nonattainment area for air quality standards to require, by ordinance, that a subdivision or development provide for the preservation or replacement of trees on the development site such that the minimum tree canopy or cover 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. Finally, the bill directs the Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience to convene a work group to conduct a comprehensive review of the tree canopy laws and regulations and report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns and Senate Committee on Local Government by November 1, 2026. This bill incorporates HB 995 and is identical to SB 589.
Patron - Hope

P **HB594** **Expedited approval for certain affordable housing developments.** Allows a locality, by ordinance, to authorize a zoning administrator to use an administrative process to approve rezoning applications for certain affordable housing developments. The bill requires that the affordable housing development comply with the Virginia Fair Housing Law, connect to a public or community water supply or sewage system, and be located within or adjacent to an area identified by the locality that could support increased density development and provide access to services. The bill also requires the locality, prior to the adoption of such ordinance, to advertise its intention to propose such ordinance within a certain period of time in a newspaper having a general circulation in the locality. The bill allows the Department of Housing and Community Development to give a locality priority for any grants or loans administered by the Department if such locality demonstrates to the Department's satisfaction that its ordinance has met the provisions of the bill. Finally, the bill requires certain localities that adopt such ordinance to include in their annual local housing policy report to the Department a summary of the ordinance.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB655** **Zoning; manufactured housing.** Amends existing provisions that require localities to permit manufactured homes in areas zoned for agriculture by expanding such requirement to all zoning districts where site-built housing is allowed, with certain conditions. The bill provides that localities shall not adopt or enforce any zoning, land-use, or development regulation that treats manufactured homes differently or more restrictively than a single-family site-built dwelling allowed in the same zoning district. The bill also removes the authority of localities without a zoning ordinance to designate the areas within the locality in which manufactured homes may be located. This bill incorporates HB 418 and HB 801 and is identical to SB 346.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB711** **Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions.** Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be considered pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities, unless otherwise permitted by right. The bill requires localities to furnish the State Corporation Commission with a record of special exception decisions reached pursuant to these provisions that includes (i) the reason for any adverse decision, (ii) any finding of nonconformity with the local comprehensive plan, and (iii) the date of the last revision to the comprehensive plan. The bill further requires the State Corporation Commission to compile and maintain on the Commission's public website a searchable database of all solar special exception decisions and the reasons for any adverse decisions made over a period of not less than five years. Finally, the bill states that its provisions shall apply to any ground-mounted solar facility with a generating capacity of one megawatt or more for which an application for local approval is filed on or after July 1, 2026, and any such project shall not be governed by any local ordinances inconsistent with the bill; however, any application for a solar energy facility that has been received and accepted by the relevant authority prior to July 1, 2026, shall be subject to any applicable local ordinances in place at the time the initial application was filed. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 347. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Herring

P **HB764** **Public utilities; discounted water and sewer fees; Town of Hurt.** Adds the Town of Hurt to those localities that may develop criteria for providing discounted water and sewer fees and charges for low-income, elderly, or disabled customers.
Patron - Zehr

P **HB787** **Zoning; development agreements in certain localities.** Allows any locality within Planning District 23 with a population between 245,000 and 350,000 that has adopted a transfer of development rights ordinance to include provisions in its zoning ordinance that allow the governing body to enter into binding development agreements with owners of real property in the locality, so long as the property to be developed contains at least 1,000 acres or is located within (i) a receiving area of a transfer of development rights program and (ii) a tax increment financing district. Current law allows only New Kent County to include such provisions allowing for development agreements in its zoning ordinance.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB802** **Vacant building registration; registered agents.** Permits any locality to require, by ordinance, the owner, or his registered agent, of any building that has been continuously vacant for at least three years to register such building with the locality annually. The bill also allows the registered agent of an 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 file the registration forms required to be filed by the owner under current law. Finally, the bill provides that the registration forms shall include a requirement to provide the name and contact information for an owner required to register, or his registered agent.
Patron - Carr

P **HB803** **Repairs or maintenance of property; entering adjoining property; petition for entry.** Allows an

owner of real property who seeks to repair or maintain the exterior of his property to petition the circuit court for a right of entry to an adjoining property for the purpose of performing the repairs or maintenance when the property is so situated that it is impossible to perform the repairs or maintenance without entering such adjoining property and permission to enter such adjoining property has been denied. The bill requires the petition and affidavits to contain specific information including the nature of the repairs and what efforts were made by the owner to obtain permission. The bill also provides that the petitioner shall be required to return the adjoining property to its previous condition and shall be liable to the adjoining owner or his lessee for actual damages occurring as a result of the entry. This bill is identical to SB 77.
Patron - Carr

P **HB806 Industrial development authorities; housing.** Allows industrial development authorities to exercise their powers with respect to facilities used primarily for single or multi-family residences in order to promote safe and affordable housing in the Commonwealth. Under current law, such powers may be exercised only in a locality where a housing authority has not been activated. The bill also grants industrial development authorities the power to issue bonds associated with the construction of affordable housing.
Patron - Carr

P **HB833 Land subdivision and development; optional provisions of a subdivision ordinance; electric vehicle charging stations; Department of Energy; report.** Allows, effective July 1, 2027, a locality to include in its subdivision ordinance a requirement for electric vehicle (EV) supply equipment, EV-ready charging spaces, or EV-capable parking spaces that provide infrastructure to facilitate future EV charging, including electrical capacity, prewiring, and conduit for a development containing commercial, industrial, or multifamily residential uses. Effective in due course, the bill directs the Department of Energy to evaluate 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, to provide recommendations on the appropriate number and type of EV charging spaces for new commercial and industrial developments, and to report its findings and recommendations to the State Corporation Commission no later than November 15, 2026.
Patron - McClure

P **HB867 Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority.** 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. In addition to optional increases in density, the bill provides that such program may include certain additional implementation measures including lot size reductions and accessory housing unit allowances. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and is identical to SB 74.
Patron - Cousins

P **HB876 Zoning; wireless facilities; temporary support structures.** Requires a locality to include in its zoning ordinance provisions that allow for the use of temporary support structures that meet certain requirements. The bill defines a temporary support structure as a monopole or portable wireless communications facility used to provide wireless voice, data, or image transmission within a designated area. The bill provides that an application for a temporary support structure may request approval for up to 180 days with extensions not to exceed two years.
Patron - Shin

P **HB888 Minimum off-street parking requirements in certain areas.** Provides that a locality shall not require, as a condition of zoning approval, minimum off-street parking for residential, multifamily, or mixed-use development located within a designated area, as defined in the bill, in amounts exceeding (i) 0.5 parking spaces per dwelling unit for multifamily or mixed-use residential development and (ii) one parking space per dwelling unit for one-family and two-family dwellings and townhouses. The bill also provides that no locality shall adopt or enforce any provision of a zoning ordinance that imposes minimum off-street parking requirements for residential, multifamily, or mixed-use development located within a designated area in excess of such limitations. The bill further provides that any locality with a population greater than 20,000 shall, by ordinance, provide for an administrative reduction of minimum off-street parking requirements of not less than 20 percent for residential, multifamily, or mixed-use development proposed on parcels not located within a designated area. This bill incorporates HB 262. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Shin

P **HB891 Siting of battery energy storage projects; commercial solar photovoltaic generation facilities; permitted accessory use.** Deems battery energy storage projects as a permitted accessory use in all zoning districts on any parcel of land that is subject to an approved special exception, as defined in the bill, for a commercial solar photovoltaic generation facility, if such battery energy storage project is located within the boundaries of the parcel covered by the existing special exception and complies with any applicable federal, state, and local safety or fire codes and environmental regulations. The bill prohibits a host locality from requiring a special exception or any other local land use approval on such battery energy storage project. The bill clarifies that nothing in the provisions of the bill shall be construed to (i) limit the authority of a host locality to enforce compliance with applicable codes or ensure the safe operation of the battery energy storage project or (ii) preclude the developer of a battery energy storage project from negotiating a siting agreement with the host locality. The bill also clarifies that any battery energy storage project for which an initial interconnection request has been filed with an electric utility or a regional transmission organization prior to July 1, 2030, and is constructed in accordance with the provisions of the bill shall be subject to the applicable local ordinance and regulation in effect on July 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 443. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1011 Local competitive bidding for compost and other products containing organic soil amendments; waste disposal infrastructure; civil penalty.** Allows the governing body of a locality to give preference to compost or other products containing organic soil amendments produced within such locality in the case of a tie bid when determining the award of any contract for compost or other products containing soil amendments to be purchased for use by such locality. The bill also provides that any locality may by ordinance require that certain generators, as defined in the bill, of large quantities of organic waste separate the organic waste from other solid waste and ensure that the organic waste is diverted from final disposal in a refuse disposal system by any of a variety of specified waste diversion activities. The ordinance may also establish civil penalties for violations of the ordinance, but a locality shall first issue a warning to a genera-

tor that violates the ordinance. 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, that includes a place for the disposal of trash, recyclables, and food scraps and a sink for liquid waste. This bill is identical to SB 226. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Tran

P **HB1130 Workforce housing for employees of a county or county school board; lease of surplus property.** Allows any county board of supervisors or county school board to lease as lessor surplus or underutilized property. The bill provides that such leases shall be conditioned on the development of workforce housing serving employees of the county or school division with up to 80 percent of area median household income. The bill also prohibits establishment of a minimum lot size exceeding 5,000 square feet for such workforce housing and provides that the placement of manufactured houses that are on a permanent foundation and on individual lots shall be permitted subject to development standards that are equivalent to those applicable to site-built single-family dwellings.

Patron - Reid

P **HB1144 Water and sewer connection fees; first-time homebuyers; affordable housing.** Provides that any locality may provide for the full or partial reimbursement to a first-time homebuyer of water and sewer connection fees, capital recovery charges, and availability fees paid in connection with any new residential development conveyed to such homebuyer. The bill also permits any locality that has adopted an affordable dwelling unit ordinance pursuant to general law to provide for a waiver of such fees and charges for any development subject to the requirements of such ordinance.

Patron - Martinez

P **HB1149 Inspection of water distribution systems; lead status inspections for water service lines.** Permits any locality that operates a water distribution system or any water authority that operates a water distribution system, or their respective duly authorized agents, to, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances, enter upon the exterior areas of any property, public or private, for the purpose of accessing and inspecting a water service line necessary to make the required system-side and customer-side service line material classifications for lead status to comply with federal law. The bill requires any such inspector to maintain a record of such inspections, including the date, time, and result of the inspection, and, further, requires the inspector to inform the customer of the result of the inspection. The bill also requires the locality or water authority to deliver notice to the customer at least 14 days prior to the inspection. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.

Patron - Hodges

P **HB1212 Small lot residential zoning districts.** Requires any locality with a population of 50,000 or more to adopt, maintain, and apply to land within its boundaries at least one zoning district classification that permits a single-family dwelling on a lot with a minimum lot area not exceeding 3,000 square feet. The bill provides that such zoning district classifications shall not impose minimum lot widths exceeding 30 feet or setback, lot coverage, or density requirements that would preclude construction of eligible dwellings on conforming lots. The bill's provisions do not apply to areas within a historic district.

Patron - Sewell

P **HB1227 Private activity bonds; allocation of state ceiling.** Increases the housing allocation of the Virginia state ceiling on private activity bonds from 57 to 67 percent by (i) increasing the allocation to the Virginia Housing Development Authority from the current 43 percent to 50 percent and (ii) increasing the allocation to local housing authorities from the current 14 percent to 17 percent. The bill also maintains the current 18 percent for the Governor's state allocation portion and reduces the industrial development bonds for manufacturing and exempt facilities portion of the ceiling from 25 to 15 percent. This bill is identical to SB 729.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB1234 Land development; solar canopies in parking areas.** Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated surface parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential parking areas with 100 or more new off-street contiguous parking spaces and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the surface parking area. The bill provides that an ordinance adopted pursuant to this bill shall be subject to various additional requirements and shall allow for deviations, in whole or in part, from the requirements of the ordinance when its strict application would prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the locality's zoning or development ordinance or when a property owner shows that the solar canopy, if installed as otherwise required under the ordinance, will generate less than 75 percent of the electricity that would be expected, given the nameplate capacity of the solar modules installed on such canopy, if the canopy were to be installed at another location in the locality without surrounding impediments to insolation such as buildings or shading vegetation. Finally, the bill provides that the applicant or owner may use the electric energy generated from such solar canopy to offset the consumption of the parking lot or adjoining building served under the same account. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill incorporates HB 457 and is identical to SB 26.

Patron - Sewell

P **HB1279 Affordable housing; religious organizations and other nonprofit tax-exempt properties.** Allows for the administrative approval of development and construction of housing on land owned by property tax-exempt religious organizations or certain property tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and provides that zoning ordinances shall allow the by-right development and construction of housing on real property owned by such organizations, subject to various conditions and limitations. The bill provides that the review of such developments be completed pursuant to general law and states that localities shall not require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, rezoning, or any discretionary review or approval process. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 30 years. The bill also provides that all such housing is subject to local real property taxation following completion, unless explicitly exempted by the locality. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and expires on January 1, 2031. This bill is identical to SB 388. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB1316 Removal of clutter; cutting of grass; agricultural use exemption; Planning District 19.** Exempts localities located in Planning District 19 from provisions that exclude agricultural land from requirements relating to the removal of clutter and cutting of grass when such land is one

acre or less and located in an area that is used for a residential purpose. This bill is identical to SB 742.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB1395 Prohibiting loitering; curfew for minors; age restrictions on trick-or-treating.** Prohibits localities from imposing age restrictions on trick-or-treating that exceed current loitering and curfew provisions. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB1404 Appointment of youth representative to local governing body.** Allows a local governing body to appoint a youth representative to serve as a nonvoting member of the governing body.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB1441 Law-enforcement agencies; agreements with federal authority for immigration enforcement; requirements.** Prohibits any state or local law-enforcement agency, defined in the bill, from maintaining, renewing, or entering into any federal immigration agreement unless such agreement contains certain provisions. The bill also prohibits any person acting in his capacity as a law-enforcement officer to assist, cooperate with, or use any law-enforcement resources to facilitate any operation that seeks to identify, arrest, or otherwise impose a penalty upon an individual for any violation of federal civil immigration law. The bill provides that such prohibition shall not apply (i) if the authority to enforce such laws is otherwise permitted or required by law; (ii) if the person acting in his capacity as a law-enforcement officer is presented with a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena that authorizes such enforcement; or (iii) to the transfer of custody of an adult convicted of certain violent felonies from a state, local, or regional correctional facility upon such correctional facility's receipt of a federal immigration detainer. This bill incorporates HB 1438 and is identical to SB 783. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB1448 Petersburg Parking Authority Act.** Authorizes the creation of the Petersburg 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 - Pope Adams

P **HB1463 Zoning; nonconforming uses; manufactured homes.** Provides that a land owner or home owner may place a manufactured home that meets the current HUD manufactured housing code upon any open lot in a valid nonconforming mobile or manufactured home park regardless of whether a valid nonconforming manufactured home is currently located on such lot. The bill also provides that, for the purposes of determining whether a use has been continuous, an existing mobile or manufactured home shall be considered a valid nonconforming mobile or manufactured home regardless of whether such mobile or manufactured home has been occupied during the preceding two-year period.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB1482 Law-enforcement officers; restrictions on wearing of facial coverings; exceptions; penalty.** Prohibits any law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, from wearing a facial covering, defined in the bill, while engaged in the performance of his official duties. The bill sets out several exceptions to such prohibition, including protective facial coverings to protect against disease, infection, and exposure to toxic substances and facial coverings worn by any law-enforcement officer assigned to a special weapons and tactics team while engaged in the performance of his official duties with such team. The bill subjects the law-enforcement officer to disciplinary action, including dismissal, demotion, suspension, transfer, or decertification, and creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any law-enforcement officer who wears a facial covering in violation of the provisions of the bill unless the law-enforcement agency that employs such law-enforcement officer has adopted and established a written policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings. The bill also directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop a model policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings by law-enforcement officers. This bill is identical to SB 352. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Schmidt

P **SB26 Land development; solar canopies in parking areas.** Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated surface parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential parking areas with 100 or more new off-street contiguous parking spaces and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the surface parking area. The bill provides that an ordinance adopted pursuant to this bill shall be subject to various additional requirements and shall allow for deviations, in whole or in part, from the requirements of the ordinance when its strict application would prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the locality's zoning or development ordinance or when a property owner shows that the solar canopy, if installed as otherwise required under the ordinance, will generate less than 75 percent of the electricity that would be expected, given the nameplate capacity of the solar modules installed on such canopy, if the canopy were to be installed at another location in the locality without surrounding impediments to insolation such as buildings or shading vegetation. Finally, the bill provides that the applicant or owner may use the electric energy generated from such solar canopy to offset the consumption of the parking lot or adjoining building served under the same account. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1234.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB44 Registration by localities of cemeteries on private property.** Clarifies that the requirement for the governing body of a locality to publish on its website notice of the public sale of any publicly owned property that contains a known cemetery, graveyard, or other place of burial does not meet the requirement in current law for a newspaper publication of such notice. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Roem

P **SB51 Election of certain governing bodies; conversion to single-member districts.** Requires every locality with a population of 400,000 or greater to elect the members of its governing body by individual single-member districts. The bill provides that a governing body's presiding officer may be elected at large. The bill further provides that any such governing body that does not already meet the requirements of the bill shall establish the required districts and shall reapportion the representation in the governing body in accordance with general law. Finally, the bill provides that for any such governing body that, prior to 2026, adopted an ordinance with a map to elect its members by individual single-member districts, such ordinance shall become effective upon the effective date of this

act. This bill is identical to HB 168 and contains an emergency clause. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Rouse

P **SB74 Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority.** 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. In addition to optional increases in density, the bill provides that such program may include certain additional implementation measures including lot size reductions and accessory housing unit allowances. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and is identical to HB 867.
Patron - McPike

P **SB77 Repairs or maintenance of property; entering adjoining property; petition for entry.** Allows an owner of real property who seeks to repair or maintain the exterior of his property to petition the circuit court for a right of entry to an adjoining property for the purpose of performing the repairs or maintenance when the property is so situated that it is impossible to perform the repairs or maintenance without entering such adjoining property and permission to enter such adjoining property has been denied. The bill requires the petition and affidavits to contain specific information including the nature of the repairs and what efforts were made by the owner to obtain permission. The bill also provides that the petitioner shall be required to return the adjoining property to its previous condition and shall be liable to the adjoining owner or his lessee for actual damages occurring as a result of the entry. This bill is identical to HB 803.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB87 Local government sporting events and sporting facilities; automated external defibrillators.** Requires localities to ensure that operational automated external defibrillators are available at local government sporting events and sporting facilities. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB89 Powers of service districts; control of invasive plant species.** Allows a service district created within a locality to control the spread of any plant that is identified on the list of invasive plant species established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. This bill is identical to HB 388.
Patron - Salim

P **SB94 Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility.** Provides that, prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception application, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF on residential units and schools located within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bill also allows a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed facility on (i) ground and surface water resources, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, and (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land. The provisions of the bill shall not apply to a site with an existing legislative or administrative approval where an applicant is seeking an expansion or modification of an already existing or approved facility and such expansion does not exceed an additional 100 megawatts or more of electrical power. Finally, the bill provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, or otherwise supersede existing local zoning authority. This bill incorporates SB 130 and is identical to HB 153.
Patron - Roem

P **SB226 Local competitive bidding for compost and other products containing organic soil amendments; waste disposal infrastructure; civil penalty.** Allows the governing body of a locality to give preference to compost or other products containing organic soil amendments produced within such locality in the case of a tie bid when determining the award of any contract for compost or other products containing soil amendments to be purchased for use by such locality. The bill also provides that any locality may by ordinance require that certain generators, as defined in the bill, of large quantities of organic waste separate the organic waste from other solid waste and ensure that the organic waste is diverted from final disposal in a refuse disposal system by any of a variety of specified waste diversion activities. The ordinance may also establish civil penalties for violations of the ordinance, but a locality shall first issue a warning to a generator that violates the ordinance. 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, that includes a place for the disposal of trash, recyclables, and food scraps and a sink for liquid waste. This bill is identical to HB 1011. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB285 Department of Housing and Community Development; administration of Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment grant program; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to review and develop criteria and guidelines for the administration of the Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment grant program in consultation with the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia First Cities Coalition, the Virginia Municipal League, and the Virginia Economic Developers Association. The bill requires such criteria to include (i) award prioritization for (a) localities experiencing an above average and high level of fiscal stress as designated by the Commission on Local Government in its most recent Report on Comparative Revenue Capacity, Revenue Effort, and Fiscal Stress of Virginia's Cities and Counties and (b) localities experiencing a significant decrease in commercial real estate assessments and (ii) the amount and type of local matches with consideration of both monetary and non-monetary contribution requirements. The bill requires the Director of the Department to report the Department's findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the House Committee on General Laws no later than November 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Aird

P **SB314 Tourism improvement districts; administering nonprofits; county manager plan; transient occupancy tax.** Allows tourism entities, defined in the bill, to enter into written agreements for the provision of professional services to an administering nonprofit that is under contract with a locality to administer or implement activities specified in a tourism improvement district plan. Current law does not permit such public-private partnerships in tourism improvement districts. The bill also requires a newly formed administering nonprofit's board of directors to be wholly composed of business owners and an existing administering nonprofit to create a committee of business owners to oversee the activities pre-

scribed in the tourism improvement district plan. Finally, the bill permits any locality with the county manager plan of government (Arlington County) to impose an additional transient occupancy tax of up to one percent. This bill is identical to HB 524.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB317 Interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements; behavioral health co-response teams.** Provides that interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements may allow for the development of co-response teams staffed by one or more law-enforcement agencies that respond to behavioral health-related calls in multiple jurisdictions. This bill is a recommendation of the Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is identical to HB 248.
Patron - Perry

P **SB328 Housing for local employees; grants for homeownership and workforce housing alternatives.** Eliminates the maximum amount a locality may provide (i) to employees of the locality, employees of the school board, and employees of constitutional officers for homeownership grants to purchase primary residences in the locality and (ii) to school division personnel for residential housing assistance grants to provide affordable workforce housing alternatives. The bill also eliminates the requirement that such grants adhere to the Virginia Housing and Development Authority regional sales price and household income limitation guidelines. Current law imposes a maximum grant amount of $25,000 for individual grants per employee, as well as a maximum lifetime cumulative amount of $25,000 per employee. This bill is identical to HB 164.
Patron - Perry

P **SB346 Zoning; manufactured housing.** Amends existing provisions that require localities to permit manufactured homes in areas zoned for agriculture by expanding such requirement to all zoning districts where site-built housing is allowed, with certain conditions. The bill provides that localities shall not adopt or enforce any zoning, land-use, or development regulation that treats manufactured homes differently or more restrictively than a single-family site-built dwelling allowed in the same zoning district. The bill also removes the authority of localities without a zoning ordinance to designate the areas within the locality in which manufactured homes may be located. This bill is identical to HB 655.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB347 Local regulation of solar facilities; special exceptions.** Provides that a ground-mounted solar energy generation facility to be located on property zoned agricultural, commercial, industrial, or institutional shall be considered pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities, unless otherwise permitted by right. The bill requires localities to furnish the State Corporation Commission with a record of special exception decisions reached pursuant to these provisions that includes (i) the reason for any adverse decision, (ii) any finding of nonconformity with the local comprehensive plan, and (iii) the date of the last revision to the comprehensive plan. The bill further requires the State Corporation Commission to compile and maintain on the Commission's public website a searchable database of all solar special exception decisions and the reasons for any adverse decisions made over a period of not less than five years. Finally, the bill states that its provisions shall apply to any ground-mounted solar facility with a generating capacity of one megawatt or more for which an application for local approval is filed on or after July 1, 2026, and any such project shall not be governed by any local ordinances inconsistent with the bill; however, any application for a solar energy facility that has been received and accepted by the relevant authority prior to July 1, 2026, shall be subject to any applicable local ordinances in place at the time the initial application was filed. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 711. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB388 Affordable housing; religious organizations and other nonprofit tax-exempt properties.** Allows for the administrative approval of development and construction of housing on land owned by property tax-exempt religious organizations or certain property tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and provides that zoning ordinances shall allow the by-right development and construction of housing on real property owned by such organizations, subject to various conditions and limitations. The bill provides that the review of such developments be completed pursuant to general law and states that localities shall not require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, rezoning, or any discretionary review or approval process. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 30 years. The bill also provides that all such housing is subject to local real property taxation following completion, unless explicitly exempted by the locality. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and expires on January 1, 2031. This bill incorporates SB 367 and is identical to HB 1279. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McPike

P **SB425 Comprehensive plan; environmental justice strategy.** Requires cities with populations greater than 20,000 and counties with populations greater than 100,000 to consider, beginning July 1, 2026, at the next and all subsequent reviews of the comprehensive plan, adopting an environmental justice strategy. The bill provides that the locality's strategy shall be to identify environmental justice and fenceline communities within the jurisdiction of the local planning commission and identify objectives and policies to reduce health risks, to promote civic engagement, to prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of environmental justice and fenceline communities, as those terms are defined in the bill, and to establish baseline environmental and health conditions to characterize any disproportionate public health conditions in the identified fenceline communities. This bill is identical to HB 256.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB430 Authority of local governments; service employees.** Permits a locality to provide for certain requirements concerning 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 an 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. This bill is identical to HB 338.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB443 Siting of battery energy storage projects; commercial solar photovoltaic generation facilities; permitted accessory use.** Deems battery energy storage projects as a permitted accessory use in all zoning districts on any

parcel of land that is subject to an approved special exception, as defined in the bill, for a commercial solar photovoltaic generation facility, if such battery energy storage project is located within the boundaries of the parcel covered by the existing special exception and complies with any applicable federal, state, and local safety or fire codes and environmental regulations. The bill prohibits a host locality from requiring a special exception or any other local land use approval on such battery energy storage project. The bill clarifies that nothing in the provisions of the bill shall be construed to (i) limit the authority of a host locality to enforce compliance with applicable codes or ensure the safe operation of the battery energy storage project or (ii) preclude the developer of a battery energy storage project from negotiating a siting agreement with the host locality. The bill also clarifies that any battery energy storage project for which an initial interconnection request has been filed with an electric utility or a regional transmission organization prior to July 1, 2030, and is constructed in accordance with the provisions of the bill shall be subject to the applicable local ordinance and regulation in effect on July 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 891. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McPike

P **SB504 Vested rights; rulings or orders of the local circuit court.** Provides that a landowner's vested rights in a specific residential project shall not be affected by a subsequent ruling or order of the local circuit court applicable to a zoning ordinance amendment when such ruling or order affects at least 25 individual parcels within a locality unless the significant affirmative governmental act approving such residential project is the direct subject of the ruling or order.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB531 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 $500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) setbacks for the ADU that are greater than the setback required for the primary dwelling or the setback required for accessory structures on the residential lot, whichever is less; (ii) conditions for ADUs that are more restrictive than those for single-family dwellings within the same zoning area with regard to height, rear, or side setbacks, lot size or coverage, or building frontage; or (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB589 Conservation and replacement of trees during development process; work group; report.** Expands certain existing local government authority to plant 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 modifying a provision that requires the granting of an exception when the 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 a determination. The bill permits localities to monitor and assess the condition and coverage of tree canopies at development sites during a period of up to 20 years after the trees are planted. The bill also allows any town within Planning District 8 belonging to an eight-hour nonattainment area for air quality standards to require, by ordinance, that a subdivision or development provide for the preservation or replacement of trees on the development site such that the minimum tree canopy or cover 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. Finally, the bill directs the Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience to convene a work group to conduct a comprehensive review of the tree canopy laws and regulations and report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns and Senate Committee on Local Government by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 549.
Patron - Salim

P **SB648 Local government; certain towns; suspension of officers, study, remedial plan, and meeting requirements.** Provides that any member of a governing body in any locality, who has been employed by any governmental agency that is a component part of and that is subject to the ultimate control of the governing body of which he is a member, is deemed to have continuing personal interest in that agency for a period of two years following the termination of such employment. The bill also requires the court, in a criminal proceeding against an officer of any town in Planning District 8 with a population between 8,000 and 10,000 alleging the commission of a felony offense, to enter an order suspending the officer pending the resolution of such proceeding and any related proceeding for the officer's removal. The bill requires any such town to also procure a study by a public institution of higher education to evaluate the condition and status of the town's debt, infrastructure, utilities, and other significant liability risks. Such town is required to adopt a plan consistent with the study to address such town's needs, as identified in the study, in a fiscally appropriate manner that does not jeopardize the town's bond rating. The bill also prohibits the town council of any such town from voting on matters that have not been properly published at least three days prior to the vote as part of a town council agenda or otherwise approved as additional agenda items or as amendments to existing agenda items by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the council at the start of the meeting. The bill requires that any full-time town manager of such town must be a resident of the Commonwealth unless the town council has waived such requirement by a majority vote. This bill is identical to HB 505. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Perry

P **SB729 Private activity bonds; allocation of state ceiling.** Increases the housing allocation of the Virginia state ceiling on private activity bonds from 57 to 67 percent by (i) increasing the allocation to the Virginia Housing Development Authority from the current 43 percent to 50 percent and (ii) increasing the allocation to local housing authorities from the current 14 percent to 17 percent. The bill also maintains the current 18 percent for the Governor's state allocation portion and reduces the industrial development bonds for manufacturing and exempt facilities portion of the ceiling from 25 to 15 percent. This bill is identical to HB 1227.
Patron - Jones

P **SB731 Private companies providing public transportation services; employee protections; report.** Requires the governing body of any county or city that contracts with a private company to provide transportation services to (i) require such company to provide any employee of such company providing such services compensation and benefits that are, at a minimum, equivalent to the compensation and benefits provided to a public employee, as defined in the

bill, with a position requiring equivalent qualifications and years of service; (ii) provide transportation services through such company's own employees; and (iii) if such county or city subsequently elects to provide its own system of public transportation, adopt an ordinance or resolution providing for collective bargaining and ensure all employees of such private company are offered employment with such subsequent public transportation system without loss of compensation or benefits. The bill clarifies that the bill only applies to actions occurring on or after the effective date and excludes any action taken, contract signed, liability incurred, or right accrued prior to July 1, 2026, from the requirements. Finally, the bill directs the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to convene a work group to develop recommendations on how to implement the provisions of the bill and requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and Senate Committee on Local Government by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 547. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Salim

P **SB742 Removal of clutter; cutting of grass; agricultural use exemption; Planning District 19.** Exempts localities located in Planning District 19 from provisions that exclude agricultural land from requirements relating to the removal of clutter and cutting of grass when such land is one acre or less and located in an area that is used for a residential purpose. This bill is identical to HB 1316.

Patron - Aird

P **SB744 Public Recreational Facilities Authorities Act.** Authorizes authorities established under the Public Recreational Facilities Authorities Act to make grants to any participating locality, the Commonwealth or any other political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof, any federal agency, and any person to promote the purposes of the authority, including for the purpose of promoting tourism development.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB783 Law-enforcement agencies; agreements with federal authority for immigration enforcement; requirements.** Prohibits any state or local law-enforcement agency, defined in the bill, from maintaining, renewing, or entering into any federal immigration agreement unless such agreement contains certain provisions. The bill also prohibits any person acting in his capacity as a law-enforcement officer to assist, cooperate with, or use any law-enforcement resources to facilitate any operation that seeks to identify, arrest, or otherwise impose a penalty upon an individual for any violation of federal civil immigration law. The bill provides that such prohibition shall not apply (i) if the authority to enforce such laws is otherwise permitted or required by law; (ii) if the person acting in his capacity as a law-enforcement officer is presented with a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena that authorizes such enforcement; or (iii) to the transfer of custody of an adult convicted of certain violent felonies from a state, local, or regional correctional facility upon such correctional facility's receipt of a federal immigration detainer. This bill is identical to HB 1441. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Salim

P **SB800 Winchester Parking Authority Act.** Amends the Winchester Parking Authority Act to grant the Authority the power to sell, lease as lessor, transfer, or dispose of any property or interest acquired by it.

Patron - French

Failed

F **HB51 Elections; time of certain local elections.** Removes a provision that requires local elections for mayor, members of a local governing body, or members of an elected school board to be held at the time of the November general election. The bill allows cities and towns that made the transition between July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2026, to provide by ordinance for its reversal.

Patron - Bloxom

F **HB214 Localities; Home Flood Protection Assistance Program.** Enables a locality to establish by ordinance a Home Flood Protection Assistance Program to provide financial assistance to households to install temporary home flood exclusion tools at vulnerable entry points. Such financial assistance is limited to $3,000 per household and shall only be granted after a household has (i) completed a stormwater extension program, as defined in the bill, or local floodplain review, including an on-site assessment by the locality; (ii) completed all required or recommended passive or structural flood mitigation measures; and (iii) received verification from the locality that no further feasible passive or structural flood mitigation measures remain. The bill provides that a locality may utilize funds from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund in administering a Program and directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to establish and maintain uniform product performance verification standards for home flood exclusion tools that will be the only such tools eligible for funds from a Program. The bill also provides that a locality establishing a Program may partner with locality-authorized nonprofit resilience organizations to assist in identifying households eligible for such Program, installing temporary home flood exclusion tools, training households on the proper deployment of such tools, and tracking the performance and effectiveness of such tools.

Patron - Feggans

F **HB262 Minimum parking requirements; prohibition on mandates by localities.** Provides that no locality shall adopt, enforce, or maintain any ordinance, policy, or requirement that mandates a minimum number of parking spaces for any new or existing building, structure, or other use. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026. This bill was incorporated into HB 888.

Patron - Simonds

F **HB315 Removal of clutter; cutting of grass; agricultural use exemption; Planning District 19.** Exempts localities located in Planning District 19 from provisions that exclude agricultural land from requirements relating to the removal of clutter and cutting of grass when such land is one acre or less and located in an area that is used for a residential purpose.

Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB418 Zoning; manufactured housing.** Amends existing provisions that require localities to permit manufactured housing in areas zoned for agriculture by expanding such requirement to all zoning districts where site-built housing is allowed. The bill provides that manufactured housing shall be subject to development standards that are equivalent to those applicable to site-built single-family dwellings but that such standards shall not have the effect of excluding manufactured housing. The bill also removes the authority of localities without a zoning ordinance to designate the areas within the locality in which manufactured housing may be located. This bill was incorporated into HB 655.

Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB457 Land development; solar canopies in parking areas.** Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated surface parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential parking areas with 100 parking spaces or more and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the surface parking area. The bill provides that localities shall allow for deviations, in whole or in part, from the requirements of the ordinance when its strict application would prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the locality's zoning or development ordinance. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB511 Data centers; industrial zoning.** Requires a locality to review and amend its zoning ordinance to (i) designate data centers as industrial uses for zoning purposes; (ii) review the locations of zones allowing data centers by right, and adjust the zoning map, if needed, considering proximity to residential areas; (iii) review the minimum requirements in the zoning ordinance, such as setbacks and building heights, for the purpose of mitigating negative impacts on residential or other sensitive areas and consider adding requirements specific to data centers as needed; (iv) identify optimal areas for data center development in the locality, including locations that are suitable from the locality's perspective as well as the industry's perspective; (v) consider zoning ordinance changes to reduce the likelihood of noisy data centers, including through limiting allowable locations and requiring sound modeling, and prohibit the constant low-frequency noise of data centers from reaching residential areas; and (vi) require commitments from data centers making zoning requests to sufficiently mitigate negative impacts on any nearby residential areas. The provisions of the bill shall apply only to localities where data centers are already addressed in the locality's zoning ordinance or where a locality is revising its zoning ordinance to include data centers. This bill was incorporated into HB 153.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB535 Review of plats and plans by locality; designated agent.** Allows any locality with a population of 20,000 or less to use its planning commission as the designated agent for purposes of reviewing and acting on subdivision plats, site plans, and plans of development. Currently, only localities with a population of 5,000 or less are permitted to use their planning commissions for such purpose.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB536 Impact fees; residential development.** Authorizes any locality to impose impact fees on certain residential developments in order to defray the costs of constructing public facilities necessitated by those developments. Under current law, such impact fees have limited applicability and may be imposed only by those counties that have established urban transportation service districts.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB679 Zoning; special exceptions; City of Portsmouth.** Adds the City of Portsmouth to those localities that have been granted authority to impose a condition upon any special exception relating to retail alcoholic beverage control licensees that provides that such special exception will automatically expire upon a change of ownership of the property, a change in possession, a change in the operation or management of a facility, or the passage of a specific period of time.
Patron - Hayes

F **HB691 Control of firearms by localities.** Removes the option for a locality to adopt an ordinance that prohibits the possession, carrying, or transportation of any firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof in any (i) public park owned or operated by the locality, or by any authority or local government entity created or controlled by the locality, or (ii) public street, road, alley, or sidewalk or public right of way or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public and is being used by or is adjacent to a permitted event or an event that would otherwise require a permit.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB708 Timely local decision on certain land use permits; incentives and penalties.** Requires that the average time period required for a locality to take final action to approve, approve with conditions, or deny all by-right permit applications from the date of submission of such applications to the locality shall not exceed 12 months. The bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to conduct semiannual compliance reviews of each locality and to publish and transmit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report identifying each locality as compliant or noncompliant for the applicable review period. The bill provides that any locality determined by the Department to be compliant for the preceding 12-month period shall be eligible to receive a state grant sufficient to fund one full-time equivalent position within the locality's planning department. The bill further provides that if the Department determines that a locality is noncompliant during a review period, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall reduce program fund allocations from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund to any project within the boundaries of such noncompliant locality by two percent for the following fiscal year.
Patron - Thomas

F **HB771 Land subdivision and development; mandatory provisions of a subdivision ordinance; periodic partial and final release of certain performance guarantees.** Provides that the amount of a certified check, cash escrow, bond, or letter of credit required to be furnished by an owner or developer to a governing body related to certain improvements dedicated for public use within any subdivision shall not exceed the total estimated cost of construction as determined by a duly licensed professional engineer or land surveyor and a reasonable allowance for estimated administrative costs, inflation, and potential damage to existing roads or utilities, which shall not exceed five percent of the estimated construction costs. Current law requires that such amount not exceed the total of the estimated cost of construction based on unit prices for new public or private sector construction in the locality and such reasonable allowance, which shall not exceed 10 percent of the estimated construction costs.
The bill also provides that periodic partial releases of certain performance guarantees granted to subdividers or developers may not occur before the completion of at least 15 percent of the public facilities covered by any bond, escrow, letter of credit, or other performance guarantee. Current law provides such partial release may not occur before the completion of at least 30 percent of such public facilities. The bill also requires that a certification of partial or final completion of such public facilities from a duly licensed professional engineer or land surveyor be accepted without requiring further inspection of such public facilities. Current law allows, but does not require, such certifications be accepted without further inspection.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB793 Conveyance of certain property from the Department of Corrections to Brunswick County; Brunswick Correctional Center.** Provides for the transfer of

certain property in Brunswick County from the Department of Corrections to Brunswick County.
Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB801 Zoning; manufactured housing.** Amends existing provisions that require localities to permit manufactured housing in areas zoned for agriculture by expanding such requirement to all zoning districts where site-built housing is allowed. The bill provides that manufactured housing shall be subject to development standards that are equivalent to those applicable to site-built single-family dwellings but that such standards shall not have the effect of excluding manufactured housing. The bill also removes the authority of localities without a zoning ordinance to designate the areas within the locality in which manufactured housing may be located. This bill was incorporated into HB 655.
Patron - Helmer

F **HB804 Statewide housing targets for localities.** Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2028. The bill provides that in order to meet such 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality while meeting the growth target rates. The bill provides that such plan may include any strategy deemed appropriate by the locality; however, for purposes of demonstrating a good faith effort to meet growth targets, a locality shall include modeling that demonstrates that the plan will result in the permitting of the required number of units and either (i) a zoning ordinance that includes provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses or (ii) at least three of the housing growth strategies enumerated in the bill. The bill further provides that after January 1, 2033, an applicant that seeks local government approval for a residential development site plan or rezoning that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the board of zoning appeals.
Patron - Helmer

F **HB816 Zoning; by-right multifamily development.** Requires a locality to include provisions in its zoning ordinance allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses and mixed-use developments that include both residential and commercial uses on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses. The bill provides that such provisions shall not (i) apply in underdeveloped areas that are covered by a tree canopy of at least 60 percent; (ii) impose more stringent land use requirements for such development than would otherwise be required; (iii) require that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for such development; (iv) require a lower height than the greater of the height of the tallest existing building within 500 feet or the height that would otherwise be allowed; (v) require more than one parking space per unit; (vi) require larger setbacks than the existing building in the locality with the smallest setbacks; or (vii) require more costly amenities or design features than would otherwise be required for multifamily or mixed-use buildings.
The bill also (a) stipulates that the review and approval of such development shall be done administratively by the locality's staff; (b) requires that the zoning ordinance provisions must exempt any proposed development that converts an existing building to a multifamily residential use from any setback, height, or frontage requirements; (c) prohibits the zoning ordinance provisions to require any proposed development to dedicate some or all of its ground floor space to commercial uses; and (d) provides that any proposed residential development that dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to affordable housing may be offered application incentives by the locality. The bill also prohibits localities from approving any commercial or business use on a property adjacent to the approved multifamily residential development that is different from the use that had been established at the time the multifamily residential development was approved.
Patron - Helmer

F **HB844 Public utilities; discounted water and sewer fees; Town of Bowling Green.** Adds the Town of Bowling Green to those localities that may develop criteria for providing discounted water and sewer fees and charges for low-income, elderly, or disabled customers.
Patron - Kent

F **HB985 Local land use decision authority.** Provides that the authority for a locality's planning and land use decisions belongs solely to the locality and shall not be ceded to any state agency or state-sanctioned body.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB995 Conservation of trees during land development process; Planning District 8; minimum tree canopy or cover percentages requirements after development.** Allows any locality within Planning District 8 belonging to an eight-hour nonattainment area for air quality standards to require, by ordinance, that a subdivision or development provide for the preservation or replacement of trees on the development site such that the minimum tree canopy or cover 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. The bill also allows such localities to include in their tree canopy ordinance reasonable provisions preserving trees of outstanding age, size, species, beauty, or other special significance.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB1061 Housing for local employees; grants for homeownership and workforce housing alternatives.** Eliminates the maximum amount a locality may provide (i) to employees of the locality, employees of the school board, and employees of constitutional officers for homeownership grants to purchase primary residences in the locality and (ii) to school division personnel for residential housing assistance grants to provide affordable workforce housing alternatives. The bill also eliminates the requirement that such grants adhere to the Virginia Housing and Development Authority regional sales price and household income limitation guidelines. Current law imposes a maximum grant amount of $25,000 for individual grants per employee, as well as a maximum lifetime cumulative amount of $25,000 per employee.
Patron - Martinez

F **HB1066 Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority; powers; commercial fishing pier.** Expands the powers of the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to allow the Authority to construct, maintain, and operate a commercial fishing pier, defined in the bill, whose primary purpose is to allow fishing by the public. The bill exempts such a pier from certain licensing and reporting requirements for commercial fishing piers.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1083 Review of plats and plans by locality; designated agent.** Allows any locality without a professional fire department to use its planning commission as the designated agent for purposes of reviewing and acting on subdivision plats, site plans, and plans of development. Currently, only localities with a population of 5,000 or less are permitted to use their planning commissions for such purpose.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1122 Vested rights.** Alters the criteria for determining when a landowner's rights shall be deemed vested in a land use. Under current law, such vesting occurs when the landowner (i) obtains or is the beneficiary of a significant affirmative governmental act that remains in effect allowing development of a specific project, (ii) relies in good faith on the significant affirmative governmental act, and (iii) incurs extensive obligations or substantial expenses in diligent pursuit of the specific project in reliance on the significant affirmative governmental act. The bill provides that vesting in a land use includes the development of a specific project as contemplated by and consistent with a significant affirmative governmental act and any related approvals, conditions, plans, or application materials accepted or approved by the locality, including the right to make minor modifications to such approvals that substantially conform and do not materially alter the character of the development contemplated by the significant affirmative governmental act. The bill further provides that a zoning administrator shall issue a written determination as to whether a proposed change is material or nonmaterial and that if a zoning administrator determines that a proposed change is material, an applicant may appeal the decision pursuant to general law. Finally, the bill narrows the circumstances by which a locality may treat a use as a valid nonconforming use by providing that if a landowner's rights are vested in a land use, that use shall not be rendered nonconforming by subsequent ordinance changes, except where the General Assembly explicitly authorizes retroactive application of new standards to protect public health and safety.
Patron - Reid

F **HB1148 Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority; public purpose; submerged aquatic vegetation.** Allows the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to receive and expend public funds and private donations in order to restore or create submerged aquatic vegetation within the region for which the authority exists subject to certain limitations. The bill also allows the Authority to sell or convey tidal mitigation or submerged aquatic vegetation credits resulting from restoration or creation projects to political subdivisions within the Authority and with the concurrence of the Marine Resources Commission to nonparticipating political subdivisions. Currently, the Authority is only allowed to receive public and private funds for tidal wetland restoration and creation projects and is prohibited from selling or conveying tidal mitigation credits to any participating political subdivision.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1154 Certain boundary line adjustments; Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.** Requires a locality to provide, by ordinance, that a boundary line adjustment that applies to lots that are located in a Resource Protection Area and that are grandfathered under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act does not create a new lot of record. The bill requires such ordinance to include that such boundary line adjustment shall be considered as a lot that predates the Act. The bill clarifies that its provisions do not limit a locality's zoning authority. The bill also directs the State Water Control Board to amend its criteria under the Act to allow an owner of a lot in any locality that predates the Act to submit an application for a boundary line adjustment without creating a new lot of record.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1163 Optional provisions in subdivision ordinances; time-based restrictions.** Adds to the list of optional provisions in local subdivision ordinances provisions restricting the frequency of permissible subdivisions for a qualifying property within a specified time frame not to exceed seven years. The bill requires such provisions to enumerate the required qualifications for eligible properties and to establish procedures for seeking a subdivision of property.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1177 Local rent stabilization authority; civil penalty.** Provides that any locality may by ordinance adopt rent stabilization 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 rent stabilization may be required to give up to a two-month written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's rent stabilization 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 for the region in which the locality sits, states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year, and requires the locality to annually by June 1 publish such allowance on its website. Certain facilities, as outlined in the bill, are exempt from any such ordinance. The bill also requires such ordinance to provide a procedure by which a landlord may apply for an exemption from the rent stabilization provisions in situations where the net operating income generated by the rental facility has not been maintained due to escalating operating expenses or for other appropriate reasons as established by the locality. Finally, the bill provides that a locality may establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in the ordinance that shall not exceed $2,500 per separate violation.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB1438 Agencies of the Commonwealth; law-enforcement agencies; employees and officers; agreements with federal authority for immigration enforcement; prohibitions and limitations.** Prohibits a state agency or a law-enforcement agency, defined in the bill, from entering into a written agreement authorizing any employee or law-enforcement officer to perform a function of a federal immigration officer. The bill provides that federal immigration laws shall be enforced by a state or local law-enforcement agency of the Commonwealth pursuant to a valid judicial warrant, federal or statutory regulations, or as otherwise required by state law. The bill also prohibits an employee of a state agency or a law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, from conducting certain actions or inquiries regarding a person's citizenship or immigration status while engaged in the performance of his duties and creates a cause of action for appropriate equitable, injunctive, or declaratory relief against such employee or law-enforcement officer who willfully conducts such actions or inquiries in violation of the provisions of the bill. Finally, the bill requires any state agency or law-enforcement agency that has an existing written agreement with a federal authority to perform federal immigration functions to terminate such written agreement by September 1, 2026.
Patron - Guzman

F **HB1493 Procedures for certain acts; economic development incentives; economic development authorities.** Requires that a proposed ordinance or resolution related to cer-

tain economic development incentives comply with the notice and public hearing requirements specified in the bill prior to approval by the governing body. The bill provides that the notice and public hearing requirements also apply to any such economic development incentives to be offered pursuant to an agreement between a locality and an economic development authority or industrial development authority.

Patron - Dougherty

F **SB130 Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility.** Provides that prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception application, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF on residential units and schools located within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bill also allows a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed HEUF facility on (i) ground and surface water resources, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, and (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land. The provisions of the bill do not apply to a site with an existing legislative or administrative approval where an applicant is seeking an expansion or modification of an already existing or approved facility and such expansion does not exceed an additional 100 megawatts or more of electrical power. Finally, the bill provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, or otherwise supersede existing local zoning authority. This bill was incorporated into SB 94.

Patron - Ebbin

F **SB182 Short-term rental properties; human trafficking awareness training.** Requires every operator, defined in the bill, and its employees to complete an approved training course on recognizing and reporting instances of suspected human trafficking, as provided or approved by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, by January 1, 2028, and every two years thereafter. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Williams Graves

F **SB334 Conveyances of interests in real property; public hearing required.** Requires localities disposing of any permanent easements or rights-of-way for the construction of (i) new electric transmission or distribution facilities of more than 69 kilovolts, (ii) data center operations or supporting electric transmission or distribution facilities of more than 69 kilovolts, or (iii) any commercial or industrial facility that requires electric service through facilities described in clause (i) to hold a public hearing prior to disposing of any such real property interest. The bill requires that such public hearing include a disclosure of the proposed use, anticipated impacts to the community and environment, and any alternative locations considered by the governing body. Finally, the bill mandates that no vote on any action intended to dispose of any real property interest may be taken until a public hearing is held.

Patron - Roem

F **SB354 Minimum parking requirements; prohibition on mandates by localities.** Provides that no locality shall adopt, enforce, or maintain any ordinance, policy, or requirement that mandates a minimum number of parking spaces for any new building, structure, or other use or any existing building, structure, or other use that is undergoing material rehabilitation, defined in the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026.

Patron - Salim

F **SB367 Affordable housing; religious organizations and other nonprofit tax-exempt properties.** Allows for the administrative approval of development and construction of housing on land owned by property tax-exempt religious organizations or certain property tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and provides that zoning ordinances shall allow the by-right development and construction of housing on real property owned by such organizations. The bill provides that the review of such developments be completed pursuant to general law and states that localities shall not require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, rezoning, or any discretionary review or approval process. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 30 years. The bill also provides that all such housing is subject to local real property taxation following completion, unless explicitly exempted by the locality. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026. This bill was incorporated into SB 388.

Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB454 Zoning; by-right multifamily development.** Requires local zoning ordinances to permit, on any parcel with an existing tree canopy coverage of at less than 60 percent, located within a city or town having a population of more than 20,000 or within a designated metropolitan planning area, multifamily and mixed-use residential development as a by-right use on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses. The bill stipulates that any application for a proposed development authorized pursuant to the bill shall be reviewed and acted upon administratively by a locality. The bill prohibits a locality from (i) requiring that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for such development or (ii) imposing more stringent land use requirements, enumerated in the bill, for such development than would otherwise be required. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

Patron - VanValkenburg

F **SB488 Statewide housing targets for localities.** Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2028. The bill provides that in order to meet such 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality while meeting the growth target rates. The bill provides that such plan may include any strategy deemed appropriate by the locality; however, for purposes of demonstrating a good faith effort to meet growth targets, a locality shall include modeling that demonstrates that the plan will result in the permitting of the required number of units and either (i) a zoning ordinance that includes provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses or (ii) at least three of the housing growth strategies enumerated in the bill. The bill further provides that after January 1, 2033, an applicant that seeks local government approval for a residential development site plan or rezoning that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the board of zoning appeals.

Patron - VanValkenburg

F **SB554 Zoning; high-energy users; local authority.** Permits the governing body of any locality to give consideration to the adverse impacts on the electric grid caused by high-energy users, as defined in the bill, and impacts resulting from new electric infrastructure in the design of zoning ordinances and the drawing of districts. The bill also permits the governing body of any locality in Planning District 8 to consider the current availability of electric energy against the expected annual electric energy consumption of high-energy users when evaluating land use applications and zoning amendments. Finally, the bill provides that any governing body considering such an application or amendment shall require a high-energy user seeking such application or amendment to provide information regarding the projected annual electric energy usage for the project prior to consideration.

Patron - Srinivasan

F **SB623 Agricultural and Forestal Districts Act; size of parcels; reduction of core area acreage requirements.** Reduces from 200 to 100 the minimum core acreage requirement that a locality must meet to create an agriculture and forestal district.

Patron - Durant

F **SB651 Qualifying localities; underground electric distribution and transmission improvements; levy on utility customers by ordinance.** Authorizes a qualifying locality, defined in the bill, to enter into an agreement with an electric utility to place new or proposed underground electric distribution or transmission lines and facilities or to relocate or convert existing overhead electric distribution or transmission lines and facilities underground. The bill requires any such agreement to provide that the locality pay to the utility its full additional costs of placing new or proposed electric distribution or transmission lines in the qualifying locality or relocating and converting that portion of a line located in the county underground rather than overhead, minus the net of relocation credits.

The bill also provides that the qualifying locality may impose an additional levy on electric utility customers, which (i) shall not exceed $1 per month on residential customers; (ii) shall not exceed $10 per month on nonresidential customers; (iii) may be fixed at any amount on nonresidential customers that are major commercial energy consumers, defined in the bill; and (iv) shall be collected by the utility on behalf of the locality.

Patron - Perry

F **SB687 Local prohibition or regulation of gas-powered leaf blowers; civil penalty.** Provides that any locality with a population density of at least 2,500 persons per square mile may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The bill provides that any such ordinance shall become enforceable not less than 12 months after the date it is enacted by the local governing body. The bill also 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

F **SB711 Board of zoning appeals; writ of certiorari; discovery.**

Patron - Stuart

F **SB754 Agricultural and Forestal Districts Act; size of parcels; reduction of core area acreage requirements.** Reduces from 200 to 100 the minimum core acreage requirement that a locality must meet to create an agriculture and forestal district.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB755 Review of plats and plans by locality; designated agent.** Allows any locality with a population of 20,000 or less to use its planning commission as the designated agent for purposes of reviewing and acting on subdivision plats, site plans, and plans of development. Currently, only localities with a population of 5,000 or less are permitted to use their planning commissions for such purpose.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB781 Zoning; 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 **SB805 Sale of certain property by locality to adjoining landowners.** Provides that, in addition to the option available under current law, in any instance in which a parcel of real estate is (i) located within an undeveloped common area in a subdivision, (ii) located in a subdivision without a homeowners' association for 20 years or more and not located within a designated right-of-way by the locality, and (iii) tax delinquent, a locality may, after giving notice to adjacent property owners, choose to offer for sale such property, in whole or in part, to adjacent property owners prior to any public auction of such property. Current law requires a parcel of real estate to be (a) located within an undeveloped common area in a subdivision, (b) located in a subdivision with a homeowners' association that has been previously dissolved, and (c) tax delinquent to be offered for sale to adjacent property owners prior to a public auction.

Patron - McDougle

Carried Over

C **HB166 Noise ordinances; industrial property; civil penalties.** Removes the exemption for noise generated in connection with the business being performed on industrial property from being subject to civil penalties for violations of local noise ordinances.

Patron - Thomas

C **HB278 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 90 days' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, not to exceed three percent, and states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year. The bill 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 requires a locality adopting an anti-rent gouging ordinance to establish an anti-rent gouging board to establish rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance or delegate such duties and functions to an existing local board, department, or agency. The bill also requires the anti-rent gouging board to establish a fair return on investment rent increase exemption to the annual anti-rent gouging allowance where necessary to offset increased operat-

ing expenses. Finally, the bill provides that a locality shall establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in its ordinance.
Patron - Clark

C **HB300 Expiration of cooperative agreements; period of oversight by Commissioner of Health; transfer of records.** Establishes that cooperative agreements approved pursuant to the recommendation of the Southwest Virginia Health Authority shall automatically expire on June 30, 2028. The bill directs the Department of Health to transfer all records related to the approval and supervision of any cooperative agreement to the Commissioner of Health within 60 days of such expiration, establishes a five-year supervision period after such expiration during which the Commissioner supervises any managed care pricing restrictions in effect at the time of expiration pursuant to an agreement, and requires the Commissioner to report annually the status of its supervision to the Attorney General. The bill directs the Department of Health to repeal the provisions of 12VAC5-221 of the Virginia Administrative Code upon the expiration of cooperative agreements pursuant to the bill.
Patron - Hope

C **HB370 Local authority on requiring water consumption in zoning ordinance; industrial and commercial facilities.** Authorizes a locality to include in its zoning ordinance provisions for (i) requiring proposed industrial and commercial facilities to submit water consumption estimates and (ii) considering water consumption from public resources when making rezoning and special use permit decisions related to such facilities.
Patron - Reid

C **HB419 Approval of land use applications; residential development.** Requires every locality to take final action to approve, approve with conditions, or deny any land use application for the rezoning or development of property that includes residential development within 12 months from the date of submission of such application to the locality.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

C **HB447 Contesting local governing body or board of zoning appeals land use decisions; third-party standing requirements.** Creates standing for any person who does not have an ownership interest in the property that is the direct subject of a local governing body or board of zoning appeals action if such person has alleged with particularity and proven by clear and convincing evidence that he (i) has an immediate, pecuniary, and substantial interest in the litigation, and not a remote or indirect interest; (ii) owns or occupies real property within or in close proximity to the property that is the subject of the land use determination; and (iii) has suffered (a) a particularized harm to a personal or property right, legal or equitable, or (b) an imposition of a burden or obligation different from that suffered by the general public. The bill clarifies that such standing requirements do not apply to any person who has an ownership interest in the property that is the direct subject of the decision of the local governing body or the board of zoning appeals.
Patron - Simon

C **HB509 Zoning; agricultural operations; rental of accessory dwellings.** Provides that no locality shall prohibit the rental for 30 days or more of existing accessory residential dwellings located on property with an agricultural operation. The bill does not apply to areas within a town.
Patron - McAuliff

C **HB611 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 $500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) construction of new dedicated parking for an ADU in most instances; (ii) setbacks for the ADU more than five feet from the property line; (iii) conditions for ADUs that are more restrictive than those for single-family dwellings within the same zoning area with regard to height, rear or side setbacks, lot size or coverage, or building frontage; or (iv) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Cohen

C **HB723 Subdivision of property; sale and transfer.** Provides that any subdivision created (i) 40 or more years prior to the sale or transfer of the subdivided residential property or (ii) 60 or more years prior to the sale or transfer of the subdivided commercial property and other nonresidential property shall be deemed to be lawful. Under current law, no person shall sell or transfer any land of a subdivision, before a plat has been duly approved and recorded, unless the subdivision was lawfully created prior to the adoption of an applicable subdivision ordinance.
Patron - Leftwich

C **HB778 Pop-up events; local enhanced enforcement actions.** Allows a locality by ordinance to establish pop-up event zones, as defined in the bill, for the purpose of taking enhanced enforcement actions within such zone if the pop-up event may significantly disrupt normal community operations. A local governing body's presiding officer, a locality's chief law-enforcement officer, and a locality's chief administrative officer must be in concurrence to activate such zone. The bill requires a locality to give notification of a pop-up event zone through an online webpage, providing as much advance notice as is practicable. The bill further grants the authority to take enhanced enforcement actions such as (i) declaring the pop-up event zone a gun free zone, (ii) establishing temporary speed limit reductions and enhanced traffic fines within the pop-up event zone, (iii) establishing and enforcing occupancy limits on both public and private property within the pop-up event zone, and (iv) declaring a curfew for unaccompanied minors. The bill allows a locality to recover all relevant costs and fees incurred from the designation and enforcement of the zone directly from event organizers.
Patron - Thornton

C **HB881 Local prohibition or regulation of gas-powered leaf blowers; civil penalty.** Provides that any locality with a population density of at least 2,500 persons per square mile may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The bill provides that any such ordinance shall become enforceable not less than 12 months after the date it is enacted by the local governing body. The bill also 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 - Sullivan

C **HB914 Local Environmental Impact Fund.** Allows a locality 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) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment; or (iv) micromobility devices. The bill requires the Fund to be administered and managed by the locality.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB922** **County manager plan of government; affordable dwelling unit ordinance.** Increases local authority over affordable housing for counties that have adopted the county manager plan of government (Arlington County) by (i) potentially increasing the cash contribution to the county's affordable housing fund by developers in lieu of providing affordable dwelling units and (ii) providing that applications for a special exception approval for a change of use of an existing building from commercial to residential may be subject to an affordable housing requirement.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB926** **Prohibition on outdoor shooting of firearm on property without reasonable care; penalty.** Permits localities to adopt an ordinance prohibiting outdoor shooting of a firearm unless the discharge of such firearm is conducted (i) on land of at least five acres and (ii) with reasonable care, described in the bill, to prevent a projectile from crossing the bounds of the land. The bill permits such an ordinance to create a rebuttable presumption that the discharge of firearms across or over the bounds of a property without written permission of that property owner was without reasonable care. The bill requires that a violation of such an ordinance not exceed a Class 1 misdemeanor.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB1021** **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.
Patron - Reaser

C **HB1058** **Industrial development authorities in certain localities; housing.** Allows industrial development authorities in the Counties of Halifax, Henry, and Pittsylvania and the Cities of Danville and Martinsville to exercise their powers with respect to facilities used primarily for single or multifamily residences in order to promote safe and affordable housing in the Commonwealth. Under current law, such powers may be exercised only in a locality where a housing authority has not been activated. The bill also grants industrial development authorities in such localities the power to issue bonds associated with the construction of affordable housing.
Patron - Phillips

C **HB1112** **Zoning; high-energy users; local authority.** Permits the governing body of any locality to give consideration to the adverse impacts on the electric grid caused by high-energy users, as defined in the bill, and impacts resulting from new electric infrastructure in the design of zoning ordinances and the drawing of districts. The bill also permits the governing body of any locality in Planning District 8 to consider the current availability of electric energy against the expected annual electric energy consumption of high-energy users when evaluating land use applications and zoning amendments. Finally, the bill provides that any governing body considering such an application or amendment shall require a high-energy user seeking such application or amendment to provide information regarding the projected annual electric energy usage for the project prior to consideration.
Patron - Singh

C **HB1274** **Expenses of localities and constitutional offices related to presidential visits; publishing unreimbursed expenses; budget.** Requires each locality and constitutional officer to determine all expenses of the locality or office of the constitutional officer, respectively, related to the provision of security for visits to the locality by the President of the United States. The bill specifies that a locality or office of a constitutional officer that incurs such expenses shall seek reimbursement from the appropriate agency of the federal government within 30 days of incurring the expenses and shall concurrently publish such expenses on its official website, if one exists. The bill also requires each locality and constitutional officer that anticipates incurring expenses in the upcoming fiscal year related to the provision of security for visits to the locality by the President of the United States to include the total anticipated expenses in the locality's budget or the constitutional officer's budget request for such fiscal year.
Patron - Shin

C **HB1376** **Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment Fund; funding requirements; report.** Revises the Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment Fund by expanding the qualifying private entities available for partnership with a local government for the redevelopment of local sites, removing the existing $500,000 grant cap for such local government, and eliminating the requirement that each grant be conditioned upon a 100 percent match of funds by the local government. The bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department), on or before December 1 of each year, to submit a report to the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, the Governor, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, including the number of projects funded and the costs of the Fund. In addition, the bill directs the Department to convene a work group to develop appropriate criteria and guidelines for the administration of the grant program established by the Fund, including for (i) how to prioritize awards for (a) localities experiencing an above average and high level of fiscal stress as designated by the Commission on Local Government and (b) localities experiencing a significant decrease in commercial real estate assessments and (ii) the amount and type of local match, including both requirements that consider monetary contributions and non-monetary contributions. The bill requires the work group to include representatives of the Department, the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia First Cities Coalition, the Virginia Municipal League, and the Virginia Economic Developers Association and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2026. Under current law, the Board of Housing and Community Development is directed to develop guidelines for administration of the Fund. Finally, the bill repeals the Housing Revitalization Zone Act.
Patron - Bulova

C **HB1394** **Loitering; unhoused persons.** Prohibits any locality from discriminating against any person on the basis of actual or perceived unhoused status by imposing a civil or criminal penalty against any unhoused person, defined in the bill, of any age for engaging in life-sustaining activities in or upon any public place, including in a legally parked car in a public place, provided that such activities do not obstruct the movement of pedestrian or vehicular traffic in a manner that creates a hazard to others. Life-sustaining activities include

sleeping, resting, sitting, standing, lying down, or protecting oneself from the elements.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

C **HB1430 Impact fees; residential development.** Authorizes any locality to impose impact fees on certain residential developments in order to defray the costs of constructing public facilities necessitated by those developments. Under current law, such impact fees have limited applicability and may be imposed only by those counties that have established urban transportation service districts. The bill also deletes provisions of current law that narrow the scope of included public facilities for localities in the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area.
Patron - Cousins

C **HB1515 Local approval of data centers; temporary moratorium.** Prohibits final approval of any application for a rezoning, special exception, special use permit, site plan, or plan of development for the siting of a new data center by a locality until the earlier of (i) the fulfillment of all pending requests for interconnection to distribution service by an electric utility customer that is a data center or (ii) July 1, 2028.
Patron - Shin

C **SB103 Salaries of certain full-time deputy sheriffs.** Provides that, beginning on and after July 1, 2026, the salary of certain full-time deputy sheriffs shall be increased by an amount equal to $100 for each full year of service.
Patron - Stanley

C **SB116 Zoning; special exceptions; City of Portsmouth.** Adds the City of Portsmouth to those localities that have been granted authority to impose a condition upon any special exception relating to retail alcoholic beverage control licensees that provides that such special exception will automatically expire upon a change of ownership of the property, a change in possession, a change in the operation or management of a facility, or the passage of a specific period of time.
Patron - Lucas

C **SB228 Localities; liability insurance; certain waiver of sovereign immunity.** Provides that a locality or political subdivision may provide liability insurance, including self-insurance, to cover damages or other expenses in certain civil actions arising out of an act or omission of certain officers, employees, board or commission members, or volunteers while such person is acting within the scope of his official duties. The bill provides that the provision of such liability insurance or self-insurance shall constitute a waiver of sovereign immunity in an amount not to exceed the combined total of any self-insurance coverage, insurance coverage under a group self-insurance pool, or any coverage pursuant to a policy purchased from an insurance company, including any excess or reserve coverage. The bill also provides that the insurer or self-insured shall not have a duty to defend or indemnify any covered person in cases where the act or omission took place outside the scope of such covered person's employment or official duties, where such act or omission was done maliciously or occurred as a result of gross negligence or willful misconduct, or is otherwise excluded by the terms of the policy.
Patron - Surovell

C **SB296 County manager plan of government; affordable dwelling unit ordinance.** Increases local authority over affordable housing for counties that have adopted the county manager plan of government (Arlington County) by (i) potentially increasing the cash contribution to the county's affordable housing fund by developers in lieu of providing affordable dwelling units and (ii) providing that applications for a special exception approval for a change of use of an existing building from commercial to residential may be subject to an affordable housing requirement. The bill directs the governing body of such counties to appoint an advisory board to advise the governing body regarding the appropriate provisions of an ordinance to amend the cash contribution amounts to such county's affordable housing fund. Certain provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Favola

C **SB355 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 90 days' written notice of a rent increase and cannot increase the rent by more than the locality's calculated allowance, not to exceed three percent, and states that such allowance is effective for a 12-month period beginning July 1 each year. The bill 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 requires a locality adopting an anti-rent gouging ordinance to establish an anti-rent gouging board to establish rules and procedures by which landlords may apply for and be granted exemptions from the rent increase limits set by the ordinance or delegate such duties and functions to an existing local board, department, or agency. The bill also requires the anti-rent gouging board to establish a fair return on investment rent increase exemption to the annual anti-rent gouging allowance where necessary to offset increased operating expenses. Finally, the bill provides that a locality shall establish a civil penalty for failure to comply with the requirements set out in its ordinance.

Patron - Boysko

C **SB525 Mutual aid agreements; public safety radio equipment.** Requires localities that have entered into certain public safety mutual aid agreements to provide access to the information necessary to program the public safety radio equipment owned or used by such locality, such as radio frequencies and security and encryption keys.

Patron - Stuart

C **SB717 Transit-oriented housing overlay districts.** Requires certain localities to establish one or more transit-oriented housing overlay districts covering qualifying areas, as defined in the bill, within their boundaries. The bill provides that within such overlay districts, the locality shall permit, by right, a minimum height of six stories and a minimum average density of 30 units per acre within one-quarter of a mile of a major transit stop and allow two units per lot and four units per corner lot between one-quarter of a mile and one mile from a such a stop. The bill further provides that applications for such housing development shall be approved ministerially by the zoning administrator or other designated official and that no public hearing is required for approval. The bill allows certain areas within a locality to be excluded from its provisions and sunsets on September 1, 2030. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2027.

Patron - Salim

Courts Not of Record

Passed

P **HB73 Juvenile and domestic relations district courts; petitions for relief of care and custody; custodians.** Allows the custodian of a child to file a petition for relief of the care and custody of such child in a juvenile and domestic relations district court. Current law only authorizes the parent or parents of a child to file such petition for relief of care and custody. The bill also requires the petitioning parent or custodian to cooperate with any services provided by a local department of social services during the initial investigation by such local department of social services after such petition for relief of care and custody has been filed. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth and is identical to SB 206.

Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB91 Department of Juvenile Justice; limiting room or cell confinement for minors committed to a juvenile correctional facility; report.** Directs the Department of Juvenile Justice, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to establish clear standards to maximize the amount of time that a minor committed to a juvenile correctional facility spends out of the confinement of his room or cell. The bill directs the Department to study and consider the benefits to minors of limiting such confinement and the impact of such benefits on factors such as the safety of the facility and successful reentry into the community, and, in considering and studying such benefits, to develop a minimum number of hours per day that minors committed to a juvenile correctional facility shall spend out of the confinement of their rooms or cells. The bill directs the Department to report on certain data collected after developing and implementing such standards and other related training and programming to the Commission on Youth and the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services and the House Committees on Health and Human Services and Public Safety by November 1, 2026. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Youth.

Patron - Seibold

P **HB123 Delinquent children; loss of driving privileges for alcohol, firearm, and drug offenses; truancy.** Allows the court discretion in ordering the denial of a child's driving privileges in instances when the child has failed to comply with school attendance and meeting requirements as provided in relevant law. Under current law, the court is required to order the denial of such child's driving privileges. The bill also provides that if the court has ordered the denial of a child's driving privileges, the court shall order such child to surrender his driver's license, which shall be held in the physical custody of the court during any period of license denial. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is identical to SB 146.

Patron - Reaser

P **HB128 Certification of ancillary traffic infractions.** Allows the court to certify any ancillary traffic infraction 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. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference.

Patron - Callsen

P **HB245 Jurisdiction of district courts in felony cases; specialty dockets; Behavioral Health Docket Act.** Authorizes a general district court and a juvenile and domestic relations district court to retain jurisdiction over a felony offense for the purpose of allowing the accused to complete a specialty docket or behavioral health docket established pursuant to relevant law. Current law only explicitly provides such courts with the ability to certify felony charges to the circuit court or dismiss such charges after a preliminary hearing to determine if probable cause exists for such charges.

Patron - Watts

P **HB438 Delinquency petition; referral to court service unit.** Provides that at any point prior to the commencement of an adjudication hearing on a petition alleging that a child is delinquent, the court, upon request of the child with consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth, if a party to the case, may refer the delinquency charge back to the court service unit in writing and the intake officer shall proceed informally pursuant to relevant law. Additionally, the bill provides that upon such referral, the court shall dismiss the petition and order that the court records pertaining to the petition be expunged pursuant to relevant law. Lastly, the bill allows an intake officer to proceed informally on a complaint alleging a child is in need of services, in need of supervision, or delinquent if the juvenile has previously been proceeded against informally.

Current law does not permit proceeding informally when a juvenile (i) commits a violent juvenile felony or (ii) is alleged delinquent for an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult if such juvenile had previously been (a) proceeded against informally by intake or (b) adjudicated delinquent for a prior offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult. This bill is identical to SB 70.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB667 Juvenile and domestic relations district courts; jurisdiction; definitions; petition by noncitizen aged 18 to 21 years for legal custody.** Allows an unmarried noncitizen between the ages of 18 and 21 who has been abused, neglected, or abandoned to petition a juvenile and domestic relations district court to be placed in the physical custody of a proposed legal custodian. The bill also includes such unmarried noncitizen in the definitions of "child," "juvenile," and "minor," as such terms are related to juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB1327 Child dependency cases; court procedures; fictive kin; definition.** Updates the definition of fictive kin to specify that such person is required to have an established relationship with a child or his family prior to the child's initial entry into foster care to meet the definition of fictive kin.

Patron - Tata

P **HB1363 Family abuse protective orders; other relief.** Provides that in cases of family abuse where the court orders a permanent protective order, the court may require a respondent to pay or to contribute to the payment of rent or mortgage on a residence to which a petitioner was granted possession pursuant to such protective order and may further require that a respondent maintain suitable alternative housing and utility services to a residence to which a petitioner was granted possession.

Patron - Dougherty

P **SB18 Children; adjudication of delinquency.** Specifies that "delinquent child" means 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 child younger than 11 years of age is found to have committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older, the child shall not be proceeded upon as delinquent and the court shall (i) dismiss any petition alleging such child has committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older and (ii) order that the court records pertaining to such petition be expunged pursuant to relevant law. The bill allows the attorney for the Commonwealth to file a petition alleging that such child is in need of services and if such child is found to be in need of services, the court may make any orders of disposition authorized under relevant law. The bill also provides that any funding that is available to provide services to a child 11 years of age or older who is proceeded upon as delinquent shall also be made available to a child younger than 11 years of age who is found to have committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older in order to provide such child with the same services. The bill includes in the definition of "child in need of services" a child younger than 11 years of age who has committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older.

The bill adds that a child may be taken into immediate custody when such child is alleged to be in need of services or supervision and there is a clear and substantial danger to the safety of the child's family or the safety of the public. Currently, a child may be taken into immediate custody when such child is alleged to be in need of services or supervision and there is a clear and substantial danger to the child's life or health. 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 (a) causes a child younger than 11 years of age to commit an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older or (b) causes any child to participate in or become a member of a criminal street gang in violation of existing law. Under the bill, any person who commits such offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Patron - Locke

P **SB64** **Department of Juvenile Justice; commitment of juveniles to Department; petition to extend duration of indeterminate commitment.** Creates a process by which the Department of Juvenile Justice, upon determining that a juvenile currently committed to the Department should continue such commitment beyond the high end of the length of stay guidelines established by the State Board of Juvenile Justice, may petition the court that ordered a juvenile's indeterminate commitment to the Department to extend such juvenile's commitment. The bill requires the Department to file such petition at least 60 days prior to the expiration of the high end of the length of stay range, along with a report on the juvenile's progress. If the Department determines fewer than 60 days before expiration that an extension is necessary, it shall file a petition for review that includes a statement explaining the specific circumstances causing the late filing. The bill provides that the court shall schedule a hearing on the petition at which the court shall consider such progress report and may consider additional evidence as described in the bill. The bill provides that, at the conclusion of the hearing, the court shall order either that the juvenile be released or that the juvenile's period of commitment be extended for a period not to exceed six months, provided that such extension does not exceed the limitations for an indeterminate commitment provided by current law. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth.

Patron - Favola

P **SB146** **Delinquent children; loss of driving privileges for alcohol, firearm, and drug offenses; truancy.** Allows the court discretion in ordering the denial of a child's driving privileges in instances when the child has failed to comply with school attendance and meeting requirements as provided in relevant law. Under current law, the court is required to order the denial of such child's driving privileges. The bill also provides that if the court has ordered the denial of a child's driving privileges, the court shall order such child to surrender his driver's license, which shall be held in the physical custody of the court during any period of license denial. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is identical to HB 123.
Patron - McDougle

P **SB206** **Juvenile and domestic relations district courts; petitions for relief of care and custody; custodians.** Allows the custodian of a child to file a petition for relief of the care and custody of such child in a juvenile and domestic relations district court. Current law only authorizes the parent or parents of a child to file such petition for relief of care and custody. The bill also requires the petitioning parent or custodian to cooperate with any services provided by a local department of social services during the initial investigation by such local department of social services after such petition for relief of care and custody has been filed. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth and is identical to HB 73.
Patron - Suetterlein

Failed

F **HB158** **Abuse or neglect of a child; transition of a child to sex or gender other than biological sex.** Adds to the definition of "abused or neglected child" a child whose parent or other person responsible for his care attempts to transition the child to a sex or gender other than his biological sex.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB194** **Maximum number of judges in each judicial district.** Increases from five to six the maximum number of authorized general district court judges in the Twelfth Judicial District. The bill also increases from six to seven the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Twelfth Judicial District. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts.
Patron - McQuinn

F **HB745** **Twenty-seventh judicial district; boundary of judicial district; number of judges.** Divides the twenty-seventh judicial district, currently composed of the Cities of Galax and Radford and the Counties of Montgomery, Giles, Bland, Pulaski, Wythe, Carroll, Floyd, and Grayson, into two separate judicial districts. The bill provides that the City of Radford and the Counties of Montgomery, Giles, and Bland shall constitute the twenty-seventh district and that the City of Galax and the Counties of Pulaski, Wythe, Carroll, Floyd, and Grayson shall constitute district twenty-seven-A. The bill also divides the maximum number of judges authorized to serve the twenty-seventh district general district court and the juvenile and domestic relations district court between the twenty-seventh district and district twenty-seven-A.
Patron - Williams

F **HB1302** **Jurisdiction of district courts; assault and battery of a family or household member; petition for transfer.** Allows an adult family or household member, as defined in relevant law, who is the victim of assault and battery from another adult family or household member to petition the

juvenile and domestic relations district court to transfer the case from such court to the general district court for proceedings to continue in open court, unless the alleged offender is a child. Under current law, jurisdiction for all offenses in which one family or household member is charged with an offense in which another family or household member is the victim lies exclusively with the juvenile and domestic relations district court.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F **HJ21** **Study; Virginia State Crime Commission; model policy framework; justice-involved veterans; report.** Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission to study and propose recommendations for a model policy framework for the treatment and sentencing of veterans in the criminal justice system.
Patron - Thomas

F **SB35** **Juvenile and domestic relations district courts; delinquent juveniles; mental health or disability evaluations.** Provides that if a juvenile and domestic relations district court finds a juvenile to be delinquent, the court may, before final disposition of the case, direct the appropriate public agency to evaluate such juvenile's mental health or disability needs using an interdisciplinary team approach. The bill requires that any report be filed with the clerk of court and copies provided to all attorneys representing parties in the matter no later than 72 hours prior to the hearing set by the court. The bill permits the juvenile and domestic relations district court, in the alternative, to consider an existing report from an interdisciplinary team if such interdisciplinary team met not more than 90 days prior to the finding that the juvenile is delinquent.
Patron - Favola

F **SB653** **Emergency protective orders; statement of alleged act of abuse.** Requires that any emergency protective order issued in a general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court, or circuit court include a statement of the grounds for requesting such order and that such statement be signed and sworn by either the law-enforcement officer or allegedly abused person who requested the order. The bill requires that such statement be included in or attached to the order when the order is served upon the respondent and with the original copy filed with the clerk.
Patron - Mulchi

F **SB780** **Maximum number of judges in each judicial district.** Increases from five to six the maximum number of authorized general district court judges in theTwenty-sixth Judicial District. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts. This bill was incorporated into SB 158.
Patron - Obenshain

Carried Over

C **HB192** **General district courts; jurisdictional limits; motor vehicle accidents.** Provides that general district courts of the Commonwealth shall have jurisdiction over actions for bodily injury to or death of a person caused by a motor vehicle accident for an amount in controversy not to exceed $50,000, exclusive of interest, costs, and any prior settlement made pursuant to a motor vehicle owner's insurance policy.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

C **HB364** **Small claims court; jurisdictional limit.** Allows a plaintiff to file a small claims civil warrant when the amount claimed does not exceed $25,000, exclusive of interest, up to two times in the Commonwealth in a calendar year. Under current law, the small claims court has jurisdiction when the amount claimed does not exceed $5,000, exclusive of interest.
Patron - Dougherty

C **HB1315** **Authority of fire marshals.**
Patron - Scott, P.A.

C **SB468** **Juvenile secure detention facilities; placement of juveniles referred from another locality; high-needs or high-risk juveniles; funding.** Requires the statewide plan developed by the Department of Juvenile Justice (the Department) for the establishment and maintenance of a range of institutional and community-based, diversion, predispositional and postdispositional services to be reasonably accessible to each court to include (i) a plan for juvenile secure detention facilities in the Commonwealth, which shall designate the total number of facilities to be in operation in the Commonwealth, the location of each facility, the localities each facility shall serve, and the number of beds required for each facility and (ii) procedures for determining the appropriate placement of juveniles pursuant to the plan. The bill provides that the Department may reduce or cease the apportionment of any state funds to any localities or commissions that choose not to participate in the plan for juvenile secure detention facilities in the Commonwealth included in the statewide plan as required by this section.

The bill also allows the Department to designate up to three juvenile secure detention facilities to provide additional support and services to juveniles identified as high-needs or high-risk. The bill requires any locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility that receives state funds to accept the placement of any juvenile referred from another locality, unless accepting placement of such juvenile is not feasible due to security concerns or exigent circumstances related to staffing or other operational factors. The bill also provides that if any locality or commission refuses to accept the placement of any such juvenile, the Department may cease the apportionment of any funds to the locality or commission, including any funds for facility operations and education programs.

The bill also provides that when a locality or commission operating a juvenile secure detention facility accepts the placement of a juvenile referred from another locality, (a) any medical expenses incurred on behalf of such juvenile shall be borne by the locality from which the juvenile was referred, unless otherwise agreed to by the locality referring such juvenile and the locality or commission accepting such juvenile; (b) if an employee of the juvenile secure detention facility is injured in the course of his employment by any such juvenile, the locality from which such juvenile was referred shall be considered the employer for the purposes of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act; (c) any sheriff's departments that are impacted by additional travel requirements related to transporting juveniles shall be compensated to the extent practicable from identified savings; and (d) the locality referring such juvenile and the locality or commission accepting such juvenile shall negotiate in good faith to arrive at mutually agreeable funding contributions. The bill provides that if the localities or commissions are unable to reach an agreement on the funding contributions required by clause (d), then the Department shall determine the funding contributions and that failure of any locality or commission to comply with such funding contributions may result in the loss or reduction of the apportionment of any funds to the locality or commission, including any funds for facility operations and education programs.

Patron - Marsden

C **SB485 Virginia Commission on Youth; work group to study extending oversight of Office of the Children's Ombudsman to include committed juveniles; report.** Directs the Virginia Commission on Youth, in coordination with the Office of the Children's Ombudsman, to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study the changes necessary to extend the purview of the Office of the Children's Ombudsman to include juveniles who are committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice. The bill requires the work group to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2026, a report of its findings and any recommendations for any legislative and organizational changes needed to implement such extension of oversight. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth.
Patron - Marsden

Courts of Record

Passed

P **HB342 Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; magistrates; availability of complaint forms in courthouses.** Requires that paper copies of any standardized form developed and utilized by the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission and any standardized form developed and utilized 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.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB443 Maximum number of judges in each judicial district and circuit; maximum number of judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia; hearing en banc; study to examine organization and boundaries of certain judicial circuits; report.** Increases from 17 to 21 the maximum number of authorized judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia. The bill removes provisions that require the Court of Appeals to sit en banc in certain instances, making the decision of whether to sit en banc entirely discretionary. The bill requires the Court of Appeals to sit en banc with no fewer than 13 judges, three of whom shall be the three judges to whom the case was originally assigned and the remaining 10 of whom shall be assigned pursuant to a randomized rotational schedule in accordance with the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Under the bill, such provisions relating to the Court of Appeals shall become effective on September 1, 2026.

The bill also increases by one the maximum number of authorized general district court judges in the Twelfth and Twenty-sixth Judicial Districts. The bill also increases by one the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Twelfth and Fifteenth Judicial Districts. The bill further increases by one the maximum number of authorized circuit court judges in the Twentieth and Twenty-seventh Judicial Circuits. Under the bill, the provisions relating to increasing the number of judges in the Fifteenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits shall become effective on July 1, 2027.

Finally, the bill directs the Judicial Council of Virginia to study the organization and boundaries of the Fifteenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits and to submit an executive summary and a report of its findings and any recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2026.

As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and the Judicial Council of Virginia. This bill incorporates HB 46 and HB 194.
Patron - Hope

P **HB520 Clerk fees; secure remote access to nonconfidential court records by certain attorneys.** Provides that no clerk shall charge a fee to an attorney for secure remote access to nonconfidential court records when such attorney is certified by the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission in the jurisdiction served by such clerk, provided that such attorney is currently appointed to represent a defendant in such jurisdiction and agrees to continue accepting appointments in such jurisdiction. The bill also provides that if, after receiving secure remote access for nonconfidential court records, such attorney (i) is found to have abused such privilege of such secure remote access; (ii) is removed from the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission's court-appointed attorney list; or (iii) ceases to accept appointments for representation from the granting court, the clerk may terminate the agreement granting such secure remote access. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission. This bill is identical to SB 82.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB567 Court records; aggregated case data; request by attorney for the Commonwealth exempted.** Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a request for a report of aggregated case data is made by an attorney for the Commonwealth to assist in the performance of his duties, the clerk or the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, depending on if the request is made to a district court or circuit court, shall approve such request and provide such report of aggregated case data, which shall include the name, date of birth, and last four digits of the social security number of any party. Under current law, such request may be denied to ensure compliance with existing law and such reports are prohibited from including the name, date of birth, or social security number of any party and images of the individual records in the respective case files. The bill also provides that no report of aggregated case data that includes the name, date of birth, and last four digits of the social security number of any party provided to an attorney for the Commonwealth shall be disseminated further unless such information is redacted.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB1233 Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund; additional fee for certain offenses.** Provides that the clerk shall assess a fee of $500 for conviction of certain offenses outlined in the bill. The bill requires such fees to be credited to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund and designated for funding support services for eligible victims. This bill is identical to SB 329.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1235 Clerks of circuit court; restitution; fees; online payment systems; report.** Provides that if a clerk's office allows payment to occur via an already established online payment system for the collection of court fines and fees or costs, it shall offer such payment method for all restitution payments.
Patron - Delaney

P **SB82 Clerk fees; secure remote access to nonconfidential court records by certain attorneys.** Provides that no clerk shall charge a fee to an attorney for secure remote access to nonconfidential court records when such attorney is

certified by the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission in the jurisdiction served by such clerk, provided that such attorney is currently appointed to represent a defendant in such jurisdiction and agrees to continue accepting appointments in such jurisdiction. The bill also provides that if, after receiving secure remote access for nonconfidential court records, such attorney (i) is found to have abused such privilege of such secure remote access; (ii) is removed from the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission's court-appointed attorney list; or (iii) ceases to accept appointments for representation from the granting court, the clerk may terminate the agreement granting such secure remote access. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission. This bill is identical to HB 520.
Patron - Salim

P **SB158** **Maximum number of judges in each judicial district and circuit; study to examine organization and boundaries of certain judicial districts; report.** Increases by one the maximum number of authorized general district court judges in the Twelfth and Twenty-sixth Judicial Districts. The bill also increases by one the maximum number of authorized juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Twelfth and Fifteenth Judicial Districts. The bill further increases by one the maximum number of authorized circuit court judges in the Twentieth and Twenty-seventh Judicial Circuits. Under the bill, the provisions relating to increasing the number of judges in the Fifteenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.Finally, the bill directs the Judicial Council of Virginia to study the organization and boundaries of the Fifteenth and Twentieth Judicial Circuits and to submit an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2026.As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and the Judicial Council of Virginia. This bill incorporates SB 780.
Patron - Perry

P **SB329** **Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund; additional fee for certain offenses.** Provides that the clerk shall assess a fee of $500 for conviction of certain offenses outlined in the bill. The bill requires such fees to be credited to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund and designated for funding support services for eligible victims. This bill is identical to HB 1233.
Patron - Perry

P **SB330** **Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission; Department of Corrections; probation and parole officers; subscriber agreements with clerks' offices; secure remote access to nonconfidential court records.** Provides that any clerk of a circuit court who provides secure remote access to nonconfidential court records shall allow both the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission and the Department of Corrections to enter into a single subscriber agreement authorizing the Commission and the Department, respectively, to have secure remote access to nonconfidential court records, provided that the subscriber agreement (i) identifies all staff members who require such secure remote access to perform their duties as required by law and (ii) complies with all other relevant law. Current law requires an individual subscriber agreement for each person or staff member who is authorized to have secure remote access to nonconfidential court records.
Patron - Perry

P **SB725** **Circuit court clerks; fees; Technology Trust Fund Fee; report; recordation tax of certain deeds; report.** Increases the Technology Trust Fund Fee from $5 to $8. The bill also increases the amount of the fee to be allocated for one of the purposes as described in current law from $4 to $6. The bill authorizes the remaining $2 of the fee to be allocated to individual circuit court clerks' offices for one of the purposes as described in current law. The bill also provides that no recordation tax shall be required of a quitclaim deed or deed to correct a fraudulently recorded deed, including a deed of trust, between a grantor and grantee when no consideration has passed between the parties. Finally, the bill directs (i) the clerk in each circuit court in the Commonwealth to provide detailed information to the Compensation Board and the Auditor of Public Accounts on the total amount of local Technology Trust Fund Fee revenue collected and expended and (ii) the Compensation Board to aggregate such information and submit a report summarizing the information to the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Jones

P **SB804** **Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; submission of annual report.** Provides that the decision of whether to rescind or redact any portion of the annual report submitted by the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission shall be made by consensus of a majority of the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice and the ranking members of the minority party serving on such Committees. The bill provides that if no such action to rescind or redact any portion of the annual report is taken, the report shall be published within 30 days of submission. The bill provides that such 30-day time period shall begin the day the Commission submits the annual report to the General Assembly, and if the 30-day period expires on a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday, or day on which the General Assembly is lawfully closed, such period shall be extended to the next day that is not one of those days. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Deeds

Failed

F **HB46** **Maximum number of judges in each judicial circuit.** Increases from five to six the maximum number of judges authorized in the Twentieth Judicial Circuit. This bill is a recommendation of the Judicial Council of Virginia.
Patron - Reid

F **HB673** **Animal Cruelty Conviction List established.** Requires the Superintendent of State Police to establish no later than January 1, 2028, and to maintain an Animal Cruelty Conviction List and to make the List publicly available on the Department of State Police's website. The bill specifies that the List include the names of persons convicted of certain felony animal cruelty offenses on or after July 1, 2026. The bill requires persons convicted of any such offense to pay a fee of $50 per conviction to fund the maintenance of the List. The bill requires the Department to remove a person's name and information from the List 15 years after its listing if he has no additional felony conviction for any such offense. Finally, the bill directs the Department to develop forms to implement and enforce the provisions of the bill, including the operation and maintenance of the List and the removal of the records of persons who are deceased, whose convictions have been reversed, or who have been pardoned.
Patron - McLaughlin

F **HB981** **Criminal cases; prosecutorial misconduct; reasonable costs and attorney fees.** Entitles a defendant to recover reasonable costs and attorney fees when a criminal case against him is dismissed and it is discovered that prosecu-

torial misconduct was present or an abuse of process occurred in such case.
Patron - Garrett

F **SB397 Assessment of costs for construction, renovation, or maintenance of courthouse, jail, or court-related facilities.** Increases from two to 10 dollars the maximum sum a county or city may assess as part of the costs for any civil action filed in the district or circuit courts within its boundary, or for each criminal or traffic case in its district or circuit court in which the defendant is charged with a violation of any statute or ordinance. Such assessment shall be used for the construction, renovation, or maintenance of courthouse, jail, or court-related facilities, or to defray cooling, heating, electricity, and ordinary maintenance costs.
Patron - Diggs

F **SB442 Court Date Reminder Program established.** Establishes a Court Date Reminder Program, to be developed or procured by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, for the purpose of reminding criminal defendants to appear at each of their scheduled court appearances and to provide any related information. The bill directs the Program to send a text message notification to any defendant with a criminal case or traffic infraction in general district court or circuit court, allows a defendant to opt out of participating in the Program, and allows the Program administrator or his designee to use other communication methods to contact a defendant when such defendant is unable to receive text messages, including telephone, email, or other internet-based technology.
Patron - Bagby

F **SB726 Circuit court clerks; fees; Technology Trust Fund Fee.** Increases from $5 to $10 the Technology Trust Fund Fee assessed by the clerk of each circuit court in each civil action and increases the amounts of such fee allocated by the Compensation Board for specific purposes.
Patron - Jones

Carried Over

C **HB197 Board of zoning appeals; appellate jurisdiction upon appeal from the circuit court.** Provides that appeals lie directly to the Supreme Court of Virginia from any final decision of a circuit court on appeal from a board of zoning appeals.
Patron - Thomas

C **HB441 Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission; reform.** Increases from seven to 12 the number of members of the Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission (the Commission) by adding two additional attorney members, an additional active judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia, and two additional citizen members. The bill provides that such attorney members be chosen by members of the General Assembly from recommendations provided by the Council of the Virginia State Bar, the Board of Directors for the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, and the Board of Directors for the Virginia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and reduces the required years of practice for such lawyer members from 15 to eight. The bill establishes an initial and subsequent annual training requirement for each member and any newly hired counsel for the Commission. Additionally, the bill requires the Commission to adopt and implement a conflict of interest policy.
The bill clarifies appointment powers of the Governor in any case where a member of the Commission or staff for the Commission is disqualified from or voluntarily recuses himself from participation in a proceeding. Further, the bill requires the Commission to adopt, the Committees for Courts of Justice to approve, and the Commission to make publicly available a Code of Conduct for all Commission members and Commission staff. The bill provides that the Commission shall make all reasonable efforts to contact any witnesses specified in complaints alleging judicial misconduct to assist the Commission. Further, the bill clarifies that the Commission may investigate any complaints within their purview arising out of matters that are pending or on appeal, and that the Commission shall not dismiss such complaints solely on the basis that the matter from which such complaint arose is pending or on appeal. The bill requires the Commission to make publicly available a publication specifying all possible sanctions, informal disciplinary actions, and supervision agreements the Commission may impose on a judge who is the subject of a complaint and provides an option for requiring the mandatory recusal of such judge in certain instances. The bill prohibits the Attorney General from acting as counsel in any proceeding where the Attorney General was involved in a case, either at trial or on appeal, where a complaint of judicial misconduct arose from such case, and provides that the Conflict of Interest policy the Commission adopts shall govern the Attorney General.
The bill removes provisions of confidentiality for a complainant that currently bars a complainant from discussing or sharing privileged information regarding any filed complaint and permits such complainant to discuss publicly the filing of a complaint and any associated events relating to the complaint. The bill clarifies notice requirements to the complainant by the Commission. Finally, the bill permits the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to provide the annual judicial performance evaluations for all judges subject to evaluation to the Commission, and such evaluations shall remain confidential.
Patron - Hope

C **HB448 Land records; certain financing statements; recording and indexing fees.** Sets forth the fees that a clerk of the circuit court shall charge for recording and indexing a multipurpose deed of trust or mortgage, described in the bill as a deed of trust or mortgage, whether or not commercial, that serves multiple purposes and contains two or more components that may serve as independent legal instruments for independent legal purposes. The bill provides that no clerk of a circuit court shall assess separate recording and indexing fees for such multipurpose deed of trust or mortgage 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 or deed to correct a fraudulently recorded deed, including a deed of trust, between a grantor and grantee when no consideration has passed between the parties.
Patron - Simon

C **HB852 Abolition of fees; legal representation of indigent defendant; jury trial costs; report.** Eliminates the fees for the cost of court-appointed counsel or public defender representation for persons who are determined to be indigent. The bill also eliminates fees for persons who utilize a jury trial. The bill contains a reenactment clause for such elimination of fees.
The bill also directs the Indigent Defense Commission, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court or his designee, to convene a work group with all relevant stakeholders, including the Attorney General or his designee, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources or his designee; representatives from the Compensation Board, the Virginia Crime Commission, the Virginia Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, the Virginia Court Clerk's Association, the Vir-

ginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, staff from the House Appropriations and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, and the Virginia Probation and Parole Association; and a minimum of two criminal justice reform organizations working on fees and other financial assessments imposed in criminal prosecutions in Virginia; on several topics, including current collection practices, use of funds received as a result of such collections, and the burden of a fee assessment on indigent individuals. The bill requires the work group to submit an executive summary and report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2026, and a final report by November 1, 2027.
Patron - Cousins

C **HB885 Court Date Reminder Program established.** Establishes a Court Date Reminder Program, to be developed or procured by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, for the purpose of reminding criminal defendants to appear at each of their scheduled court appearances. The bill directs the Program to send a text message notification to any defendant with a criminal case in general district court or circuit court for whom the court has a telephone number prior to any scheduled hearing that requires his appearance and allows a defendant to opt out of participating in the Program. The Program has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
The bill also directs the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to convene a Court Date Reminder Program work group to advise on the implementation and expansion of the Program and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Hope

C **HB1485 Maximum number of judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia; hearings en banc; summary disposition of certain civil cases.** Increases from 17 to 21 the maximum number of authorized judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia. The bill provides that the Supreme Court of Virginia shall prescribe by rule the number of judges needed for the Court of Appeals to sit en banc, and that such number shall not be fewer than 13 judges. Additionally, the bill permits the Court of Appeals to summarily affirm the decision below in certain civil cases.
Patron - Hope

C **SB475 Court Date Reminder Program established.** Establishes a Court Date Reminder Program, to be developed or procured by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, for the purpose of reminding criminal defendants to appear at each of their scheduled court appearances and to provide any related information. The bill directs the Program to send a text message notification to any defendant with a criminal case or traffic infraction in general district court or circuit court, allows a defendant to opt out of participating in the Program, and allows the Program administrator or his designee to use other communication methods to contact a defendant when such defendant is unable to receive text messages, including telephone, email, or other internet-based technology.
Patron - Marsden

C **SB618 Office of the Executive Secretary; annual trauma-informed education for certain court personnel.** Requires the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to provide annual continuing legal education on trauma-informed practices in proceedings involving sexual abuse or abuse of a family or household member to magistrates, clerks, judges of juvenile and domestic relations district courts, general district courts, and circuit courts, and other court employees.
Patron - Mulchi

C **SB793 Maximum number of judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia; hearings en banc.** Increases from 17 to 21 the maximum number of authorized judges on the Court of Appeals of Virginia. The bill provides that the Supreme Court of Virginia shall prescribe by rule the number of judges needed for the Court of Appeals to sit en banc, and that such number shall not be fewer than 13 judges.
Patron - Surovell

Crimes and Offenses Generally

Passed

P **HB16 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 (i) community service work performed before or after imprisonment or (ii) work performed while incarcerated, defined in the bill as any work done on or after July 1, 2023, by a person confined in any local, regional, or state correctional facility who is paid a wage that is less than the Virginia minimum wage.
The bill requires such program to be available during such person's 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.
Patron - Price

P **HB19 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalty.** Adds to the definition of "family or household member," as such definition relates to juvenile and domestic relations district court, 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 as determined by the length, nature, frequency, and type of interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship. The bill also adds to the definition of "family or household member," as such definition relates to a person's purchase, possession, or transportation of a firearm following an assault and battery of a family or household member, any individual who cohabits or who, within the previous 12 months, cohabitated with the person. Finally, the bill 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, 2026, 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 160.
Patron - McClure

P **HB26 Modification of sentence for marijuana-related offenses.** Creates a process by which a person adjudicated delinquent or convicted of certain felony offenses involving, or violations of probation or community supervision related to, the possession, manufacture, selling, giving, distribution, transportation, or delivery of marijuana committed prior to July 1, 2021, who remains incarcerated or on probation or community supervision on July 1, 2026, may receive an automatic hearing to consider modification of such person's sentence. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to SB 62. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Henson

P **HB40 Manufacture, importation, 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, 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 also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, 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 provisions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027; however, the provisions 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, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 323.
Patron - Simon

P **HB43 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, 2027, 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, 2026, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.
Patron - Simon

P **HB93 Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person.** Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because the 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 the prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that the 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 a transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with the prohibited person. The bill also provides that the 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, address, and signature of the transferee, federally licensed firearms dealer, or law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of the form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because the 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 the person if the law-enforcement officer has probable cause. This bill is identical to SB 38.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB101 Applications for concealed handgun permits.** Allows for alternate methods of submission of applications for concealed handgun permits by removing the requirement that such applications be submitted in writing. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Ballard

P **HB110 Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; penalty.** Creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who, when leaving a handgun in an unattended vehicle, fails to securely store such handgun in a locked hard-sided container, including a locked container that is affixed to the vehicle's interior by steel cable, bolt, or welding. The bill provides that such locked container includes a locked glove compartment or a locked center console. The bill contains certain exemptions, including an exemption for a person who reports the theft or loss of such firearm to a law-enforcement agency as provided in relevant law. This bill is identical to SB 496.
Patron - Laufer

P **HB124 Assault and battery; district court temporary recall judge; penalty.** Adds a judge of a district court under temporary recall to the definition of "judge" as it relates to the crime of assault and battery, which is a Class 1 misdemeanor that is enhanced to a Class 6 felony with a mandatory minimum term of confinement of six months if such judge is engaged in his public duties at the time of the offense. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is identical to SB 144.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB149 Decreasing probation period.** Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing educational activities, maintaining employment, completing treatment, or obtaining housing. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct upon receipt of a request from the Department of Corrections and requires the Department of Corrections to request termination of a defendant's supervised probation period after 12 months in certain situations. This bill is identical to SB 136.
Patron - Williams

P **HB191 Victims of sex trafficking; minors; immunity to prosecution for prostitution.** Provides that no minor shall be subject to arrest or prosecution for a qualifying offense, defined in relevant law, if at the time of the offense leading to such charge, such minor was a victim of sex traffick-

ing, defined in relevant law. The bill also provides that such minor shall be referred to the local department of social services for a human trafficking or other assessment pursuant to relevant law and a law-enforcement officer or the local department of social services may take custody of such minor. Lastly, the bill provides that no law-enforcement officer acting in good faith shall be found liable for false arrest if it is later determined that the minor arrested was immune from prosecution.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB217 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalties.** 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 with some exceptions, 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, or is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action. 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, transfers, or purchases a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 749. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB229 Weapons; possession prohibited in a hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty.** Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to knowingly and intentionally possess in 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, a (i) firearm, (ii) knife with a blade over three and one-half 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 each public entrance of any hospital and that 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 such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies certain exceptions to the prohibition. This bill is identical to SB 173. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB250 Sex offenses prohibiting proximity to children; Park Authorities Act; penalty.** Provides that every adult who is convicted of an offense prohibiting proximity to children, when the offense occurred on or after July 1, 2026, 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 place owned or operated by an authority created pursuant to the Park Authorities Act that he knows or should know is a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium.
The bill also provides that any person convicted of an offense under the laws of any foreign country or any political subdivision thereof, or the United States or any political subdivision thereof, similar to any offense set forth in current law shall 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 place owned or operated by an authority created pursuant to the Park Authorities Act that he knows or has reason to know is a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium.
A violation of the bill's provisions is punishable as a Class 6 felony.
Patron - Watts

P **HB317 Damage or trespass to public services or utilities or critical infrastructure; penalties.** Adds the intentional destruction of or damage to any fixture, equipment, or information technology system that is used to provide, process, transmit, or maintain public services, public utilities, cable television, broadband, or other critical infrastructure, as defined in relevant law, to the existing offense of damage or trespass to public services or utilities. The bill contains technical amendments. This bill incorporates HB 769 and is identical to SB 743.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB396 Charitable gaming; Texas Hold'em poker tournaments.** Increases from 18 years of age to 21 years of age the minimum age an individual must be to participate in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. The bill provides that no qualified organization may conduct Texas Hold'em poker tournaments (i) at a location outside of the county, city, or town in which its principal office, as registered with the State Corporation Commission, is located or in an adjoining county, city, or town or (ii) at an establishment that has been granted a retail alcoholic beverage control license unless such license is held by the qualified organization. The bill also allows unlimited rebuys during the first two hours of tournament play or until the first break, whichever occurs first, and permits one add-on at the end of the rebuy period before play resumes at the end of the first break.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB399 Charitable gaming; regulations; predetermined percentage of receipts.** Amends charitable gaming law to allow, as a condition of receiving a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming, an organization established on or before December 31, 1977, that is qualified under §; 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code and is incorporated, in part, to raise funds for donation to organizations whose missions include promoting early detection of and public education about and supporting research and treatment options for heart disease and various cancers, 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.
Patron - Askew

P **HB561 Driving while intoxicated; refusal of tests; repeat offenders; ignition interlocks.** Permits a court to issue a restricted license with immediate installation of ignition interlock systems for certain offenders charged with driving while intoxicated, refusal of tests, or repeat offender violations. The bill also directs the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program to convene a work group to evaluate the provisions governing driving or operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and submit recommendations and a draft report to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2026. Current law requires various time limits of driver's license suspension for such violations before a restricted license may be issued. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Hope

P **HB626 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 law-enforcement or public safety unit of such institution. This bill is identical to SB 272.

Patron - Callsen

P **HB629 Certain sex offenses; sexual extortion; unlawful creation of image of another; penalties.** Provides that any person who, with the intent to cause the complaining witness to engage in certain sexual acts, maliciously (i) threatens in writing, including electronically, (a) to disseminate, sell, or publish a videographic or still image, created by any means whatsoever, or (b) to not delete, remove, or take back a previously disseminated, sold, or published videographic or still image, created by any means whatsoever, that depicts the complaining witness or such complaining witness's family or household member, as defined in relevant law, as totally nude or in a state of undress so as to expose the genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast or (ii) threatens eviction, loss of housing, property damage, or any financial loss, but such complaining witness does not thereby engage in such sexual acts is guilty of attempted sexual extortion and shall be punished as prescribed by relevant law.

The bill also adds to the existing offense of unlawfully creating an image of another a prohibition on any person knowingly and intentionally creating any videographic or still image by any means whatsoever of any nonconsenting person if that person is not exposed to show the genitals, pubic area, buttocks, or female breast but such videographic or still image is obscene, as defined in relevant law, when such nonconsenting person is in a restroom, dressing room, locker room, hotel room, motel room, tanning bed, tanning booth, bedroom, or other location. A violation of such prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor unless such nonconsenting person is younger than the age of 18, in which case it is elevated to a Class 6 felony.

Patron - Callsen

P **HB637 Possession of an item containing residue of a controlled substance; penalty.** Creates the offense of possession of residue of a controlled substance with a tiered system of punishment. Currently, possession of any amount of a controlled substance has a tiered system of punishment as if there is a usable amount of such controlled substance. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Callsen

P **HB648 Distributing nitrous oxide prohibited; penalties.** Prohibits the sale or distribution of (i) a device that is designed or intended to deliver a gas containing nitrous oxide through direct inhalation, with exceptions defined in the bill; (ii) nitrous oxide that has, or is marketed as having, the taste or smell of any food or beverage that is distinguishable by an ordinary consumer either prior to or during consumption or use of such nitrous oxide to any person not exempted in the bill; and (iii) a container of nitrous oxide that exceeds eight grams, with exceptions defined in the bill. A violation of such prohibitions is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 360.

Patron - Kent

P **HB662 Offenses relating to gift cards; penalties.** Adds the offenses of gift card theft, gift card forgery, gift card fraud, and criminally receiving goods and services fraudulently obtained to the existing provisions of law related to credit cards. This bill is identical to SB 444.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB862 Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP).** Restructures the existing governance structure and responsibilities of the Commission on VASAP and expands its oversight authority over local alcohol safety action programs. The provisions of the bill related to a fiscal agent locality have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2028. The bill also directs the Commission on VASAP to convene a work group with relevant stakeholders to review the sustainability of the structure and funding model for VASAP and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Commission on VASAP and the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and for Courts of Justice by October 1, 2026. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on VASAP and is identical to SB 391.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB871 Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present; penalty.** Provides that 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 shall 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. Under the bill, any person who violates this provision is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill also requires any dealer, as that term is defined in current law, to post a written notice informing the public of the penalty imposed for failure to comply with the bill's provisions. This bill is identical to SB 348. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Downey

P **HB916 Concealed handgun permit; demonstrated competence.** Adds a handgun shooting class or course that teaches (i) efficient, effective, and responsible use of a concealed handgun for self-defense outside of the home; (ii) state laws pertaining to handguns; and (iii) proper handgun storage techniques to those programs that satisfy the demonstration of competence requirement for the issuance of a Virginia resident or nonresident concealed handgun permit. The bill removes the requirement that such a training course must be conducted by the National Rifle Association or the United States Concealed Carry Association. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB933 Penalties for failure to appear; contempt.** Provides that a court shall consider certain mitigating factors to determine whether the failure of any person to appear before any court or judicial officer as required was willful. Under current law, no mitigating factors are specified for a court or judicial officer to consider in determining whether a

person willfully failed to appear. This bill is identical to SB 283.

Patron - Simon

P **HB1015 Possession or transportation of firearms, firearms ammunition, stun weapons, or explosives or carrying of concealed weapons by persons convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits any person who, on or after July 1, 2026, commits assault or assault and battery against a person he intentionally selected because of his race, religious conviction, gender, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, color, or ethnic or national origin and is subsequently adjudicated delinquent or convicted of such offense from knowingly and intentionally possessing or transporting any firearm or ammunition for a firearm, any stun weapon, or any explosive material or carrying a concealed weapon, a violation of which is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Tran

P **HB1103 Manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, or possessing medetomidine; penalties.** Provides that any person who knowingly manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with the intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute the substance medetomidine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 5 felony. Under the bill, any person who knowingly possesses medetomidine, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Under the bill, it is not an offense to (i) manufacture medetomidine for legitimate veterinary use; (ii) distribute or sell medetomidine for authorized veterinary use; (iii) possess, administer, prescribe, or dispense medetomidine in good faith for use by animals within the course of legitimate veterinary practice; or (iv) possess or administer medetomidine pursuant to a valid prescription from a licensed veterinarian.

Patron - Hodges

P **HB1140 Use of confidential informants in drug-related investigations.** Directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a model policy for the use of confidential informants in drug-related investigations and to include in such model policy that (i) no individual currently on probation or pretrial may serve as a confidential informant without notice to his probation, pretrial services, or parole officer; (ii) no individual who has, within the last six months, been found to have violated the terms of his probation or parole shall serve as a confidential informant whose testimony may be necessary in the prosecution of a criminal matter in the courts of the Commonwealth; (iii) law-enforcement personnel shall obtain approval from the appropriate local attorney for the Commonwealth prior to working with a confidential informant; and (iv) such confidential informant shall not unlawfully use or possess any controlled substances.

Patron - Cherry

P **HB1150 Impersonating any local, town, city, or county elected official; penalty.** Prohibits any person from willfully and intentionally (i) falsely assuming or exercising the functions, powers, duties, and privileges incident to the office of any local, town, city, or county elected official; (ii) falsely assuming or pretending to be any such elected official with intent to defraud or obtain access, information, service, or thing of value; or (iii) impersonating any such elected official with the intent to make another believe he is such elected official with intent to defraud or obtain access, information, service, or thing of value. A violation of such prohibition is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

Patron - Hodges

P **HB1157 Charitable gaming; denial, suspension, or revocation of permit.** Removes duplicative provisions of charitable gaming law regarding the denial, suspension, or revocation of a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming.

Patron - Krizek

P **HB1492 Impersonating law-enforcement officer; penalties.** Creates a Class 5 felony for impersonating a law-enforcement officer while wearing a facial covering, as that term is defined in the bill, and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent violation.

Patron - Shin

P **HB1524 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles, pistols, and shotguns or any firearm modified to be operable as an assault firearm 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 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. A violation of this prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - McGuire

P **HB1525 Possession, transportation, or purchase of certain firearms by certain persons; penalty.** Provides additional exceptions, outlined in the bill, for persons younger than 18 years of age to possess or transport handguns or assault firearms anywhere in the Commonwealth. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for persons younger than 21 years of age to purchase a handgun or assault firearm anywhere in the Commonwealth. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - McGuire

P **SB38 Firearm transfers to another person from a prohibited person.** Provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because the 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 the prohibited person to any person who is not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing such firearm, provided that the 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 a transferee cannot be younger than 21 years of age and cannot reside with the prohibited person. The bill also provides that the 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, address, and signature of the transferee, federally licensed firearms dealer, or law-enforcement agency in possession of the firearm and shall provide a copy of the form to the transferee. The bill also provides that a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because the 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 the person if the law-enforcement officer has probable cause. This bill is identical to HB 93.

Patron - Favola

P **SB47 Impersonation of law-enforcement officer while committing additional act; penalties.** Provides that any person who impersonates a law-enforcement officer (i) while

committing or attempting to commit aggravated murder, first or second degree murder, abduction, rape, forcible sodomy, object sexual penetration, aggravated sexual battery, or sexual battery or (ii) while circumventing, bypassing, or attempting to circumvent or bypass any security measure of any business, commercial building, residence, building owned or leased by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof, or building owned or leased by a locality or any agency thereof is guilty of a Class 6 felony. A second or subsequent offense is punishable as a Class 5 felony.
Patron - Craig

P **SB55 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, 2026, shall as a 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 a playground, athletic field or facility, or gymnasium he knows or has reason to know is located on the premises of a state park. A violation is a Class 6 felony.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB106 Selling, giving, or distributing a tianeptine product; civil penalty.** Provides that a retail establishment that sells, gives, or distributes a tianeptine product, without a prescription, is subject to a civil penalty in the amount of $2,500 for a first violation and a civil penalty in the amount of $5,000 for a second or subsequent violation within a three-year period. The bill also provides that such provisions shall not preclude prosecution under any other statute. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB111 Prohibition on trespassing on emergency vehicles; penalty.** Provides that any person who enters or remains upon or within an emergency vehicle, defined in the bill, without the permission of, or after having been forbidden to do so by, the owner, lessee, or authorized operator is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor.
Patron - Craig

P **SB115 Concealed handgun permits; reciprocity with other states.** Provides that the Office of the Attorney General shall determine whether other states' concealed handgun permit requirements are substantially similar to the statutory qualifications for Virginia to recognize the concealed handgun permit of a person from such other 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 exempts an active duty service member or such service member's spouse from the requirements of the bill. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
The bill also directs 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, 2026, to determine whether the requirements of those states' laws are substantially similar to the Commonwealth's concealed carry permit requirements and revoke any reciprocity agreement or recognition of any states that do not meet such requirements by December 1, 2026. The bill requires the Attorney General to provide a written explanation for any determination that a state's laws are substantially similar to the requirements of the bill to prevent possession of such permit or license by persons who would be denied such permit in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB137 Obstructing reproductive health care facility; penalties.** Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who (i) by force or threat of force, or by physical obstruction, intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with, another person because such other person is or has been, or in order to intimidate such person or any other person or any class of persons from, obtaining or providing reproductive health services, defined in the bill, or (ii) intentionally damages or destroys, or attempts to damage or destroy, a reproductive health care facility, defined in the bill, because such facility provides reproductive health services. The bill also provides that the provisions of the bill shall not be construed to place any restriction on the content of any message that anyone may wish to communicate to anyone else, either inside or outside the regulated areas. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB144 Assault and battery; district court temporary recall judge; penalty.** Adds a judge of a district court under temporary recall to the definition of "judge" as it relates to the crime of assault and battery, which is a Class 1 misdemeanor that is enhanced to a Class 6 felony with a mandatory minimum term of confinement of six months if such judge is engaged in his public duties at the time of the offense. This bill is a recommendation of the Committee on District Courts and is identical to HB 124.
Patron - McDougle

P **SB160 Purchase, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalty.** Adds to the definition of "family or household member," as such definition relates to juvenile and domestic relations district court, 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 as determined by the length, nature, frequency, and type of interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship. The bill also adds to the definition of "family or household member," as such definition relates to a person's purchase, possession, or transportation of a firearm following an assault and battery of a family or household member, any individual who cohabits or who, within the previous 12 months, cohabitated with the person. Finally, the bill 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, 2026, 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 HB 19.
Patron - Perry

P **SB173 Weapons; possession prohibited in a hospital that provides mental health services or developmental services; penalty.** Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person to knowingly and intentionally possess in 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, a (i) firearm, (ii) knife with a blade over three and one-half 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 each public entrance of any hospital and that 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 such firearm, knife, explosive, or weapon shall be subject to seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth and specifies certain exceptions to the prohibition. This bill is identical to HB 229. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB272 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 law-enforcement or public safety unit of such institution. This bill is identical to HB 626.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB323 Manufacture, importation, 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, 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 also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, 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 provisions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027; however, the provisions 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, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 40.

Patron - Ebbin

P **SB348 Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present; penalty.** Provides that 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 shall 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. Under the bill, any person who violates this provision is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill also requires any dealer, as that term is defined in current law, to post a written notice informing the public of the penalty imposed for failure to comply with the bill's provisions. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB360 Distributing nitrous oxide prohibited; penalties.** Prohibits the sale or distribution of (i) a device that is designed or intended to deliver a gas containing nitrous oxide through direct inhalation, with exceptions defined in the bill; (ii) nitrous oxide that has, or is marketed as having, the taste or smell of any food or beverage that is distinguishable by an ordinary consumer either prior to or during consumption or use of such nitrous oxide to any person not exempted in the bill; and (iii) a container of nitrous oxide that exceeds eight grams, with exceptions defined in the bill. A violation of such prohibitions is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to HB 648.

Patron - Stuart

P **SB391 Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP).** Restructures the existing governance structure and responsibilities of the Commission on VASAP and expands its oversight authority over local alcohol safety action programs. The provisions of the bill related to a fiscal agent locality have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2028. The bill also directs the Commission on VASAP to convene a work group with relevant stakeholders to review the sustainability of the structure and funding model for VASAP and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Commission on VASAP and the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and for Courts of Justice by October 1, 2026. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on VASAP and is identical to HB 862.

Patron - Stuart

P **SB444 Offenses relating to gift cards; penalties.** Adds the offenses of gift card theft, gift card forgery, gift card fraud, and criminally receiving goods and services fraudulently obtained to the existing provisions of law related to credit cards. This bill is identical to HB 662.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB496 Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; penalty.** Creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who, when leaving a handgun in an unattended vehicle, fails to securely store such handgun in a locked hard-sided container, including a locked container that is affixed to the vehicle's interior by steel cable, bolt, or welding. The bill provides that such locked container includes a locked glove compartment or a locked center console. The bill contains certain exemptions, including an exemption for a person who reports the theft or loss of such firearm to a law-enforcement agency as provided in relevant law. This bill is identical to HB 110.

Patron - Marsden

P **SB673 Stalking by electronically transmitted communication; penalty.** Provides that "electronically transmitted communication" includes communication by telephone, computer, or other electronic device for the offense of stalking, which is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor or, if the second offense occurs within five years of a prior conviction for stalking, is punishable as a Class 6 felony.
Patron - Mulchi

P **SB727 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited in the Commonwealth; penalty.** Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles, pistols, and shotguns or any firearm modified to be operable as an assault firearm 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 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. A violation of this prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill incorporates SB 312. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Jones

P **SB743 Damage or trespass to public services or utilities or critical infrastructure; penalties.** Adds the intentional destruction of or damage to any fixture, equipment, or information technology system that is used to provide, process, transmit, or maintain public services, public utilities, cable television, broadband, or other critical infrastructure, as defined in relevant law, to the existing offense of damage or trespass to public services or utilities. The bill contains technical amendments and is identical to HB 317.
Patron - Aird

P **SB749 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalties.** 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 with some exceptions, 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, or is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action. 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, transfers, or purchases a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to HB 217. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Salim

P **SB764 Deferred disposition in a criminal case; license suspension; driving while under the influence.** Permits a trial court, with the agreement of the Commonwealth if the charge is ineligible for sealing, to suspend the driver's license of a defendant for a period of not less than 10 days nor more than six months when deferring disposition. The bill also allows a trial court to defer judgment for a violation of driving while intoxicated and require that the defendant participate in and successfully complete an alcohol safety action program and prohibit the defendant from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. The bill excludes from its provisions any person with a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit or who was operating a commercial motor vehicle during the alleged violation. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB778 Display of obscene material to a minor unlawful; penalty.** Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person 18 years of age or older to display obscene material, as defined in relevant law, to a minor younger than 13 years of age with lascivious intent. Current law only prohibits the display of child pornography or a grooming video or materials to a child younger than 13 years of age by a person 18 years of age or older.
Patron - Obenshain

Failed

F **HB7 Law-enforcement officers; restrictions on wearing of facial coverings; exceptions; civil liability; penalty.** Prohibits certain state and federal law-enforcement officers from wearing facial coverings, defined in the bill, while engaged in the performance of their official duties. The bill sets out several exceptions to such prohibition, including protective facial coverings to protect against disease, infection, and exposure to toxic substances and facial coverings worn by any law-enforcement officer assigned to a special weapons and tactics team while engaged in the performance of his official duties with such team. The bill subjects the law-enforcement officer to disciplinary action, including dismissal, demotion, suspension, transfer, or decertification, and creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any law-enforcement officer who wears a facial covering in violation of the provisions of the bill unless the law-enforcement agency that employs such law-enforcement officer has adopted and established a written policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings. The bill also directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop a model policy for and restrictions on the use of facial coverings by law-enforcement officers.

Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for any person injured as a result of tortious conduct by a law-enforcement officer who knowingly and intentionally wears a facial covering in violation of the provisions of the bill. The bill provides that sovereign immunity shall not be a defense to civil liability for such tortious conduct.
Patron - Jones

F **HB24 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 other states meet the statutory qualifications for Virginia to recognize the concealed handgun permit of a person from such other 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 prevents a Virginia resident, except for an active duty service member or such service member's spouse, who has not been issued a valid resident concealed handgun permit from using a concealed handgun or concealed weapon permit or license issued by another state to carry a concealed handgun in

the Commonwealth. The foregoing provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
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, 2026, 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, 2026. 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.
Patron - Helmer

F **HB102 Voluntary manslaughter; penalty.** Increases the penalty for voluntary manslaughter from a Class 5 felony, punishable by between one and ten years' imprisonment in a state correctional facility, to an unclassified felony punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than 20 years or, in the discretion of the jury or court trying the case without a jury, by confinement in jail for a period not exceeding 12 months or a fine of not more than $2,500, either or both.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB106 Concealed handgun permit fees.** Lowers the maximum from $35 to $10 the fee that a local law-enforcement agency conducting a background investigation for the purpose of processing an application for a concealed handgun permit may charge to cover the cost of conducting such an investigation and lowers from $50 to $25 the maximum total amount for processing such an application.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB295 Aggravated murder defined; correctional officers; punishment.** Adds to the definition of aggravated murder, which is a Class 1 felony, the willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a correctional officer, defined in relevant law, when such killing is for the purpose of interfering with the performance of his official duties. The bill also provides that where the offender was 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense, the punishment shall be no less than a mandatory minimum term of confinement for life.
Patron - Cornett

F **HB531 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 - Hamilton

F **HB540 Carrying firearms in restricted locations; exception.** Provides that the prohibition on carrying a firearm in certain restricted locations does not apply to any woman who is a current victim of family abuse and has an active protective order against a family or household member.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB542 Provision of abortion; informed written consent; newborn safety devices.** Requires the physician or advanced practice registered nurse authorized to perform an abortion, induction, or termination to provide certain written information regarding newborn safety devices for the purposes of effectuating a pregnant woman's informed written consent prior to the abortion, induction, or termination. The bill directs the Department of Health to publish by October 1, 2026, in English and in each language that is the primary language of two percent or more of the population of the Commonwealth, such information relating to newborn safety devices in such a way as to ensure that the information is easily comprehensible.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB692 Concealed handgun permit fees.** Lowers the maximum from $35 to $10 the fee that a local law-enforcement agency conducting a background investigation for the purpose of processing an application for a concealed handgun permit may charge to cover the cost of conducting such an investigation and lowers from $50 to $25 the maximum total amount for processing such an application.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB694 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 - Zehr

F **HB696 Carrying a firearm or explosive material into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exceptions for highway rest areas and government stores.** 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 or government store, as those terms are defined in relevant law.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB700 Purchase of firearms; waiting period; penalties.** 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. The bill provides that any person who willfully and intentionally sells to another person or purchases from another person a firearm in violation of this prohibition is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Additionally, the bill provides that any dealer who willfully and intentionally sells, rents, trades, or transfers a firearm in violation of such prohibition is guilty of a Class 6 felony.
Patron - Hayes

F **HB769 Damage or trespass to public services or utilities or critical infrastructure; penalties.** Adds the intentional destruction of or damage to any fixture, equipment, or information technology system that is used to provide, process, transmit, or maintain public services, public utilities, or other critical infrastructure, as defined in relevant law, to the existing offense of damage or trespass to public services or utilities. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Herring

F **HB791 Charitable gaming; conduct of athletic event drawings.** Authorizes affiliated nonprofit organizations to conduct athletic event drawings in accordance with the rules and 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.
Patron - Austin

F **HB875 Manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, or possessing with intent kratom; Virginia Consumer Protection Act; penalties.** Provides that any person who knowingly manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with the intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute kratom, when intended for human consumption, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill defines kratom as any part of the leaf of the plant Mitragyna speciosa or any extract thereof.
The bill also amends the existing provisions related to kratom in the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to prohibit selling or offering for sale (i) any kratom product to a person younger than 21 years of age or (ii) any kratom product intended for human consumption. Under current law, the Act prohibits selling or offering for sale (a) any kratom product to a person younger than 21 years of age or (b) any kratom product that does not include a label listing all ingredients and specific guidance about such product.
Patron - Kent

F **HB989 Sexual abuse of certain children; penalty.** Increases from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for sexual abuse of a child who is 13 or 14 years of age.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1034 Charitable gaming; use of proceeds; charitable gaming adjusted gross receipts.** Amends charitable gaming law to allow certain organizations, as a condition of receiving a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming, to use (i) with respect to charitable gaming, other than electronic gaming, a predetermined percentage of its charitable gaming adjusted gross receipts, not to exceed 10 percent, and (ii) with respect to electronic gaming, a predetermined percentage of its electronic gaming adjusted gross receipts, not to exceed 10 percent. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Wilt

F **HB1082 Crimes by gangs; definition of "predicate criminal act"; penalties.** Adds the misdemeanor and felony offenses of carrying a concealed weapon and the misdemeanor offense of pointing, holding, or brandishing a firearm, air or gas operated weapon, or object similar in appearance to the definition of "predicate criminal act" related to prohibited criminal street gang participation.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1159 Oral threat to kill or to do bodily harm; employees of local or state department of social services; penalty.** Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who orally makes a threat to kill or do bodily injury to any call-center contractor or employee of the Department of Social Services or a local department of social services, as those terms as defined in relevant law, who is engaged in the performance of his duties.
Patron - Cherry

F **HB1215 Admission of evidence; evidentiary hearing; excluded persons.** Exempts no more than two persons whose presence, in the judgment of the court, would be supportive of the complaining witness and would not impair the conduct of a fair hearing or pose a substantial risk of influencing or affecting the content of the testimony from being excluded from evidentiary hearings for certain prosecutions. The bill provides that if such support persons are exempted, the judge shall admonish such support persons to not prompt, communicate with, or influence the complaining witness in any way. Lastly, the bill provides that a court may exercise its discretion to remove a support person from the courtroom if it believes such support person is prompting, communicating with, or influencing the complaining witness.
Patron - Oates

F **HB1286 Assault and battery; employees of state or local department of social services; penalty.** Provides that any person who commits a battery against another knowing or having reason to know that such individual is an employee of a local department of social services or the State Department of Social Services who is engaged in the performance of his duties is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also provides that the sentence of such person, upon conviction, shall include a term of confinement of 15 days in jail, two days of which shall be a mandatory minimum term of confinement.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1303 Nonresident concealed handgun permits.** Requires the Department of State Police to issue a nonresident concealed handgun permit within 90 days of receipt of a completed application unless it is determined that the applicant is disqualified.
Patron - Ware

F **HB1335 Fraudulent insurance acts; civil penalty.** Creates the offense of fraudulent insurance acts, enumerated in the bill, and provides that any person who commits such acts is subject to a civil penalty of $1,000 for each act.
Patron - Wyatt

F **HB1359 Firearm purchase requirements; penalties.** Requires any person selling a firearm to obtain verification from the Department of State Police that the prospective purchaser is not prohibited under state or federal law or a criminal history record check from possessing a firearm. The bill requires any person purchasing a firearm from a firearms dealer to present a valid firearm purchaser license 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; or (iv) 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. The bill provides that such firearm purchaser license is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

The bill details reasons for revocation of a firearm purchaser license and provides that any person who fails to return a revoked firearm purchaser license 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 makes a materially false statement on the application form for a permit is guilty of perjury. The bill provides that the Department of State Police shall enter the name and description of a person issued a firearm purchaser license into the Virginia Criminal Information Network and specifies that such information will be withheld from public disclosure but shall not be withheld from any law-enforcement agency or officer, or any authorized agent of such agency or officer, acting in the performance of his official duties. Finally, the bill provides that the Department of State Police shall keep and maintain a computerized database containing certain enumerated information, which may be made available to institutions of higher education and other research organizations or institutions in the Commonwealth upon request and sets out exceptions for to whom its provisions should apply.
Patron - Hope

F **HB1407** **Charitable gaming; veterans service organizations; use of proceeds.** Amends charitable gaming law to allow certain organizations, as a condition of receiving a charitable gaming permit or authorization to conduct electronic gaming, to use (i) with respect to charitable gaming other than electronic gaming, a predetermined percentage of its charitable gaming adjusted gross receipts, not to exceed 25 percent; and (ii) with respect to electronic gaming, a predetermined percentage of its electronic gaming adjusted gross receipts, not to exceed 25 percent; however, at no time shall such predetermined percentage be calculated at an amount equal to or less than 10 percent of its gross receipts derived from electronic gaming less the amount of prize money paid out to players. The bill adds to the definition of "organization" any organization that is exempt from income tax pursuant to § 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code and is operated, and has always been operated, to provide benefits to veterans of the United States Armed Forces. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Nivar

F **HB1427** **Purchase of handguns; limitation on handgun purchases.** Removes the prohibition on any person who is not a licensed firearms dealer from purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period. Current law makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for a violation of this provision, subject to certain exceptions.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB1453** **Approaching a first responder with specified intent after a warning; penalty.**
Patron - Williams

F **HB1471** **Aggravated murder; assault and battery; correctional officer; custodial employee of Department of Corrections; penalties.** Adds to the definition of aggravated murder, which is a Class 1 felony, the willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of a correctional officer, defined in relevant law, when such killing is for the purpose of interfering with the performance of his official duties. The bill also expands the definition of aggravated murder to include the willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person by a prisoner confined in a juvenile correctional facility, defined in relevant law.
The bill provides that if any person maliciously causes bodily injury to another by any means, including the means set out in existing law, with intent to maim, disfigure, disable, or kill, and knowing or having reason to know that such other person is a correctional officer, as defined in relevant law, engaged in the performance of his public duties as a correctional officer, such person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for a period of not less than five years nor more than 30 years and, subject to existing law, a fine of not more than $100,000; upon conviction, the sentence of such person shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of two years.
The bill also provides that if any person unlawfully, but not maliciously, with the intent aforesaid, causes bodily injury to another by any means, knowing or having reason to know such other person is a correctional officer engaged in the performance of his public duties as a correctional officer, he is guilty of a Class 6 felony, and upon conviction, the sentence of such person shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of one year.
Lastly, the bill provides that if an assault and battery upon (i) a correctional officer; (ii) a person directly involved in the care, treatment, or supervision of inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections; (iii) an employee of a local or regional correctional facility directly involved in the care, treatment, or supervision of inmates in the custody of the facility; or (iv) a person directly involved in the care, treatment, or supervision of persons in the custody of or under the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice involves the use of any bodily fluid or excrement from such person charged, the sentence of such person, upon conviction, shall include a mandatory minimum term of confinement of three years.
Patron - Austin

F **SB78** **Firearms-related offenses; mandatory minimum sentences; penalty.** Increases from five to 10 years for a second or subsequent offense the mandatory minimum sentence for use or display of a firearm during the commission of certain felonies.
Patron - Diggs

F **SB79** **Carrying a firearm or explosive material into a building owned or leased by the Commonwealth; exception for rest areas.** Provides that the prohibition on carrying a firearm or explosive material in any building owned or leased by the Commonwealth does not apply to any rest area.
Patron - Diggs

F **SB142** **Sale of retail tobacco products and hemp products intended for smoking to persons younger than 21 years of age; civil penalty paid to locality.** Requires that any civil penalty imposed for selling a retail tobacco product or hemp product intended for smoking to persons younger than 21 years of age be deposited into the local treasury. Under current law, such civil penalty is paid into the state treasury.
Patron - McDougle

F **SB307** **Crimes by gangs; definition of "predicate criminal act"; penalties.** Adds the misdemeanor and felony offenses of carrying a concealed weapon and the misdemeanor offense of pointing, holding, or brandishing a firearm, air or gas operated weapon, or object similar in appearance to the definition of "predicate criminal act" related to prohibited criminal street gang participation.
Patron - Peake

F **SB312** **Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles, pistols, and shotguns or any firearm modified to be operable as an assault firearm 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 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. A violation of this prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill was incorporated into SB 727.
Patron - Ebbin

F **SB548 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 - Sturtevant

F **SB643 Possession or transportation of certain firearms by certain persons; penalty.** Prohibits any person younger than 18 years of age from knowingly and intentionally possessing or transporting a handgun or assault firearm within the Commonwealth. The bill also prohibits any person younger than 21 years of age, with certain exceptions outlined in the bill, from purchasing a handgun or assault firearm in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that a violation of the provisions of the bill is a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill incorporates SB 797.
Patron - Surovell

F **SB655 Possession of fentanyl in presence of minor prohibited; enhanced penalty.** Makes it a Class 3 felony for any person 18 years of age or older to knowingly possess any substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, including its derivatives, isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, in the presence of a minor younger than 15 years of age, unless such substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of his professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by the Drug Control Act.
Patron - Durant

F **SB657 Charging several acts of larceny or any offense deemed larceny.** Permits the Commonwealth to charge and proceed against a person accused of larceny or any offense deemed larceny for any number of distinct acts of such larcenies that may have been committed by him within six months from the first to the last of the acts charged in the indictment.
Patron - Durant

F **SB723 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 - Sturtevant

F **SB765 Charitable gaming; poker tournaments and events.** Defines poker event for the purposes of charitable gaming to mean a Texas Hold'em poker game or Texas Hold'em poker tournament in which (i) a schedule of fixed and variable fees for entry into the poker event and the number of chips received for such fees is established and posted; (ii) chips with cash value are permitted to be used; (iii) games and tournaments may be run concurrently; (iv) no limit applies to how many poker events occur during the time listed on the permit for such poker event; and (v) a seating fee may be charged at a rate of up to $8 up to once every 30 minutes. The bill removes from the definition of Texas Hold'em poker tournament the requirement that running out of poker chips eliminates an individual from the competition and raises the participation age of poker events from 18 to 21 years of age. The bill prohibits unlimited rebuys after the first two hours of tournament play or until the first break with one add-on permitted at the end of the rebuy period. The bill requires any qualified organization that conducts any poker event to use at least 20 percent of its poker adjusted gross receipts, defined in the bill, from the conduct of Texas Hold'em poker tournaments for (a) those lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes for which the organization is specifically chartered or organized or (b) those expenses related to the acquisition, construction, maintenance, or repair of any interest in real property involved in the operation of the organization and used for lawful religious, charitable, community, or educational purposes. The bill also outlines certain specifics related to the conduct of poker events, including remuneration to operators and tips or gratuities paid to dealers and employees of such operators. Finally, the bill prohibits any qualified organization from permitting a Texas Hold'em poker game that is not a Texas Hold'em poker tournament to be conducted outside of its social quarters or from permitting participation in such game by any person who is not a bona fide member of the organization.
Patron - Jones

F **SB770 Board of Wildlife Resources; early special deer muzzleloading season; hunting with dogs.** Directs the Board of Wildlife Resources to prescribe an early muzzleloading season to hunt deer that is no less than three weeks in duration and provides that no person shall hunt any game or nuisance species with dogs during the three-week period following such early muzzleloading season.
Patron - Reeves

F **SB797 Firearm purchase requirements; penalties.** Requires any person selling a firearm to obtain verification from the Department of State Police that the prospective purchaser is not prohibited under state or federal law or a criminal history record check from possessing a firearm. The bill requires any person purchasing a firearm from a firearms dealer to present a valid firearm purchaser license 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; or (iv) 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. The bill provides that such firearm purchaser license is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

The bill details reasons for revocation of a firearm purchaser license and provides that any person who fails to return a revoked firearm purchaser license 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 makes a materially false statement on the application form for a permit is guilty of perjury. The bill provides that the Department of State Police shall enter the name and description of a person issued a firearm purchaser license into the Virginia Criminal Information Network and specifies that such information will be withheld from public disclosure but shall not be withheld from any law-enforcement agency or officer, or any authorized agent of such agency or officer, acting in the performance of his official duties. Finally, the bill provides that the Department of State Police shall keep and maintain a computerized database containing certain enumerated information, which may be made available to institutions of higher education and other research organizations or institutions in the Commonwealth upon request and sets out exceptions for to whom its provisions should apply.
Patron - Carroll Foy

Carried Over

C **HB251** **Assault and battery; serious bodily injury; penalty.** Creates a Class 6 felony for any person who commits an assault and battery that results in serious bodily injury, as defined in relevant law, but does not rise to the level of the current offenses of unlawful or malicious wounding. The bill adds such new offense to the list of violent felony offenses for the purposes of the discretionary sentencing guidelines.
Patron - Watts

C **HB268** **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 charges for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the period of limitations for payment of such fines, costs, forfeitures, or penalties shall start to run on the due date for such deferred payment agreement.
The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Hernandez

C **HB294** **Malicious bodily injury to correctional officers; penalties.** Provides that if any person maliciously causes bodily injury to another by any means, including the means set out in existing law, with intent to maim, disfigure, disable, or kill, and knowing or having reason to know that such other person is a correctional officer, as defined in relevant law, engaged in the performance of his public duties as a correctional officer, such person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for a period of not less than five years nor more than 30 years and, subject to existing law, a fine of not more than $100,000; upon conviction, the sentence of such person shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of two years.
The bill also provides that if any person unlawfully, but not maliciously, with the intent aforesaid, causes bodily injury to another by any means, knowing or having reason to know such other person is a correctional officer engaged in the performance of his public duties as a correctional officer, he is guilty of a Class 6 felony, and upon conviction, the sentence of such person shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of one year.
Patron - Cornett

C **HB863** **Elimination of mandatory minimum sentences for certain offenses.** Eliminates the mandatory minimum term of confinement for certain crimes.
Patron - Cousins

C **SB579** **Illegal gambling; online sweepstakes games; civil penalty.** Includes the (i) operating, conducting, or promoting of any online sweepstakes games and (ii) supporting or assisting in the operating, conducting, or promoting of any online sweepstakes game in the definition of "illegal gambling." The bill defines an "online sweepstakes game" as any game, contest, or promotion in which a prize is awarded based on chance that (a) is available on the internet and accessible on a mobile phone, computer, or similar device; (b) utilizes a dual currency system of payment allowing the player to exchange the currency for any prize, award, cash, or cash equivalent; and (c) simulates casino-style gaming, including slot machines, video poker, table games, lottery games, and sports betting. Persons who operate, conduct, or promote online sweepstakes games or take any action to support or assist in the operation, conduct, or promotion of online sweepstakes games shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 per violation. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Reeves

C **SB604** **Charitable gaming; common interest communities; bingo.** Allows common interest communities that qualify for deductions pursuant to § 277 of the Internal Revenue Code and that are solely available to residents age 55 or older to become qualified organizations, subject to certain registration requirements, for the purposes of conducting bingo in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
Patron - Durant

C **SB624** **Assault and battery; definition of "Islamophobia"; penalty.** Defines "Islamophobia" as it relates to the crime of assault and battery as malicious prejudice or hatred directed toward Islam or Muslims. This definition applies regardless of whether the victim is actually a practitioner of Islam, provided that the perpetrator targeted such victim based on a perceived adherence to such faith. The bill also clarifies that religious conviction includes Islam. The bill directs the Department of State Police, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, to include the bill's definition of "Islamophobia" in its hate crime reporting central repository.
Patron - Salim

C **SB631** **Callous disregard for human life and probable consequences; penalties.** Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who commits a criminal act and whose conduct was so gross, wanton, or culpable as to indicate a callous disregard for human life and for the probable consequences of his conduct. The bill enhances the penalty to a

Class 6 felony where such person knew or should have known that the consequences of such conduct would pose a greater risk to first responders.
Patron - Srinivasan

C **SB689 Oral threat to kill or to do bodily harm; employees of local or state department of social services; penalty.** Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who orally makes a threat to kill or do bodily injury to any employee the Department of Social Services or a local department of social services, as those terms as defined in relevant law, who is engaged in the performance of his duties.
Patron - Mulchi

C **SB821 Virginia State Crime Commission; kratom regulation and enforcement; report.**
Patron - Cifers

Criminal Procedure

Passed

P **HB17 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 extends the time period for commencing collection activity from 90 days to 180 days after judgment, but provides that no collection activity shall be commenced while a defendant is incarcerated on an active term of imprisonment and subject to a deferred payment agreement.
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 180 days after the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day. This bill is identical to SB 180. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Price

P **HB118 Discovery; methods of delivery.** Requires the Commonwealth, upon request by the accused or his counsel, to copy or photograph any discovery materials or evidence the accused is permitted to inspect and review, including relevant police reports, criminal records, dashboard camera footage, and body-worn camera footage, and requires the Commonwealth to provide copies to the accused or his counsel, subject to the redaction, restricted dissemination, and protective order provisions of the relevant Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia and unless such material is prohibited from being distributed by law.
The bill requires the attorney for the Commonwealth in any district court to provide to counsel of record for the accused, if requested, a copy of any relevant police report at least 10 days prior to the date the case is set for trial or preliminary hearing, and such report is subject to limitations on dissemination. The bill further provides that if such materials are provided to counsel of record for the accused in district court for a preliminary hearing, the circuit court shall order such counsel to provide discovery to the attorney for the Commonwealth subject to the relevant Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia prior to trial in circuit court.
Lastly, the bill provides that if at any time during the course of the proceedings it is brought to the attention of the court that the attorney for the Commonwealth has failed to comply with such provisions, the court may order the Commonwealth to permit discovery or inspection, grant a continuance, or prohibit the Commonwealth from introducing evidence not disclosed, or the court may enter such other order as it deems just under the circumstances.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **HB172 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 punishment, or range or ranges 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 punishment, or range or ranges of punishment, to ascertain if the person or juror can sit impartially in the guilt or sentencing phase of the case. Current law provides 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 sentencing phase of the case. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Mehta

P **HB223 Public defender; local funding for positions.** Allows the governing body of any county or city to fund positions in the office of the public defender.
Patron - Hope

P **HB246 Affirmative defense or reduced penalty for mental illness, neurocognitive disorder, or intellectual or developmental disability.** Provides an affirmative defense to prosecution of a person for assault or assault and battery against certain specified persons for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six-month mandatory minimum apply if such person proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the person's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or an intellectual disability or a developmental 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 person met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody order.
The bill requires such person or his counsel to give notice in writing to the attorney for the Commonwealth at least 60 days prior to his trial in circuit court, or at least 14 days if the trial date is set within 21 days of his last court appearance, of his intention to present such evidence. Additionally, if such notice is not given, and the person proffers such evidence at his trial as a defense, then the court may in its discretion either allow the Commonwealth a continuance or, under appropriate circumstances, bar such person from presenting such evidence; any such continuance shall not be counted for speedy trial purposes pursuant to relevant law.
Lastly, the bill provides that if such person 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 such person guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 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 335. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Watts

P **HB247 Deferred disposition in a criminal case; persons with autism, intellectual disabilities, or developmental disabilities; expungement.** Adds developmental disabilities to the autism and intellectual disability deferred disposition statute. The bill also provides that when a court defers and dismisses a charge pursuant to the autism, intellectual disability, or developmental disability deferred disposition statute, such charge may be considered as otherwise dismissed for purposes of expungement of police and court records. The bill also (i) clarifies that the defendant may request a hearing to determine the appropriateness of a deferred disposition at any time before or after any plea and (ii) provides that no statement made by the defendant at such a hearing is admissible in any criminal proceeding, except that any such statement made under oath may be admissible in a criminal proceeding for perjury or for purposes of impeachment in a criminal matter. This bill is identical to SB 416.

Patron - Watts

P **HB331 Payment of costs when proceedings deferred and defendant placed on probation.** Provides that for any deferral entered into on or after July 1, 2026, pursuant to relevant law, the court shall not require the defendant to pay such costs or other fees imposed pursuant to relevant law as a term or condition of his deferral. The bill states that upon fulfillment of all other terms and conditions, the court shall adjudicate the matter consistent with the agreement of the parties or, if none, by conviction of an alternative charge or dismissal of the case. The bill specifies that such costs and other fees shall remain due until paid, and all methods of payment and collection already available at law to satisfy or collect any outstanding costs or other fees shall remain available to such court after the underlying case against the defendant has been adjudicated or dismissed.

Patron - McClure

P **HB357 Release of accused on secured or unsecured bond.** Removes the conditions requiring that any person arrested for a felony who (i) has previously been convicted of a felony, (ii) is presently on bond for an unrelated arrest in any jurisdiction, or (iii) is on probation or parole be released only upon a secure bond. Additionally, the bill adds to the factors a judicial officer shall consider in making a bail determination (a) the person's current bond status for an unrelated arrest in any jurisdiction and (b) whether the person is on probation or parole.

Patron - Callsen

P **HB361 Earned sentence credits; incarceration while awaiting trial or pending an appeal.** Provides that a person's eligibility for earned sentence credits includes any period of time actually spent in any state or local correctional facility, state hospital, or juvenile detention facility awaiting trial or pending an appeal that was deducted from such person's term of incarceration or detention. The bill provides that the provisions apply retroactively to any person who is confined in any state or local correctional facility on July 1, 2028. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.

Patron - Seibold

P **HB459 Crime victim's right to nondisclosure of certain information; hate crimes.** Prohibits a law-enforcement agency from disclosing to the public information that directly or indirectly identifies the victim of a hate crime, defined in relevant law, except to the extent that disclosure is (i) of the site of the crime, (ii) required by law, (iii) necessary for law-enforcement purposes, or (iv) permitted by the court for good cause unless such victim, or his next of kin if he is a minor and his death results from any crime, provides written consent. The bill also prohibits, at the request of the victim, the Court of Appeals of Virginia and the Supreme Court of Virginia from listing the first or last name of the victim of a hate crime in an appellate decision.

Patron - Cohen

P **HB690 Search warrant; search of place of abode; copy of affidavit to be part of warrant and served therewith; temporary sealing.** Provides that if an affidavit that accompanies a search warrant for a place of abode has been sealed pursuant to relevant law, the executing law-enforcement officer does not have to give or leave a copy of such affidavit in a conspicuous place within or affixed to the place to be searched. The bill also adds that the circumstances requiring the issuance of a warrant after 5:00 p.m. shall be documented in the required affidavit that is submitted to a magistrate when seeking such authorization. This bill incorporates HB 1028.

Patron - Zehr

P **HB901 Substantial risk orders; eligible petitioners; substantial risk factors and considerations; court jurisdiction; constructive possession of firearms; penalty.** Expands the list of persons eligible to file a petition for an emergency substantial risk order. The bill provides various factors that a judge or magistrate shall consider for the purpose of determining whether to issue an emergency substantial risk order or a substantial risk order. The bill expands court jurisdiction over substantial risk orders from circuit courts to juvenile and domestic relations district courts and general district courts and requires petitions against minors to be filed in juvenile and domestic relations district courts. The bill requires a copy of the order to be served on the parent or guardian of the minor at any address where the minor resides or the local board of social services in the case where the minor is the subject of a dependency or court-approved out-of-home placement. The bill also provides the process for which firearms not owned by the subject of a petition are returned to the lawful owner of such firearms. The bill provides that any emergency substantial risk order or substantial risk order issued remains in full force and effect pending any appeal. Lastly, the bill provides that any person that makes a materially false statement or representation to a court during the petitioning process is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to SB 495.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB950 Use of unmanned aircraft systems by public bodies; search warrant required; exceptions.** Adds the Department of Environmental Quality to the list of exceptions to the warrant requirement for the use of an unmanned aircraft system by public bodies for the implementation and civil enforcement of the Virginia Water Resources and Wetlands Protection Program, the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act, and erosion and sediment control in localities without a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program against a permittee.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB974 Witness impeachment evidence designation; review process.** Provides a review process when the

attorney for the Commonwealth designates a law-enforcement officer as a witness with a witness impeachment evidence designation within certain time frames specified in the bill. The bill defines "witness impeachment evidence designation" as a determination that is made by or a designation that is created by the attorney for the Commonwealth relating to a law-enforcement officer who has engaged in conduct that meets the requirements for disclosure in a criminal prosecution according to the Constitution of the United States for any criminal prosecution in which the officer is a participant. The bill prohibits a law-enforcement officer from being discharged, disciplined, or threatened with discharge or discipline solely due to the designation of such officer as a witness with a witness impeachment evidence designation.

Patron - Price

P **HB1084 Collection and reporting of data related to adults charged with a criminal offense punishable by confinement in jail or a term of imprisonment; Virginia Longitudinal Data System.** Allows the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to contribute the statewide and locality-level data it collects on adults charged with criminal offenses punishable by incarceration to the Virginia Longitudinal Data System administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The bill states that any data provided that contains any personal or case identifying information shall be kept confidential and shall not be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. This bill is identical to SB 480.

Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1096 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 make such reports available to the public online. The bill provides that the Department shall remove the names and other personal identifying information from the data before the reports are published.

Patron - Singh

P **HB1219 Use of unmanned aircraft systems by law-enforcement officers; search warrants; model policy.** Expedites the issuance of a search warrant for unmanned aircraft systems by law-enforcement officers upon a finding of reasonable and probable cause by an authorized judicial official, as defined in the bill, and permits the use of unmanned aircraft systems without a search warrant when law enforcement is surveying the scene of a crime or to respond to a public safety call for service when such crime scene or call for service is located on public property, to locate a person when such person has fled the offense location during the initial response to an incident, or to provide real-time aerial observation to increase on-scene safety and security. Such provisions are subject to a reenactment clause. The bill also requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in consultation with the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission and the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, to establish a model policy for the use of unmanned aircraft systems by December 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 647.

Patron - Sewell

P **HB1298 Issuance of vacatur for victims of human trafficking.** Expands the current process for the issuance of writs of vacatur for victims of human trafficking to include ancillary matters, defined in the bill, and any charge or arrest related to a qualifying offense as defined in current law. The bill also expands the list of qualifying offenses eligible for such writ. This bill is identical to SB 748.

Patron - Delaney

P **HB1464 Victims of crime; reimbursement for expenses; work group.** Provides that all medical fees expended in the gathering of evidence through anonymous trace evidence collection kit examinations conducted on victims complaining of strangulation pursuant to relevant law shall be paid by the Commonwealth through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (also known as the Virginia Victims Fund) administered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. The bill states that such victims shall not be required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law-enforcement authorities in order to be provided with such medical exams.

Under current law, all medical fees expended in the gathering of evidence through physical evidence recovery kit examinations conducted on victims complaining of sexual assault are paid by the Commonwealth via the Fund, and victims complaining of sexual assault are not required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law-enforcement authorities in order to be provided with such forensic medical exams.

The bill expands the powers and duties of the Commission to adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind suitable rules and regulations to include a distinct policy for the payment of anonymous trace evidence collection kit examinations.

Lastly, the bill directs the Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to discuss and submit recommendations for certain matters related to the reimbursement process for forensic medical examinations, enumerated in the bill. The bill directs the work group to submit a report with recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 812.

Patron - Shin

P **SB23 Plea agreements and court orders; prohibited provisions.** Prohibits plea agreements and court orders executed or entered on or after July 1, 2026, from containing any provision that purports to waive, release, or extinguish a defendant's (i) rights under the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States 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 in certain cases.

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 imposed against the defendant; if the defendant is not placed on supervised probation, it shall be no longer than five years. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Patron - Salim

P **SB24 Discovery; methods of delivery; report.** Requires the Commonwealth, upon request by the accused or his counsel, to copy or photograph any discovery materials or evidence the accused is permitted to inspect and review, including relevant police reports, criminal records, dashboard camera footage, and body-worn camera footage, and requires

the Commonwealth to provide copies to the accused or his counsel, subject to the redaction, restricted dissemination, and protective order provisions of the relevant Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia and unless such material is prohibited from being distributed by law. The bill also directs the Department of Criminal Justice Services to evaluate and report, no later than November 1, 2026, the feasibility, costs, and other impacts with requiring the attorney for the Commonwealth to provide counsel of record for the accused a copy of any relevant police report at least 10 days prior to trial or preliminary hearing. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB62 Modification of sentence for marijuana-related offenses.** Creates a process by which a person adjudicated delinquent or convicted of certain felony offenses involving, or violations of probation or community supervision related to, the possession, manufacture, selling, giving, distribution, transportation, or delivery of marijuana committed prior to July 1, 2021, who remains incarcerated or on probation or community supervision on July 1, 2026, may receive an automatic hearing to consider modification of such person's sentence. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to HB 26. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB70 Delinquency petition; referral to court service unit.** Provides that at any point prior to the commencement of an adjudication hearing on a petition alleging that a child is delinquent, the court, upon request of the child with consent of the attorney for the Commonwealth, if a party to the case, may refer the delinquency charge back to the court service unit in writing and the intake officer shall proceed informally pursuant to relevant law. Additionally, the bill provides that upon such referral, the court shall dismiss the petition and order that the court records pertaining to the petition be expunged pursuant to relevant law. Lastly, the bill allows an intake officer to proceed informally on a complaint alleging a child is in need of services, in need of supervision, or delinquent if the juvenile has previously been proceeded against informally. Current law does not permit proceeding informally when a juvenile (i) commits a violent juvenile felony or (ii) is alleged delinquent for an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult if such juvenile had previously been (a) proceeded against informally by intake or (b) adjudicated delinquent for a prior offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Commission on Youth. This bill is identical to HB 438.
Patron - Favola

P **SB136 Decreasing probation period.** Establishes criteria for which a defendant's supervised probation period shall be reduced, including completing educational activities, maintaining employment, completing treatment, or obtaining housing. The bill provides that a court may decrease a defendant's probation period if warranted by the defendant's conduct upon receipt of a request from the Department of Corrections and requires the Department of Corrections to request termination of a defendant's supervised probation period after 12 months in certain situations. This bill is identical to HB 149.
Patron - Craig

P **SB180 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 extends the time period for commencing collection activity from 90 days to 180 days after judgment, but provides that no collection activity shall be commenced while a defendant is incarcerated on an active term of imprisonment and subject to a deferred payment agreement.
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 180 days after the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charge for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day. This bill incorporates SB 185 and SB 810 and is identical to HB 17. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB230 Expungement of police and court records.** Permits the expungement of police and court records relating to an initial charge when a person is arrested, charged, summonsed, or indicted for the commission of an infraction, a crime, or a civil offense and such person is not ultimately convicted, provided that no stipulation of facts sufficient to find guilt was entered or the court did not determine the facts sufficient to find guilt but deferred adjudication or disposition to a later date. The bill also permits that a petition may request expungement of the police and court records for multiple charges arising out of separate transactions or occurrences. The bill also provides that if a person was the subject of a delinquency or traffic proceeding and was not ultimately adjudicated delinquent or convicted, provided that no stipulation of facts sufficient to find guilt was entered or the court did not determine facts sufficient to find guilt but deferred adjudication or disposition to a later date, such matter is eligible for expungement. Lastly, the bill (i) allows certain deferred dispositions to be eligible for expungement; (ii) requires the attorney for the Commonwealth, if he files an objection to the petition for expungement, to include the factual basis for such objection; (iii) provides that the unavailability of certain information shall not be a basis for refusing expungement; (iv) requires the court, if it finds potential manifest injustice to the petitioner, to order expungement; (v) provides that the existence of a prior conviction alone shall not be a sufficient basis to deny an expungement; (vi) allows any person whose petition for relief is the subject of an appeal to proceed under a pseudonym pursuant to relevant law; and (vii) allows specifically identified emergency or preliminary protective orders to be expunged. The bill has a delayed effective date of December 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB283 Penalties for failure to appear; contempt.** Provides that a court shall consider certain mitigating factors to determine whether the failure of any person to appear before any court or judicial officer as required was willful. Under current law, no mitigating factors are specified for a court or judicial officer to consider in determining whether a person willfully failed to appear. This bill is identical to HB 933.
Patron - Aird

P **SB335 Affirmative defense or reduced penalty for mental illness, neurocognitive disorder, or intellectual or developmental disability.** Provides an affirmative defense

to prosecution of a person for assault or assault and battery against certain specified persons for which the enhanced Class 6 felony and six-month mandatory minimum apply if such person proves, by a preponderance of the evidence, that at the time of the assault or assault and battery (i) the person's behaviors were a result of (a) mental illness or (b) a neurocognitive disorder, including dementia, or an intellectual disability or a developmental 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 person met the criteria for issuance of an emergency custody order.

The bill requires such person or his counsel to give notice in writing to the attorney for the Commonwealth at least 60 days prior to his trial in circuit court, or at least 14 days if the trial date is set within 21 days of his last court appearance, of his intention to present such evidence. Additionally, if such notice is not given, and the person proffers such evidence at his trial as a defense, then the court may in its discretion either allow the Commonwealth a continuance or, under appropriate circumstances, bar such person from presenting such evidence; any such continuance shall not be counted for speedy trial purposes pursuant to relevant law.

Lastly, the bill provides that if such person 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 such person guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 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 246. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB416 Deferred disposition in a criminal case; persons with autism, intellectual disabilities, or developmental disabilities; expungement.** Adds developmental disabilities to the autism and intellectual disability deferred disposition statute. The bill also provides that when a court defers and dismisses a charge pursuant to the autism, intellectual disability, or developmental disability deferred disposition statute, such charge may be considered as otherwise dismissed for purposes of expungement of police and court records. The bill also (i) clarifies that the defendant may request a hearing to determine the appropriateness of a deferred disposition at any time before or after any plea and (ii) provides that no statement made by the defendant at such a hearing is admissible in any criminal proceeding, except that any such statement made under oath may be admissible in a criminal proceeding for perjury or for purposes of impeachment in a criminal matter. This bill is identical to HB 247.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB480 Collection and reporting of data related to adults charged with a criminal offense punishable by confinement in jail or a term of imprisonment; Virginia Longitudinal Data System.** Allows the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to contribute the statewide and locality-level data it collects on adults charged with criminal offenses punishable by incarceration to the Virginia Longitudinal Data System administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The bill states that any data provided that contains any personal or case identifying information shall be kept confidential and shall not be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. This bill is identical to HB 1084.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB495 Substantial risk orders; eligible petitioners; substantial risk factors and considerations; court jurisdiction; constructive possession of firearms; penalty.** Expands the list of persons eligible to file a petition for an emergency substantial risk order. The bill provides various factors that a judge or magistrate shall consider for the purpose of determining whether to issue an emergency substantial risk order or a substantial risk order. The bill expands court jurisdiction over substantial risk orders from circuit courts to juvenile and domestic relations district courts and general district courts and requires petitions against minors to be filed in juvenile and domestic relations district courts. The bill requires a copy of the order to be served on the parent or guardian of the minor at any address where the minor resides or the local board of social services in the case where the minor is the subject of a dependency or court-approved out-of-home placement. The bill also provides the process for which firearms not owned by the subject of a petition are returned to the lawful owner of such firearms. The bill provides that any emergency substantial risk order or substantial risk order issued remains in full force and effect pending any appeal. Lastly, the bill provides that any person that makes a materially false statement or representation to a court during the petitioning process is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. This bill is identical to HB 901.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB528 Competency treatment in misdemeanor proceedings.** Provides that in cases where the defendant has been charged with a misdemeanor offense, the court may (i) order inpatient or outpatient treatment or (ii) dismiss the charges. Where a defendant is found to be incompetent, the bill permits a court to (a) order that such defendant receive treatment to restore his competency on an outpatient basis in a local correctional facility or at a location determined by the appropriate community services board or behavioral health authority, (b) order that such defendant receive treatment to restore his competency on an inpatient basis at a hospital designated by the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as appropriate for treatment of persons under criminal charge, (c) order that such defendant be evaluated to determine whether he meets the criteria for temporary detention, or (d) dismiss the misdemeanor charge and release such defendant. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Stanley

P **SB559 Forgery; venue.** Clarifies that the venue provision for prosecution of forgery applies to forging public records, etc., forging coin or bank notes, and forging, uttering, etc., other writings.

Patron - Reeves

P **SB647 Use of unmanned aircraft systems by law-enforcement officers; search warrants; model policy.** Expedites the issuance of a search warrant for unmanned aircraft systems by law-enforcement officers upon a finding of reasonable and probable cause by an authorized judicial official, as defined in the bill, and permits the use of unmanned aircraft systems without a search warrant when law enforcement is surveying the scene of a crime or to respond to a public safety call for service when such crime scene or call for service is located on public property, to locate a person when such person has fled the offense location during the initial response to an incident, or to provide real-time aerial observation to increase on-scene safety and security. Such provisions are subject to a reenactment clause.

The bill also requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services, in consultation with the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission and the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, to establish a model policy for the use of unmanned

aircraft systems by December 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 1219.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB714 Duties and responsibilities of local pretrial services officers; assessments.** Requires a local pretrial services officer to conduct a risk assessment of defendants arrested on state and local warrants and who are detained in jails located in jurisdictions served by the local pretrial services agency while awaiting a hearing before any court that is considering or reconsidering bail, at initial appearance, advisement or arraignment, or at other subsequent hearings. Current law requires a local pretrial services officer to interview such defendants. The bill also provides that each local pretrial services officer may conduct defendant interviews as appropriate and when available resources permit.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB748 Issuance of vacatur for victims of human trafficking.** Expands the current process for the issuance of writs of vacatur for victims of human trafficking to include ancillary matters, defined in the bill, and any charge or arrest related to a qualifying offense as defined in current law. The bill also expands the list of qualifying offenses eligible for such writ. This bill is identical to HB 1298.
Patron - Locke

P **SB776 Requiring fines, costs, restitution for damages, support, or community services from probationer; failure to pay.** Provides that a failure of the defendant to pay any fines or costs imposed on him at the time of being placed on probation as a condition of his probation shall not, by itself, be deemed a breach of such probation unless the court finds, after notice to the defendant and his counsel and a hearing, that the defendant has willfully refused to pay. The bill provides that in assessing such failure to pay, the court shall presume that a defendant who is indigent pursuant to relevant law, or who has been deemed indigent during the pendency of a criminal or traffic case, is unable to pay such fines and costs. The bill requires the court to order such defendant relief from any alleged breach of probation, absent any specific finding to the contrary.
Patron - Mulchi

P **SB812 Victims of crime; reimbursement for expenses; work group.** Provides that all medical fees expended in the gathering of evidence through anonymous trace evidence collection kit examinations conducted on victims complaining of strangulation pursuant to relevant law shall be paid by the Commonwealth through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (also known as the Virginia Victims Fund) administered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. The bill states that such victims shall not be required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law-enforcement authorities in order to be provided with such medical exams. Under current law, all medical fees expended in the gathering of evidence through physical evidence recovery kit examinations conducted on victims complaining of sexual assault are paid by the Commonwealth via the Fund, and victims complaining of sexual assault are not required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law-enforcement authorities in order to be provided with such forensic medical exams. The bill expands the powers and duties of the Commission to adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind suitable rules and regulations to include a distinct policy for the payment of anonymous trace evidence collection kit examinations. Lastly, the bill directs the Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to discuss and submit recommendations for certain matters related to the reimbursement process for forensic medical examinations, enumerated in the bill. The bill directs the work group to submit a report with recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 1464.
Patron - Boysko

Failed

F **HB148 Seizure, forfeiture, and destruction of property used in connection with the exploitation and solicitation of children.** Requires the court, if the forfeiture is established to order the destruction of all audio and visual equipment, electronic equipment, devices, and other personal property used in connection with the possession, production, distribution, publication, sale, possession with intent to distribute, or making of child pornography, or in connection with the solicitation of a person less than 18 years of age, in violation of current law. The bill also (i) requires certain information to be provided by the law-enforcement agency responsible for the destruction, (ii) prohibits destruction of such items to be used in a criminal prosecution until all rights of appeal have been exhausted, and (iii) requires the law-enforcement agency to provide notice, by first-class mail, to the accused or other interested party, if known, and his attorney at least seven days prior to the destruction of the time and place the destruction will occur. This bill incorporates HB 274 and HB 688.
Patron - Williams

F **HB208 Anti-harassment orders.** Creates a procedure for issuing an anti-harassment order, defined in the bill. The bill also provides that (i) an anti-harassment order does not constitute a restraining order to disqualify a person from obtaining a concealed handgun permit and (ii) a violation of an anti-harassment order is punishable as contempt of court.
Patron - Williams

F **HB274 Seizure, forfeiture, and destruction of property used in connection with the exploitation and solicitation of children.** Requires the court to order the destruction of all audio and visual equipment, electronic equipment, devices, and other personal property used in connection with the possession, production, distribution, publication, sale, possession with intent to distribute, or making of child pornography, or in connection with the solicitation of a person less than 18 years of age, in violation of current law. The bill also (i) requires certain information to be provided by the law-enforcement agency responsible for the destruction, (ii) prohibits destruction of such items to be used in a criminal prosecution until all rights of appeal have been exhausted, and (iii) requires the law-enforcement agency to provide notice, by first-class mail, to the accused or other interested party, if known, and his attorney at least seven days prior to the destruction of the time and place the destruction will occur.
Patron - Walker

F **HB489 Restorative justice practices.** Provides that participation in a restorative justice practice, as defined in the bill, shall not be used as evidence or as an admission of guilt, delinquency, or civil liability in current or subsequent legal proceedings against any participant. The bill also provides that restorative justice communications, defined in the bill, are not admissible in, or subject to discovery for, any legal proceeding, and disclosure of such communications shall not be compelled in any judicial or administrative proceeding, arbitration, or mediation. The bill prohibits any person involved in a restorative justice practice, as defined in the bill,

from testifying about any phase of such practice in any judicial or administrative proceeding, arbitration, or mediation except in certain circumstances enumerated in the bill. Lastly, the bill provides civil immunity for any person, who in good faith, discloses any restorative justice communication based on his belief that such disclosure is allowed pursuant to such provisions, provided that such disclosure was limited to solely address any such allowable disclosure.
Patron - Hope

F **HB660 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 the financial criteria set forth in relevant law and unable to pay such fee. The bill provides that the court may make such determination sua sponte or upon motion of the defendant at any time prior to the entry of an order for which such fee is assessed or the final order has been entered.
Patron - Maldonado

F **HB687 Criminal complaint, warrant, summons, etc.; temporary sealing.** Provides that (i) any complaint that accompanies any warrant, summons, or capias issued pursuant to relevant law may be temporarily sealed for a specific period of time by the appropriate court upon application of the attorney for the Commonwealth for good cause shown in an ex parte hearing and (ii) any individual arrested on or served with such warrant, summons, or capias may move the appropriate court for the unsealing of such complaint. The bill states that the burden of proof with respect to continued sealing shall be upon the Commonwealth.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB688 Seizure, forfeiture, and destruction of property used in connection with the exploitation and solicitation of children.** Provides that all audio and visual equipment, electronic equipment, devices, and other personal property used in connection with the possession, production, distribution, publication, sale, possession with intent to distribute, or making of child pornography, or in connection with the solicitation of a person less than 18 years of age, in violation of current law, shall be subject to lawful seizure by a law-enforcement officer and forfeited to the Commonwealth by order of the court trying the case. The bill also (i) requires the court to order the destruction of all such equipment, devices, and other personal property, (ii) requires certain information to be provided by the law-enforcement agency responsible for the destruction, (iii) prohibits destruction of such items to be used in a criminal prosecution until all rights of appeal have been exhausted, and (iv) requires the law-enforcement agency to provide notice, by first-class mail, to the accused or other interested party, if known, and his attorney at least seven days prior to the destruction of the time and place the destruction will occur.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB718 Issuance of summons instead of warrant in certain cases.** Provides that in any misdemeanor case or in any class of misdemeanor cases other than Class 1 or 2 misdemeanors, or in any case involving complaints made by any state or local governmental official or employee having responsibility for the enforcement of any statute, ordinance, or administrative regulation, the magistrate or other issuing authority having jurisdiction may issue a summons instead of a warrant only upon a showing of evidence that the accused is willing and able to appear in the courts having jurisdiction over the trial of the offense charged. The bill further provides that in cases involving Class 1 or 2 misdemeanors, the magistrate or other issuing authority having jurisdiction shall issue a warrant for such alleged offense unless he finds that there is reason to believe that the person charged will appear in the courts having jurisdiction over the trial of the offense charged. The bill requires the magistrate or other issuing authority having jurisdiction to submit, in writing, the facts supporting his decision to issue a summons instead of a warrant, which shall be filed with the summons in the court file.
Under current law, the magistrate or other issuing authority having jurisdiction may issue a summons instead of a warrant when there is reason to believe that the person charged will appear in the courts having jurisdiction over the trial of the offense charged.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB1028 Search warrant; search of place of abode; copy of affidavit to be part of warrant and served therewith; temporary sealing.** Provides that if an affidavit that accompanies a search warrant for a place of abode has been sealed pursuant to relevant law, the executing law-enforcement officer does not have to leave a copy of such affidavit in a conspicuous place within or affixed to the place to be searched.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1029 Criminal complaint, warrant, summons, etc.; temporary sealing.** Provides that (i) any complaint that accompanies any warrant, summons, or capias issued pursuant to relevant law may be temporarily sealed for a specific period of time by the appropriate court upon application of the attorney for the Commonwealth for good cause shown in an ex parte hearing and (ii) any individual arrested on or served with such warrant, summons, or capias may move the appropriate court for the unsealing of such complaint. The bill states that the burden of proof with respect to continued sealing shall be upon the Commonwealth.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1105 Competency treatment in misdemeanor proceedings.** Provides that in cases where the defendant has been charged with a misdemeanor offense, the court may (i) order outpatient treatment or (ii) dismiss the charges. Where a defendant is found to be incompetent, the bill permits a court to (a) order that such defendant receive treatment to restore his competency on an outpatient basis in a local correctional facility or at a location determined by the appropriate community services board or behavioral health authority, (b) order that such defendant be evaluated to determine whether he meets the criteria for temporary detention, or (c) dismiss the misdemeanor charge and release such defendant. The bill also requires a court to dismiss misdemeanor charges in a competency proceeding when a defendant is charged with both misdemeanor and felony offenses.
Patron - Kilgore

F **HB1277 Aggravated murder; admission to bail; rebuttable presumption against bail; magistrates.** Creates a rebuttable presumption against bail for certain criminal offenses enumerated in the bill. The bill requires the court to consider certain factors when determining whether the presumption against bail has been rebutted and whether there are appropriate conditions of release. The bill also expands the information a judicial officer can consider for determining bail, including any involuntary admission or commitment order within the previous three years, and provides that any person arrested for a felony who (i) has never been convicted of a violent offense, as defined in § 19.2-297.1, but his current arrest is for a violent felony, or (ii) has been convicted within the previous 10 years of three or more offenses, provided that each such offense is a Class 1 misdemeanor or felony and that the defen-

dant has been at liberty between such convictions, may be released only upon a secure bond.
The bill requires the judicial officer to file written findings if he grants bail in certain instances. Additionally, the bill requires the chief magistrate to file a written order with the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court if a magistrate is suspended that states the reasons for such suspension, including a failure to issue such written findings.
Lastly, the bill also provides that the willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing of any person while such person is on or within a vehicle operated by a public transportation service, as defined in relevant law, is guilty of aggravated murder.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB1397** **Determining decibel level of sound with proper equipment; certificate as to accuracy of equipment.** Allows a local government employee of any locality who is properly trained to use equipment deemed proper pursuant to relevant law to determine the decibel level of any sound, including noise. Under current law, only a law-enforcement officer may use such equipment.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

F **HB1411** **Evidence of defendant's mental condition admissible.** Provides that evidence of the defendant's mental condition at the time of the alleged offense, including lay testimony, may be admitted and considered if such evidence (i) has any tendency to show the defendant did or did not have a mental state that is an element of the offense or an affirmative defense and (ii) is otherwise admissible pursuant to the general rules of evidence. The bill also provides such evidence offered by the defendant that shows he had a mental condition at the time of or near any act related to the offense, or a defense to or for such offense, is admissible as it has a tendency to show the defendant did not have the required mental state. The current standard requires that such evidence tend to show the defendant did not have the intent required for the offense charged.
The bill also provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule of evidence, any statement made by the accused to an expert during an examination to allow such expert to form an opinion on whether or not the accused had a mental condition at the time of or near any act related to the offense, or a defense to or for such offense, is admissible if such statement is offered by the accused.
Patron - Schmidt

F **HB1440** **Protected areas; certain federal immigration enforcement prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits any employee or agent acting on behalf of a protected area from knowingly permitting any person to enter a nonpublic area of such protected area for the purpose of federal immigration enforcement. The bill defines protected area as any place or facility that is owned or operated by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof and is (i) a hospital or other facility providing health care services; (ii) a school, including a preschool, primary school, or secondary school, vocational or trade school, or public institution of higher education; (iii) an office of an attorney for the Commonwealth; or (iv) any other place or facility designated by the Attorney General. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any violation of such provision, subject to certain exceptions. The bill also makes the performance of certain acts for the purpose of identifying, arresting, or otherwise imposing a penalty upon a person for federal immigration enforcement punishable by a Class 1 misdemeanor.
Patron - Lopez

F **SB185** **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, 2027. This bill was incorporated into SB 180.
Patron - Williams Graves

F **SB198** **Admissibility of statements by individuals with developmental or intellectual disabilities in certain cases.** Prohibits admission of any evidence from an individual with developmental disabilities or intellectual disabilities, as defined in relevant law, in certain criminal prosecutions unless the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that such individual's decision to speak to law enforcement was not caused by and did not have a direct and substantial relationship to such individual's disability. The bill requires notice be given to the attorney for the Commonwealth if a defendant intends to introduce expert testimony regarding his disability. The bill prohibits any statements made by a defendant during an examination by an expert witness from being used against him except for impeachment or perjury. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by a subsequent regular or special session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Favola

F **SB616** **Emergency protective orders; duration.** Extends the duration of an emergency protective order from a maximum of three days to a maximum of two weeks. The bill permits a petitioner, prior to the expiration of an emergency protective order, to file a written motion requesting to extend such order and authorizes a court, upon good cause shown, to extend the emergency protective order for an additional period of time not to exceed two weeks after expiration of the original order. Finally, the bill permits a court to continue an emergency protective order to the first hearing date of any related criminal offense. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Mulchi

F **SB634** **Petition for modification of a sentence; eligibility; procedures; report.** 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 directs the Department of Corrections to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to (a) consider and recommend best practices for implementation of the bill and (b) evaluate and recommend updates to victim notification systems. The work group shall complete its meetings by November 1,

2026, and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Deeds

F **SB810 Deferred or installment payment agreements; outstanding court-assessed fines, fees, taxes, or costs.** Provides that the attorney for the Commonwealth or the clerk of the circuit court shall not require an individual to pay any outstanding court-assessed fines, fees, taxes, or costs arising from a criminal proceeding during the 180-day period following an individual's release from a term of imprisonment. This bill was incorporated into SB 180.
Patron - Jordan

Carried Over

C **HB127 Court appearance of a person not free on bail.** Makes various changes to provisions regarding bail hearings in jurisdictions having a public defender office, including (i) the appointment of counsel for the accused and (ii) a requirement that counsel for the accused, when practicable, be provided with adequate time to confer with the accused prior to any bail hearing. The bill also allows a jurisdiction that does not have a public defender office establish to implement such provisions. The bill provides that, effective in due course, the chief judge in each circuit shall create a plan to be completed by November 1, 2026, that establishes the means by which the jurisdiction will meet such provisions. The remaining provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Callsen

C **HB150 Limitation on prosecution of felony due to lapse of time after finding of probable cause; misdemeanors; exceptions; retaining counsel.** Provides that the speedy trial statute is tolled for the accused to retain private counsel or have counsel appointed to him pursuant to relevant law. The bill requires the court to conduct, not more than 30 days apart, reviews of the accused's attorney status and provides that such tolling shall end when the accused has either retained counsel or had counsel appointed to him and such counsel has entered an appearance in the case or the accused executes a valid waiver of counsel. Lastly, the bill provides that such provisions shall not be construed as ending the tolling of speedy trial for any other reason pursuant to relevant law.
Patron - Williams

C **HB240 Admission to bail; fixing terms of bail; mental health considerations.** Requires the judicial officer, prior to conducting any hearing on the issue of bail, release, or detention, to obtain the person's criminal history and any emergency custody or temporary detention order or involuntary admission issued for such person. The bill also requires the judicial officer to consider any emergency custody or temporary detention order or involuntary admission issued for the person when determining admission to bail. Lastly, the bill requires the judicial officer to take into account the following factors in fixing the terms of bail if such person is admitted to bail: (i) whether the person is likely to obstruct or attempt to obstruct justice, or threaten, injure, or intimidate, or attempt to threaten, injure, or intimidate a family or household member as defined in relevant law; (ii) the history of the accused or juvenile, including medical, mental health, including any emergency custody or temporary detention order or involuntary admission issued pursuant to relevant law, or substance abuse treatment; (iii) any evidence the person provided indicating that such person (a) is currently pregnant, (b) has recently given birth, or (c) is currently nursing a child; and (iv) whether such person will be an unreasonable danger to himself, family or household members as defined in relevant law, or the public.
Patron - Gardner

C **HB244 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 enhanced earned sentence credits, (v) allowing persons who are ineligible for parole as a result of being convicted of three of 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 that 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 to apply retroactively if certain criteria are met.
Patron - Watts

C **HB623 Forfeiture of certain weapons; petition for return by Commonwealth.** Permits the attorney for the Commonwealth to petition a court for the return of a weapon to its lawful owner where such weapon was used by any person in the commission of a criminal offense and forfeited to the Commonwealth by order of the court.
Patron - Cherry

C **HB853 Petition for modification of a sentence; eligibility; procedures; report.** 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 directs the Department of Corrections to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to (a) consider and recommend best practices for implementation of the bill and (b) evaluate and recommend updates to victim notification systems. The work group shall complete its meetings by November 1, 2026, and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Cousins

C **HB1027 Use of communications systems to facilitate certain offenses involving children; exception.**

Provides that the crime of using communications systems to facilitate certain offenses involving children only applies when (i) the child involved is within the age ranges prescribed by law or (ii) the other person involved is a law-enforcement officer posing as a child within the age ranges prescribed by law while in the performance of his official duties.
Patron - Walker

C **HB1070 Procedure for use of prior conviction as element of offense charged.** Establishes a procedure for using a defendant's prior conviction to prove an element of an offense charged or to enhance the punishment for the offense charged.
Patron - Rasoul

C **HB1142 Deferred or installment payment agreements; outstanding court-assessed fines, fees, taxes, or costs.** Provides that the attorney for the Commonwealth or the clerk of the circuit court shall not require any defendant sentenced to an active term of incarceration and ordered to pay any fine cost, forfeiture, or penalty related to the charge for which such defendant was incarcerated, 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 with a due date set no earlier than 180 days after the defendant's scheduled release from incarceration on the charges for which such defendant was sentenced on the same day.
Patron - Cherry

C **HB1413 Limitation on sentence upon revocation of suspension of sentence; technical violations.** Provides that the court shall consider all technical violations that are alleged to have occurred after a prior sentencing or revocation hearing as single technical violation and adjudicate the case as such, with punishment imposed pursuant to relevant law. The bill also prohibits the court from treating multiple technical violations during a single probationary period between such prior sentencing or revocation hearing as separate cases or adjudicate such violations at separate hearings. The bill 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 docket such case as soon as practicable, and any such case shall be given precedence on the docket. 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. The bill also expands the list of technical violations and provides that it shall be a defense to an alleged violation if the defendant can show that he has substantially complied with his probation obligations.
Patron - Schmidt

C **SB145 Marijuana field test; testimony as to the results; consuming or possessing marijuana or marijuana products while in a motor vehicle or on public school grounds.** Allows a law-enforcement officer to testify as to the results of any marijuana field test approved as accurate and reliable by the Department of Forensic Science regarding whether or not any plant material at issue is marijuana in a trial for a violation of using or consuming marijuana or marijuana products while in a motor vehicle being driven upon a public highway or consuming or possessing marijuana or marijuana products in or on public school grounds, provided the defendant has been given written notice of his right to request a full chemical analysis. Current law allows a law-enforcement officer to testify as to the results of a marijuana field test in a trial for underage possession or consumption of marijuana.
Patron - McDougle

C **SB412 Court appearance of a person not free on bail.** Makes various changes to provisions regarding bail hearings, including (i) the appointment of counsel for the accused; (ii) the information provided to counsel for the accused; (iii) a requirement that counsel for the accused, when practicable, be provided with adequate time to confer with the accused prior to any bail hearing; and (iv) the compensation of counsel for the accused. The bill provides that, effective in due course, the chief judge in each circuit shall create a plan to be completed by November 1, 2026, that establishes the means by which the jurisdiction will meet such provisions. The remaining provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Boysko

C **SB472 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 the financial criteria set forth in relevant law and unable to pay such fee. The bill provides that the court may make such determination sua sponte or upon motion of the defendant at any time prior to the entry of an order for which such fee is assessed or the final order has been entered.
Patron - Deeds

C **SB570 Search warrants; unattended deaths.** Authorizes the issuance of a search warrant to search any place for (i) a dead human body where, at the time of death, the decedent was not being attended to by a physician or (ii) evidence of the cause or manner of death of such a body.
Patron - Mulchi

Domestic Relations

Passed

P **HB224 Proceedings to establish paternity.** Adds the methods by which the Department of Social Services administratively establishes paternity for the purposes of child support enforcement to the lists of ways that a parent and child relationship may be established in domestic relations proceedings under Title 20 and that a parent and child relationship may be established for determining rights related to a deed, will, trust, or other instrument. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.

Patron - Hope

P **HB303 Divorce; adultery; filing; parties living separate and apart; work group; report.** Specifies that a divorce may be decreed on the grounds of adultery, provided that such adultery occurred prior to the final separation of the parties. The bill further allows for a divorce from bed and board to be decreed on the application of either party upon the parties living separate and apart; under current law, a divorce from bed and board may only be decreed for cruelty, reasonable apprehension of bodily hurt, willful desertion, or abandon-

ment. The bill specifies that no waiting period is required for the filing for such a divorce, but the decree of such a divorce may only be decreed pursuant to certain requirements otherwise specified in the law. The bill further directs the Virginia Family Law Coalition, in conjunction with the Virginia State Bar Family Law Section, to convene a work group to consider whether to eliminate fault-based grounds for divorce in the Commonwealth and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB556** **State Registrar of Vital Records; final decree of divorce or annulment of marriage; necessary information.** Specifies that the information necessary to enter a final decree of divorce or annulment of marriage shall include a party's social security number or control number issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles only if such information is known and available.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB768** **Custody and visitation arrangements for minor; custody evaluation; report.** Provides that a circuit or district court may order a custody evaluation to assist with determining the custody or visitation arrangements for a minor. Current law provides that such custody evaluations can be ordered in a proceeding for custody or visitation before a juvenile and domestic relations district court. The bill also directs the Board of Psychology, in consultation with the Board of Medicine, to convene a stakeholder advisory group to study the availability of qualified mental health professionals willing to serve as court-appointed experts in family law proceedings and to report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice and House Committee on Health and Human Services no later than November 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Herring

P **HB905** **Persons other than ministers who may perform rites of marriage; clerk; issuance of order; bond requirement.** Provides that a clerk of a circuit court may issue an order authorizing one or more persons to celebrate the rites of marriage in the Commonwealth. Under current law, only a circuit court judge may issue such an order. The bill further makes discretionary the entrance into a bond in the penalty of $500 prior to performing the rites of marriage for a person authorized to celebrate the rites of marriage; under current law, such entry is mandatory. Finally, the bill civilly immunizes the clerk of any circuit court from a cause of action arising from the issuance or rescinding of such order, absent gross negligence or willful misconduct.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB942** **Custody and visitation; possession or consumption of authorized substances.** Provides that 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.
Patron - Clark

P **HB1382** **Domicile and residential requirements for annulment, affirmance, or divorce; members of the Armed Forces of the United States and civilian employees of the United States; return from station.** Provides that, for the purposes of domicile requirements for annulment, affirmance, or divorce, any member of the Armed Forces of the United States or any civilian employee of the United States, including any foreign service officer, who (i) at the time the suit is filed, or immediately preceding such suit, has returned to the Commonwealth following being stationed in any territory or foreign country and (ii) resided or lived in in the Commonwealth for the six-month period immediately preceding his being stationed in such territory or country shall be deemed to have been domiciled in and to have been a bona fide resident of the Commonwealth during the six months preceding the filing of a suit for annulment or divorce.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB1406** **Foreign divorce decrees; exercise of power by courts of the Commonwealth; non-domiciled party.** Provides that a court of the Commonwealth with proper jurisdiction may exercise certain powers relating to a foreign decree dissolving a marriage or granting a divorce from the bond of matrimony if a proceeding is initiated by a non-domiciled party to such divorce, provided that the party domiciled in the Commonwealth is still domiciled in the Commonwealth at the commencement of an action.
Patron - Thornton

Failed

F **HB1517** **Mandatory sequestration of record; partial sealing; good cause shown exception.** Requires a court to order the sealing or partial sealing of a divorce record of agreement upon motion of a party except for good cause shown. Under current law, sealing is discretionary. The bill provides that rulings and orders of the court shall only be sealed for good cause shown.
Patron - Bloxom

F **SB501** **Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia; guardians ad litem; mandatory appointment in custody or visitation cases involving a minor.** Requires the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia (OES) to evaluate the current discretionary appointment of a guardian ad litem in cases where the custody or visitation of a minor child is at issue. The bill requires OES to make a recommendation as to whether the appointment of a guardian ad litem shall be mandatory in all such cases, and to consider the potential impacts of making such an appointment mandatory, including possible delays in hearings if there is not an adequate number of qualified attorneys capable of assuming such duties for the increased number of cases, and any fiscal impacts. The bill directs OES to submit its evaluation, including any observations and recommendations, to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2027.
Patron - Roem

Carried Over

C **HB839** **Judicial Council of Virginia; work group to study the implementation of provisions to improve procedures for and responses to victims of family abuse and their children in child custody proceedings; report.** Directs the Judicial Council of Virginia to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to study the implementation of provisions to improve procedures for and responses to victims of family abuse and their children in child custody proceedings. The bill requires the work group to submit its findings

and recommendations by November 1, 2026, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.
Patron - McClure

Education

Passed

P **HB38 Public schools; mental health awareness training and instruction; requirements.** 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.
Patron - Henson

P **HB116 School board employee grievance procedure; timing of dispute resolution.** Requires the grievance procedure for certain school board employees to afford a timely and fair method of the resolution of disputes arising between the school board and such employees before dismissal or other disciplinary actions, excluding suspensions. Current law requires such procedure to afford a timely and fair method of the resolution of disputes arising between the school board and such employees regarding dismissal or other disciplinary actions, excluding suspensions, but is silent on the timing of such dispute resolution. This bill is identical to SB 824.
Patron - Ward

P **HB125 Public school teachers; terms of employment; reemployment of teacher who has received continuing contract status; written notice required.** Requires written notice of noncontinuation of a continuing teacher contract to be given by the teacher by June 15 of each year; otherwise, the contract continues in effect for the ensuing year in conformity with local salary stipulations, including increments. Current law requires such written notice of noncontinuation of a continuing teacher contract to be given by either the teacher or the school board by June 15 of each year. This bill is identical to SB 117.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB139 School board policies; unpaid educational leave for certain employee association officers; purchase of service credit.** Requires each school board to adopt a policy to approve unpaid educational leave for school board employees who are state employee association executive officers and for up to two school board employees who are local employee association officers for a maximum of four years per officer. The bill permits employee association officers approved for such leave to purchase service credit with the Virginia Retirement System for such period of leave.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB171 Student instruction; internet safety; certain topics.** Requires the internet safety component that is integrated into each school division's instructional program as required by its acceptable internet use policy to include instruction on key modern digital safety topics, including online scams, misinformation, and content generated by artificial intelligence.
Patron - Askew

P **HB178 Department of Education; assessment; certified student support agencies; report.** Requires the Department of Education (the Department) to assess the impact of developing a program to provide student support programs to students enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school through certified student support agencies, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Department, in conducting such assessment, to consider (i) a framework by which a certified student support agency would enter into a memorandum of understanding with a school board for the purpose of providing student support programs, as defined in the bill, and suggested components of such memorandums of understanding, such as (a) documentation establishing the organization's nonprofit status, (b) a description of each student support program that such organization provides, (c) policies and procedures relating to privacy, background checks, mandated reporting, and the transmission, collection, use, and disposal of student personal information, and (d) consent forms and procedures to be used by such student support programs to obtain the necessary consent from the parent of any student under 18 years of age; (ii) the feasibility of establishing and administering a certification process for certified student support agencies; (iii) potential compliance monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and subsequent penalties for noncompliance to ensure that each certified student support agency complies with such program; (iv) policies and procedures for the secure disposal of a student's personal information upon such student's withdrawal from a student support program, upon the cessation of any such program, or upon such student's graduation or transfer from the school division; and (v) cost estimates, including staffing needs, for the development and implementation of such program. The bill requires the Department to submit a report on its findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health and the House Committees on Appropriations and Education no later than November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 190.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB182 High school graduation requirements; history and social studies credits; certain substitutions permitted.** Requires the Board of Education, in establishing high school graduation requirements, to permit any student to substitute the African American History course or the Advanced Placement African American Studies course for the World History I course or the World Geography course for the purpose of satisfying the history and social studies credit requirements, provided that (i) such a course is available to the student and (ii) the student is required to complete and receive a passing score on an applicable local alternative assessment or an equivalent Board-approved assessment, in order to satisfy history and social studies credit requirements for graduation. The bill directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill and to ensure that no student who makes such a substitution is required to earn a verified credit for the World History I or World Geography course in order to graduate. This bill is identical to SB 427.
Patron - Reid

P **HB195 Programs for at-risk students; permissible uses of funding.** Includes as covered programs that are eligible for funding under the At-Risk Program initiatives to support both the physical and mental health of students in public schools, including the hiring of licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses.

This bill is a recommendation of the School Health Services Committee and is identical to SB 33.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB199 Board of Education; through-year growth assessment system eliminated.** Eliminates the requirement that the Board of Education establish, in lieu of a one-time end-of-year assessment, a through-year growth assessment system, aligned with the Standards of Learning, for the administration of reading and mathematics assessments in grades three through eight. The bill removes from current law other provisions relating to the administration of such through-year growth assessments.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB201 School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of prescription drugs and firearms in the household.** Requires each school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message, of (i) the importance of securely storing any prescription drug, as defined in relevant law, present in the household and (ii) the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household. The bill also requires each parental notification to include information on (a) relevant state laws and regulations relating to safe firearm storage and child access to firearms and (b) firearm-related accidents, injuries, and deaths, including current statistics published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or an equivalent nationally recognized entity or organization on youth firearm fatality rates. Finally, the bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. This bill is identical to SB 109.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB206 College partnership laboratory schools; transparency.** Requires, for college partnership laboratory schools that form a collaborative partnership with one or more school divisions, the parents of any enrolled student to be notified of such collaborative partnership and provided with contact information for an administrator in such partnering division that the parent can contact with questions or concerns about program administration or the student's experience at the college partnership laboratory school. The bill requires each college partnership laboratory to identify in a conspicuous and publicly accessible manner and location on the school's website the members and meeting schedule of the school's governing board; a summary of the operational, budgetary, and contractual decisions of such governing board; and the Board of Education regulations to which such school is subject.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **HB210 School meal debt; annual report.** Requires each school board to annually report to the Department of Education the amount of school meal debt in the local school division and directs the Department to annually aggregate and submit such reports to the General Assembly, provided that no such report contains any personally identifiable student information. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission to End Hunger.
Patron - Price

P **HB211 Head Start State Collaboration Office; state of Head Start and Early Head Start in the Commonwealth; report.** Requires the Head Start State Collaboration Office at the Department of Education, no later than December 1, 2026, to develop and recommend to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education for endorsement a report summarizing the state of Head Start and Early Head Start in the Commonwealth that is required to address several topics enumerated in the bill.
Patron - Gardner

P **HB253 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

P **HB255 Interstate Compact for School Psychologists; membership of the Commonwealth.** Enters the Commonwealth into the Interstate Compact for School Psychologists, the stated purpose of which is to facilitate the interstate practice of school psychology in educational or school settings, and in so doing to improve the availability of school psychological services to the public, and the stated intent of which is to establish a pathway to allow school psychologists to obtain equivalent licenses to provide school psychological services in any member state. The Compact is presently in effect, as it has reached the enactment threshold of seven state members.
Patron - Glass

P **HB258 Early childhood care and education; terminology.** Updates throughout the Code of Virginia the term "family day home" to "home-based child care" and the term "family day system" to "home-based child care system." The bill permits the Department of Education to phase in such terminology changes over a period time to ensure that any necessary changes to its information technology systems can be integrated into future systems upgrades in order to minimize costs.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB288 Department of Education; certain instructional resources; website posting.** Requires the Department of Education to post in a conspicuous and publicly accessible manner on the instructional resources section of its website links to instructional resources on the Indigenous people of the Commonwealth that are developed and maintained by the Virginia Tribal Education Consortium.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB290 Department of Education; compliance with and enforcement of prohibition on false statements as to school division or attendance zone residency; evaluation; report.** Directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Virginia State Crime Commission and such other stakeholders as the Department deems appropriate, to evaluate and make recommendations on compliance with and enforcement of the provisions of applicable law prohibiting any person from knowingly making a false statement concerning the residency of a child in a particular school division or school attendance zone for the purpose of improving the efficacy of enforcing statutory residency requirements for enrollment in a particular school division while ensuring consequences or penalties for violations of such requirements are commensurate with such violations. The bill directs the Department to submit to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2026, a report on its findings and recommendations. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB298 Public elementary and secondary school students; consideration of evidence-based restorative disci-**

plinary practices required; exceptions; report. Prohibits any public elementary or secondary school student from being suspended, expelled, or excluded from attendance at school unless the school first considers at least one evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice, as defined in the bill, except in the case of certain enumerated serious offenses or aggravating circumstances, as defined in the bill. The bill requires each school, any time it imposes exclusionary discipline instead of an evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice, to document in the student's disciplinary record, as a part of the school's existing disciplinary documentation practices and consistent with the guidelines adopted by the Department of Education (the Department) pursuant to the bill, the rationale for the decision to impose exclusionary discipline, including any factors supporting the decision not to utilize an evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice. The bill directs the Department to (i) add the use of evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices to the Student Behavior and Administrative Response survey in order to annually collect and analyze data on the use of such practices and publicly post an annual report containing an evaluation of the effectiveness of such practices based on the data collected and (ii) adopt and make available guidelines and support materials for considering, monitoring, and evaluating the use of evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices. The provisions of the bill prohibiting any public school student from being suspended, expelled, or excluded from attendance at school unless the school first considers at least one evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice and requiring each school, any time it imposes exclusionary discipline instead of an evidence-based restorative disciplinary practice, to document in the student's disciplinary record the rationale for such decision, have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB299** **Board of Education; Standards of Learning assessments and related assessment methods; development, administration, scoring, and release.** Makes several clarifying revisions to applicable law relating to the development, administration, and scoring of Standards of Learning assessments and related assessment methods for determining the level of achievement of Standards of Learning objectives by all students, including (i) clarifying that students who are children with disabilities, as that term is defined by applicable law, who participate in alternative methods of Standards of Learning assessment administration or in alternate assessments through the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program are exempt from several requirements set forth in applicable law relating to the administration and grading of Standards of Learning assessments and related assessments and (ii) repealing the provisions requiring the Board of Education to establish a through-year growth assessment system in lieu of a one-time end-of-year assessment. The provisions of the bill limiting the number of end-of-course assessments that may be administered to students in grades seven through 12 and requiring the score received by each student in grades seven through 12 on an end-of-course assessment to account for at least 10 percent of the student's final grade in such course are subject to a contingent and delayed effective date. This bill is identical to SB 200.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB332** **Teacher licensure; three-year renewable license to teach career and technical education or dual enrollment courses at public high schools.** Requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a three-year renewable license to teach solely career and technical education courses or dual enrollment courses that are creditable toward the compleition of an undergraduate course, degree, or credential offered in and accepted at a public institution of higher education at public high schools in the Commonwealth to any individual who (i) is employed as an instructor by an institution of higher education that is accredited by a nationally recognized regional accreditation body, (ii) is teaching in the specific career and technical education or dual enrollment subject area at such institution in which the individual seeks to teach at a public high school, and (iii) complies with certain requirements set forth in relevant law enumerated by the bill. The bill requires the Board to require any such instructor to maintain continuous employment in such position at the institution of higher education as a condition of continued licensure. The bill also requires each school board that employs an individual issued such a three-year license to provide such instructor training on instruction and assessment during his first year of employment. Finally, the bill directs the Board to amend its regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill incorporates HB 785 and is identical to SB 203.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB333** **Public schools; programs and courses of instruction; instruction on January 6 insurrection; requirements and limitations.** Permits a school board to provide a program of instruction on or relating to the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the United States Capitol to public school students only in accordance with the requirements of the bill. The bill prohibits any such program of instruction, any accompanying curriculum or instructional materials, or any instruction provided by a teacher as a part of such program of instruction from (i) describing, portraying, or presenting as credible a description or portrayal of the actions precipitating or involved in the January 6, 2021, insurrection as peaceful protest or (ii) stating, suggesting, or presenting as credible a statement or suggestion that there was extensive election fraud that could have changed or actually changed the results of the 2020 presidential election. The bill requires any such program of instruction, any accompanying curriculum or instructional materials, or any instruction provided by a teacher as a part of such program of instruction to describe the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the United States Capitol as an unprecedented, violent attack on U.S. democratic institutions, infrastructure, and representatives for the purpose of overturning the results of the 2020 presidential election. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB355** **Department of Education; School Health Services Committee; annual mental health screenings for public school students in grades six through 12; recommendations on guidance and best practices.** Directs the School Health Services Committee (the Committee), in collaboration with the Department of Education, to study and make recommendations on best practices for annual mental health screenings for public school students in grades six through 12 that utilize evidence-based tools. The bill directs the Committee to include its findings and recommendations in its annual report required pursuant to applicable law.
Patron - Gardner

P **HB410** **School boards; participation in SAT School Day program required; student participation.** Requires each school board to (i) participate in the SAT School Day program (the program) or any similar program offered by the College Board whereby high school students are permitted to take the SAT during regular school hours at the high school at which they are enrolled and (ii) offer each high school student in the school division the opportunity to take the SAT pursuant to the program at least once during the student's junior or senior year, in either the fall testing window or the spring testing window at the public high school at which the student is enrolled, provided that (a) no such student shall be required to

participate in the program and (b) if the school board offers such opportunity during the fall testing window, the school board shall, to the extent feasible, align the days on which it offers such opportunity with the PSAT testing window and offer high school students in the school division to take either the SAT or the PSAT, as applicable, during regular school hours at the high school on the same school day.
Patron - Reid

P **HB413 Board of Education; Board of Nursing; High School Certified Nurse Aide Training and Certification Program established; requirements; report.** Establishes the High School Certified Nurse Aide Training and Certification Program for the purpose of creating a pathway for qualified high school students, as defined by the bill, to prepare for and obtain certification as a certified nurse aide (CNA) in the Commonwealth by approving and supporting the establishment of approved training programs, as that term is defined by the bill, whereby any qualified high school student may participate in a program of instruction that (i) is designed to prepare such students for certification as a CNA, in accordance with the requirements of the Board of Nursing; (ii) is taught by an individual who is qualified to provide such instruction, consistent with the requirements of the Board of Education and the Board of Nursing; and (iii) supports each participating student in meeting the requirements for and obtaining certification as a CNA. The bill directs the Board of Education, in collaboration with the Board of Nursing, to administer the Program and to establish policies and procedures for the administration of the Program. Finally, the bill requires the Board of Education to submit to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1 of each year a report on the activities of the Program for the preceding year.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB416 Use of school buses for public purposes by local governing bodies; insurance reimbursement.** Permits any local governing body that use school buses for certain public purposes pursuant to an agreement with a school board to reimburse the school board for the proportionate share of any insurance costs, both fixed and variable, of such buses incurred by such school board that are attributable to the use of such buses pursuant to such agreement in lieu of the existing statutory requirement for such a local governing body to supply sufficient insurance for such school buses.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB461 Special education; student age range restrictions in educational settings.** Prohibits any student with a disability in grades kindergarten through six from being regularly assigned to any educational setting, including any specialized educational setting, in which the maximum age range exceeds four years unless the student's individualized education program (IEP) team determines that an exception is appropriate and justifies such exception in the student's IEP. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB462 Board of Education; review and revision of Health Education Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework; development of health care literacy instruction; removal of duplicative or outdated health instruction.** Directs the Board of Education, during its next regularly scheduled revision of the Health Education Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework to, in consultation with the School Health Services Committee, (i) develop a health care literacy program of instruction to be required at grades nine and 10 for the purpose of helping students navigate the health care system efficiently and effectively and, in developing such program of instruction, to consider the inclusion of certain topics and content enumerated by the bill and (ii) identify and remove from such Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework for grades nine and 10 any instructional subjects or topics the inclusion of which is duplicative or outdated.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB478 Diploma seal for excellence in fine arts established; industry-recognized workforce credential.** Requires the Board of Education to establish criteria for awarding a high school diploma seal for excellence in fine arts, which may include a sequence of coursework, cumulative grade point average in such sequence of coursework, or any other performance-based criteria that the Board deems appropriate. The bill also requires the Board to add such diploma seal to its list of industry-recognized workforce credentials for the purpose of satisfying the career and technical education credential option for high school graduation.
Patron - Watts

P **HB544 Commission on School Construction and Modernization; revisions; elimination of sunset.** Eliminates the expiration date of the Commission on School Construction and Modernization, which, pursuant to current law, is set to expire on July 1, 2026. The bill also directs the Commission to (i) meet at least four times each year and post notice of the date, time, and location of each meeting on the central, publicly available electronic calendar maintained by the Commonwealth in accordance with applicable law; (ii) update annually the statewide needs estimate for construction and modernization of school facilities; (iii) develop and deliver by November 1, 2026, a 10-year capital roadmap; and (iv) collaborate with early childhood care and education Ready Regions and comprehensive community colleges in the Commonwealth to collect and evaluate data relating to Ready Region and comprehensive community college facility usage, availability, and needs. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education, in order to assist the Commission with its work, to update and make available to the Commission an inventory of all public school facilities in the Commonwealth by September 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 498.
Patron - Askew

P **HB584 Western Virginia Public Education Consortium; governance; funding; duties.** Makes several changes relating to the Western Virginia Public Education Consortium (the Consortium), including (i) requiring the chair of the board of the Consortium to submit an annual executive summary only in each biennium in which the Consortium receives funding from the General Assembly, (ii) adjusting the membership of the governing board of the Consortium to (a) accurately reflect school division consolidation that occurred after the Consortium's initial establishment and (b) include each member of the House of Delegates who represents a House District that is partially or wholly located in Western Virginia and each member of the Senate of Virginia who represents a Senatorial District that is partially or wholly located in Western Virginia, and (iii) removing the requirement for the governing board of the Consortium to develop and maintain linkages with schools and school divisions in Northern Virginia to promote enhanced usage of educational technology. This bill is identical to SB 692.
Patron - Ballard

P **HB592 Alyssa's Law; public schools; wearable panic alarm systems permitted.** Permits any school board to provide any school board employee in a public elementary or secondary school building in the local school division with a wearable panic alarm system, defined in the bill as a security

system that is capable of being worn on the body of the user and by which the user manually activates a device that sends (i) a signal to the local 9-1-1 public safety answering point that indicates a school security emergency that requires immediate response and assistance from such public safety answering point and (ii) a multisensory schoolwide school security emergency notification, when appropriate.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB595 Board of Education; high school graduation; simultaneous completion of International Baccalaureate diploma and advanced studies diploma.** Requires the Board of Education to permit any student who (i) during or after grade 10, transferred into a public high school in the Commonwealth and (ii) is simultaneously pursuing an advanced studies diploma and an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma to complete certain courses or sequences of courses required for an IB diploma, as approved by the Board, including substitutes for the Virginia and U.S. history and government courses and for the economics and personal finance credit requirement. The bill also directs the Board to grant a waiver from the training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators required for graduation to any student who (a) pursuant to his individualized education program or Section 504 Plan cannot successfully complete the training or (b) after grade 10, transfers from a school or other education program that does not require or give credit for such training. This bill incorporates HB 132 and is identical to SB 63.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB614 Department of Education; history and social science Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework and associated instructional guides and materials; inclusion of quality, accurate, and complete instruction on the contributions and roles of all peoples; comprehensive review; report.** Directs the Department of Education (the Department) to (i) conduct a comprehensive review of the history and social science Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework and any associated instructional guides and materials for the purpose of ensuring the inclusion of quality, accurate, and complete instruction on the contributions and roles of all peoples included in such Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework and (ii) submit to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2028, a report on the findings of such comprehensive review. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB643 Board of Education; School Performance and Support Framework; certain changes.** Requires the Board of Education to consider certain enumerated changes to the School Performance and Support Framework that it adopted in order to implement its school accountability standards, including developing and applying new school performance label terminology that more clearly communicates school performance as part of a continuous scale and rebalancing the weight assigned to growth, at least equally with proficiency, to more fully account for each school's contribution to student learning. This bill incorporates HB 1323 and is a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB647 Board of Education; Regulations Governing Allowable Credit for Teaching Experience; certain credit substitution allowance permitted.** Requires the Board of Education to amend its regulations to provide that teachers in the field of career and technical education, where the licensure requirement calls for occupational work experience beyond the apprenticeship level, may be allowed salary placement credit for one year of teaching experience for each one or two years of work experience. The bill satisfies the reenactment requirement of Chapter 677 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025.
Patron - Kent

P **HB653 Excused student absences for visitation of immediate family members in connection with deployment.** Allots five excused absences to any student whose immediate family member is active duty military and has received orders for, is on leave from, or has recently returned from deployment outside the United States for the purpose of visitation with such family member, provided that the student provides written documentation verifying such leave or deployment if requested by the local school division.
Patron - Kent

P **HB705 Board of Education; Health Standards of Learning; water safety.** Requires the Board of Education, during its next regularly scheduled revision of the Health Education Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework, to develop and make available to each school board guidelines for a program of instruction on water safety to be provided as a part of any health education instruction provided to elementary school students. This bill is identical to SB 151.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB832 Academic year Governor's Schools; school meals.** Requires the Virginia Department of Education Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs to provide technical assistance to the regional governing board of each academic year Governor's School to assist such schools in identifying costs, funding sources, and infrastructure requirements to maximize school meal offerings to all students enrolled in such schools.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB836 Public schools; right to free public elementary and secondary education; discrimination based on immigration status prohibited; civil cause of action.** Prohibits any child in the Commonwealth from being denied a free public education through secondary school on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia and consistent with the requirements of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The bill also, among other things, prohibits any school board, public elementary or secondary school, school resource officer employed by a local law-enforcement agency in any public elementary or secondary school, or any individual who is an employee, contractor, or agent of a school board from engaging in certain enumerated actions and practices that involve or result in the denial of a free public education, or denial of the benefits or exclusion from participation in any program or activity thereof, of a child on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents. The bill establishes a civil cause of action for violations of the foregoing prohibitions. The bill requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, to develop and make available to each school board by August 1, 2026, guidance and resources on developing policies and procedures to implement the requirements set forth in the bill and requires each school board to develop and implement by December 31, 2026, such policies and procedures and to require each public elementary and secondary school principal and administrator in the school division to complete training on compliance with the provisions of the bill as soon as is practicable but not later than the beginning

of the 2027–2028 school year, consistent with the guidance and resources developed and made available by the Department of Education. This bill incorporates HB 912 and is identical to SB 491.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB849 Public school employees; suspension; notice and opportunity for a hearing.** Provides that no school board employee shall be suspended without notice and, if applicable, an opportunity to be heard and amends current law to require any individual who has been so suspended, regardless of the length of the suspension, to continue to receive his then applicable salary unless and until the school board, after a hearing, determines otherwise. Under current law, such requirement only applies to any individual who has been suspended for a period in excess of five days.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB859 Department of Education; Farm to School Program Task Force; membership requirements.** Amends the membership requirements of the Farm to School Program Task Force established in accordance with applicable law by requiring the membership to include (i) one member of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules after consideration of the recommendation of the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and Health; (ii) one member of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates after consideration of the recommendation of the Chair of the House Committee on Education; (iii) at least four members to be appointed by the Department of Education, including at least one school board member, one representative of the Department of General Services involved in procurement, one representative of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and one farmer or producer in the Commonwealth who sells only the farm or agricultural products produced or grown by him; and (iv) such additional members as the Department of Education deems necessary or appropriate.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB894 Charlie's Law to Protect All Students; private elementary and secondary schools; student codes of conduct, policies, and procedures relating to bullying and cyberbullying prevention.** Requires each principal, headmaster, or other chief administrator of each private elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth to include in such school's codes of student conduct policies and procedures (i) for addressing and handling instances of bullying and cyberbullying and (ii) that include a prohibition against bullying and a requirement to notify the parent of any student involved in a confirmed incident of bullying within 24 hours of confirming the incident of bullying. This bill incorporates HB 53 and is identical to SB 341.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB913 Superintendent of Public Instruction; reverse certain recent actions and restore certain rescinded resources.** Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to reverse all actions previously taken by the Superintendent of Public Instruction on or after January 15, 2022, pursuant to the then-current Governor's Executive Order One of January 15, 2022, to rescind certain policies, programs, and resources that promoted cultural competency, encouraged inclusion and belonging, educated about the history of slavery and the civil rights movement, and continued work to combat racism in the Commonwealth and to restore all such policies, programs, and resources, including the Department of Education's EdEquityVA website and all included and associated resources and certain other enumerated resources, including certain Superintendent's memos.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB924 Board of Education and Superintendent of Public Instruction; state program to support the improvement of low-performing schools.** Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to consistently and effectively implement a state program to support the improvement of low-performing schools based on school accountability standards established by the Board of Education within the standards of accreditation. The bill requires the Superintendent to ensure that the Department of Education is appropriately organized and employs qualified staff to effectively provide this support to such low-performing schools. The bill requires the Board to ensure that the Superintendent and the Department administer an effective school improvement program to support such low-performing schools. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB957 Student bullying and cyberbullying; resources.** Requires the Department of Education to direct each school board to encourage each public elementary and secondary school in the local division to promote or utilize the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline to address student bullying and cyberbullying, as such terms are defined in relevant law.

Patron - Guzman

P **HB1037 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 received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Carr

P **HB1039 Department of Education; College and Career Ready Virginia Program; administration; advisory committee and work group composition.** Removes the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond from the membership of the advisory committee and the work group that the Department of Education and the Community College System are required to establish for administration of the College and Career Ready Program pursuant to applicable law. This bill is identical to SB 439.

Patron - Carr

P **HB1071 Public elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education; threat assessment teams; training on emergency substantial risk orders and substantial risk orders.** Requires threat assessment teams for public elementary and secondary schools and for public institutions of higher education to receive specific education and training, within existing annual training, on the use of emergency substantial risk orders and substantial risk orders, as set forth in relevant law.

Patron - Laufer

P **HB1095 School boards; high school students; establishment of certain goals for completion of certain applications for student financial aid required; provision of data and guidance relating to student financial aid applications.** Requires each school board to (i) annually provide to each high school student and the parent of each high school student guidance and other informational materials on student financial aid applications, as defined by the bill, for the purpose of promoting awareness of federal and state financial aid programs, resources, eligibility criteria, application deadlines, and other processes and requirements; (ii) utilize federally available data to establish a five-year goal for encouraging and increasing the completion of student financial aid applications by high school students during the students' final school year before graduation; and (iii) annually post in a publicly accessible location on its website federally available data relating to student financial aid applications and submit to the Department of Education a report on the progress toward achieving the five-year goal established pursuant to clause (ii). The bill clarifies that nothing in the bill shall be construed to require any school board to establish a goal of universal completion of a student financial aid application prior to graduation by each high school student in the school division. The bill also prohibits any school board or employee thereof from disclosing any personally identifiable information relating to the requirements set forth in the bill to any individual or entity outside of the school division. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to provide to each school board (a) by the beginning of each school year, the website containing federally available data on the rates of completion of student financial aid applications; (b) guidance or other informational materials on student financial aid applications; and (c) guidance and other informational resources designed to support school boards in making progress toward the five-year goals established pursuant to the bill. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2031.

Patron - Singh

P **HB1113 Department of Education; culturally responsive and language-appropriate mental health support and services; guidance and policies.** Requires, no later than October 1, 2027, the Department of Education to develop, adopt, and provide to each local school board guidance on the adoption of policies governing the provision of culturally responsive and language-appropriate mental health support and services for students in the local school division and permits any school board to develop and adopt policies in the local school division that are consistent with the guidelines adopted and provided by the Department of Education.

Patron - Nivar

P **HB1153 Community Builders Pilot Program; name change; sunset repeal; statewide demonstration model site.** Makes permanent and renames the Community Builders Pilot Program established within Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools as the Community Builders Program (the Program). The Community Builders Pilot Program is currently set to expire on July 1, 2027. The bill also requires, with such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, Roanoke City Public Schools to serve as the statewide demonstration model site for the Program for the purpose of hosting interested representatives of other school divisions to observe the Program and receive training and materials from Roanoke City Public Schools in order to facilitate the replication of the Program in such other school divisions. This bill is identical to SB 820.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB1165 Board of Education; regulations; qualifications of division superintendents.** Requires the Board of Education to amend its regulation that establishes the qualifications for division superintendents to (i) require the record of each candidate for the list of eligible division superintendents and the renewable division superintendent license under any of the four permitted options to attest to good character and demonstrated ability as an educational administrator and (ii) amend Option IV by requiring the candidate to have (a) completed five years of successful educational experience in a public school or an accredited nonpublic school, two years of which shall have been full-time teaching experience at the preK-12 level and two years of which shall have been in administration and supervision and (b) been recommended by a school board that is interested in employing the individual as division superintendent and that governs a school division with fewer than 2,000 enrolled students. The bill also provides that the requirements under Option IV that were in effect prior to the effective date of the bill shall apply to any individual who was employed as a division superintendent pursuant to Option IV as of such date and who maintains continuous employment as a division superintendent in any school division in the Commonwealth after such date. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cole, N.T.

P **HB1186 Department of Education; artificial intelligence system use in instructional settings; development of AIS safety guidance required; AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program established; report.** Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with school divisions and other relevant stakeholders, to compile information on current uses of artificial intelligence systems (AIS) for student instruction in public schools in the Commonwealth and to establish and post in a publicly accessible location on its website guidance for the safe, ethical, and equitable use of AIS in instructional settings in public elementary and secondary schools. The bill requires each school board to establish, implement, and enforce policies consistent with the guidance developed by the Department in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The bill also directs the Department to establish and oversee the AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program for the purpose of funding, evaluating, and scaling innovative uses of AIS in public elementary and secondary schools by providing support to school divisions in piloting AIS applications for instruction, tutoring, student engagement, operational efficiency, and teacher support and to submit an annual report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by December 1. The Pilot Program has an expiration date of July 1, 2030. This bill is identical to SB 394.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB1208 Public education; early childhood care and education; child care access calculations; report.** Requires the Department of Education to establish and maintain calculations for the provision of early childhood care and education services based on cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, an estimate of parental demand and choice preferences based on historic growth trends and current eligibility criteria, and an estimate of the number of slots to be added to support local or regional economic development efforts and public-private partnerships focused on increasing the supply of child care services, giving priority to localities or regions identified as child care deserts, as determined by the Department. The bill also contains several provisions relating to the use and appropriation of funds as applicable to such calculations, including (i) providing that the calculations shall not obligate the General Assembly to a spe-

cific appropriation, (ii) requiring the calculations to be used to provide information to guide the General Assembly in making decisions about the proportion of parental demand for and supply of early childhood care and education services to be addressed and level of appropriation required to address such demand, and (iii) providing that the annual overall funding available for slots shall be subject to appropriation as determined by the General Assembly. The bill also provides that if waitlists for slots at early childhood care and education sites remain, up to $5 million from prior-year unexpended state general funds appropriated for such purpose in a general appropriation act may be carried forward to the current fiscal year to temporarily provide additional slots during the current fiscal year solely to reduce or eliminate waitlists, unless the general appropriation act authorizes a greater amount to be carried forward and that such prior-year funds shall not be used to increase the base amount of funding required in the subsequent fiscal year and the Department shall monitor program utilization and attrition to ensure that no families will lose access at the end of the current fiscal year. Finally, the bill requires the Department to annually submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education and post on its website a report on the data used to calculate the minimum funding and number of slots for the calculations in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 134.

Patron - Sewell

P **HB1229 Department of Education; use of seclusion and restraint in public schools; certain actions; report.** Requires the Department of Education to (i) provide to each local school board a link to or a copy of the Board of Education's Regulations Governing the Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools in Virginia and encourage each such board to fully comply with such regulations and (ii) submit to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than October 1, 2026, a report on the current implementation and utilization of such regulations that shall include (a) a detailed summary of the Department's current processes and procedures for enforcing such regulations and (b) a compilation and analysis of data relating to how such regulations are currently being implemented and utilized by public schools in each school division.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

P **HB1243 Standards of Quality; state accountability; Standards of Learning assessment expedited retake scores.** Directs the Board of Education, in its calculation of the passage rate for a Standards of Learning assessment or the level of achievement of the Standards of Learning objectives for an individual student growth assessment for the purposes of state accountability ratings, to include, for any student who retakes an assessment on an expedited basis and receives a passing score, the passing score received on the expedited retake and to exclude the score such student received on the assessment taken during the regular assessment administration period.

Patron - O'Quinn

P **HB1278 School boards; language access plan for limited English proficient parents.** Requires each school board to develop, implement, and post in a publicly accessible location on its website a language access plan consisting of policies and procedures designed to ensure meaningful communication with and informational accessibility for limited English proficient (LEP) parents, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 685.

Patron - Reaser

P **HB1283 High school graduation requirements; application.** Provides that, in the event that the Board of Education establishes or modifies any graduation requirements or diploma pathways, the Board shall only apply such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways to students who enter ninth grade at the beginning of or after the first school year of implementation of such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways. The bill is applicable beginning with students who enter the ninth grade on or after the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year. This bill is identical to SB 724.

Patron - McLaughlin

P **HB1301 Public elementary and secondary schools; student diabetes medical care and management.** Establishes several provisions relating to student diabetes medical care and management in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, including requiring division-wide plans for the care of students who are diagnosed with diabetes in each school division, effective beginning with the 2028–2029 school year. This bill incorporates HB 624 and is identical to SB 122.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB1352 Driver education; dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds.** Requires the driver education program established by the Board of Education to emphasize the dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds, among other topics. The bill requires the Department of Education, no later than the start of the 2026-2027 school year, to review and update the Curriculum and Administrative Guide for Driver Education in Virginia and any other instructional resources for the Driver Education Standards of Learning to place greater emphasis on the dangers of reckless driving, including driving at excessive speeds, in the behind-the-wheel training component, the classroom training component, and the parent/student component by including updated interviews with individuals who have lost family members due to speeding by teen drivers and encouraging partnerships with local police departments or sheriff's offices to provide students with real world examples of the dangers of driving at excessive speeds.

Patron - Cohen

P **HB1387 Board of Education; automatic revocation of teaching licenses upon certain convictions.** Requires the Board of Education to automatically revoke the teaching license of a license holder upon receiving a record of the license holder's conviction of a felony and order to register under the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry Act. The bill provides that any such revocation applies to any active teaching license and to any inactive teaching license if such license was active at the time that the offense occurred. The bill provides that no such license holder whose teaching license has been so revoked is entitled to a hearing but that the license may be reinstated by the Board if the license holder's conviction is overturned on appeal and the Board is satisfied that reinstatement is in the best interest of the public schools of the Commonwealth.

Patron - Cherry

P **HB1437 Teacher, other instructional personnel, and support staff position exits; data collection; disaggregation by race; reason for exit.** Requires each school board to report to the Department of Education annually the number and type of teacher, other instructional personnel, and support staff position exits in the school division, disaggregated by the race of the individual who exited the position. The bill also provides that for each such exit occurring during the

reporting year, the reason for the exit, including whether the exit was voluntary or involuntary, shall be collected and reported. This bill is identical to SB 785.
Patron - Dougherty

P **HB1446 School nurses; sickle cell disease training.** Directs local school divisions to require school nurses to complete, within six months of employment and at least every three years thereafter, an online or in-person course of instruction approved by the Board in collaboration with the Department of Health regarding recognition and management of sickle cell disease. This bill is identical to SB 822.
Patron - Sewell

P **HB1455 School boards; opening of the school year; certain alternative schedules and schedule flexibility permitted.** Extends from no earlier than 14 days before Labor Day to no earlier than 14 days before September 1 of each year the requirement relating to the earliest date that each school board is permitted to schedule as the first day on which students are required to attend school each year. This bill is identical to SB 815.
Patron - McNamara

P **HB1486 Public schools; student instruction; addictive potential of time spent using certain electronic devices.** Requires instruction concerning time spent using electronic devices such as computers, cell phones, and other smart devices and the addictive potential thereof to be provided by the public schools as prescribed by the Board of Education. This bill is identical to SB 568.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB1499 Department of Education; policies relating to instructional material that contains sexually explicit content; applicability; construction.** Amends current law requiring the Department of Education to develop model policies and each school board to adopt policies consistent with the Department's model policies for ensuring parental notification of any instructional material that includes sexually explicit content by (i) defining "instructional material" as any material, regardless of its format, assigned and provided to a student by a public school teacher directly for the completion of an assignment or curricular objective and clarifying that "instructional material" does not include any book or audiovisual material available in a public school library unless specifically required or assigned by a public school teacher directly for completion of an assignment or curricular objective and (ii) providing that nothing in the applicable law or any model policy or amendments thereto adopted by the Department or any policy or amendments thereto adopted by a school board pursuant to the applicable law shall be (a) construed to permit the censoring of books in any public elementary or secondary school or (b) utilized as a rationale or basis for the removal of books from any public elementary or secondary school. This bill is identical to SB 19.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB1503 High school athletic coaches; sickle cell trait guidance and resources.** Directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue a Superintendent's memo no later than the start of the 2026–2027 school year containing guidance and resources for public high school athletic coaches on risks and strategies for student-athletes with sickle cell trait.
Patron - Hayes

P **SB3 Employee Child Care Assistance Program established.** Establishes the Employee Child Care Assistance Program to provide matching funds 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. 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 or to a third-party administrator, as defined by the bill, and shall provide any other information deemed necessary by the Foundation. The bill specifies that, to the extent funds are available, the Foundation shall issue a state match to a third-party administrator. Program funds shall be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; however, the bill clarifies that the Foundation is encouraged to prioritize awards to proposals involving contributions from small businesses. The bill requires the Foundation to provide an interim report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2028, and a summative report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2030, on the effectiveness and impact of the Program. This bill is identical to HB 18.
Patron - Aird

P **SB19 Department of Education; policies relating to instructional material that contains sexually explicit content; applicability; construction.** Amends current law requiring the Department of Education to develop model policies and each school board to adopt policies consistent with the Department's model policies for ensuring parental notification of any instructional material that includes sexually explicit content by (i) defining "instructional material" as any material, regardless of its format, assigned and provided to a student by a public school teacher directly for the completion of an assignment or curricular objective and clarifying that "instructional material" does not include any book or audiovisual material available in a public school library unless specifically required or assigned by a public school teacher directly for completion of an assignment or curricular objective and (ii) providing that nothing in the applicable law or any model policy or amendments thereto adopted by the Department or any policy or amendments thereto adopted by a school board pursuant to the applicable law shall be (a) construed to permit the censoring of books in any public elementary or secondary school or (b) utilized as a rationale or basis for the removal of books from any public elementary or secondary school. This bill is identical to HB 1499.
Patron - Locke

P **SB33 Programs for at-risk students; permissible uses of funding.** Includes as covered programs that are eligible for funding under the At-Risk Program initiatives to support both the physical and mental health of students in public schools, including the hiring of licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses. This bill is a recommendation of the School Health Services Committee and is identical to HB 195.
Patron - Favola

P **SB63 Board of Education; high school graduation; simultaneous completion of International Baccalaureate diploma and advanced studies diploma.** Requires the Board of Education to permit any student who (i) during or after grade 10, transferred into a public high school in the Commonwealth and (ii) is simultaneously pursuing an advanced studies diploma and an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma to complete certain courses or sequences of courses required for an IB diploma, as approved by the Board, including substitutes for the Virginia and U.S. history and government courses and for the economics and personal finance credit requirement. The bill also directs the Board to grant a waiver from the training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators required for graduation to any student who (a) pursuant to his individualized education program or Section 504 Plan cannot successfully complete the training or (b) after grade 10,

transfers from a school or other education program that does not require or give credit for such training. This bill is identical to HB 595.
Patron - Salim

P **SB73 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid billing navigation.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to provide training to local school division staff regarding assisting schools in effectively navigating the laws, policies, rules, regulations, and guidelines governing Medicaid billing for reimbursable services rendered at school sites, including the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, and to ensure that all school divisions are able to fully leverage Medicaid funding opportunities to enhance student health services in the Commonwealth. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the School Health Services Committee.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB105 Department of Education; STEM+C Competition Grant Program eligibility.** Requires the Department of Education, prior to the 2026 application period for grants pursuant to the STEM+C Competition Team Grant Program (the Program), to consider making the following changes to the grant application and eligibility guidelines: (i) clarify that, in accordance with the provision of relevant law that provides that the purpose of the Program is to provide grants for use in establishing or supporting STEM+C competition teams, grants may be awarded to establish new STEM+C competition teams or support existing STEM+C competition teams and (ii) provide that, in the event that grant applications exceed available funds, priority shall be given to applications for the establishment of new STEM+C competition teams with demonstrated financial need.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB108 School boards; student cell phone and smart device possession and use policies.** Amends the requirements for the student cell phone and smart device possession and use policies that each school board is required to develop and each public elementary and secondary school is required to implement pursuant to applicable law to require such policies to, except as provided in applicable law, restrict student cell phone and smart device possession and prohibit student cell phone and smart device use on school property from bell to bell. Current law only requires such policies to restrict student cell phone and smart device possession and use on school property from bell to bell.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB109 School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of prescription drugs and firearms in the household.** Requires each school board to develop and implement a policy to require the annual notification of the parent of each student enrolled in the school division, to be sent by email and, if applicable, SMS text message, of (i) the importance of securely storing any prescription drug, as defined in relevant law, present in the household and (ii) the parent's legal responsibility to safely store any firearm present in the household. The bill also requires each parental notification to include information on (a) relevant state laws and regulations relating to safe firearm storage and child access to firearms and (b) firearm-related accidents, injuries, and deaths, including current statistics published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or an equivalent nationally recognized entity or organization on youth firearm fatality rates. Finally, the bill requires each school board to make such parental notification available in multiple languages on its website. This bill is identical to HB 201.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB117 Public school teachers; terms of employment; reemployment of teacher who has received continuing contract status; written notice required.** Requires written notice of noncontinuation of a continuing teacher contract to be given by the teacher by June 15 of each year; otherwise, the contract continues in effect for the ensuing year in conformity with local salary stipulations, including increments. Current law requires such written notice of noncontinuation of a continuing teacher contract to be given by either the teacher or the school board by June 15 of each year. This bill is identical to HB 125.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB122 Public elementary and secondary schools; student diabetes medical care and management.** Establishes several provisions relating to student diabetes medical care and management in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, including requiring division-wide plans for the care of students who are diagnosed with diabetes in each school division, effective beginning with the 2028–2029 school year. This bill is identical to HB 1301.
Patron - McPike

P **SB134 Public education; early childhood care and education; child care access calculations; report.** Requires the Department of Education to establish and maintain calculations for the provision of early childhood care and education services based on cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, an estimate of parental demand and choice preferences based on historic growth trends and current eligibility criteria, and an estimate of the number of slots to be added to support local or regional economic development efforts and public-private partnerships focused on increasing the supply of child care services, giving priority to localities or regions identified as child care deserts, as determined by the Department. The bill also contains several provisions relating to the use and appropriation of funds as applicable to such calculations, including (i) providing that the calculations shall not obligate the General Assembly to a specific appropriation, (ii) requiring the calculations to be used to provide information to guide the General Assembly in making decisions about the proportion of parental demand for and supply of early childhood care and education services to be addressed and level of appropriation required to address such demand, and (iii) providing that the annual overall funding available for slots shall be subject to appropriation as determined by the General Assembly. The bill also provides that if waitlists for slots at early childhood care and education sites remain, up to $5 million from prior-year unexpended state general funds appropriated for such purpose in a general appropriation act may be carried forward to the current fiscal year to temporarily provide additional slots during the current fiscal year solely to reduce or eliminate waitlists, unless the general appropriation act authorizes a greater amount to be carried forward and that such prior-year funds shall not be used to increase the base amount of funding required in the subsequent fiscal year and the Department shall monitor program utilization and attrition to ensure that no families will lose access at the end of the current fiscal year. Finally, the bill requires the Department to annually submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education and post on its website a report on the data used to calculate the minimum funding and number of slots for the calculations in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 1208.
Patron - Locke

P **SB151 Board of Education; Health Standards of Learning; water safety.** Requires the Board of Education, during its next regularly scheduled revision of the Health Edu-

cation Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework, to develop and make available to each school board guidelines for a program of instruction on water safety to be provided as a part of any health education instruction provided to elementary school students. This bill is identical to HB 705.

Patron - Craig

P **SB190 Department of Education; assessment; certified student support agencies; report.** Requires the Department of Education (the Department) to assess the impact of developing a program to provide student support programs to students enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school through certified student support agencies, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Department, in conducting such assessment, to consider (i) a framework by which a certified student support agency would enter into a memorandum of understanding with a school board for the purpose of providing student support programs, as defined in the bill, and suggested components of such memorandums of understanding, such as (a) documentation establishing the organization's nonprofit status, (b) a description of each student support program that such organization provides, (c) policies and procedures relating to privacy, background checks, mandated reporting, and the transmission, collection, use, and disposal of student personal information, and (d) consent forms and procedures to be used by such student support programs to obtain the necessary consent from the parent of any student under 18 years of age; (ii) the feasibility of establishing and administering a certification process for certified student support agencies; (iii) potential compliance monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and subsequent penalties for noncompliance to ensure that each certified student support agency complies with such program; (iv) policies and procedures for the secure disposal of a student's personal information upon such student's withdrawal from a student support program, upon the cessation of any such program, or upon such student's graduation or transfer from the school division; and (v) cost estimates, including staffing needs, for the development and implementation of such program. The bill requires the Department to submit a report on its findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health and the House Committees on Appropriations and Education no later than November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 178.

Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB200 Board of Education; Standards of Learning assessments and related assessment methods; development, administration, scoring, and release.** Makes several clarifying revisions to applicable law relating to the development, administration, and scoring of Standards of Learning assessments and related assessment methods for determining the level of achievement of Standards of Learning objectives by all students, including (i) clarifying that students who are children with disabilities, as that term is defined by applicable law, who participate in alternative methods of Standards of Learning assessment administration or in alternate assessments through the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program are exempt from several requirements set forth in applicable law relating to the administration and grading of Standards of Learning assessments and related assessments and (ii) repealing the provisions requiring the Board of Education to establish a through-year growth assessment system in lieu of a one-time end-of-year assessment. The provisions of the bill limiting the number of end-of-course assessments that may be administered to students in grades seven through 12 and requiring the score received by each student in grades seven through 12 on an end-of-course assessment to account for at least 10 percent of the student's final grade in such course are subject to a contingent and delayed effective date. This bill is identical to HB 299.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB203 Teacher licensure; three-year renewable license to teach career and technical education or dual enrollment courses at public high schools.** Requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a three-year renewable license to teach solely career and technical education courses or dual enrollment courses that are creditable toward the completion of an undergraduate course, degree, or credential offered in and accepted at a public institution of higher education at public high schools in the Commonwealth to any individual who (i) is employed as an instructor by an institution of higher education that is accredited by a nationally recognized regional accreditation body, (ii) is teaching in the specific career and technical education or dual enrollment subject area at such institution in which the individual seeks to teach at a public high school, and (iii) complies with certain requirements set forth in relevant law enumerated by the bill. The bill requires the Board to require any such instructor to maintain continuous employment in such position at the institution of higher education as a condition of continued licensure. The bill also requires each school board that employs an individual issued such a three-year license to provide such instructor training on instruction and assessment during his first year of employment. Finally, the bill directs the Board to amend its regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 332.

Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB309 Driver education programs; voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder.** Requires driver education programs to include information about voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder, including the driver communication improvement program, the driver's license indicator option, and the registration indicator option. The bill also directs the Board of Education to prepare, publish, and distribute instructional materials about these voluntary initiatives.

Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB341 Charlie's Law to Protect All Students; private elementary and secondary schools; student codes of conduct, policies, and procedures relating to bullying and cyberbullying prevention.** Requires each principal, headmaster, or other chief administrator of each private elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth to include in such school's codes of student conduct policies and procedures (i) for addressing and handling instances of bullying and cyberbullying and (ii) that include a prohibition against bullying and a requirement to notify the parent of any student involved in a confirmed incident of bullying within 24 hours of confirming the incident of bullying. This bill is identical to HB 894.

Patron - Boysko

P **SB394 Department of Education; artificial intelligence system use in instructional settings; development of AIS safety guidance required; AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program established; report.** Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with school divisions and other relevant stakeholders, to compile information on current uses of artificial intelligence systems (AIS) for student instruction in public schools in the Commonwealth and to establish and post in a publicly accessible location on its website guidance for the safe, ethical, and equitable use of AIS in instructional settings in public elementary and secondary schools. The bill requires each school board to establish, implement, and enforce policies consistent with the guidance developed by the Department in accordance with the provi-

sions of the bill. The bill also directs the Department to establish and oversee the AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program for the purpose of funding, evaluating, and scaling innovative uses of AIS in public elementary and secondary schools by providing support to school divisions in piloting AIS applications for instruction, tutoring, student engagement, operational efficiency, and teacher support and to submit an annual report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by December 1. The Pilot Program has an expiration date of July 1, 2030. This bill is identical to HB 1186.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB427 High school graduation requirements; history and social studies credits; certain substitutions permitted.** Requires the Board of Education, in establishing high school graduation requirements, to permit any student to substitute the African American History course or the Advanced Placement African American Studies course for the World History I course or the World Geography course for the purpose of satisfying the history and social studies credit requirements, provided that (i) such a course is available to the student and (ii) the student is required to complete and receive a passing score on an applicable local alternative assessment or an equivalent Board-approved assessment, in order to satisfy history and social studies credit requirements for graduation. The bill directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill and to ensure that no student who makes such a substitution is required to earn a verified credit for the World History I or World Geography course in order to graduate. This bill is identical to HB 182.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB439 Department of Education; College and Career Ready Virginia Program; administration; advisory committee and work group composition.** Removes the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond from the membership of the advisory committee and the work group that the Department of Education and the Community College System are required to establish for administration of the College and Career Ready Program pursuant to applicable law. This bill is identical to HB 1039.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB450 Department of Education; public school teacher licensure requirements; comprehensive review of alternative licensure pathways; stakeholder work group; report.** Directs the Department of Education (the Department) to convene a stakeholder work group to conduct a comprehensive review of the alternative licensure pathways, as that term is defined in the bill, available to public school teachers in the Commonwealth and make recommendations on improving the quality, efficacy, and outcomes of such alternative licensure pathways. The bill directs the Department to submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health (i) by October 1, 2026, an interim report on the preliminary findings and initial recommendations of the work group and (ii) by October 1, 2027, a final report on the findings and recommendations of the work group.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB491 Public schools; right to free public elementary and secondary education; discrimination based on immigration status prohibited; civil cause of action.** Prohibits any child in the Commonwealth from being denied a free public education through secondary school on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia and consistent with the requirements of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The bill also, among other things, prohibits any school board, public elementary or secondary school, school resource officer employed by a local law-enforcement agency in any public elementary or secondary school, or any individual who is an employee, contractor, or agent of a school board from engaging in certain enumerated actions and practices that involve or result in the denial of a free public education, or denial of the benefits or exclusion from participation in any program or activity thereof, of a child on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents. The bill establishes a civil cause of action for violations of the foregoing prohibitions. The bill requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, to develop and make available to each school board by August 1, 2026, guidance and resources on developing policies and procedures to implement the requirements set forth in the bill and requires each school board to develop and implement by December 31, 2026, such policies and procedures and to require each public elementary and secondary school principal and administrator in the school division to complete training on compliance with the provisions of the bill as soon as is practicable but not later than the beginning of the 2027–2028 school year, consistent with the guidance and resources developed and made available by the Department of Education. This bill is identical to HB 836.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB498 Commission on School Construction and Modernization; revisions; elimination of sunset.** Eliminates the expiration date of the Commission on School Construction and Modernization, which, pursuant to current law, is set to expire on July 1, 2026. The bill also directs the Commission to (i) meet at least four times each year and post notice of the date, time, and location of each meeting on the central, publicly available electronic calendar maintained by the Commonwealth in accordance with applicable law; (ii) update annually the statewide needs estimate for construction and modernization of school facilities; (iii) develop and deliver by November 1, 2026, a 10-year capital roadmap; and (iv) collaborate with early childhood care and education Ready Regions and comprehensive community colleges in the Commonwealth to collect and evaluate data relating to Ready Region and comprehensive community college facility usage, availability, and needs. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education, in order to assist the Commission with its work, to update and make available to the Commission an inventory of all public school facilities in the Commonwealth by September 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 544.
Patron - Aird

P **SB529 Public schools; school security and discipline; employment of school security officers; training requirements.** Amends the requirements for the training course of which an individual employed as a school security officer is required to submit proof of completion to the Department of Criminal Justice Services in order to carry a firearm in the performance of his duties by (i) eliminating the requirement that such training course include training in active shooter emergency response and, instead, requiring it to include training in critical incident preparedness and response and (ii) clarifying that such training course include training in behavioral threat assessment.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB568 Public schools; student instruction; addictive potential of time spent using certain electronic devices.** Requires instruction concerning time spent using electronic devices such as computers, cell phones, and other smart devices and the addictive potential thereof to be provided by

the public schools as prescribed by the Board of Education. This bill is identical to HB 1486.
Patron - Sturtevant

P SB592 Board of Education; career and technical education courses, pathways, and credentials; biennial review; report. Requires the Board of Education and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, with the assistance of the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement, the Virginia Office of Education Economics, the Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to conduct, beginning with the fiscal year starting July 1, 2026, and each odd-numbered year thereafter, a biennial review of all career and technical education course, pathway, and credential offerings available to public school students across the Commonwealth for the purpose of ensuring that all such career and technical education course, pathway, and credential offerings are (i) aligned with current and emerging industry and workforce needs, demands, and standards and (ii) designed to effectively prepare students for postsecondary success through gainful employment in a high-demand industry or field, enrollment in postsecondary education, or enlistment in the United States Armed Forces. The bill requires the Board of Education and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development to develop and submit to the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Labor, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by October 1 of each odd-numbered year a report on each such biennial review.
Patron - Bagby

P SB685 School boards; language access plan for limited English proficient parents. Requires each school board to develop, implement, and post in a publicly accessible location on its website a language access plan consisting of policies and procedures designed to ensure meaningful communication with and informational accessibility for limited English proficient (LEP) parents, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1278.
Patron - Pekarsky

P SB692 Western Virginia Public Education Consortium; governance; funding; duties. Makes several changes relating to the Western Virginia Public Education Consortium (the Consortium), including (i) requiring the chair of the board of the Consortium to submit an annual executive summary only in each biennium in which the Consortium receives funding from the General Assembly, (ii) adjusting the membership of the governing board of the Consortium to (a) accurately reflect school division consolidation that occurred after the Consortium's initial establishment and (b) include each member of the House of Delegates who represents a House District that is partially or wholly located in Western Virginia and each member of the Senate of Virginia who represents a Senatorial District that is partially or wholly located in Western Virginia, and (iii) removing the requirement for the governing board of the Consortium to develop and maintain linkages with schools and school divisions in Northern Virginia to promote enhanced usage of educational technology. This bill is identical to HB 584.
Patron - Suetterlein

P SB724 High school graduation requirements; application. Provides that, in the event that the Board of Education establishes or modifies any graduation requirements or diploma pathways, the Board shall only apply such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways to students who enter ninth grade at the beginning of or after the first school year of implementation of such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways. The bill is applicable beginning with students who enter the ninth grade on or after the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year. This bill is identical to HB 1283.
Patron - Head

P SB785 Teacher, other instructional personnel, and support staff position exits; data collection; disaggregation by race; reason for exit. Requires each school board to report to the Department of Education annually the number and type of teacher, other instructional personnel, and support staff position exits in the school division, disaggregated by the race of the individual who exited the position. The bill also provides that for each such exit occurring during the reporting year, the reason for the exit, including whether the exit was voluntary or involuntary, shall be collected and reported. This bill is identical to HB 1437.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P SB815 School boards; opening of the school year; certain alternative schedules and schedule flexibility permitted. Extends from no earlier than 14 days before Labor Day to no earlier than 14 days before September 1 of each year the requirement relating to the earliest date that each school board is permitted to schedule as the first day on which students are required to attend school each year. This bill is identical to HB 1455.
Patron - Suetterlein

P SB817 School boards; public middle and high schools; parental notification of course registration deadlines and processes required. Requires each school board to develop and implement, by the start of the 2026-2027 school year, policies requiring each public middle and high school in the school division to provide, at least 30 days prior to the course registration deadline, parental notification by email or SMS text message to the parent of each student in the public middle or high school of course enrollment deadlines and the process for requesting changes to the student's course selection.
Patron - Suetterlein

P SB820 Community Builders Pilot Program; name change; sunset repeal; statewide demonstration model site. Makes permanent and renames the Community Builders Pilot Program established within Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools as the Community Builders Program (the Program). The Community Builders Pilot Program is currently set to expire on July 1, 2027. The bill also requires, with such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, Roanoke City Public Schools to serve as the statewide demonstration model site for the Program for the purpose of hosting interested representatives of other school divisions to observe the Program and receive training and materials from Roanoke City Public Schools in order to facilitate the replication of the Program in such other school divisions. This bill is identical to HB 1153.
Patron - Suetterlein

P SB822 School nurses; sickle cell disease training. Directs local school divisions to require school nurses to complete, within six months of employment and at least every three years thereafter, an online or in-person course of instruction approved by the Board in collaboration with the Department of Health regarding recognition and management of sickle cell disease. This bill is identical to HB 1446.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB824 School board employee grievance procedure; timing of dispute resolution.** Requires the grievance procedure for certain school board employees to afford a timely and fair method of the resolution of disputes arising between the school board and such employees before dismissal or other disciplinary actions, excluding suspensions. Current law requires such procedure to afford a timely and fair method of the resolution of disputes arising between the school board and such employees regarding dismissal or other disciplinary actions, excluding suspensions, but is silent on the timing of such dispute resolution. This bill is identical to HB 116.
Patron - Bagby

Failed

F **HB31 Public school teachers; teacher compensation; Professionally Licensed Teacher Supplemental Pay Program established.** Establishes the Professionally Licensed Teacher Supplemental Pay Program for the purpose of addressing shortages of professionally licensed teachers and reducing reliance on provisionally licensed teachers in public schools in the Commonwealth by providing, with such funds as are appropriated for such purpose, an annual supplemental payment to each professionally licensed teacher, as that term is defined by the bill, employed in any high-vacancy public school in the Commonwealth, defined by the bill as any public school that, based on the most recent data in the positions and exits collection, also defined by the bill, has a teacher vacancy rate that places it in the top 10 percent of public schools with the highest teacher vacancy rates in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department of Education to administer and oversee the Program and, in doing so, requires it to (i) identify and develop a list, and update such list every four years, of each high-vacancy public school in the Commonwealth; (ii) ensure that, each year, funds are disbursed in a timely manner and in an amount sufficient to provide the supplemental payment to each professionally licensed teacher employed in a high-vacancy public school in each school division; and (iii) annually submit to the Governor and publish on its website a report detailing the effect of the Program on recruitment and retention of professionally licensed teachers and the overall success of the Program in addressing teacher vacancy rates.
Patron - Feggans

F **HB36 Standards of Quality; class size limits; exception for certain ensemble music classes.** Exempts any ensemble music class offered in grade six from the provision limiting the size of any class offered in grades four through six to no larger than 35 students and, instead, permits any such ensemble music class to have up to 45 students.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB50 Virginia High School League; evaluation; feasibility of adding cricket as a sanctioned high school sport in Planning District 8; report.** Encourages the Virginia High School League (VHSL) to conduct an evaluation of the feasibility of adding cricket as a sanctioned high school sport in Planning District 8 and, in conducting such evaluation, to (i) consult with local school divisions, athletic directors, principals, students, community organizations, and youth sports leagues in Planning District 8 to determine interest, costs, facility needs, and other relevant considerations; (ii) take into consideration any legal implications of such a change pursuant to relevant law; and (iii) submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including a framework with which interested school divisions may petition VHSL to sanction cricket as a high school sport, to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and each local school division in Planning District 8 no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Reid

F **HB53 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 includes such a power 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.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB132 Board of Education; requirements for graduation with an advanced studies diploma; simultaneous completion of International Baccalaureate diploma and advanced studies diploma; approval of alternatives for certain credit requirements; regulations.** Requires the Board of Education to permit any student who is simultaneously pursuing an advanced studies diploma and an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma to complete certain courses or sequences of courses required for an IB diploma, as approved by the Board, including substitutes for the Virginia and U.S. history and government courses and for the economics and personal finance credit requirement. The bill also directs the Board to grant a waiver from the training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators required for graduation to any student who (i) pursuant to his individualized education program or Section 504 Plan cannot successfully complete the training or (ii) after grade 10, transfers from a school or other education program that does not require or give credit for such training.
Finally, the bill directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations to expressly provide that any student who completes the requirements to be eligible for the award of an IB diploma shall be deemed to have satisfied the course and credit requirements for graduation with an advanced studies diploma without having to complete any additional course or credit verification requirements.
Patron - Simon

F **HB138 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 shall 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 work under the direction of school counselors to assist with direct counseling, as such term is defined in relevant law, relating to college and career readiness. The bill also 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

F **HB180 Work-Based Learning Coordinator Pilot Program established.** Establishes the Work-Based Learning Coordinator Pilot Program for the purpose of expanding equitable access to high-quality work-based learning experiences for public school students. The bill requires the Department of Education to administer the Pilot Program by selecting 12 to 24 school divisions or consortia thereof as participants. Under the bill, each participating school division is required to employ or contract with a work-based learning coordinator to perform certain duties over the three-year pilot period, including executing written agreements with employer

partners to provide work-based learning experiences for students, such as paid or unpaid internships, cooperative education, clinical experiences, youth-registered apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, externships, job shadowing, and school-based enterprises. The bill also contains provisions relating to the funding of and the reporting of data pursuant to the Pilot Program. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2029.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB236 Local, regional, and school library material.** Requires the establishment of model policies and the subsequent establishment of local policies that are consistent with such model policies on the selection, purchase, curation, display, and removal of library material, as that term is defined in the bill, in local, regional, and school libraries in the Commonwealth. The bill requires such policies, among other things, to prohibit the censorship, as such term is defined in the bill, of library material and to establish a process by which certain individuals with a vested interest in the relevant library may request that the library material be reclassified, moved to a different section of the library, or removed from the library. The bill also permits certain individuals to seek certain types of relief in a court of competent jurisdiction for certain harms suffered as the result of violations of such policies.
Patron - Gardner

F **HB254 Early childhood care and education; Child Care Subsidy Program; income-based eligibility for assistance; development and implementation of phased reduction model.** Requires the Department of Education (the Department) to develop and implement a phased reduction model for the Child Care Subsidy Program (the Program) that provides for an assistance phase-out period during which the assistance for which a given family is eligible is incrementally reduced in proportion to the increase in such family's income for the purpose of ensuring that no family receiving child care assistance under the Program experiences a sudden loss in eligibility for assistance as a result of an increase in family income. The bill requires the phased reduction model developed and implemented by the Department to consist of incremental income tiers, with each increase in income tier corresponding to a proportional reduction in the percentage of assistance for which a given family is eligible under the Program. The bill directs the Board of Education to (i) promulgate regulations for the development and implementation of the phased reduction model in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (ii) submit to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services any amendments to the current Child Care and Development Fund Plan for Virginia as are necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Glass

F **HB259 Early childhood care and education; Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-Up Grants Pilot Program established; requirements.** Establishes the Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-Up Grants Pilot Program, whereby funds are provided to Child Care Aware of Virginia to work in conjunction with the public and private partners enumerated in the bill in order to expand the supply of licensed home-based child care providers in the Commonwealth, promote the safety of licensed home-based child care providers, and support access to child care for working parents in the Commonwealth, through providing for the award of grants to licensed and unlicensed home-based child care providers in the Commonwealth in accordance with the requirements of the bill. The bill requires Child Care Aware of Virginia to annually collect and make publicly available data on the number of home-based child care providers supported under the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB279 Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average.** Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2027 and 2028 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 2027 or 2028 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 fiscal year 2029 and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement.
Patron - Clark

F **HB412 Local governing bodies; school division budgets; funding levels.** Requires the annual budget for educational purposes prepared and approved by each local governing body to meet or exceed the funding levels set out in the needs-based budget prepared and approved by the school board and submitted by the division superintendent in accordance with relevant law.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB473 Public education; special education dispute resolution system; administration, organization, oversight, and training; regional special education ombudsman established.** Makes several revisions and updates to the special education dispute resolution system, services, and resources in the Commonwealth, including by (i) requiring the Board of Education to prescribe procedures providing for a tiered dispute resolution system that encourages the use of mediation as an informal means of resolving disputes relating to special education and related services; (ii) expanding the duties of the State Parent Ombudsman for Special Education, including by requiring it to develop and implement an anonymous evaluation survey for individuals after contacting or using the State Parent Ombudsman for Special Education, collaborate with the Office of the Children's Ombudsman, provide certain training to its staff by a neutral, qualified expert, and provide additional support, resources, and technical assistance to the Parent Training and Information Center; (iii) expanding the duties of the Department of Education relating to the special education dispute resolution system, including requirements relating to oversight of school division complaints, the provision of neutral, qualified IEP facilitators and mediators, and the provision of training on the tiered dispute resolution system to parents, school personnel, and all special education mediators and hearing officers; and (iv) directing the Department of Education to establish four regional special education ombudsman centers for the purpose of serving as a resource for parents and school personnel on matters relating to the special education dispute resolution system and assisting with the monitoring and oversight of school division and school compliance with federal and state laws and regulations relating to special education dispute resolution.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F **HB497 Division superintendents; certain special education eligibility data; posting or presentation.** Requires each division superintendent to annually collect, summarize, and either post in a conspicuous and publicly accessible manner on the division website or present to the local school board at a public meeting of such board data from cases in which (i) individualized education program (IEP) teams determined that a student is not eligible to receive special education and related services as a student with a disability pursuant to relevant federal and state laws and regulations and (ii) any complaint or dispute procedure that resulted from such

determination of ineligibility. The bill requires each such posting or presentation to comply with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and all other applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating the protection and privacy of students' personally identifiable information.
Patron - Guzman

F HB526 Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program established; incorporation into National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund. Establishes the Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program and incorporates such program into the existing National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program. The bill also renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund as the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program Fund (the Fund) and expands the purpose for which disbursements may be made from the Fund to include the award of incentive grants to school psychologists 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 - Downey

F HB532 Sage's Law; minor students experiencing gender incongruence; parental notification of certain 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 requests that any such employee participate while at school in the social affirmation of such minor student's gender incongruence or the transition of such minor student to a sex or gender different from the minor's biological sex, as such terms are defined in the bill, 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 - Hamilton

F HB534 Students who receive home instruction; evaluation letter of student academic progress; qualifications to submit. Permits an evaluation letter submitted as evidence of the academic progress of a student who receives home instruction to be submitted by a licensed teacher or a person with a bachelor's degree or higher in an academic discipline. Current law requires such an evaluation letter to be submitted by a licensed teacher or a person with a master's degree or higher in an academic discipline.
Patron - Hamilton

F HB541 Prospective school board employees and contractors; disqualification based on conviction for certain crimes. Prohibits any school board from employing or contracting for the services of any individual who has been convicted of any violent felony or crime of moral turpitude set forth in a certain statutory definition of barrier crime. Under current law, school boards are permitted to employ or contract for the services of any such individual if certain enumerated conditions are met.
Patron - Hamilton

F HB546 Western Virginia Public Education Consortium; governance; funding; duties. Makes several changes relating to the Western Virginia Public Education Consortium, including (i) clarifying that the establishment and maintenance of the Consortium is subject to the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly and providing that if the Western Virginia Public Education Consortium is not funded by a separate appropriation in the general appropriation act for fiscal year 2027, it shall expire on January 1, 2027; (ii) adjusting the membership of the governing board of the Consortium to accurately reflect changes in House and Senatorial Districts and school division consolidation that occurred after the Consortium's initial establishment; and (iii) removing the requirement for the governing board of the Consortium to develop and maintain linkages with schools and school divisions in Northern Virginia to promote enhanced usage of educational technology.
Patron - McNamara

F HB624 School boards; student diabetes care and management in schools; divisionwide plan required. Requires each school board to develop, amend as necessary, and implement a divisionwide plan for the care, at school during regular school hours, of each public elementary or secondary school student who is diagnosed with diabetes in the school division, to become effective beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, in accordance with the requirements enumerated in the bill, including that each such divisionwide plan must: (i) give consideration to, and incorporate, where appropriate, the guidelines contained in the Department of Education's Diabetes Management in Schools: Manual for Unlicensed Personnel (the Manual); (ii) include procedures for ensuring that each school building in the school division that is attended by one or more students diagnosed with diabetes meets the minimum staffing requirements set forth in current law for employees trained in the administration of insulin and glucagon; (iii) ensure that the provision or assistance with the provision of diabetes-related care by licensed or unlicensed school board employees is consistent with the guidance contained in the most recent revision of the Manual and applicable law; and (iv) provide opportunities for parental involvement and input in the process of providing students with diabetes-related care and developing or amending the divisionwide plan.

The bill also expands the diabetes care and management that each school board is required, pursuant to current law, to permit each student diagnosed with diabetes to independently provide to require each school board to permit each such student to carry with him and use a cell phone or smart device, consistent with applicable law, to monitor, address, or contact his parent, the school, or his health care provider on diabetes-related matters.

The bill directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and other enumerated stakeholders, to (a) no later than January 1, 2027, conduct a comprehensive review of the Manual and revise it as necessary in accordance with the requirements set forth in the bill and (b) at least biennially, review the Manual, revise it as necessary to ensure currency and accuracy, and post it in a publicly accessible location on its website. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health, to develop, periodically review, post on its website, and make available to each school board informational materials for parents on type 1 and type 2 diabetes and directs each school board to make such informational materials available to the parent of each student enrolled in the school division at the beginning of each school year.

The bill contains technical amendments.

Patron - Cherry

F **HB686 Department of Education; open school enrollment policies; guidance on best practices.** Requires the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board guidance on best practices relating to open school enrollment.

Patron - Zehr

F **HB704 Public schools; mathematics and reading in kindergarten through grade eight; certain initiatives.** Establishes several requirements relating to mathematics and reading proficiency in kindergarten through grade eight, including (i) requiring the Department of Education to establish and administer the math teacher and specialist corps to provide grants on a competitive basis to school divisions in which the mathematics proficiency of students in kindergarten through grade eight indicates a high need for intervention and improvement in order for such school divisions to offer annual stipends to effective educators with endorsements in mathematics or as mathematics specialists and deploy such individuals to the schools with the highest need; (ii) requiring each student in kindergarten through grade three to participate in a mathematics screener approved by the Department and requiring any student whose results on such screener indicate the need for further assessment to participate in a diagnostic mathematics assessment approved by the Department and to receive a mathematics improvement plan if the results on such assessment indicate the need for accelerated interventions to progress toward proficient performance in mathematics; and (iii) prohibiting any student in grade three who receives reading intervention services and whose performance on the statewide literacy screener or the grade-level reading Standards of Learning assessment at the end of the school year demonstrates substantial deficiencies from being promoted to grade four except in certain enumerated cases.

Patron - Tata

F **HB719 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 high-quality, 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 - Zehr

F **HB721 Parents of public school children; fundamental right to opt children out of certain educational content.** Provides that parents of public school children have the fundamental right to opt their children out, without penalty, of any instruction, reading, discussion, presentation, including any audio-visual presentation, school assembly, or activity that includes any gender identity, sexual orientation, transgenderism, or drag show theme or content, and the school shall make reasonable accommodations during such opt-out period.

Patron - Zehr

F **HB724 Study; Department of Education; public elementary school students; retention criteria; report.** Directs the Department of Education (the Department) to study criteria used in public elementary schools to determine retention of students. Additionally, the bill directs the Department to evaluate the feasibility of expanding the criteria used in retention decisions. Finally, the bill requires the Department to submit a report of its findings and any recommendations to amend or expand criteria used to determine retention to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Leftwich

F **HB744 Child care; exemption from licensure; light family day homes.** Exempts from the requirement to be licensed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction any light family day home, defined in the bill as a family day home for five through eight children under the age of 13, exclusive of the provider's own children and any children who reside in the home, provided that any such home complies with certain requirements enumerated in the bill, including background check requirements. The bill permits the Superintendent of Public Instruction to conduct inspections of any such home to ensure compliance with basic health and safety standards.

Patron - Williams

F **HB748 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 have 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 cost-savings 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

F **HB751 School Construction Program; eligibility; projects completed or initiated within immediately preceding 10-year period.** Provides that public school buildings and facilities that are eligible for grants pursuant to the School Construction Program include any building or facility for which the construction, renovation, or expansion was completed or initiated within the 10-year period immediately preceding the grant application.

Patron - Runion

F **HB753 Public school funding; composite index of local ability-to-pay; use value of real estate devoted to certain uses.** Requires, for the purpose of determining the state and local shares of basic aid funding, that the composite index of local ability-to-pay utilize the use value of all applicable real estate (i) devoted to agricultural use, horticultural use, forest use, and open-space use in each locality that has adopted an ordinance by which it provides for the use valuation and taxation of such real estate and (ii) used in agricultural and forestal production within an agricultural district, forestal district, agri-

cultural and forestal district, or agricultural and forestal district of local significance in each locality that provides for the use valuation and taxation of such real estate, regardless of whether it has adopted a local land-use plan or local ordinance for such valuation and taxation.
Patron - Runion

F **HB755 School Construction Program; use of grants; debt service.** Permits local school boards to use School Construction Program grants to make debt service payments on the construction of new public school buildings or the renovation or expansion of existing public school buildings and facilities in the local school division.
Patron - Runion

F **HB785 Teacher licensure; three-year license to teach career and technical education or dual enrollment courses at public high schools.** Requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a three-year license to teach solely career and technical education courses or dual enrollment courses at public high schools in the Commonwealth to any individual who (i) is employed as an instructor by an institution of higher education that is accredited by a nationally recognized regional accreditation body, (ii) is teaching in the specific career and technical education or dual enrollment subject area at such institution in which the individual seeks to teach at a public high school, and (iii) complies with the requirements set forth in relevant law to complete study in child abuse recognition and intervention and certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators. The bill requires the Board to require any such instructor to maintain continuous employment in such position at the institution of higher education as a condition of continued licensure.
Patron - Austin

F **HB786 School boards; authority to prohibit sale of caffeinated beverages to students in public high schools.** Permits any school board to prohibit the sale of caffeinated beverages to students in public high schools in the local school division, regardless of whether any such beverage meets the requirements to be considered a diet or low-calorie beverage under any relevant federal regulation.
Patron - Austin

F **HB814 Virginia African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous Education Advisory Board established; report.** Creates the Virginia African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous Education Advisory Board (the Board) to advise the Governor and General Assembly on current ways that history for such populations is described in relevant Standards of Learning and curriculum frameworks, how such content is taught in classrooms, and strategies to develop African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous history and social studies elective courses. The bill requires the Board to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly. Additionally, the bill requires the Board to meet at least once prior to December 31, 2027. Finally, the bill contains a sunset date of July 1, 2030.
Patron - Reaser

F **HB912 Public schools; right to free public elementary and secondary education; discrimination based on immigration status prohibited; requirements; civil cause of action.** Prohibits any child in the Commonwealth from being denied a free public education through secondary school on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia and consistent with the requirements of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The bill prohibits any school board or public elementary or secondary school from engaging in certain enumerated actions and practices that involve or result in the denial of a free public education, or denial of the benefits or exclusion from participation in any program or activity thereof, of a child on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents. The bill also requires each public elementary and secondary school to develop and implement procedures for reviewing and authorizing requests from law enforcement agents to enter a public school or public school facility. The bill establishes a civil cause of action for any party aggrieved by conduct that violates the provisions of the bill, in accordance with the provisions of the bill.
Finally, the bill directs (i) the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board by August 1, 2026, guidance for school personnel on the requirements of the bill and training guidelines and materials for the training of all public school principals and administrators on compliance with the provisions of the bill, and (ii) each school board to (a) develop and implement by August 1, 2026, policies and procedures in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (b) require each public school principal and administrator to complete training on compliance with the provisions of the bill by the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. This bill was incorporated into HB 836.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB941 High school graduation requirements; hands-on bleeding control training.** Requires the Board of Education to establish as a requirement for graduation from high school hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform bleeding control using a bleeding control kit, as such term is defined in relevant law.
Patron - Clark

F **HB990 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 2027 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

F **HB1038 Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plan Grant Fund and Program established.** Establishes the Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plan Grant Fund and Program, to be administered by The Office of Environmental Education, in consultation with the Department of Education and any other stakeholder that it deems appropriate, for the purpose of awarding grants on a competitive basis to any school division that seeks assistance to develop a local student environmental literacy plan.
Patron - Carr

F **HB1059 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 the 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 have 65 percent or more of its local taxes come 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 cost-savings 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 - Webert

F **HB1101 Department of Education; local composite index school funding formula; data center revenue.** Requires the Department of Education, in coordination with the Department of Taxation, no later than December 1, 2026, to revise the local composite index school funding formula to include as a factor in the calculation of required local effort any local revenue generated by any data center, as defined in relevant law, in the local school division, including real property taxes and business personal property taxes attributable to the operation of any such center, while also ensuring that no local school division that does not have such a data center is disadvantaged by any such revision. The bill requires the Department to submit such revised formula to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026, for approval pursuant to the general appropriation act enacted during any regular or special session during the 2026 calendar year before utilizing and making calculations according to the formula and provide that if the General Assembly grants such approval, the Department of Education shall apply such revised formula effective beginning with the 2028-2030 biennium.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1146 Public elementary and secondary schools and public institutions of higher education; display of Ten Commandments in each classroom required.** Requires each school board to display in each classroom in each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division and each public institution of higher education to display in each classroom on campus the Ten Commandments on a poster or framed document that is at least 11 inches by 14 inches and that includes a certain English translation of the Ten Commandments and, in the case of public elementary and secondary schools, a context statement on the history of the Ten Commandments in American public education. The bill provides that each school board and public institution of higher education shall either accept donated funds to purchase such displays or accept donations of such displays.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB1158 Board of Education; career and technical education courses, pathways, and credentials; biennial review; report.** Requires the Board of Education and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, with the assistance of the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement, the Virginia Office of Education Economics, the Department of Education, the Virginia Community College System, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to conduct, beginning with the fiscal year starting July 1, 2026, and each odd-numbered year thereafter, a biennial review of all career and technical education course, pathway, and credential offerings available to public school students across the Commonwealth for the purpose of ensuring that all such career and technical education course, pathway, and credential offerings are (i) aligned with current and emerging industry and workforce needs, demands, and standards and (ii) designed to effectively prepare students for postsecondary success through gainful employment in a high-demand industry or field, enrollment in postsecondary education, or enlistment in the United States Armed Forces. The bill requires the Board of Education and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development to develop and submit to the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Labor, and the chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by October 1 of each odd-numbered year, beginning with October 1, 2026, a report on each such biennial review.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1167 Public school funding; composite index of local ability-to-pay; calculation; exclusion of certain exempt property.** Provides that on and after July 1, 2026, the calculation for the composite index of local ability-to-pay for each school division, after determining and weighting the true value of real property, adjusted gross income, and taxable retail sales in such school division, shall exclude the value of any real property within the school division that is exempt from real property tax due to its ownership by either (i) a veteran who has a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability or (ii) a surviving spouse of a member of the armed forces who died in the line of duty, before adjusting each school division's share to maintain an overall statewide local share of 45 percent and an overall state share of 55 percent.
Patron - Carroll

F **HB1168 Division superintendents; evaluations.** Requires each division superintendent performance evaluation to include a self-evaluation component in which the division superintendent describes the specific ways in which he supports student achievement and his goals and plans for improving student achievement. The bill requires each local school board to submit each annual division superintendent performance evaluation to the Department of Education no later than September 30 of the school year following such evaluation for a review of the consistency of the evaluation with the performance objectives set forth in Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers, Administrators, and Superintendents.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB1187 Localities; issuance of bonds for capital projects for school purposes.** Permits the governing body of any locality, with the consent of the school board and consistent with relevant provisions of law, to (i) issue bonds to finance all or any portion of any capital project for school purposes in the school division and (ii) use all or any portion of any federal, state, or local grant secured by the governing body of the locality or the school board to cover principal and debt service payments on such bonds.
Patron - O'Quinn

F **HB1204 Local governing bodies; appropriations of local school funds to families for compulsory student attendance in nonpublic school settings.** Permits any local governing body to reserve per pupil amounts of apportioned Standards of Quality costs and appropriate such amounts to the parents of students in the local school division for the satisfaction of the compulsory attendance of their children in nonpublic school settings.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1242** **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) for males, men, or boys; (ii) for females, women, or girls; or (iii) for coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males and females. The bill requires that the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on such an expressly designated team be affirmed by a signed physician's statement. 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 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 for adhering to 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 **HB1323** **Department of Education; public school accountability system and performance framework; revisions and amendments required; development of certain guidelines.** Directs the Department of Education to (i) revise the public school accountability system adopted pursuant to the Board of Education's regulations and applicable federal law and its School Performance and Support Framework in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (ii) submit to the U.S. Department of Education by September 1, 2026, any amendments to its consolidated state plan required pursuant to federal law as necessary to implement the revisions required pursuant to clause (i). The bill also directs the Department to develop and make available to schools and families by the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year timely explanations for and guidance materials on the computation methodology for the vertical scaled scores and value tables implemented for use as a growth model for student assessments.

Patron - Reaser

F **HB1460** **Department of Education; public school teacher licensure requirements; comprehensive review of alternative licensure pathways; stakeholder work group; report.** Directs the Department of Education (the Department) to convene a stakeholder work group to conduct a comprehensive review of the alternative licensure pathways, as that term is defined in the bill, available to public school teachers in the Commonwealth and make recommendations on improving the quality, efficacy, and outcomes of such alternative licensure pathways. The bill directs the Department to submit to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health (i) by January 1, 2027, an interim report on the findings and preliminary recommendations of the work group and (ii) by November 1, 2027, a final report on the findings and recommendations of the work group.

Patron - Franklin, M.A.

F **HB1470** **Department of Education; annual school division health insurance premium data collection and reporting; publication; requirements; regulations.** Requires, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, (i) each school board to annually collect and submit to the Department of Education certain health insurance premium data for the employees of the school board for the preceding fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (ii) the Department to annually (a) compile the health insurance premium data submitted by each school board; (b) include such data in the Annual School Report required pursuant to applicable law; and (c) publish the compilation of such data on its website in a format that allows comparison of the data across school divisions, plan types, and coverage levels. The bill directs the Board of Education to promulgate such regulations as necessary for the implementation and administration of the annual school division health insurance premium data collection and reporting in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **SB16** **Board of Education; through-year growth assessment system; alternatives during 2024-2028 school years permitted.** Extends from the 2025-2026 school year to the 2027-2028 school year the period during which, pursuant to applicable law, the Board of Education is required to permit school boards to administer assessments as alternatives to the through-year growth assessment system established by the Board of Education. Under current law, the Board of Education is required to permit school boards to administer such assessments during the 2024-2025 through 2025-2026 school years.

Patron - Suetterlein

F **SB20** **Early childhood care and education; Child Care Subsidy Program; income-based eligibility for assistance; development and implementation of phased reduction model; report.** Requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a phased reduction model for the Child Care Subsidy Program (the Program) that provides for an assistance phase-out period during which the assistance for which a given family is eligible is reduced in proportion to increases in such family's income for the purpose of ensuring that no family receiving child care assistance under the Program experiences a sudden loss in eligibility for assistance as a result of an increase in family income. The bill requires the phased reduction model developed and implemented by the Department to consist of incremental income tiers, with each increase in income tier corresponding to a proportional reduction in the percentage of assistance for which a given family is eligible under the Program. The bill directs the Board of Education to (i) promulgate regulations for the development and implementation of the phased reduction model in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (ii) submit to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services any amendments to the current Child Care and Development Fund Plan for Virginia as are necessary to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill requires the Department of Education to provide an interim report to the General Assembly by October 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, and a summative report to the General Assembly by April 1, 2027.

Patron - Locke

F **SB39** **Department of Education; best practices for implementation in public schools of technology tools to assist with the identification of students at risk of engaging in self-harm or intending to inflict harm on others; report.** Directs the Department of Education to convene a work group consisting of representatives set forth in the bill, as determined by the Department in consultation with and based on consideration of suggestions from statewide education organizations and appropriate technology industries, for the purpose of identifying and making recommendations to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House

Committee on Education on best practices for the procurement, implementation, and use in public schools of technology tools designed to assist with the identification of students at risk of engaging in self-harm or intending to inflict harm on others. The bill directs the work group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 15, 2026.
Patron - Favola

F **SB119 Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program.** Establishes the Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program (the Pilot Program) to provide matching funds in order to incentivize employers to contribute to the child care costs of their employees. The Pilot Program shall be established by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (the Foundation), which will establish guidelines and procedures deemed necessary for administration of the Pilot Program. The bill provides that the Foundation shall provide an interim report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2027, and a summative report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2028, on the effectiveness and impact of the Pilot Program.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB213 Division superintendents; employment and contractual matters; annual salary; limitation.** Prohibits any school board from paying, agreeing to or entering into a contract to pay, or otherwise compensating a division superintendent an annual salary, as that term is defined by the bill, that exceeds the amount authorized to be paid to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB220 Department of Education; review of high school student athlete eligibility requirements; report.** Requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the Virginia High School League (VHSL), to review and make recommendations on revisions to the residency requirements established by the VHSL for participation of high school student athletes in high school athletic teams for the purpose of ensuring such requirements are aligned, to the maximum extent practicable, with the residency requirements for the enrollment of students in public schools in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Jones

F **SB234 Board of Education; student discipline and codes of student conduct; anti-bullying policies and procedures.** Makes several revisions to expand requirements set forth in current law relating to bullying prevention, response, and intervention in public schools. The bill expands requirements relating to parental responsibilities and involvement, including by requiring (i) the Board of Education's standards for school board policies on bullying to emphasize parental responsibility and intervention in preventing and addressing incidents of bullying, (ii) each school board to provide annual training on bullying prevention and intervention for students and parents and workshops for parents and educators relating to bullying prevention and intervention, and (iii) each school principal to request a meeting to discuss parental responsibilities with the parent of any student who violates a school board policy or student code of conduct by engaging in bullying and such student's record evidences a pattern of repeated violations involving engaging in bullying or the principal determines that the severity of the incident requires further intervention.

The bill also enhances school responses to and disciplinary consequences for incidents of bullying by requiring (a) the Board to include in its standards for school board policies on bullying procedures for imposing clear and escalating consequences for incidents of bullying based on frequency and severity of violations involving engaging in bullying and (b) each school board to include in its code of student conduct policies and procedures relating to bullying, including procedures for requiring, when appropriate, any student who violates a school board policy by engaging in an act of bullying to receive counseling at the school for the purpose of addressing the behaviors and working on communication and conflict resolution skills designed to prevent recurrence of such behavior. The bill also requires each school board to include in such code of student conduct policies and procedures for protections designed to empower any student who is a victim of bullying or cyberbullying to stand up for himself in an appropriate and safe manner.

Finally, the bill requires the Board to include in its guidelines and model policies on codes of student conduct guidance for school boards on effective oversight of public schools to ensure compliance with each school board's code of student policies and procedures.
Patron - Head

F **SB238 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 - Head

F **SB264 Department of Education; individualized education programs; social skills development.** Directs the Department of Education to develop and make available to each school board (i) guidelines for including in individualized education programs strategies and supports to address and prevent bullying, harassment, and teasing, and (ii) model instructional programs or materials for students on awareness, understanding, and acceptance of neurodivergence.
Patron - Stanley

F **SB295 K-12 schools; student participation in women's sports; civil cause of action.** Requires each interscholastic, 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 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) for males, men, or boys; (ii) for females, women, or girls; or (iii) for coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males and females. The bill requires that the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on such an expressly designated team be affirmed by a signed physician's statement. 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 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 based on a violation of the provisions of the bill and creates a cause of action for any school 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 as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a school, athletic association, or organization.
Patron - Peake

F **SB469 Regional or local detention homes; educational programs; staffing; funding.** Provides that the state general funds required to be provided for educational programs in regional or local detention homes (i) shall support a statewide staffing ratio of one teacher for every eight students in average daily attendance and an additional one teacher for every 10 students in the Community Placement Program and (ii) shall be distributed to regional or local detention homes in such a manner as determined by the Department of Education, whether in a ratio-based manner or otherwise, based on such factors as the Department deems appropriate, including capacity, need, enrollment trends, and the availability of alternative educational settings. Current law provides that teacher staffing ratios for regional or local detention homes shall be based on a ratio of one teacher for every 12 beds based on the capacity of the facility; however, if the previous year's average daily attendance exceeds this bed capacity, the ratio shall be based on the average daily attendance at the facility as calculated by the Department from the previous school year.

Patron - Marsden

F **SB511 Department of Education; career and technical education programs, associate degree programs, and baccalaureate degree programs; return on investment analysis and report; report.** Directs the Department of Education to prepare and submit to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Education and Appropriations by November 1, 2026, a return on investment report on the career and technical education programs, associate degree programs, and baccalaureate degree programs offered by public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth for the purpose of informing decisions relating to and ensuring alignment of future funding allocations with industry and market demand and postsecondary success. The bill directs the Department, in preparing such return on investment report, to consult with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, career and technical education directors, the Virginia Community College System, and such other stakeholders and industry partners as deemed appropriate by the Department.

Patron - Cifers

F **SB560 Public elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education; designation of interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, and club athletic teams and sports based on biological sex; identification of biological sex on Preparticipation Physical Evaluation and athletics eligibility forms required; civil cause of action.** Requires each interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public elementary or secondary school or by a public institution of higher education to be expressly designated as one of the following based on biological sex: (i) for "males," "men," or "boys"; (ii) for "females," "women," or "girls"; or (iii) for "coed" or "mixed." 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 amends provisions of current law requiring each public middle or high school student to submit a Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form in order to be a participant on or try out for any interscholastic athletic team or squad by (a) expanding the scope of the requirement to apply to any public elementary or secondary school student in order to participate on or try out for any interscholastic, intramural, or club athletic team or sport and (b) requiring each Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form to identify and attest to each such student's biological sex.

The bill also requires each student enrolled at a public institution of higher education seeking to participate on or try out for any intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public institution of higher education to submit by the start of his first year of participation on such team or sport an athletics eligibility form signed by a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant verifying such student's biological sex and meeting such other criteria as set forth in the bill.

The bill prohibits any government entity, licensing or accrediting organization, athletic association, or athletic organization from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation, or taking any other adverse action against a public school or institution of higher education based on compliance with the provisions of the bill and creates a cause of action for any public 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 public school or institution of higher education or as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a public school, institution of higher education, athletic association, or athletic organization.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB561 Public schools; bathrooms, changing facilities, and other facilities located in public schools; reasonable accommodation based on biological sex required; civil cause of action.** Requires any public school to, to the extent practicable, provide reasonable accommodation, as defined by the bill, to any student, teacher, or other employee of such public school who (i) desires greater privacy when using a multi-occupancy bathroom or changing facility located within a public school building that is designated for such student's, teacher's, or employee's sex, as defined by the bill, or when using multi-occupancy sleeping quarters while attending a public school-sponsored activity that are designated for such student's, teacher's, or employee's sex and (ii) provides a written request for reasonable accommodation to the school principal or, in the case of a student who is younger than 18 years of age, has his parent provide such written request to the school principal. The bill requires a school principal, upon receiving a written request for reasonable accommodation, to evaluate the request and, to the extent practicable, provide reasonable accommodation. The bill also requires such school principal to issue a written decision approving or denying the request for reasonable accommodation and, if denying the request, state the grounds for such denial in the written decision. The bill also provides (a) an opportunity for any student, teacher, or employee whose written request for reasonable accommodation is denied by a school principal to appeal the denial to the school board in accordance with the procedures set forth in the bill and (b) an opportunity for any student, teacher, or employee whose appeal of the principal's denial is denied by the school board to request an impartial hearing conducted by an impartial hearing officer to appeal the school board's decision in accordance with the procedures set forth in the bill. Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for any student, teacher, or employee who (1) as a result of the school or school board intentionally allowing a member of the opposite sex to enter a multi-occupancy bathroom or changing facility designated for such student's, employee's, or teacher's biological sex while other persons are present, encounters a member of the opposite sex while in such bathroom or facility or (2) is required by the public school to share sleeping quarters during a school-sponsored activity with a member of the opposite sex, unless such member of the opposite sex is a family member.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB563** **Parents of public elementary and secondary school children; fundamental right to opt children out of certain educational content.** Provides that parents of public elementary and secondary school children have the fundamental right to opt their children out, without penalty, of any instruction, reading, discussion, presentation, including any audio-visual presentation, school assembly, or activity that includes any gender identity, sexual orientation, transgenderism, or drag show theme or content, and the elementary or secondary school shall make reasonable accommodations during such opt-out period. The bill also requires any public secondary school student who is 18 years of age or older to, by request of such student, opt-out, without penalty, of any such instruction, reading discussion, presentation, including any audio-visual presentation, school assembly, or activity, and requires the secondary school to make reasonable accommodations during such opt-out period.

Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB576** **Teacher licensure; three-year license to teach career and technical education or dual enrollment courses at public high schools.** Requires the Board of Education to provide for the issuance of a three-year license to teach solely career and technical education courses or dual enrollment courses at public high schools in the Commonwealth to any individual who (i) is employed as an instructor by an institution of higher education that is accredited by a nationally recognized regional accreditation body, (ii) is teaching in the specific career and technical education or dual enrollment subject area at such institution in which the individual seeks to teach at a public high school, and (iii) complies with the requirements set forth in relevant law to complete study in child abuse recognition and intervention and certification or training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators. The bill requires the Board to require any such instructor to maintain continuous employment in such position at the institution of higher education as a condition of continued licensure.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB603** **School boards; policies relating to volunteer student life counseling and support services; guidelines and requirements.** Permits any school board to adopt a policy permitting certain individuals or groups to provide, on a volunteer basis, student life counseling or support services, as defined in the bill, on school property after regular school hours, in accordance with the requirements in the bill. The bill (i) requires a school board to hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for public comment on the proposed policy prior to adopting such policy and (ii) requires such policy (a) to include background and criminal records check requirements for individuals volunteering to provide such support services; (b) to require written parental consent before any minor student participates in or receives such support services; and (c) to require any approved individual or group to include on materials provided to students and parents information a parent or student may need in order to provide full and informed consent.

Patron - Reeves

F **SB656** **Standards of Quality; class size limits; exception for certain ensemble music classes.** Exempts any ensemble music class, as defined by the bill, offered in grade six from the provision limiting the size of any class offered in grades four through six to no larger than 35 students and, instead, permits any such ensemble music class to have up to 45 students.

Patron - Durant

F **SB695** **School boards; employment of school resource officers; Virginia Retirement System.** Requires each school board to enter into a collaborative agreement with the local law-enforcement agency to employ at least one school resource officer in each public elementary and secondary school in the local school division. The bill requires localities to provide enhanced retirement benefits to school resource officers. The bill also allows a retired law-enforcement officer to work as a school resource officer after a break in service of at least six months without impacting his retirement benefits.

Patron - Jordan

F **SB703** **Public elementary and secondary 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 requires that the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on such an expressly designated team be affirmed by a signed physician's statement. 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 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 on the basis of the school's or institution's compliance with 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 provisions 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 - Durant

F **SB733** **Local governing bodies; appropriations of local school funds to families for compulsory student attendance in nonpublic school settings.** Permits any local governing body to reserve per pupil amounts of apportioned Standards of Quality costs and appropriate such amounts to the parents of students in the local school division for the satisfaction of the compulsory attendance of their children in nonpublic school settings.

Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB757** **Board of Education; feasibility of establishing Virginia African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous Education Advisory Board; evaluation; report.** Directs the Board of Education to evaluate and submit a report to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2026, a report on the feasibility and most appropriate manner of establishing a Virginia African American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous Education Advisory Board to advise the Governor and the General Assembly on describing in the relevant Standards of Learning framework, providing instruction on, and developing elective courses in African

American, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Latino, and Indigenous history.
Patron - Srinivasan

Carried Over

C **HB92 Equity in public school funding and staffing; special education students; at-risk students; annual report.** Establishes in Standard of Quality 2 the At-Risk Program and a state-supported add-on for special education students and requires corresponding formulas for the funding of such initiatives to be established in the general appropriation act. The bill also requires the Department of Education to report annually to the House Committees on Education and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and on Education and Health the total and per pupil annual operating expenditures from local, state, and federal sources in each school division and the change in expenditures from each such source over the immediately preceding two-year, three-year, and five-year timeframes, expressed in both dollar amounts and percentages.
Patron - Rasoul

C **HB96 School breakfast; availability at no cost to students.** Requires each school board to 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 and to make 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 clarifies that the provision of a breakfast by a school to a student at no cost to the student shall not be construed as creating a disincentive for the school or local school division to participate in the federal Community Eligibility Provision program. Additionally, the bill provides that schools shall maximize the number of students who participate in the school breakfast program by implementing one or more suggested service models to increase access to such program. The bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each eligible school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one reimbursable breakfast per student per school day, and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Commission to End Hunger.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

C **HB189 Certain student assessment requirements; calculation of final course grade; repeal.** Repeals a provision of law that requires the score of any student in grades seven through 12 on any Standards of Learning assessment or permissive local alternative assessment to account for at least 10 percent of the student's final grade in the relevant course. The bill contains a reenactment clause.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

C **HB263 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 shall have several duties enumerated in the bill, including (i) providing leadership and technical assistance with the implementation and use of information literacy skills to school divisions, Department staff, and other stakeholders to support student achievement; (ii) 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; (iii) collaborating on various grants and other initiatives that promote student literacy through school library programs throughout the Commonwealth; (iv) supporting student learning through instructional programs in which students are required to demonstrate information literacy, digital literacy and fluency, and effective use of technology and instructional programs that incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math learning; and (v) providing the Department, the Board of Education, the General Assembly, and school boards with support relating to student learning through the use of school library standards and library resources.
Patron - Simonds

C **HB359 Use of public funds for private elementary or secondary school tuition; standards.** Establishes several requirements and conditions relating to the use of certain public funds enumerated in the bill to fund student tuition at private elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth, including (i) requiring all students enrolled at schools who receive such funds to take Standards of Learning assessments; (ii) requiring all such schools to receive accountability ratings from the Board of Education; and (iii) prohibiting such schools from discriminating in admissions, enrollment, discipline, retention, or access to educational programs and services on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, special education status, language proficiency, or socioeconomic status.
Patron - Helmer

C **HB362 Public elementary and secondary student textbooks; print as primary curriculum basis.** Requires, unless otherwise indicated in a student's individualized education program, print textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials to serve as the primary curriculum basis for a grade-level subject or course but permits digital textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials to serve as the secondary curriculum basis for a grade-level subject or course.
Patron - Dougherty

C **HB382 School board chairmen and vice-chairmen; additional annual salary; amount.** Permits any school board to pay (i) the chairman of the school board an additional annual salary not exceeding 30 percent of the base annual salary or $3,500, whichever is greater, and (ii) the vice-chairman of the school board an additional annual salary not exceeding 15 percent of the base annual salary or $1,750, whichever is greater. Current law caps school board chairmen's additional annual salary at $2,000 and is silent on additional annual salary amounts for school board vice-chairmen.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

C **HB428 High school graduation requirements; alternative pathway to standard diploma established; report.** Requires the Board of Education to (i) establish pursuant to regulation an alternative pathway to the standard diploma for any student with a disability whose individualized education program indicates that the student demonstrates the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve the standard diploma but requires significant instructional, course sequencing, or assessment accommodations or modifications in order to do so and (ii) take all steps necessary to ensure that such pathway and the Applied Studies diploma are, to the maximum extent practicable, treated as a standard diploma for the purpose of eligibility for enrollment at an institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, eligibility for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and federal

financial aid programs, consideration for military service enlistment opportunities, and consideration for state employment opportunities that require a standard diploma. The bill requires the Department of Education to report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on the implementation of such alternative pathway to the standard diploma, including the number of students utilizing such alternative pathway and the postsecondary outcomes of such students.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

C **HB495 School boards; mental health awareness training; full-time school bus drivers.** Permits any school board to require each school bus driver employed on a full-time basis in the local school division to complete mental health awareness training at least once. The bill requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to consider condensing and abbreviating the existing mental health first aid training program into a two-hour module that any school board may utilize in order to train full-time school bus drivers.
Patron - Guzman

C **HB568 Student literacy programs and plans; certain adjustments.** Prohibits any Department of Education-approved student literacy screener that is administered to identify deficiencies that warrant reading intervention services for students in grades kindergarten through eight from commencing earlier than the tenth full instructional day of the academic year, and requires the testing window established by the Department to extend no fewer than 15 full instructional days to ensure adequate instructional readiness and equitable access. The bill requires (i) the Department's template for student reading plans to (a) auto-populate all available student data from the results on the literacy screener provided by the Department; (b) minimize duplicative manual data entry; (c) authorize the use of standardized instructional profiles for students presenting substantially similar literacy needs, where appropriate; and (d) permit the batch creation of plans when it is appropriate to the instructional context; (ii) the Department to annually compile, in a de-identified format, themes and trends reported through division-level educator feedback mechanisms related to the implementation of the literacy screeners provided by the Department and the development of reading plans; and (iii) prior to the statewide implementation of any substantial modification to the literacy screeners provided by the Department or associated data systems, the Department to conduct an implementation feasibility analysis that assesses system readiness, teacher workload impact, and anticipated training needs. The bill also establishes several new requirements for divisionwide literacy plans.
Patron - Anthony

C **HB613 Department of Education; division superintendents; Teacher Recruitment and Retention Mentorship Pilot Program established; administration; report.** Directs the Department of Education (the Department), in coordination with the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, to establish and administer the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Mentorship Pilot Program (the Program) for the purpose of supporting division superintendents of school divisions with high teacher vacancy rates in improving teacher recruitment and retention in such school division by coordinating the establishment of mentorships whereby a division superintendent of a low vacancy-rate school division is connected with a division superintendent of a high vacancy-rate school division to provide mentorship in developing and implementing plans, strategies, and best practices for improving teacher vacancy rates in the high vacancy-rate school division. The bill directs the Department, in coordination with the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, to implement policies and procedures for the establishment and administration of the Program, including policies for coordinating such mentorships, encouraging participation of division superintendents in the Program, and for Program oversight. The bill directs each division superintendent mentorship pair participating in the Program to annually submit to the Department a report on their activities for the preceding school year and any recommendations relating to improving the effectiveness of mentorships under the Program. Finally, the bill directs the Department to submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1 of each year a report on the activities of the Program for the preceding school year. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - Cohen

C **HB873 Public elementary school students; physical activity.** Increases from 20 minutes to 30 minutes daily, and from an average of 100 minutes to 150 minutes per week, the minimum amount of time provided to public elementary school students for programs of physical activity. The bill provides that no student shall be prohibited from participating in a program of physical activity as a form of disciplinary action, with the exception that a student may be prohibited if it is determined that such program constitutes a health or safety risk to the student.
Patron - Kent

C **HB1017 School boards; excusing students from attendance at school; grounds; verified medical reasons.** Requires each school board to excuse from attendance any pupil who, for any continuous period of time not exceeding 30 school days in length, is absent from school for medical reasons as verified in writing by the student's health care provider.
Patron - Tran

C **HB1023 Part-time or adjunct instructors in public schools; locally awarded subject matter expert credentials; career and technical education subjects or courses.** Establishes, enumerates criteria for, and permits a division superintendent or a comprehensive community college to issue a locally awarded subject matter expert teaching credential, valid for a period of one year, to any individual who demonstrates expertise in content or subject matter area relating to career and technical education in order for such individual to provide instruction or coursework in one career and technical education course per semester in grades six through 12 at any public school in the Commonwealth or comprehensive community college in the Commonwealth, including dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment courses. The bill delineates the criteria for issuance of such locally awarded subject matter expert credential. The bill also contains several provisions relating to the employment of individuals under a locally awarded subject matter expert credential, including (i) permitting any school division or institution of higher education to hire any such individual as a part-time or adjunct instructor to teach a career and technical education subject or course; (ii) requiring any such individual to be subject to a background clearance check and the fingerprinting and criminal history records check requirements required as a condition of employment of any applicant who is offered or accepts employment at a school division pursuant to applicable law; (iii) requiring each employing school board to assign an individual employed by such school board as a mentor to supervise any individual issued a locally awarded subject matter expert credential; and (iv) permitting any division superintendent to renew an individual's locally awarded subject matter expert credential for a period not to exceed one additional year, provided that such individual receives satisfactory performance evaluations.

Finally, the bill requires each school board to annually report to the Department of Education the number of locally awarded subject matter expert credentials issued pursuant to the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Walker

C **HB1035 Public schools; school security and discipline; employment of school security officers; training requirements.** Amends the requirements for the training course of which an individual employed as a school security officer is required to submit proof of completion to the Department of Criminal Justice Services in order to carry a firearm in the performance of his duties by (i) eliminating the requirement that such training course include training in active shooter emergency response and, instead, requiring it to include training in critical incident preparedness and response and (ii) clarifying that such training course include training in behavioral threat assessment.
Patron - Wilt

C **HB1171 Board of Education; development of alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma; report.** Directs the Board of Education to develop alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma that are designed to expand opportunities for students to complete the verified credit requirements for the Standard Diploma that do not require achieving a passing score on applicable Standards of Learning assessments. In developing such alternative graduation pathways, the bill directs the Board to (i) consult with and integrate the perspectives of a broad range of relevant stakeholders; (ii) consider alignment with the competencies articulated in the Profile of a Virginia Graduate; (iii) consider certain elements for incorporation into such alternative pathways, including nonassessment demonstrations of competence, alternative assessments that could be used in lieu of or alongside Standards of Learning assessments, and pathway structures or elements designed to encourage hands-on learning and civic engagement; (iv) ensure that any such alternative graduation pathways do not impact or replace the current requirements for earning a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma; (v) ensure at least one alternative pathway is developed that includes a nonassessment demonstration of competence; and (vi) consider next steps for approval and implementation of such alternative graduation pathways. Finally, the bill directs the Board to submit to the Governor and Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by January 1, 2027, a report detailing the Board's progress in developing alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma, in accordance with the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Rasoul

C **HB1193 High school students; postsecondary opportunities; concurrent enrollment.** Defines "concurrent enrollment" as the enrollment of a high school student in an associate degree-level course, creditable toward high school completion, offered on a campus, center, location, or site operated by an associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education, requires postsecondary degree attainment agreements between school boards and comprehensive community colleges to specify options for high school students to earn college credit through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, or a combination thereof, requires the College and Career Ready Virginia Program to include the opportunity for any qualified high school student to earn college credit, including pursuant to the Passport Program or the Uniform Certificate of General Studies Program, or a full associate degree through concurrent enrollment, and provides that any student participating in concurrent enrollment courses through the College and Career Ready Virginia Program shall be counted as a high school student for the purpose of the calculation and receipt of state funding for such student.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

C **HB1195 School boards and independent contractors; applicants for employment involving direct contact with children in public schools; employment history review.** Requires each school board and each independent contractor that provides services in any public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth to (i) require each applicant for employment whose position will involve direct contact with children, as that term is defined in the bill, in a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth to provide (a) the address and telephone number of and other any other relevant contact information for the applicant's current employer and any former employer that employed the applicant in a position that involved direct contact with children and (b) a written, signed statement as to whether the applicant has (1) been the subject of an investigation and finding or adjudication of abuse or sexual misconduct, as that term is defined in the bill, by any employer, state licensing agency, law-enforcement agency, or child protective services agency or (2) been disciplined, discharged, nonrenewed, asked to resign, or otherwise separated from employment or had a professional license or certificate suspended, surrendered, or revoked while such an investigation was pending or due to such a finding or adjudication and (ii) request, from each such employer, confirmation of the dates of the applicant's employment and a written statement as to the veracity of the applicant's abovementioned statement, to the best of such employer's knowledge. The bill requires each such employer to respond no later than 20 days after receipt of such a request. The bill permits any school board or independent contractor to use any information received pursuant to clauses (i) and (ii) to evaluate an applicant's fitness to be hired and to consider an applicant's provision of false information or willful failure to disclose information to be grounds for declining to further consider such applicant for employment.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

C **HB1331 School division accessibility challenges and barriers; reports, summary, and plan.** Requires each school board or division superintendent to review and report to the Department of Education no later than August 1, 2026, certain challenges and barriers relating to the accessibility of public elementary and secondary school buildings and grounds in the local school division. The bill requires the Department to consolidate all such reports into a summary document and submit (i) such document, (ii) a plan for achieving full compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 across all school divisions in the Commonwealth, and (iii) any legislative and budgetary recommendations for fully executing such plan to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the House Committee on Education no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Price

C **HB1345 Public schools; indoor air quality; industry-recognized uniform inspection and evaluation.** Adds several items that are required to be included in the industry-recognized uniform inspection and evaluation of the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system that is required at least every four years for each public elementary and secondary school building, including measurement of radon levels in the air and testing for moisture incursion. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Nivar

C **HB1367** **Department of Education; English language learner students; expenditures; data collection; report.** Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with each school board, to annually collect, maintain, post publicly and conspicuously on its website, and report no later than November 1 to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the General Assembly data on expenditures for the education of English language learner students in each local school division. The bill requires such data to be disaggregated by school level, grade level, and student English proficiency level.
Patron - Reaser

C **HB1373** **Department of Education; assessment; utilization of funds for regional special education students; report.** Requires the Department of Education (the Department), in collaboration with the Office of Children's Services, staff from the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, and such other stakeholders as the Department deems appropriate, to assess potential enhancements and strategies to maximize utilization of funds designated for regional special education students, commonly referred to as the Students with Intensive Support Needs Application program, in order to decrease the number of referrals of students with disabilities into private day school placements. The bill requires the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations no later than December 15, 2026.
Patron - Carroll

C **HB1383** **Teacher licensure; technical professional license; curriculum and instruction coursework; comprehensive community colleges.** Permits any individual seeking a technical professional license to complete any required coursework in curriculum and instruction at any comprehensive community college in the Commonwealth that offers such coursework, regardless of whether such coursework is offered on a for-credit basis or as part of a noncredit workforce credential.
Patron - Oates

C **HB1410** **Certain student assessment requirements; exception for certain students with disabilities.** Excludes any students in grades seven through 12 who are children with disabilities and who participate in an alternative method of Standards of Learning assessment administration or who participate in an alternate assessment through the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program from the requirement that such students take Standards of Learning assessments or permissive local alternative assessments no earlier than two weeks prior to the last day of the school year and that each such student's score on any such assessment accounts for at least 10 percent of the student's final grade in the relevant course.
Patron - Wilt

C **SB4** **School breakfast; availability at no cost to students.** Requires each school board to 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 and to make 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 requires the Department of Education to reimburse each public elementary and secondary school for each school breakfast served to a student, with a maximum of one breakfast per student per school day, and provides the formula for determining the state reimbursement rate for such meals. Finally, the bill repeals a provision of law relating to the federal School Breakfast Program that is rendered obsolete by the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Roem

C **SB42** **Department of Education; impact of requiring each school board to pay unpaid meal balance from uncollectible school meal debts; report.** Directs the Department of Education to evaluate and submit to the chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health and the House Committees on Appropriations and Education by November 1, 2026, a report on the impact of requiring each school board, at the end of each school year, to pay for the total unpaid school meal balance on the nonprofit food service account of each public elementary or secondary school in the school division resulting from uncollectible school meal debts on any student account.
Patron - Roem

C **SB61** **Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program established; incorporation into National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund.** Establishes the Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program and incorporates such program into the existing National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program. The bill also renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund as the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program Fund (the Fund) and expands the purpose for which disbursements may be made from the Fund to include the award of incentive grants to school psychologists 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 - Mulchi

C **SB90** **Public schools; Standards of Quality; certain calculations; At-Risk Program established.** The bill establishes (i) the At-Risk Program for the purpose of supporting programs and services for students who are educationally at-risk, including programs and services of prevention, intervention, or remediation; (ii) a state-funded, flexible per pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on to be applied for each special education student, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the bill, for the purpose of better meeting the educational needs of students with disabilities; and (iii) a state-funded, flexible per-pupil Standards of Quality funding add-on to be provided for each English language learner student, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the bill, for the purpose of better meeting the educational needs of English language learner students. The bill also establishes requirements and conditions for each school division receiving funding pursuant to the At-Risk Program or either of the per pupil Standards of Quality funding add-ons established pursuant to the bill, including a requirement that each such school division annually report to the Department of Education on the planned and actual uses of such funds. The bill directs the Department to annually compile and publish on its website a summary of the reports received from each school division on the use of such funds. Finally, the bill authorizes the Department, upon providing notice and an opportunity for corrective action, withhold, recover, or redirect funds provided pursuant to the bill from any school division found to be in noncompliance with the requirements set forth in the bill.
Patron - Favola

C **SB102** **School boards; courses of instruction; high school courses or dual enrollment programs for certi-**

fication as a certified nurse aide, emergency medical technician, or firefighter; establishment permitted; requirements. Permits any school board to provide to high school students, either on school premises or through a dual enrollment program or other partnership with a comprehensive community college, courses of instruction that prepare students for and lead to (i) certification as a certified nurse aide, provided that such course is approved by and meets the requirements of the Board of Nursing and is taught by a qualified individual, consistent with the requirements of the Board of Nursing; (ii) certification as an emergency medical technician, provided that such course is consistent with the requirements established by the Office of Emergency Medical Services and taught by an emergency medical technician instructor who meets the requirements set forth in the bill; or (iii) firefighting level 1 certification, as defined by the bill, provided that such course is consistent with the National Fire Protection Association 1001, level one, firefighter standards as administered by the Department of Fire Programs and taught by an individual qualified to provided such instruction. The bill also requires any school board that provides any such course of instruction on school premises to high school students to ensure that any individual employed, contracted, or permitted to volunteer to provide instruction in such course meets the requirements set forth in applicable law relating to data on convictions for certain crimes and child abuse and neglect, fingerprinting, and criminal history records checks.

Patron - Stanley

C **SB110 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 shall have several duties enumerated in the bill, including (i) providing leadership and technical assistance with the implementation and use of information literacy skills to school divisions, Department staff, and other stakeholders to support student achievement; (ii) 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; (iii) collaborating on various grants and other initiatives that promote student literacy through school library programs throughout the Commonwealth; (iv) supporting student learning through instructional programs in which students are required to demonstrate information literacy, digital literacy and fluency, and effective use of technology and instructional programs that incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math learning; and (v) providing the Department, the Board of Education, the General Assembly, and school boards with support relating to student learning through the use of school library standards and library resources.

Patron - Pekarsky

C **SB147 Board of Education; development, approval, and implementation of alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma; report.** Directs the Board of Education to develop, approve, and implement alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma that are designed to expand opportunities for students to complete the verified credit requirements for the Standard Diploma that do not require achieving a passing score on applicable Standards of Learning assessments. In developing, approving, and implementing such alternative graduation pathways, the bill directs the Board to (i) consult with and integrate the perspectives of a broad range of relevant stakeholders; (ii) consider alignment with the competencies articulated in the Profile of the Virginia Graduation; (iii) consider certain elements for incorporation into such alternative pathways, including nonassessment demonstrations of competence, alternative assessments that could be used in lieu of or alongside Standards of Learning assessments, and pathway structures or elements designed to encourage hands-on learning and civic engagement; (iv) ensure that any such alternative graduation pathways do not impact or replace the current requirements for earning a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma; (v) ensure at least one alternative pathway is approved that includes a nonassessment demonstration of competence; and (vi) consider potential timelines for implementation of such alternative graduation pathways. Finally, the bill directs the Board to submit to the Governor and Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by January 1, 2027, a report detailing the Board's progress in developing, approving, and implementing alternative graduation pathways to earn a Standard Diploma, in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Pekarsky

C **SB174 Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program established; report.** Establishes the Virginia Student Teacher Scholarship Program, to be administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in coordination with the Department of Education, whereby a student teacher who (i) is completing a required supervised clinical practice through a traditional educator preparation program in the Commonwealth, (ii) is assigned to complete such supervised clinical practice at a public elementary or secondary school in the Commonwealth without pay, and (iii) applies and meets certain eligibility criteria shall be awarded a scholarship in an amount not to exceed $7,500 per each supervised clinical practice experience to assist with expenses incurred during the supervised clinical practice. The bill contains provisions relating to Program administration and requires the Council to submit and publish an annual report containing certain Program data.

Patron - Pekarsky

C **SB205 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; program extension.** Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to take all steps necessary to implement the federal extension option for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities to allow children five years of age or younger to receive services through such program.

Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB217 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 and an additional $2,500 in any year during the life of certificate in which the public school staff member is employed in a Title 1 school. 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 - Boysko

C **SB259 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program established; pilot programs; development of modules; report.** Establishes the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program, to be administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) in coordination with the Department of Education and the Department of Health, for the purpose of providing and expanding the accessibility of early childhood mental health consultation services, as that term is defined in the bill. The bill requires, pursuant to the Program, early childhood mental health consultation services shall be provided to families of children three through five years of age who exhibit developmental delays and behavioral health concerns and to early childhood care and education programs as enumerated in the bill. The bill requires the Department, in administering the Program, to (i) develop, or contract with community services boards to develop, and make available to early childhood care and education programs and providers developmental readiness modules, in accordance with the requirements of the bill; (ii) designate three pilot regions for initial implementation of the Program, with implementation beginning no later than January 1, 2027; and (iii) submit to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1 of each year a report on the implementation and outcomes of the Program for each pilot region selected for initial implementation. The provisions of the bill relating to initial implementation of the Program in the pilot regions shall expire on July 1, 2029.

Patron - Stanley

C **SB265 Autumn's Law; elementary and secondary schools; institutions of higher education; aggravated bullying and cyberbullying unlawful; policies and procedures; penalty.** Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to commit an act of aggravated bullying or aggravated cyberbullying, as defined in the bill, against any student enrolled in any elementary or secondary school or institution of higher education. The bill requires the administrator of each elementary or secondary school and each institution of higher education, or his designee, to, upon receiving satisfactory proof of an incident of aggravated bullying by a student enrolled in such school or institution, address such incidents, discipline the student guilty thereof, and report such incidents to local law-enforcement. The bill also requires (i) reports to be made to the division superintendent and the principal or his designee on all incidents involving an act of aggravated bullying or aggravated cyberbullying occurring on a school bus, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity; (ii) each principal to immediately report to the local law-enforcement agency any incident involving an an act of aggravated bullying or aggravated cyberbullying occurring on a school bus, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity; and (iii) the Board of Education to include in its guidelines and model policies for codes of student conduct developed pursuant to applicable law standards for school board policies on aggravated bullying. Finally, the bill requires each school board to include in its code of student conduct policies and procedures prohibiting aggravated bullying and aggravated cyberbullying, including (a) a citation to the provision of the bill that makes committing an act of aggravated bullying a Class 1 misdemeanor; (b) detailed procedures for reporting any incident of aggravated bullying or aggravated bullying in accordance with the bill; (c) clear, escalating, and appropriate disciplinary procedures for addressing incidents of aggravated bullying; and (d) information and resources relating to any civil rights of action or remedies available to victims of an act of aggravated bullying or cyberbullying.

Patron - Stanley

C **SB639 Authority of school division to request motor vehicle registration numbers.** Provides that any school division may request the vehicle registration number of a vehicle owned or operated by any person using the services or facilities of the school division.

Patron - Stuart

C **SB678 Department of Education; special education and related services; educational rights, protections, and duties relating to the education of children with disabilities; requirements.** Updates several provisions relating to the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE), as defined by the bill, including special education and related services, to children with disabilities in the Commonwealth to ensure such provisions are current and consistent with applicable federal law and regulations, including by (i) updating several relevant definitions to bring such definitions up-to-date and (ii) amending several provisions of current law relating to the duties of the Board of Education, the Department of Education, and each school board in ensuring the provision of FAPE, including special education and related services, to children with disabilities in accordance with federal law and regulation. The bill also codifies several provisions of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementing regulations, including provisions relating to (a) the educational rights of children with disabilities and their parents and the corresponding duties of the Board, Department, and school boards to protect such rights; (b) the evaluation, eligibility determination, and reevaluation of children for special education and related services; (c) the development, review, and revision of the individualized education plan of each child with disabilities, and (d) the procedural safeguards guaranteed to children with disabilities and their parents with respect to receiving a free appropriate public education.

The bill also codifies certain protections for qualified students with disabilities, as defined by the bill, from discrimination on the basis of disability in a public school setting, in accordance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations. The provisions of the bill relating to protections for qualified students with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of disability in a public school setting shall not become effective unless and until any provision of § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and any of its implementing regulations has been repealed or declared invalid or nullified by the final judgement of a federal court applicable to the Commonwealth or by executive or administration action, including any action of the federal or judicial branch that nullifies the effectiveness of such law and regulations in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability in federally funded programs or activities.

Finally, the bill repeals certain sections and makes several technical amendments as necessary in order to update and bring into conformity with applicable federal law and regulation provisions of current law relating to the provision of special education and related services to children with disabilities.

Patron - Pekarsky

Elections

Passed

P **HB41 Elections; administration; procedures for removal of electoral board members and general registrars.** Allows the State Board of Elections to remove any member of an electoral board or general registrar by a recorded two-thirds majority vote of all its members after a public hear-

ing on related matters. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against an electoral board member or general registrar by the State Board shall be based on neglect of a clear ministerial duty of the office, misuse of the office, or incompetence in the performance of the duties of the office, or an unambiguous indication of a future refusal or failure to carry out the duties of the office where such refusal or failure is likely to have a material adverse effect upon the conduct of the office. Such decision shall be final and not subject to appeal. The bill also allows an electoral board to remove a general registrar by a unanimous vote of all its members after a public hearing on related matters. A registrar who is so removed may file an appeal to the State Board. The bill provides that any such removal or any removal proceedings instituted against a general registrar by the electoral board shall be based on the same standards as required for removals by the State Board. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Simon

P **HB59** **Reapportionment; reallocation of populations; civil commitment facilities.** Requires persons civilly committed to a residential behavioral health facility administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to be counted and reallocated for redistricting and reapportionment purposes. This bill is identical to SB 88.

Patron - Ware

P **HB78** **Elections administration; duties of local electoral boards; certification of election; grounds for removal; civil penalty.** Provides that the certification of the results of an election is a clear ministerial duty of the local electoral boards and that a member of the local electoral board who neglects or refuses to perform such duty in accordance with law shall be subject to removal proceedings by the State Board of Elections and assessed a civil penalty not exceeding $1,000. The bill also authorizes the State Board of Elections to intervene and carry out the duties related to election certification in the event a local electoral board fails or refuses to do so.

Patron - Price

P **HB82** **Elections; deadline for receipt of absentee ballots and certain other information; 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election.** Moves the deadline for receipt of an absentee ballot, information required to cure an absentee ballot, or proof of identification to accompany a provisional ballot provided for lack of identification from noon to 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 58.

Patron - McClure

P **HB111** **Voter registration; cancellation of registration, sources of data.** Requires that, except on the basis of (i) a written request from the voter to have his registration cancelled or (ii) a certified or authenticated copy of a death certificate purporting to be issued by a governmental official or agency, the general registrar may not cancel the registration of any voter based on data or reports provided to him by any source other than the Department of Elections or a state agency approved to provide such data or reports by the State Board of Elections. The bill also reinstates a provision prohibiting the general registrar from cancelling the registration of (a) certain members of the uniformed service of the United States who are on active duty, (b) certain persons who reside temporarily outside of the United States, or (c) any spouse or dependent residing with such persons. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Laufer

P **HB113** **Elections; offenses; soliciting or accepting bribe to influence or procure voter registration; penalty.** Provides that no person shall solicit or accept directly or indirectly any money or any thing of value in exchange for his or another's decision to register or not register to vote. The bill also provides certain exceptions to the prohibitions on soliciting or accepting bribes to influence a person to vote or to register to vote.

Patron - Helmer

P **HB215** **Voter registration; list maintenance; third-party data exchanges; approval by State Board of Elections.** Requires the Commissioner of Elections, prior to entering into or terminating a memorandum of understanding or modifying the terms of an existing memorandum of understanding with any third party for the exchange of voter registration data, to submit the proposed memorandum of understanding, the reason for termination, or the proposed modifications, as appropriate, to the State Board of Elections for review and approval. Approval shall require a vote of two-thirds of the State Board. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Elections to apply for, enter into, and maintain membership for the Commonwealth in the Electronic Registration Information Center. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Henson

P **HB234** **Elections; general provisions; electoral board members to wear identification; civil penalty.** Requires the Department of Elections to issue a standardized identification badge to the acting electoral board members of each locality. Electoral board members are required to wear such identification badge while conducting their official duties on the day of an election subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $1,000. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB319** **Secretary of Administration; work group on automatic voter registration.** Directs the Department of Elections to convene a work group for the purpose of studying the implementation of back-end, opt-out automatic voter registration (AVR) in the Commonwealth. The work group shall include representatives of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, and the Office of the Attorney General, in addition to members of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections, general registrars, and organizations advocating for or working on voting rights and data privacy. The work group is tasked with considering the effectiveness, efficiency, and security of back-end, opt-out AVR as compared to Virginia's current front-end, opt-out process and identifying the costs and benefits of moving to such a system. The Secretary of Administration is required to submit a report of the work group's findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 658.

Patron - Hernandez

P **HB630** **Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report.** Expands the option to use ranked choice voting from only elections for county board of supervisors and city councils to any local governing body. The bill 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 provides for copying damaged or defective ballots that cannot be properly counted by electronic voting systems. The bill allows localities to request risk-

limiting audits of elections conducted using ranked choice voting and provides that no such election may be included in any random drawing required to satisfy the general requirements for risk-limiting audits. 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. The bill directs the Department of Elections 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 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Finally, the bill repeals the 2031 expiration of the option to use ranked choice voting in elections, making such option permanent. This bill is identical to SB 176. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB639 Elections; administration; acceptance of certain gifts and funding; approval required.** Removes the prohibition on accepting property and services provided by a private individual or nongovernmental entity for the purpose of funding voter education and outreach programs, voter registration programs, or any other expense incurred in the conduct of elections. Conditions the acceptance of money or grants of greater than $1,000 given by a private individual or nongovernmental entity for the purpose of funding voter education and outreach programs, voter registration programs, or any other expense incurred in the conduct of elections on approval of such funding by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the State Board of Elections or the local governing body. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB640 Elections; challenges to a voter or voter's registration.** 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. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB773 Elections; absentee voting; cure process.** Removes the requirement that absentee ballots be received by the Friday immediately preceding the day of the election for the general registrar to implement the process of curing errors or failures in such absentee ballots. The bill also moves the deadline for curing errors or omissions in absentee ballot applications from noon on the third day after the election to noon on the Monday after the election. This bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Thornton

P **HB774 Elections; absentee and provisional ballots; cure process.** Requires that, if the electoral board determines that any person having submitted a provisional vote was not entitled to vote as a result of a material error or omission on the provisional ballot form, the registrar is required to promptly notify the voter by telephone or email of the error or omission and to provide information to the voter on how to correct the issue so his ballot may be counted. The voter is entitled to make such necessary corrections before noon on the Monday after the election. The bill moves the deadline for curing errors or omissions in absentee ballot applications from noon on the third day after the election to noon on the Monday after the election. The bill also requries the Department of Elections to issue guidance to local election officials on the uniform processing and counting of provisional ballots, including any provisional ballot cast by a person submitting a registration application on the same day as the election. This bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Thornton

P **HB835 Elections; candidates and elected officials; address confidentiality.** Prohibits the custodian of any filing made by a candidate from releasing the address, phone number, or email address of such candidate in response to a request made under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The bill permits a candidate to provide the unique identifier assigned to him in the voter registration system pursuant to relevant law in place of his residence address on any candidate filing. The State Board of Elections is prohibited from requiring candidates to disclose their address or unique identifier on petitions prior to their being filed. The bill also adds elected officials to the list of people who may furnish, in addition to their residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth to be included in lieu of their street address on the lists of registered voters. The certificate of election delivered to the winner of an election is required to be accompanied by a notice that the person meets the qualifications for being granted protected voter status along with instructions for updating their voter registration in order to attain such status. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 632.
Patron - McClure

P **HB909 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 elections-related activities. Under current law, this prohibition applies within 40 feet of such entrances. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Shin

P **HB964 Voter registration; restoration of political rights upon release from incarceration; certain adjudications.** Provides that any person who loses his political rights as a result of a felony conviction shall be invested with those rights upon his release from incarceration and shall be entitled to register to vote. The bill directs the Department of Corrections and the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to transmit to the Department of Elections certain information for incarcerated persons with a pending date of release and requires the Department of Elections to process the information and make the necessary changes to the voter registration system to permit such persons to register to vote by the date of the person's scheduled date of release. On the date of an incarcerated person's release, the appropriate authority is required by the bill to provide a voter registration application, information on returning the form by mail or completing it by electronic means, and an official release document to serve as a safety net for voter registration. The bill also amends the language regarding adjudications of mental incompetency for purposes of being qualified to vote; a person adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote until that capacity has been reestablished. The bill has a

delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, contingent upon the approval of the constitutional amendments at the November 3, 2026, general election. This bill is identical to SB 162. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Price

P **HB965 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. The bill also provides for the manner of appointing electors when such agreement does and does not govern the appointment of electors. This bill is identical to SB 322.

Patron - Price

P **HB967 Elections; Voting Rights Act of Virginia.** Revises provisions of the Voting Rights Act of Virginia (the Act) by (i) clarifying the legal standards for evaluating claims of alleged voter suppression and vote dilution, (ii) providing guidance to the courts to follow when determining whether a violation of the prohibition against voter suppression or vote dilution has occurred, and (iii) outlining the factors that the courts are permitted to consider and those factors that the courts are prohibited from considering. The bill expands the class of persons who may initiate a cause of action for an alleged violation of the Act to include organizations whose membership includes members of a protected class, organizations whose mission would be frustrated by a violation of the Act, and organizations that would expend resources in order to fulfill their mission as a result of a violation of the Act. The population thresholds for a locality to be designated as a covered locality for purposes of minority language accessibility pursuant to the Act are also amended. Current law designates a locality as a covered locality if, in the locality, (a) more than five percent of the voting age population or (b) more than 10,000 of the voting age population are members of a single language minority and are unable to speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process; the bill reduces those thresholds from five to three percent and from 10,000 to 5,000. The bill contains technical amendments for organizational purposes.

Patron - Price

P **HB968 Election results; counting machine-readable ballots; processing absentee ballots.** Requires ballot scanner machines to be used to count machine-readable ballots and prohibits such ballots from being counted by hand unless (i) the ballot scanner machine is inoperative, (ii) there is no other available scanner, and (iii) it would be unreasonable to wait for (a) the inoperative ballot scanner to be made operative or (b) an operative ballot scanner machine to be delivered to the polling place rather than hand counting the ballots. "Ballot scanner machine" and "machine-readable ballot" are defined terms under current law. The bill also provides that if, in the processing and counting of provisional and absentee ballots, any machine-readable ballot is damaged or defective, a team of election officials representing both parties shall make a true duplicate copy of such damaged ballot as a substitute for such damaged ballot. This bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026.

Patron - Price

P **HB972 Voter registration; list maintenance activities, cancellation procedures, required record matches.** Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections (the Department) 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 to determine the confidence score for any match. The Department is required to transmit matches with a confidence score of at least 80 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 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 House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill provides that the Department of Elections may only use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program) operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the sole purpose of individually verifying that voters listed in the Virginia voter registration system are United States citizens. The Department of Elections is prohibited from (i) using information received from the SAVE Program as the sole reason for rejecting a registration application, (ii) uploading lists of registered voters to the SAVE Program for verifying their citizenship status in bulk, or (iii) transferring any information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any subdivision thereof beyond the minimum information necessary. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to cancelling a voter's registration regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is cancelled, 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. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill incorporates HB 966. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Price

P **HB1244 Absentee voting; emergency application for absentee ballot.** Provides that a qualified voter may apply for an emergency absentee ballot if he has applied to receive an absentee ballot by the deadline but has not received his ballot within 10 days of the election and will be unable to vote on election day due to his hospitalization or illness, the hospitalization, illness, or death of a spouse, child, or parent, or other emergency found to justify receipt of an emergency absentee ballot.

Patron - Anthony

P **HB1321 Elections; conduct of primaries; abstract of votes; law-enforcement officer to obtain returns not forwarded.** Removes the requirement that if the abstract of votes is not received by the State Board of Elections from any county or city within six days after any state primary election, the State Board shall dispatch a law-enforcement officer to obtain it. The bill removes a conflict with an existing provision that requires the State Board to dispatch law-enforcement

when the abstract of votes is not received within 10 days after any election.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB1483 Election of certain governing bodies; single-member districts required.** Requires every locality with a population of 400,000 or greater to elect the members of its governing body from single-member districts.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB1528 Special election to fill certain vacancies in the General Assembly; deadline for parties to nominate.** Requires parties to nominate candidates for any special election to fill a vacancy in the General Assembly occurring between December 10 and March 1 within seven days of any writ of election or order calling such special election.
Patron - McGuire

P **SB57 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).
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB58 Elections; deadline for receipt of absentee ballots and certain other information; 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election.** Moves the deadline for receipt of an absentee ballot, information required to cure an absentee ballot, or proof of identification to accompany a provisional ballot provided for lack of identification from noon to 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 82.
Patron - Favola

P **SB88 Reapportionment; reallocation of populations; civil commitment facilities.** Requires persons civilly committed to a residential behavioral health facility administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to be counted and reallocated for redistricting and reapportionment purposes. This bill is identical to HB 59.
Patron - Mulchi

P **SB126 Elections; primary election; when filings to be made; extension for incumbents failure to file.** Provides that if an incumbent office holder fails to file the necessary paperwork to qualify to be on the ballot for a primary election for the office he holds by the deadline for filing such paperwork, then the deadline for such paperwork is extended by five days for any filer other than the incumbent. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB162 Voter registration; restoration of political rights upon release from incarceration; certain adjudications.** Provides that any person who loses his political rights as a result of a felony conviction shall be invested with those rights upon his release from incarceration and shall be entitled to register to vote. The bill directs the Department of Corrections and the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to transmit to the Department of Elections certain information for incarcerated persons with a pending date of release and requires the Department of Elections to process the information and make the necessary changes to the voter registration system to permit such persons to register to vote by the date of the person's scheduled date of release. On the date of an incarcerated person's release, the appropriate authority is required by the bill to provide a voter registration application, information on returning the form by mail or completing it by electronic means, and an official release document to serve as a safety net for voter registration. The bill also amends the language regarding adjudications of mental incompetency for purposes of being qualified to vote; a person adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote until that capacity has been reestablished. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, contingent upon the approval of the constitutional amendments at the November 3, 2026, general election. This bill is identical to HB 964. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Locke

P **SB169 Elections; candidates for office; challenges to candidate qualifications.** Requires any legal action relating 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 filed in a circuit court and served on all parties (i) at least 90 days before the date of a general election; (ii) at least 65 days before the date of a primary election; (iii) at least 70 days before the date of a special election held on the same date as the general election; or (iv) for any special election held at a time other than a general election, (a) at least 55 days before the date of the special election or (b) within 10 days of any writ of election or order calling for a special election to be held less than 60 days after the issuance of the writ or order. The bill specifies that any such legal action will be given precedence on the docket and be decided by the circuit court no later than 10 days before the date on which ballots for that election are made available for absentee voting. The bill also specifies that 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 - Pekarsky

P **SB176 Elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; locally elected offices; report.** Expands the option to use ranked choice voting from only elections for county board of supervisors and city councils to any local governing body. The bill 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 provides for copying damaged or defective ballots that cannot be properly counted by electronic voting systems. The bill allows localities to request risk-limiting audits of elections conducted using ranked choice voting and provides that no such election may be included in any random drawing required to satisfy the general requirements for risk-limiting audits. 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. The bill directs the Department of Elections 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 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Finally, the bill repeals the 2031 expiration of the option to use ranked choice voting in elections, making such option permanent. This bill is identical to HB 630. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB322 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 author-

ity 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. The bill also provides for the manner of appointing electors when such agreement does and does not govern the appointment of electors. This bill is identical to HB 965.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB438** **Absentee voting in person; available the second and third Sunday before all elections.** Requires absentee voting in person to be made available for a minimum of five hours between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the second and third Sunday immediately preceding all elections.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB582** **Elections; absentee and provisional ballots; process and timing for rejected absentee ballot applications, returned absentee ballots, and rejected provisional ballots.** Requires the general registrar to promptly notify a voter by telephone or email of an error or omission on the provisional ballot form and to provide information to the voter on how to correct the issue so his ballot may be counted if the electoral board determines that such voter who submitted a provisional vote was not entitled to vote as a result of a material error or omission on the provisional ballot form. The voter is entitled to make such necessary corrections before noon on the Monday after the election. The bill also requires the list of absentee ballot applicants to be updated daily and to include whether each application has been accepted or rejected and, if it has been rejected, the reason for rejection or, if it has been accepted, the status of the absentee ballot. Registrars are also required to enter such information into the voter registration system, and such information is required to be made available to voters via a free-access system made available by the Department of Elections. The bill removes the requirement that absentee ballots be received by the Friday immediately preceding the day of the election for the general registrar to implement the process of curing errors or failures in such absentee ballots. The bill also moves the deadline for curing errors or omissions in absentee ballot applications from noon on the third day after the election to noon on the Monday after the election. Finally, the bill requires the Department to issue guidance to local election officials on the uniform processing and counting of provisional ballots. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Salim

P **SB632** **Elections; candidates and elected officials; address confidentiality.** Prohibits the custodian of any filing made by a candidate from releasing the address, phone number, or email address of such candidate in response to a request made under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The bill permits a candidate to provide the unique identifier assigned to him in the voter registration system pursuant to relevant law in place of his residence address on any candidate filing. The State Board of Elections is prohibited from requiring candidates to disclose their address or unique identifier on petitions prior to their being filed. The bill also adds elected officials to the list of people who may furnish, in addition to their residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth to be included in lieu of their street address on the lists of registered voters. The certificate of election delivered to the winner of an election is required to be accompanied by a notice that the person meets the qualifications for being granted protected voter status along with instructions for updating their voter registration in order to attain such status. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 835.
Patron - Aird

P **SB658** **Secretary of Administration; work group on automatic voter registration.** Directs the Department of Elections to convene a work group for the purpose of studying the implementation of back-end, opt-out automatic voter registration (AVR) in the Commonwealth. The work group shall include representatives of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, and the Office of the Attorney General, in addition to members of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections, general registrars, and organizations advocating for or working on voting rights and data privacy. The work group is tasked with considering the effectiveness, efficiency, and security of back-end, opt-out AVR as compared to Virginia's current front-end, opt-out process and identifying the costs and benefits of moving to such a system. The Secretary of Administration is required to submit a report of the work group's findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 319.
Patron - Rouse

P **SJ72** **Confirming Governor's appointments; May 30.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly May 30, 2025.
Patron - Rouse

Failed

F **HB23** **Elections; primary dates; presidential year primaries.** Provides that all primaries for offices to be filled at the November election in presidential election years shall be held on the date of the presidential primary. With respect to candidates for election in November of a presidential election year, the bill also lifts the requirement that petition signatures must be collected after January 1 of the presidential election year. The bill adjusts campaign finance filing deadlines for candidates in presidential year elections to account for the March primary date.
Patron - Helmer

F **HB44** **Elections; campaign finance disclosure reports; searchable electronic database.** Requires the Department of Elections to provide an interface for the campaign finance database maintained by the Department that allows users to easily search for and sort information by individual candidates and types of elections, offices, committees, other spenders, and contributors; contributions, receipts, disbursements, expenditures, loans, and other categories of information included in campaign finance reports; and late filings, incomplete filings, and other violations. The bill specifies that the interface shall also provide users tools for manipulating and exporting data. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB89** **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, J.G.

F **HB212 Elections; election offenses; intimidation and threats toward election officials; penalty.** Removes the requirement that a person willfully hinder or prevent an election official from administering elections in order to be found guilty of intimidation and threats toward such official, which is a Class 5 felony under current law.

Patron - Gardner

F **HB213 Elections; Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act; restrictions on ballot eligibility; repeal.** Repeals provisions of the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act that require the application of an overseas voter who has given up his place of abode in Virginia to show that the applicant is employed overseas or the spouse or dependent of a person employed overseas in order to vote in state and local elections. Such repeal obviates the need for an official paper ballot for voting only in federal elections.

Patron - Feggans

F **HB480 Elections; campaign finance; federal political action committees; reporting requirements.** Requires a federal political action committee that makes contributions of $50,000 or more to a candidate for statewide office, $25,000 or more to a candidate for an office in the General Assembly, or $10,000 or more to a candidate for any other office of the Commonwealth to make scheduled reports of its contributions and contributors to the State Board of Elections. The bill also requires federal political action committees that are required to make such scheduled reports to also report (i) any single contribution or loan of $10,000 or more received at any time during the calendar year within three business days of receipt of the contribution or loan and (ii) any single contribution received or expenditure made of $1,000 or more between May 26 and the third Tuesday in June in odd-numbered years and between October 8 and the date of the November general election in any year by 11:59 p.m. on the day following the contribution or expenditure.

Patron - Helmer

F **HB966 Elections; duties of the Department of Elections; Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program).** Provides that the Department of Elections' use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program) operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is for the sole purpose of individually verifying that voters listed in the Virginia voter registration system are United States citizens. The Department of Elections is prohibited from (i) using information received from the SAVE Program as the sole reason for rejecting a registration application, (ii) uploading lists of registered voters to the SAVE Program for verifying their citizenship status in bulk, or (iii) transferring any information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any subdivision thereof beyond the minimum information necessary. This bill was incorporated into HB 972.

Patron - Price

F **HB982 Elections; political campaign advertisements; synthetic media; penalty.** Prohibits electioneering communications containing synthetic media, as those terms are defined in the bill, from being published or broadcast without containing the following conspicuously displayed statement: "This message contains synthetic media that has been altered from its original source or artificially generated and may present conduct or speech that did not occur." The bill creates a civil penalty not to exceed $25,000 for a violation of such prohibition and a Class 1 misdemeanor for a willful violation. The bill permits any registered voter who receives an electioneering communication in violation of this requirement to institute an action for preventative relief to prohibit the publication or dissemination of such electioneering communication, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction.

Patron - Garrett

F **HB1056 Voter registration by political party affiliation; partially closed primary elections.** Adds party affiliation, beginning January 1, 2027, 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, 2027, 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 - Phillips

F **HB1131 Elections; identification containing a photograph required and excuse required to vote absentee.** Requires the last four digits of a voter's social security number and 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 also 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 until the second Saturday immediately preceding an election, at which time an excuse is not required to vote absentee in person. The bill provides that an application 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.

Patron - Griffin

F **HB1185 Campaign finance; campaign depositories.** Permits campaign committees to designate no more than two campaign depositories for managing campaign contributions and expenditures. Under current law, campaign committees are required to designate a single campaign depository

for managing all campaign contributions and expenditures. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - O'Quinn

F **HB1213 Elections; conduct of election; affirmation statement in lieu of identification; additional information required.** Requires a person voting absentee in person or at the polls on election day who signs a statement in lieu of providing a valid form of identification to also provide his full name, year of birth, and the last four digits of his social security number, if any. The form containing the statement and voter information is required to be retained as election materials.
Patron - Oates

F **HB1348 Campaign finance; large pre-election contributions report; election day reporting requirement.** Removes the requirement that a large pre-election contribution received within the 24 hours prior to the election day be reported on the day prior to the election.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB1419 Statewide referendum ballot questions; fairness and transparency requirements; Ballot question fairness Commission; readability standards; language accessibility; public comment; judicial review.**

Patron - Williams

F **HB1442 Elections; polling places; prohibited activities; acts in furtherance of federal immigration laws.** Prohibits any person from performing any act for the purpose or in furtherance of enforcement of federal immigration laws within 40 feet of any building, or part thereof, used as (i) a polling place, (ii) a meeting place for the local electoral board while the electoral board meets to ascertain the results of an election, or (iii) the place for a recount.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB1496 Campaign finance; reviews of campaign finance reports and records; Department of Elections reporting deadline.**
Patron - Bulova

F **SB46 Absentee voting in person; available beginning 15 days prior to election.** Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 15 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election.
Patron - Craig

F **SB52 Voter registration; regular periodic review of registration records.** Requires the Department of Elections to complete not later than 90 days prior to the date of a primary or general election any program the purpose of which is to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the voter registration system based on evidence of ineligibility, including evidence of lack of eligible residence or evidence of noncitizenship. This restriction is not to be construed to preclude (i) the removal of names from the voter registration system at the request of the registrant or as provided by existing law by reason of criminal conviction or mental incapacity or the death of the registrant if the triggering conviction, incapacity order, or death occurred within 120 days of the election or (ii) the correction of details, such as name and address, in a voter's registration record that does not result in the removal of a voter from the voter registration system. Under current law, such restriction only applies to federal primaries and federal general elections. The bill also provides a process for confirming a voter's citizenship status prior to cancellation based on a report of non-citizen status and extends (a) the period of time registrars have to cancel registrations from 30 days to 60 days after notification of the need to cancel by the Department of Elections and (b) the period of time a registered voter has to respond to a notice of cancellation related to citizenship status from 14 days to 28 days.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB54 Elections; candidates for office; petitions; candidates residence address not required.** Prohibits the State Board of Elections from approving a standard for petitions that requires a candidate for office to provide his residence address on the petition prior to it being filed.
Patron - Diggs

F **SB76 Elections; primary dates; presidential year primaries.** Provides that all primaries for offices to be filled at the November election in presidential election years shall be held on the date of the presidential primary. With respect to candidates for election in November of a presidential election year, the bill also lifts the requirement that petition signatures must be collected after January 1 of the presidential election year. The bill adjusts campaign finance filing deadlines for candidates in presidential year elections to account for the March primary date.
Patron - VanValkenburg

F **SB141 Elections; political campaign advertisements; synthetic media; penalty.** Prohibits electioneering communications containing synthetic media, as those terms are defined in the bill, from being published or broadcast without containing the following conspicuously displayed statement: "This message contains synthetic media that has been altered from its original source or artificially generated and may present conduct or speech that did not occur." The bill creates a civil penalty not to exceed $25,000 for a violation of such prohibition and a Class 1 misdemeanor for a willful violation. The bill permits any registered voter who receives an electioneering communication in violation of this requirement to institute an action for preventative relief to prohibit the publication or dissemination of such electioneering communication, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction.
Patron - Salim

F **SB277 Elections; general provisions; prohibited area; within 10 feet of the curbside voting area.** Adds the 10 feet beyond any area designated for voting outside the polling place or any vehicle in which voting outside the polling place is taking place to the prohibited area where campaigning and certain other activities are unlawful during elections.
Patron - Williams Graves

F **SB298 Elections; absentee voting in person; available beginning on the tenth day prior to election; hours of operation.** Limits absentee voting in person to the 10 days immediately preceding an election. During this period, 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 - Peake

F **SB368 Campaign finance; contribution limits and public campaign financing; counties and cities may establish for certain offices.** Authorizes the governing body of a county or city to establish by ordinance limits on contributions to candidates for elected local offices and a system of public campaign financing for elected local offices. The bill specifies certain requirements for a system of public campaign financing established by a governing body, including the provision of the necessary funding and staff for such system and the

provision of a public election fund to be administered by the treasurer of the county or city. A system of public campaign financing established under the provisions of the bill by a county or city is permitted to more stringently regulate the campaign finance activity of participating candidates and shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Board of Elections to ensure its conformity with state law and policy to the extent practicable.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB502 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 relevant law, and prohibits any public utility or political action committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution. The bill also provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit the solicitation or acceptance of contributions from a political action committee established by the employees of a public utility. Under the bill, such political action committee may be administered by the public utility so long as no general treasury funds of the public utility are used for the purposes of making contributions to any candidate, campaign committee, or political committee.
Patron - Roem

F **SB526 Elections; conduct of election; affirmation statement in lieu of identification; additional information required.** Requires a person voting absentee in person or at the polls on election day who signs a statement in lieu of providing a valid form of identification to also provide his full name, year of birth, and the last four digits of his social security number, if any. The form containing the statement and voter information is required to be retained as election materials.
Patron - Cifers

F **SB544 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 - Cifers

F **SB584 Campaign finance; contribution limits; penalties.** Requires the Department of Elections to provide an interface for the campaign finance database maintained by the Department that allows users to easily search for and sort information by individual candidates and types of elections, offices, committees, other spenders, and contributors; contributions, receipts, disbursements, expenditures, loans, and other categories of information included in campaign finance reports; and late filings, incomplete filings, and other violations. The bill specifies that the interface shall also provide users with tools for manipulating and exporting data. The bill prohibits foreign nationals, as defined in the bill, from making any contribution or expenditure, or expressly or impliedly promising to provide anything of value, in connection with any ballot measure and any foreign-influenced corporations, as defined in the bill, from making independent expenditures or making contributions to a candidate, campaign committee, or political committee. Any such corporation violating the prohibition is subject to a fine of not more than $50,000 and any officer, director, or agent of any such corporation involved in such violation is subject to a fine of not more than $10,000, imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. The bill also requires that any corporation, as defined in the bill, that makes an independent expenditure or makes a contribution to a candidate, campaign committee, political committee, or political party committee shall certify, under penalty of perjury, with the Department of Elections that, after due inquiry, the corporation was not a foreign-influenced corporation on the date such expenditure or contribution was made. Additionally, the bill prohibits persons and committees from making contributions that exceed the specified contribution caps for certain committees organized under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act and prohibits such committees from accepting such contributions. The bill specifies that the contribution cap is equal to the specified base amount in 2026 adjusted for inflation at regular intervals and rounded to the nearest multiple of $100. Civil penalties for violations of the limits established by the bill are $500 for each violation. A separate penalty of up to two times the excess contribution amounts may be levied for knowing violations. The excess contribution amounts are required to be disgorged and deposited into the general fund. The Department of Elections is required to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill prior to its enactment. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Salim

F **SB688 Campaign finance; campaign contribution and expenditure limits; contingency.** Establishes campaign contribution and expenditure limits for all persons and committees in the Commonwealth. The effectiveness of the provisions of the bill is contingent on certification by the Attorney General to the Code Commission that any such provision is reasonably probable to be upheld as constitutional due to (i) an opinion by the Supreme Court; (ii) The adoption of an amendment to the U.S. Constitution; or (iii) any other reason, to be specified in the certification. The bill also states that in the opinion of the General Assembly, the Supreme Court's decisions in Citizens United v. FEC, 558 US. 310 (2010), McCutcheon v FEC, 572 U.S. 185 (2014), and other related campaign finance cases were wrongly decided, that such decisions undermine the integrity of Virginia's democratic process by preventing reasonable limits on campaign contributions and expenditures, and that contribution and expenditure limits will enhance public trust in Virginia's electoral system, facilitate greater transparency, and ensure that elected officials remain accountable to all Virginians. The provisions of the bill establishing expenditure limits for candidates do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Surovell

Carried Over

C **HB28 Voter registration; regular periodic review of registration records.** Requires the Department of Elections to complete, not later than 90 days prior to the date of a primary or general election, any program the purpose of which is to systematically remove the names of ineligible voters from the voter registration system based on evidence of ineligibility, including evidence of lack of eligible residence or evidence of noncitizenship. This restriction is not to be construed to preclude (i) the removal of names from the voter registration system at the request of the registrant or as provided by existing law by reason of criminal conviction or mental incapacity or the death of the registrant if the triggering conviction, incapacity order, or death occurred within 120 days of the election or (ii) the correction of details, such as name and address, in a voter's registration record that does not result in the removal of a voter from the voter registration system. Under current law, such restriction only applies to federal primaries and federal general elections. The bill also provides a

process for confirming a voter's citizenship status prior to cancellation based on a report of non-citizen status and extends (a) the period of time registrars have to cancel registrations from 30 days to 60 days after notification of the need to cancel by the Department of Elections and (b) the period of time a registered voter has to respond to a notice of cancellation related to citizenship status from 14 days to 28 days.
Patron - Henson

C **HB71 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 requires the governing body to provide notice to the general registrar of the county or city at least two weeks prior to the enactment of any such ordinance.
Patron - Reaser

C **HB162 Public campaign financing; counties and cities may establish for certain offices.** Authorizes the governing body of a county or city to establish by ordinance a system of public campaign financing for elected local offices. The bill specifies certain requirements for a system of public campaign financing established by a governing body, including the provision of a public election fund to be administered by the treasurer of the county or city. A system of public campaign financing established by a county or city is permitted to more stringently regulate the campaign finance activity of participating candidates and shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Board of Elections to ensure its conformity with state law and policy to the extent practicable.
Patron - Simon

C **HB235 Elections; districts, precincts, and polling places; super precincts; pilot program.** Authorizes the State Board of Elections to conduct a pilot program under which one or more counties or cities with a population of more than 350,000 and less than 400,000 in the most recent United States census whose proposal for participation in such pilot program is unanimously approved by the State Board would be permitted to use super precincts in elections. The bill requires the governing body of a county or city applying to participate in the pilot program to submit a plan for participation that includes (i) the number of super precincts to be established in the county or city and the boundaries of each such super precinct, (ii) the number of vote centers to be established in each super precinct and the location of each such vote center, (iii) the elections during which such super precincts and vote centers are to be used, and (iv) a description of the process for operating such vote centers on election day, including how voters will be checked in, how ballots will be provided, how votes will be counted, and any additional voting systems that will be used to ensure the integrity of the election. The bill defines "super precinct" as the territory established by a county or city and approved by the State Board pursuant to the pilot program, to be served by one or more vote centers, and "vote center" as the structure that contains a place provided for a super precinct at which the qualified voters who are residents of the super precinct may vote in an election. The bill contains minimum criteria for any proposal for participation in the pilot program. The bill requires the State Board report on the implementation and effectiveness of the pilot program by December 1 of any year in which one or more localities participate in the pilot program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2030.
Patron - Gardner

C **HB493 Elections; absentee voting; accessibility; ballots received, marked, and cast electronically through the internet.** Requires the Department of Elections to make available to all localities a tool to allow a voter with a visual impairment or print disability or a covered voter to receive, mark, and return his absentee ballot electronically through the internet. The bill makes the tool available through the internet in lieu of other currently available assistive technologies.
Patron - Hope

C **HB868 Elections; political campaign advertisements; synthetic media; penalty.** Prohibits electioneering communications containing synthetic media, as those terms are defined in the bill, from being published or broadcast without containing the following conspicuously displayed statement: "This message contains synthetic media that has been altered from its original source or artificially generated and may present conduct or speech that did not occur." The bill creates a civil penalty not to exceed $25,000 for a violation of such prohibition and a Class 1 misdemeanor for a willful violation. The bill permits any registered voter who receives an electioneering communication in violation of this requirement to institute an action for preventative relief to prohibit the publication or dissemination of such electioneering communication, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction.
Patron - Cousins

C **SB202 Elections; filling vacancies in county and city governing bodies.** Removes the ability to fill a vacancy in a county or city governing body by an interim appointment and requires that a special election be held to fill any such vacancy. The bill requires the local governing body to petition the court for a writ of special election within one day of the occurrence of the vacancy and for the court to promptly issue the writ for a special election no more than 45 days from the date the writ is issued, with extensions for special election dates that would conflict with primary and general elections.
Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB350 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 - Roem

C **SB533 Elections; absentee voting in person; uniform availability.** Requires absentee voting in person to be available between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during early voting, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first and second Saturday immediately preceding all elections, and between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the second Sunday immediately preceding all elections. Under current law, local electoral boards have some discretion to decide certain hours and days when absentee voting in person is available.
Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB831 Elections; challenges of qualified voters; duty of local electoral board to certify; civil penalty.** Provides that the certification of the results of an election is a clear ministerial duty of the local electoral boards and that a member of the local electoral board who neglects or refuses to perform

such duty in accordance with law shall be subject to removal proceedings by the State Board of Elections and assessed a civil penalty not exceeding $1,000. The bill also authorizes the State Board of Elections to intervene and carry out the duties related to election certification in the event a local electoral board fails or refuses to do so. Additionally, the bill prohibits challenges to a voter's qualification to vote from any person who is not an officer of election.
Patron - Srinivasan

Eminent Domain

Passed

P **HB1401** **Eminent domain; certificate of take; description of property.** Clarifies that a certificate of take in any eminent domain matter may include a combination of one or more plats, drawings, or plans to provide the description of the property being taken as required by law.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

P **SB779** **Eminent domain; condemnation proceedings; entry of order and recordation of certificate; disbursement of funds by circuit court clerk.** Provides that the clerk of a circuit court shall, upon entry of an order in a condemnation proceeding and unless otherwise directed, promptly disburse any just compensation in the amount specified in such order and any interest accrued. The bill provides that the clerk shall disburse such funds no later than seven business days after the entry of the order or the receipt of the sum that such order directs the clerk to disburse, whichever is later. The bill also provides that counsel in a condemnation action may request, and the clerk, sheriff, or other person responsible for notifying jurors to appear in court for a trial shall make available, a copy of the jury panel to be used for such trial. The bill also requires that on the same day the certificate is recorded in the land records, it shall also be filed with the clerk.
Patron - Obenshain

Carried Over

C **HB421** **Eminent domain; condemnation of public waterworks systems; determination of lost profits.** Requires the body determining just compensation in a condemnation proceeding initiated by a locality for the taking of a waterworks system to consider in its determination of lost profits the difference between the rates, fees, and charges for water service provided by (i) the condemning locality or authority and (ii) the owner on the date of valuation. The bill requires, upon the petition of any party or upon the request of the court, that such determination of lost profits be commensurately reduced to the extent that the body determining just compensation and the court find to be just and reasonable.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

Financial Institutions and Services

Passed

P **HB190** **Office of the Attorney General; work group; fraudulent activity in electronic fund transfers; report.** Directs the Office of the Attorney General to convene a work group to review the Electronic Funds Transfers Act, develop recommendations to aid individuals in the Commonwealth in preventing and mitigating fraudulent activity in electronic fund transfers, and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB304** **Conventional home mortgage loans; assumption provisions.** Requires any lender for any conventional home mortgage loan secured on or after July 1, 2026, by a mortgage or deed of trust on owner-occupied residential real estate located in the Commonwealth to include provisions in such loan to allow for any of the existing borrowers to purchase the property interest of another borrower on the loan by assuming the seller's portion of the mortgage in connection with a decree of annulment or divorce if the assuming borrower qualifies for the underlying loan, as determined by the lender.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB665** **Financial institutions and services; virtual currency kiosk operators; license required; penalties.** Establishes requirements for the operation of virtual currency kiosks, as defined in the bill, including a requirement that a virtual currency kiosk operator obtain licensure with the State Corporation Commission. The bill requires operators to file annual and quarterly reports, provide certain disclosures, and take reasonable steps to detect and prevent fraud and money laundering. The bill prohibits operators from accepting transactions above specified daily and monthly limits and establishes a maximum transaction charge of 18 percent of the value of such transaction. A person who violates the bill's provisions is subject to a fine of up to $1,000 per violation as well as the existing enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to SB 489.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB902** **Financial institutions; out-of-state credit unions.** Clarifies that the National Credit Union Administration is not required to designate an agent for service of process and agree that in the absence of such designation service may be upon the clerk of the State Corporation Commission. Current law requires out-of-state credit unions conducting business in the Commonwealth to have any insurer of shares designate such an agent and agree to such service in the absence of such a designation.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB1166** **Financial institutions; check cashers; expiration of registration.** Provides that for check cashers registered with the State Corporation Commission, such registration shall automatically expire if a registrant fails to pay the annual registration fee by July 1 of each year. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Carroll

P **HB1307** **Mortgage lenders and brokers; criminal history records check.** Replaces the option for an applicant submitting the required criminal history records check for licensure as a mortgage lender or mortgage broker, or an applicant to acquire control of a licensee, to submit fingerprints and other information to the Commissioner of Financial Institutions to forward such information to the Central Criminal Records Exchange with the option to submit such information to an FBI-approved channeler to forward such information to the FBI for the purposes of obtaining national criminal history record information. Under current law, there is also an option

for such an applicant to submit such information to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB1309 Consumer finance companies; additional charges.** Provides that, for the purposes of the prohibition on additional charges by consumer finance companies, exceptions to such prohibition include (i) charges for guaranteed asset protection waivers for the protection and benefit of the borrower in connection with any loan and (ii) charges for guaranteed asset protection insurance for the protection and benefit of the borrower in connection with any loan.
Patron - Ballard

P **SB489 Financial institutions and services; virtual currency kiosk operators; license required; penalties.** Establishes requirements for the operation of virtual currency kiosks, as defined in the bill, including a requirement that a virtual currency kiosk operator obtain licensure with the State Corporation Commission. The bill requires operators to file annual and quarterly reports, provide certain disclosures, and take reasonable steps to detect and prevent fraud and money laundering. The bill prohibits operators from accepting transactions above specified daily and monthly limits and establishes a maximum transaction charge of 18 percent of the value of such transaction. A person who violates the bill's provisions is subject to a fine of up to $1,000 per violation as well as the existing enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to HB 665.
Patron - Salim

P **SB734 Financial institutions; officers and directors.** Provides that the State Corporation Commission may permit, upon petition, an individual to serve as an officer or on the boards of directors of more than one financial institution if the Commission finds that the financial institutions are not in competition with each other or that one or both of the institutions might otherwise be denied capable management or direction from an individual residing in or employed in the locality served by an institution.
Patron - Hackworth

Failed

F **HB725 Financial services; open-end credit plans; promotional annual percentage rates.** Requires any creditor that permits a consumer to apply more than one promotional annual percentage rate to an open-end credit contract or plan to apply any payment made by the consumer to the promotional balance, as defined in the bill, with the earliest expiration date unless otherwise expressly agreed in writing by the parties.
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB827 Financial institutions; loans and legal rate of interest.** Provides that for the purposes of provisions governing usury and the legal rate of interest, "making," when used in reference to a loan, means advancing, offering to advance, or making a commitment to advance funds to a borrower for a loan. The bill provides that the prohibition against a contract for the payment of interest on a loan at a rate that exceeds 12 percent per year applies to any person who seeks to evade its application by any device, subterfuge, or pretense whatsoever, including (i) making loans disguised as personal property sale and leaseback transactions; (ii) disguising loan proceeds as a cash rebate for the pretextual installment sale of goods or services; and (iii) making, offering, assisting, or arranging a debtor to obtain a loan with a greater rate of interest, consideration, or charge than permitted through any method, including mail, telephone, internet, or any electronic means, regardless of whether the person has a physical location in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Sullivan

F **HB999 Virginia Human Rights Act; equal credit opportunities; Virginia Fair Housing Law; nondiscrimination by automated decision systems.** Provides that it is an unlawful discriminatory practice for any person to deploy, use, or rely on an automated decision system to make a decision pursuant to the Virginia Human Rights Act, provisions related to equal credit opportunities, or the Virginia Fair Housing Law that results in discrimination or an unlawful disparate impact or that intentionally or knowingly uses variables or data fields that serve as close proxies for protected characteristics. The bill requires a person that deploys, uses, or relies on such a system to (i) disclose the use of such system to any individual who is the subject of such decision; (ii) annually assess such system for bias, disparate impact, and discriminatory outcomes; and (iii) maintain for no fewer than two years from the date a decision is made certain documentation relating to such system.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB1505 Financial services; right of buyer to refinance certain payments; exemption.** Provides that provisions authorizing a buyer of consumer goods to refinance an installment payment when such payment is greater than 10 percent more than the regular installment payments do not apply to the purchase of a motor vehicle, provided that the financing agreement includes a payment schedule that is disclosed to the buyer and no installment payment is more than 50 percent greater than the regular installment payments.
Patron - Sullivan

F **SB432 Financial institutions; loans and legal rate of interest.** Provides that for the purposes of provisions governing usury and the legal rate of interest, "making," when used in reference to a loan, means advancing, offering to advance, or making a commitment to advance funds to a borrower for a loan. The bill provides that the prohibition against a contract for the payment of interest on a loan at a rate that exceeds 12 percent per year applies to any person who seeks to evade its application by any device, subterfuge, or pretense whatsoever, including (i) making loans disguised as personal property sale and leaseback transactions; (ii) disguising loan proceeds as a cash rebate for the pretextual installment sale of goods or services; and (iii) making, offering, assisting, or arranging a debtor to obtain a loan with a greater rate of interest, consideration, or charge than permitted through any method, including mail, telephone, internet, or any electronic means, regardless of whether the person has a physical location in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Bagby

F **SB478 Financial institutions; loans and legal rate of interest.** Provides that for the purposes of provisions governing usury and the legal rate of interest, "making," when used in reference to a loan, means advancing, offering to advance, or making a commitment to advance funds to a borrower for a loan. The bill provides that the prohibition against a contract for the payment of interest on a loan at a rate that exceeds 12 percent per year applies to any person who seeks to evade its application by any device, subterfuge, or pretense whatsoever, including (i) making loans disguised as personal property sale and leaseback transactions; (ii) disguising loan proceeds as a cash rebate for the pretextual installment sale of goods or services; and (iii) making, offering, assisting, or arranging a debtor to obtain a loan with a greater rate of interest, consideration, or charge than permitted through any

method, including mail, telephone, internet, or any electronic means, regardless of whether the person has a physical location in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Marsden

F **SB546** **Mortgages; annual notice of potential assumption required.** Requires a mortgage lender to send an annual notice to the owner of residential real estate that is encumbered by a mortgage that such mortgage may be assumable in connection with certain federally backed loans or conventional loans. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.
Patron - Sturtevant

Fisheries and Habitat of the Tidal Waters

Passed

P **HB52** **Marine Resources Commission; beneficial use of dredged material.** Provides that, beginning December 1, 2027, it is the policy of the Commonwealth to promote the beneficial use of dredged material, as defined in the bill, and that the Marine Resources Commission shall require the beneficial use of dredged material for all permits involving dredged material unless such approaches are not suitable based on criteria developed by the Commission. The bill also adds the sites of projects that are consistent with the beneficial use of dredged material to the sites that are given priority consideration for the disposal of that portion of dredged material determined to be suitable for such use by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources. The bill directs the Commission to establish a work group to assist in the development of any regulations or guidance to implement the provisions of the bill. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding.
Patron - Bloxom

P **HB390** **Marine Resources Commission; Habitat Policy Oversight Committee established; powers and duties.** Establishes the Habitat Policy Oversight Committee within the Marine Resources Commission to advise the Commission and the Habitat Management Division of the Commission on policies within their jurisdiction and to support the Commission's coastal resilience efforts. The bill establishes the powers and duties of the Committee, establishes how the members of the Committee are appointed, and provides that the Committee shall have 11 voting members and two ex-officio members. This bill incorporates HB 619.
Patron - Askew

P **HB521** **Marine Resources Commission; powers and duties; wetlands; work group; report.** Requires the Marine Resources Commission to ensure that, in promulgating minimum standards for protection and conservation of wetlands, no net loss of existing wetland acreage and functions is achieved. The bill requires permits for the use and development of wetlands to contain requirements for compensating impacts on wetlands sufficient to achieve no net loss of existing wetland acreage and functions. The bill also directs the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to convene a stakeholder work group to address mitigation requirements for tidal nonvegetated wetlands and directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than July 1, 2027.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB645** **Marine Resources Commission; license tags and identification numbers; marking of commercial fishing boats, nets, and other devices.** Provides that license tags or identification numbers for commercial fishing boats, nets, and other devices shall be attached and displayed in a manner prescribed by the Marine Resources Commission and repeals a provision that requires a licensee to apply for a new tag within 24 hours after the discovery of the destruction or loss of the original tag. Currently, the requirements for attaching and displaying license tags or identification numbers are set forth in state law.
Patron - Kent

Failed

F **HB599** **Virginia Institute of Marine Science; duties; oyster stock assessment; report.** Directs the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to conduct, in collaboration with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), a stock assessment of the oyster population in the waters of the Commonwealth beginning in calendar year 2026 and occurring no less frequently than every three years thereafter. The bill directs VIMS to report its findings and any recommendations to the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, VMRC's Shellfish Management Division, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than December 1 of the calendar year in which such assessment has been conducted. The bill also directs VMRC to utilize the findings and recommendations of such assessment in its fisheries and restoration management decisions no later than July 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which such assessment has been conducted.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB619** **Marine Resources Commission; Habitat Policy Oversight Committee established; powers and duties; report.** Establishes the Habitat Policy Oversight Committee within the Marine Resources Commission to advise the Commission and the Habitat Management Division of the Commission on policies within their jurisdiction and to support the Commission's coastal resilience efforts. The bill establishes the powers and duties of the Committee, provides that the Committee shall have nine voting members and two ex-officio members, and directs the Committee to submit an annual oversight report to the full Commission.
Patron - Bloxom

F **HB843** **Potomac River Compact; Potomac River Fisheries Commission; appointment of members.** Amends the Potomac River Compact (the Compact) with the State of Maryland to require the Governor of Virginia to appoint three at-large members of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission (the Commission). The bill also provides that the fourth member from Virginia shall be the Commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). Currently, three such members are members of the VMRC and one such member is appointed by the Governor of Virginia. The bill provides that any Virginia member of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission who is a member of the VMRC shall be permitted to carry out the remainder of his term and directs the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, no later than October 1, 2026, to notify the Senate President and the House Speaker of the Maryland General Assembly in writing that the Common-

wealth of Virginia has confirmed and ratified an amendment to the Compact and requests that the Maryland General Assembly confirm and ratify the same pursuant to the Compact. The bill will become effective upon the confirmation and ratification of a law of the Maryland General Assembly providing consent to the amendments made to the Compact in the bill.

Patron - Kent

F **HB1013** **Marine Resources Commission; Chesapeake Bay; diamondback terrapin protection areas; use of bycatch reduction devices on crab traps; penalty.** Requires the Marine Resources Commission, in collaboration with the Crab Management Advisory Committee and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, to develop and establish by December 1, 2027, diamondback terrapin protection areas in those portions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries where interactions may occur between diamondback terrapins and any nets, traps, pots, or other fishing devices or gear. The bill directs the Commission to require by regulation bycatch reduction devices, as defined in the bill, on all recreational crab pots placed within any such diamondback terrapin protection area established by the Commission. A violation of such regulation is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

Patron - Tran

F **HB1048** **Marine Resources Commission; Chesapeake Bay; menhaden reduction fishing in the Chesapeake Bay prohibited.** Directs the Marine Resources Commission to prohibit all fishing for the purse seine menhaden reduction sector in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries until a determination has been made that research specific to the Chesapeake Bay has demonstrated that the menhaden reduction fishery does not negatively impact other fisheries or menhaden-dependent species. Such determination shall be made by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and certified in writing to the Virginia Code Commission.

Patron - Carr

F **HB1049** **Marine Resources Commission; Chesapeake Bay; menhaden reduction fishery; quota periods; observers.** Directs the Marine Resources Commission to develop and maintain a quota period management system for the menhaden reduction fishery Bay Cap, as defined in the bill, that is designed to ensure that the removal of menhaden from the Chesapeake Bay is more evenly distributed throughout the harvest season and to mitigate the negative impacts of concentrated, high volume menhaden removals from the Bay. The bill directs the Commission to establish either a monthly-based system or a trimester-based system and provides that no unused or underutilized portion of a quota period may be carried or rolled over into the following quota period. Finally, the bill requires the Commission to ensure that (i) 10 percent of all trips for the menhaden reduction fishery carry at least one trained observer to document the composition and weight of the actual catch and (ii) such observers report such documentation to the Commission.

Patron - Carr

F **SB461** **Marine Resources Commission; prohibition of commercial electrofishing in the Rappahannock River; report.** Directs the Marine Resources Commission to temporarily prohibit commercial electrofishing in the portion of the Rappahannock River north of the Downing Bridge in Tappahannock until January 1, 2027, and to examine the practice of commercial electrofishing in the waters of the Commonwealth and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than January 1, 2027.

Patron - Stuart

Carried Over

C **HB389** **Marine Resources Commission; fisheries climate adaptation plan; report.** Directs the Marine Resources Commission, in collaboration with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, to develop and maintain a fisheries climate adaptation plan that utilizes the best available science to consider climate-driven impacts to Virginia fisheries and aquaculture and identify adaptive management strategies and research needs necessary to safeguard the economic and environmental health of Virginia fisheries. The Commission is directed to convene a technical advisory committee of relevant stakeholders to aid in the development of such plan, to update the plan at least once every three years, and to submit a report detailing the plan to relevant executive agency personnel and committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2026, for the initial plan and December 1 in any year in which the plan is updated.

Patron - Askew

C **HB487** **State-owned bottomlands; Marine Resources Commission; conveyance of certain easements to City of Norfolk; Coastal Storm Risk Management Program.** Allows the Marine Resources Commission to convey to the City of Norfolk, in locations acceptable to the Commission, permanent easement interests, temporary construction easements, and fee simple interests in subaqueous land that are necessary for the City's Phase I drawings, defined in the bill, pursuant to quitclaims. The bill also allows the Commission to quitclaim to the City any interest that the Commonwealth may have in and to the property known as Newton Canal, a/k/a Mahone's Canal, a/k/a Brambleton Canal, which property is located within the boundaries of City of Norfolk GPIN 1437339770.

Patron - Hernandez

C **SB192** **State-owned bottomlands; localities; property interest.** Provides that any city or county that is party to an executed project partnership agreement with the Department of the Army for a flood or storm risk management program, damage reduction project, or similar program specifically authorized by the United States Congress shall be deemed to hold a legal property interest in the use of state-owned waters, bottoms, or subsurface soils sufficient to qualify for any easements necessary for the construction or completion of the project or program.

Patron - Williams Graves

C **SB414** **Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Compact; withdrawal.** Removes authorization for the Commonwealth's membership in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Compact. The bill directs the Marine Resources Commission, on or after February 1, 2027, to take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the Commonwealth's renunciation of and withdrawal from the Compact and to complete such actions no later than July 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Commission, no later than July 31, 2026, to provide written notice to all states that are a party to the Compact that the Commonwealth intends to renounce and withdraw from the Compact. Finally, the bill removes from the Menhaden Management Advisory Committee the Virginia appointee to the Atlantic Menhaden Technical Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Patron - Stuart

C **SB474 Virginia Institute of Marine Science; Atlantic Menhaden Research Fund established; report.** Establishes the Atlantic Menhaden Research Fund to be used by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), in collaboration with Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) and relevant stakeholders, to produce research relating to Atlantic menhaden necessary to inform a scientifically defensible and ecologically meaningful harvest limit for Atlantic menhaden in the Chesapeake Bay and an annual report summarizing such research. VIMS is directed to annually report its progress, findings, recommendations, and a proposal for expenditures and disbursements from the Fund for the following year to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, the Ecological Reference Point Work Group of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Menhaden Management Advisory Committee of VMRC no later than October 1 of each year.
Patron - Marsden

General Assembly

Passed

P **HB140 Commission on Federally Recognized Tribes; purpose; powers; sunset extended.** Renames the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes as the Commission on Federally Recognized Tribes and expands its purpose. The bill extends the sunset of the Commission to July 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB371 Virginia Commission to End Hunger; membership.** Replaces the public school student representative with a representative of a public school nutrition program in the membership of the Virginia Commission to End Hunger. In addition, the bill adds five public school student liaisons, each representing a Virginia health planning region, to be appointed by the chair of the Commission. The bill provides that such student liaisons not be included for purposes of a quorum for meetings of the Commission.
Patron - Price

P **HB826 Health Insurance Reform Commission; powers and duties.** Provides that it is a power and duty of the Health Insurance Reform Commission, upon request of the Chairman of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce or Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, to assess proposed legislation affecting the cost of health insurance through changes to plan design or cost sharing impacting consumers, employers, unions, and employee welfare benefit plans.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB932 Revision of Title 30.** Creates proposed Title 30.1 (General Assembly) as a revision of existing Title 30 (General Assembly). Proposed Title 30.1 consists of 16 chapters divided into three subtitles: Subtitle I (The General Assembly and Members Thereof), Subtitle II (The Legislative Branch of Government), and Subtitle III (Legislative Commissions, Councils, Committees, and Other Legislative Entities). The bill organizes the laws in a more logical manner, removes obsolete and duplicative provisions, and improves the structure and clarity of statutes. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Virginia Code Commission.
Patron - Simon

P **HB1188 Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission established; report; emergency.** Establishes the Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission as an advisory commission in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of advising the General Assembly on issues of concern, including education inequity, economic opportunities, disparity in health outcomes, and the impact of social media use, as such issues relate to boys and men in the Commonwealth. The bill contains an emergency clause. This bill is identical to SB 447.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB1377 Virginia Military Institute; task force.** Establishes a task force to examine higher education at Virginia Military Institute (VMI). The bill directs the task force to determine VMI's responsiveness to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's 2021 report on the institution and to explore and recommend other changes to be made to distance VMI from the Lost Cause narrative, foster an inclusive environment, and address any other concerns raised by the task force. The task force is required to complete its meetings by November 30, 2026, and to report to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **SB196 Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program; permissible use of scholarship funds.** Expands the permissible uses of scholarship funds under the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program by permitting eligible students and their lineal descendants to use such funds to attend an accredited two-year or four-year institution of higher education outside of the Commonwealth but establishes an initial annual cap of $5,000 for any such scholarship.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB214 Commission on Civic Education; website.** Requires the Commission on Civic Education to develop and include certain enumerated items on a website. Current law requires the Commission on Civic Education to develop an electronic clearinghouse that includes such items but requires such clearinghouse to be accessible on the Department of Education's website. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Civic Education.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB515 Commission on Electric Utility Regulation; name change.** Renames the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation as the Energy Commission of Virginia. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Deeds

P **SJ111 Booker T. Washington Commemorative Commission; reconstituted as a joint commission.** Provides for the Booker T. Washington Commemorative Commission, established originally as a Senate commission for the purpose of honoring Booker T. Washington with a statue in the Old Senate Chamber, to be reconstituted as a joint commission consisting of members of both the Senate and the House of Delegates. The commission's purpose is also expanded to study and

recommend an appropriate statue to be located on Capitol Square.
Patron - Locke

Failed

F **HB8 General Assembly; intergovernmental affairs; delegates to convention for proposing amendments held pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States; penalties.** Provides for the selection by the General Assembly of delegates to attend a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States held pursuant to 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 and any delegate who votes or otherwise acts beyond the authority granted in such instructions is guilty of a Class 5 felony.
Patron - Ware

F **HB117 Virginia Commission on Youth; membership; nonlegislative citizen member; person younger than 18 years of age.** Requires at least one of the nonlegislative citizen members appointed by the Governor to the Virginia Commission on Youth to be a minor at the time of appointment. The bill provides that a minor nonlegislative citizen member who reaches 18 years of age during the term to which he was appointed is permitted to continue to serve until his term expires. Under current law, nonlegislative citizen members serve terms of four years; the bill provides that minor nonlegislative citizen members serve terms of two years.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB264 Commission on School Construction and Modernization; sunset date.** Extends from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2029, the sunset date for the Commission on School Construction and Modernization.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB442 Virginia State Crime Commission; kratom regulation and enforcement; report.** Directs the Virginia State Crime Commission (the Commission), in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy, to conduct an analysis of the enforcement and regulation of Mitragyna speciosa, commonly known as kratom, throughout the United States. The bill provides that in conducting its analysis, the Commission shall determine (i) the status of kratom enforcement and regulation at the federal level; (ii) whether states regulate kratom through criminalization or consumer protection laws; (iii) the penalties, if any, associated with violations of state law related to kratom, including individual possession and retail sales; (iv) any other information it deems relevant to kratom enforcement and regulation in the Commonwealth; and (v) any recommendations for changes to existing laws related to the enforcement or regulation of kratom. Lastly, the bill requires the Commission to submit an executive summary and report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Mehta

F **HB620 General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act; definition of "gift."** Excludes from the definition of a gift, for purposes of the General Assembly Conflicts of Interests Act, food and beverages that are consumed by a legislator while sitting and sharing a meal with at least one legislator of a different political party of a value of less than $200.
Patron - Bloxom

F **HB633 Commission on Electric Utility Regulation; scope and name change.** Renames the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation as the Energy Commission of Virginia and amends the purpose of the Commission to monitoring the State Corporation Commission's regulation of electric utilities and natural gas utilities and examining issues related to the production, transmission, distribution, storage, and use of energy in the Commonwealth. The powers and duties are similarly amended by adding the authority to (i) act in an advisory capacity to the General Assembly on energy-related matters, (ii) consult with applicable state agencies on matters regarding energy efficiency and conservation, and (iii) coordinate its efforts with other existing boards and authorities relating to energy research and development. The bill also eliminates the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Kilgore

F **HB1433 Virginia Disability Commission; independent staff.** Provides for the employment of an executive director and any other persons deemed necessary by the Virginia Disability Commission. Currently, the Virginia Disability Commission is provided with administrative staff support by the Office of the Clerk of the House of Delegates or the Senate, depending on the house in which the chair serves, and legal and policy staff support by the Division of Legislative Services.
Patron - Laufer

F **SB280 Autism Advisory Council repealed; Autism Advisory Board established.** Establishes the Autism Advisory Board (the Board) as an advisory board in the executive branch of state government with the purpose of advising the Governor, cabinet members, and the General Assembly on strategies to promote coordination of services and resources among agencies involved in the delivery of services to Virginians with autism spectrum disorders and to increase public awareness of such services and resources. The bill describes the membership, powers, and duties of the Board. The bill also repeals the Autism Advisory Council, currently set to expire on July 1, 2027.
Patron - Aird

F **SB549 General Assembly; intergovernmental affairs; delegates to a convention for proposing amendments held under Article V of the Constitution of the United States; penalties.** 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

F **SB646 Citizen impacts included in fiscal impact statements and estimates.** Requires any fiscal impact statement or other estimate of costs prepared for a legislative bill by the Department of Planning and Budget, the Department of Taxation, the Commission on Local Government, the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission, the Virginia Retirement System, or any other agency of the Commonwealth to include a clear and conspicuous estimate of any potential citizen impacts attributable to such legislation, and requires the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, at the request of any member of the General Assembly, to review a piece of legislation and prepare a statement reflecting (i) the potential fiscal impact of such legislation on the operations of state gov-

ernment and (ii) any potential citizen impacts of such legislation.
The bill defines "citizen impact" as any increase in personal fiscal impacts on a majority of residents of the Commonwealth estimated to result from the enactment of legislation before the General Assembly, including any inflationary impacts and increases in any (a) taxes, (b) costs associated with the use of electricity and fuel, (c) insurance premiums paid by policyholders, and (d) other generally applicable costs of legislation that will be borne by a majority of Virginia residents.
Patron - Cifers

Carried Over

C **HB1192** **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

C **HB1232** **Commission on Black Land Loss established; study; report.** Establishes the Commission on Black Land Loss in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of studying existing and historical laws utilized by the state and localities to take land from Black people. The Commission consists of 17 members, 10 of whom are legislative members and seven of whom are nonlegislative citizen members.
Patron - Delaney

C **HB1364** **Employment discrimination against members of the General Assembly; prohibition; penalty.** Prohibits discrimination in employment against a member of the General Assembly on the basis of his absence from employment due to his attendance at any regular or special session of the General Assembly or any meeting of a legislative committee, subcommittee, commission, council, or other entity on which he serves by reason of his status as a member of the General Assembly. A violation of the bill's provisions is a Class 3 misdemeanor.
Patron - Henson

General Provisions

Passed

P **HB18** **Employee Child Care Assistance Program established.** Establishes the Employee Child Care Assistance Program to provide matching funds 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. 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 or to a third-party administrator, as defined by the bill, and shall provide any other information deemed necessary by the Foundation. The bill specifies that, to the extent funds are available, the Foundation shall issue a state match to a third-party administrator. Program funds shall be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; however, the bill clarifies that the Foundation is encouraged to prioritize awards to proposals involving contributions from small businesses. The bill requires the Foundation to provide an interim report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2028, and a summative report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2030, on the effectiveness and impact of the Program. This bill is identical to SB 3.
Patron - McClure

P **HB996** **Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services; Department of Education; Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition Program.** Directs the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with the Department of Education, to develop a plan to expand the Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition (PERT) Program to increase the number of students assisted in the transition from high school to postsecondary programs. The bill requires such plan to equip local community services boards with the resources to assist an increased number of students in such transition, publish online resources about the transition process, and develop an online dashboard to provide information about possible postsecondary education programs.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB1472** **Claims; Messiah Aladar Johnson; compensation for wrongful incarceration.** Grants relief in an amount to be appropriated to Messiah Aladar Johnson, who was wrongly convicted of and subsequently incarcerated for five counts of robbery, 12 counts of the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, six counts of abduction, attempted robbery, and shooting into an occupied building in 1998.
Patron - Sullivan

P **SB801** **Official emblems and designations; song emeritus; repeal.** Repeals the designation of "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny," by James A. Bland, as set out in House Joint Resolution 10, adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia during the Session of 1940, as the official state song emeritus.
Patron - Ebbin

Failed

F **HB337** **Department of Medical Assistance Services; community health workers in Medicaid managed care; report.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to evaluate and develop recommendations for a statewide strategy to integrate community health workers into Medicaid managed care and related health and human services programs. The bill instructs DMAS to consult with the Department of Health, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, the Virginia Community Health Worker Association, Medicaid managed care organizations, local departments of social services, community-based providers, and other relevant stakeholders. The bill requires DMAS to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Joint Commission on Health Care and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB472** **Establishing a resilience hub pilot program to assist vulnerable communities during emergency situations.** Directs the Department of Emergency Management to establish a two-year resilience hub pilot program to assist vulnerable communities during emergency situations. The bill defines a "resilience hub" as a simple combination of solar panels and batteries that ensures continuous power to a publicly accessible building when severe weather events or other grid disruptions cause an electrical outage.
Patron - Feggans

F **SB49 Rules of construction and definitions; "appointed and qualified."** Defines "appointed and qualified," whenever used in reference to the term of office of any person appointed by the Governor for which confirmation by the General Assembly is required, to mean that the appointee has satisfied all statutory requirements, taken the oath of office, and been confirmed by the General Assembly. The bill adds this definition to Title 1, giving it applicability throughout the Code of Virginia.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB463 Judicial Council of Virginia, Virginia State Bar, and Virginia Bar Association; work group to evaluate representation by guardians ad litem in child custody cases; report.** Directs the Judicial Council of Virginia, in conjunction with the Virginia State Bar and the Virginia Bar Association, to convene a work group composed of relevant stakeholders to evaluate the ratio of cases involving the custody of a child to the number of reasonably available qualified guardians ad litem throughout the Commonwealth and to make recommendations relating to additional support that may be needed based on such ratios. The bill requires the work group to report such findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by November 30, 2026.
Patron - Roem

Carried Over

C **HB9 Time zone; permanent daylight saving time in 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

C **HB152 Official emblems and designations; state grass; little bluestem.** Designates little bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium) as the official state grass.
Patron - Seibold

C **HB415 Official emblems and designations; state fruit; pawpaw.** Designates the pawpaw fruit (Asimina triloba) as the official state fruit.
Patron - Guzman

C **HB470 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid waivers; consumer-directed services; employer of record.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to modify the program rules for consumer-directed services available through certain Medicaid waivers to allow an individual receiving services to serve as the employer of record (EOR) for his own service delivery and designate another individual to perform all or a portion of the duties of the EOR on the individual's behalf when the individual receiving services is unable to perform such duties or direct his own care. The bill specifies that when an individual (i) has not yet reached the age of majority, (ii) is ineligible to use his existing employer identification number (EIN) to facilitate the taxation of benefits, or (iii) is otherwise determined to be ineligible by DMAS by administrative rule, the EIN shall be assigned to the individual receiving services and shall not be transferred to another individual. Under the bill, DMAS has the authority to limit such amendments to specify that an individual receiving services may make such designation no more than twice per calendar year.
Patron - Cohen

C **HB856 Official emblems and designations; state pet; shelter pets.** Designates shelter pets as the official state pet.
Patron - Krizek

C **HB1299 Rules of construction; use of "shall."** Provides that "shall," as used in the Code of Virginia, establishes a mandatory requirement and is not merely directory, unless the statute explicitly provides otherwise. The bill responds to the holding in Henderson v. Commonwealth, 77 Va. App. 250 (2023), in which the Court of Appeals held that when the General Assembly uses "shall" in a statute commanding action by a public official or public body such usage is directory and not mandatory. The foregoing provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. The bill requires, effective in due course, the Virginia Code Commission to review the bill's provisions and evaluate the bill's effect on the Code of Virginia and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Delaney

C **SB155 Official emblems and designations; state native pollinator; brown-belted bumblebee.** Designates the brown-belted bumblebee (Bombus griseocollis) as the official state native pollinator.
Patron - Peake

C **SB231 State Board for Community Colleges and Virginia Community College System; funding model; report.** Directs the State Board for Community Colleges (the State Board) and the Virginia Community College System to develop a community college funding model for the Commonwealth, and an implementation plan for such model, that balances base adequacy support and performance with outcomes-based funding. The bill requires the State Board to provide an interim report to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2026, and a final report to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Education and Health, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the House Committee on Education, and the House Committee on Appropriations by November 1, 2027.
Patron - Head

C **SB284 Average teacher salary in the Commonwealth; national average.** Requires the Governor's introduced budget bills for the 2027 and 2028 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 2027 or 2028 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 fiscal year 2029 and establishes a detailed timeline and process for satisfying such requirement.
Patron - Aird

C **SB300 Official emblems and designations; state snack; peanut.** Designates the peanut as the official state snack.
Patron - Jordan

C **SB541 Time zone; permanent Eastern Standard Time in the Commonwealth.** Provides that the Commonwealth shall observe Eastern Standard Time year-round upon the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland enact-

ing legislation providing that United States Eastern Standard Time shall be observed in all parts of the respective district or state year-round.
Patron - Stuart

Health

Passed

P **HB6 Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement.** Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill clarifies that none of its provisions shall be construed to permit or sanction the performance of any sterilization procedure without a patient's voluntary and informed consent. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. This bill is identical to SB 596.
Patron - Price

P **HB37 Developmental disability waivers; financial eligibility standards; sunset repeal.** Repeals the July 1, 2026, sunset on provisions directing the Department of Medical Assistance Services to disregard Social Security Disability Insurance income above the maximum monthly Supplemental Security Income when determining financial eligibility for developmental disability waivers.
Patron - Shin

P **HB75 Medical cannabis; administration to terminally ill patients; report.** Directs the Department of Health to promulgate regulations specifying that hospital staff may store, dispense, and administer cannabis oil when a patient has valid certification and exempts such staff from criminal penalties for possession of cannabis oil. The bill directs the Department of Health to convene a work group to discuss the implementation process for providing cannabis products to patients in medical care facilities and report on its discussion to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026. This bill incorporates HB 486. This bill is identical to SB 332.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **HB209 Department of Health; Department of Corrections; peer recovery specialists.** Directs the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Corrections to develop agency guidelines for hiring peer recovery specialists with previous criminal convictions for compensated employment. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to SB 608.
Patron - Price

P **HB222 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.
Patron - Hope

P **HB340 Migrant labor camp permits; expiration.** Removes the annual December 31 expiration date for all issued migrant labor camp permits and provides that such permits expire 12 months from the date of issuance. This bill is identical to SB 319.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB381 Investigation or autopsy of dead bodies; Office of the Chief Medical Examiner; notification of retention of whole organ.** Requires the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to inform through written communication a decedent's next of kin, other person authorized by law to make arrangements for the disposition of a decedent's remains, or funeral service establishment or funeral service licensee if an investigation or autopsy requires the retention of any whole organ of a dead body. If the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner provides written notification to the funeral service establishment or funeral service licensee, the bill requires such establishment or licensee to provide such written notification to the decedent's next of kin or other person authorized by law to make arrangements for the disposition of the decedent's remains.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB392 Sickle cell disease education and screening program; cancer risk.** Requires the sickle cell screening and treatment program to include the offering of educational resources to health care providers on the increased risks for certain cancers among individuals with sickle cell disease or the sickle cell trait.
Patron - Askew

P **HB425 Department of Medical Assistance Services; remote monitoring services through pregnancy and postpartum for high-risk pregnant patients; reimbursement.** Expands provision for payment of medical assistance for remote patient monitoring services provided via telemedicine to include high-risk pregnant persons through 12 months postpartum. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to assess expanding similar provision of payment for patients with advanced maternal age and submit a report of its findings to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB433 Newborn screening; process for evaluation of disorders for inclusion.** Directs the Department of Health to establish a process for considering the addition of disorders to the Commonwealth's newborn screening program that are not included on the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel, which process shall include criteria and a timeline for consideration of disorders and a timeline for initiation of rulemaking.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB450 Office of Vital Records; fees for certified copies.** Permits the Board of Health to prescribe a fee of up to $15 for a certified copy of vital records and directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to collect a fee of $15 for each certified copy of a vital record that it issues. Under current law, both fees are limited to $12.
Patron - Willett

P **HB456 State Board of Health regulations; standards for levels of neonatal care.** Directs the State Board of Health to establish standards for designation of care in neonatal services consistent with, but not necessarily identical to, standards published by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The bill directs the Board of Health to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2027, and prohibits enforcement of such regulations until July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to SB 291.
Patron - Willett

P **HB469 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Autism Competencies Checklist; positive behavior support facilitators; training.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend its regulations relating to the Autism Competencies Checklist to allow positive behavior support facilitators to conduct training sessions on such competencies for direct support professionals and direct support professional supervisors who provide support for individuals with developmental disabilities.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB483 Prescription Drug Affordability Advisory Panel established; maximum fair price; annual reports; civil penalties.** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to establish the Prescription Drug Affordability Advisory Panel to conduct data analyses, develop policy recommendations, and identify implementation barriers related to strategies to improve prescription drug affordability, enhance price transparency, and strengthen data collection practices for prescription drugs across public and private payers. The bill requires the Panel to (i) report annually on prescription drug pricing trends and any policy recommendations on legislation to improve prescription drug affordability and (ii) provide quarterly updates on prescription drug pricing trends. The bill requires each pharmacy benefits manager to provide to the Panel, upon request, certain information relating to the dispensation of a referenced drug, as defined in the bill.
The bill prohibits prescription drug manufacturers or wholesale distributors permitted or licensed in the Commonwealth from accepting payment at an amount higher than the maximum fair price established by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to federal law for the sale of a referenced drug intended for use by individuals in the Commonwealth. Under the bill, an entity that violates such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of $10,000 per violation. The bill also prohibits a manufacturer subject to its provisions from removing a referenced drug from sale distribution in the Commonwealth for the purpose of avoiding the impact of the bill's rate limitations without providing certain prior notice. Under the bill, a manufacturer that violates such prohibition on removing a referenced drug without the required notice is subject to a civil penalty equal to the greater of $100,000 or the total amount of annual savings for the referenced drug, as determined by the Board of Pharmacy. This bill is identical to SB 271. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB513 Local and regional suicide fatality review teams; penalty.** Permits localities or combinations of localities to establish a local or regional suicide fatality review team. The bill provides exemptions from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for information and records obtained or created regarding a review of a fatality by such team.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB529 Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator; deaths by suicide of veterans or military service members; State Registrar of Vital Records; Department of Veterans Services annual report.** Adds to the duties of the Suicide Prevention Coordinator within the Department of Veterans Services the duty to (i) compile and analyze data relating to the suicides of veterans and military service members pursuant to death certificates filed with the State Registrar of Vital Records, with such data to be included in the Department's annual report, and (ii) collaborate with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop programs and resources related to suicide prevention for veterans and military service members. The bill provides that in any case where the death certificate of a veteran or military service member lists suicide as the manner of death, the State Registrar of Vital Records shall provide such information concerning the suicide to the Department.
Patron - Thornton

P **HB603 Virginia All-Payer Claims Database; disclosure of information; limitation.** Specifies that the nonprofit organization facilitating the administration of the Virginia All-Payer Claims Database shall not disclose information relating to reimbursement beyond what is otherwise publicly available. Under current law, provisions against disclosure are not limited to information that is not otherwise publicly available.
Patron - Willett

P **HB605 Joint Commission on Health Care; evaluation of workforce in Virginia nursing facilities.** Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to evaluate the workforce in Virginia's nursing facilities and to develop recommendations on several topics outlined in the bill. The bill requires the Joint Commission to report its findings to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Willett

P **HB606 Medical care facility data reporting; value of charity care.** Removes certain limitations on the meaning of "reviewable service" as it relates to data reporting requirements for medical care facilities and specifies that the value of charity care for such reporting shall be based on gross patient charges. The bill directs the State Health Commissioner to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly regarding charity care at medical facilities that are required to satisfy a condition of a certificate of public need.
Patron - Willett

P **HB656 Mental health and substance abuse disorders; network adequacy standards; comparative analyses; report; emergency regulations.** Directs the Department of Health to issue regulations that include quantitative network adequacy standards for timely access to care, travel time, and geographical distance that are at least as stringent as those imposed for qualified health plans and qualified dental plans. The bill amends the definitions of "mental health services" and "substance abuse services" for the purposes of health insurance coverage.
The bill requires health carriers to submit all comparative analyses prepared pursuant to federal law to the Bureau of Insurance on the date and frequency as specified by the Bureau and includes additional information to include in such submission. Under the bill, the Bureau may impose a penalty not to exceed $100,000 for a noncompliant or insufficient comparative analysis or require a carrier to remove, revise, or remedy noncompliant treatment limitations. The bill also amends the contents of the annual report submitted by the Bureau to the General Assembly to cover enforcement efforts with respect to the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.
The bill authorizes the Bureau to promulgate regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and directs the Department of Health to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill directs the Department of Human Resource Management to evaluate the impact of the proposed changes to the provisions of the bill related to health insurance. The provisions of the bill related to health insurance have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 524.
Patron - Willett

P **HB674 Department of Health; collection and annual publication of food insecurity information.** Directs the Department of Health, as part of its participation in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, to collect information on food insecurity and publish such information on its website.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB712 Board of Medicine; office-based buprenorphine treatment; counseling.** Directs the Board of Medicine to amend its regulations regarding office-based buprenorphine treatment to require providers to offer counseling or referral to counseling to each patient as clinically necessary and mutually agreed-upon. The bill specifies that a patient's refusal of counseling does not preclude the patient from receiving office-based buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care and is identical to SB 641.

Patron - Wachsmann

P **HB717 Nursing homes; change of operator; application to Commissioner of Health for change of operator license; civil penalty.** Requires a person taking over the daily operations and management of a nursing home when change of ownership or control occurs to apply to the Commissioner of Health for a change of operator license. The bill establishes the requirements for the application for and for the granting of such license and establishes a civil penalty for failing to provide the Commissioner with information or documentation, effectuating a change of operator without applying for a change of operator license, or providing fraudulent information on an application for a change of operator license. This bill is identical to SB 247.

Patron - Willett

P **HB728 State Board of Health; permanent pump and haul of sewage; agritourism.** Requires the State Board of Health to amend regulations to exempt in Planning District 23 the pumping and hauling of sewage associated with an agritourism activity from the prohibition on pumping and hauling sewage on a permanent basis unless done under the auspices and supervision of a government entity when the agritourism activity is unable to establish and maintain a connection to an existing sewer or onsite sewage system.

Patron - Leftwich

P **HB756 Amending death certificates; petitions to the court to amend; Electronic Death Registration System; service upon State Registrar of Vital Records.** Requires funeral service licensees requesting an order to amend a death certificate through the Electronic Death Registration System to upload the required petition to the Electronic Death Registration System instead of serving such petition upon the State Registrar of Vital Records.

Patron - Runion

P **HB794 Department of Health; reduction of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths; report.** Directs the Department of Health to develop a strategic plan for opioid overdose response to reduce rates of drug overdose and drug overdose deaths in the Commonwealth and to provide a report on the status of such strategic plan and its implementation to the Governor, the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations, and the Joint Commission on Health Care by November 1, 2026, and annually thereafter. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to SB 308.

Patron - Reaser

P **HB795 Health insurance; requirements for certain opioid antagonists.** Requires each health insurer, corporation providing health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organization whose policy, contract, or plan includes coverage for prescription drugs to include coverage for at least one other opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal dispensed pursuant to an oral, written, or standing order of a prescriber and ensure that cost-sharing for at least one opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal is included on the lowest cost tier of the insurer's, corporation's, or health maintenance organization's prescription drug formulary. The bill provides that such coverage shall be exempt from any prior authorization or step therapy requirement on coverage of benefits. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to SB 257.

Patron - Reaser

P **HB815 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; administration of nursing scholarships.** Grants the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority the authority to administer scholarships related to nursing and to promulgate regulations exempt from the requirements of the Administrative Process Act as may be necessary to carry out the administration of nursing scholarship and loan programs. Under current law, the Board of Health is the administrative authority for such scholarships and the Commissioner of Health serves as the fiscal agent for the Board in the administration of some scholarship funds. The bill directs the Authority to establish an annual reporting schedule requiring submission of health workforce data, requires the Authority to establish and provide oversight and strategic guidance to the Virginia Nursing Workforce Center, and grants the Authority the authority to evaluate health workforce programs administered or supported by the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Virginia Nursing Workforce Center to establish an advisory board to provide it with strategic oversight and guidance. This bill is identical to SB 405.

Patron - Downey

P **HB817 State/Local Hospitalization Program; repeal.** Eliminates the State/Local Hospitalization Program. Under current law, with such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly, the State/Local Hospitalization Program is established to assist indigent persons with certain inpatient and outpatient hospital expenses. This bill is identical to SB 736.

Patron - Downey

P **HB838 Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance services; doula care.** Adds provisions related to the provision of doula care under the state plan for medical assistance services specifying that such care includes support during labor and delivery and up to two linkage-to-care incentive payments for doulas.

Patron - McClure

P **HB969 Secretary of Public Safety; firearm violence.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety to convene a work group to develop policy and legislative recommendations to establish the Virginia Gun Violence Prevention Center. The bill allows the work group to (i) meet both in-person and virtually, (ii) have small group breakouts for the purpose of advancing work in a timely and efficient manner, and (iii) collaborate with experts and other representatives as needed. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and any legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by

December 15, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 364. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Price

P **HB973 Health records; disclosure of laboratory test results; waiting period.** Requires health care entities to wait 72 hours before disclosing test results that could indicate malignancy or genetic markers as part of a patient's health records unless the disclosure of such test results is requested by the patient, is not possible due to the health care entity's electronic health records system, or such early disclosure is in the patient's best interest. The bill permits health care entities to disclose health records to an electronic health information exchange to comply with the federal 21st Century Cures Act.
Patron - Price

P **HB998 Menstrual supplies ingredient labeling; restriction of substances; civil penalty.** Requires that each package or box containing menstrual supplies, as defined in the bill, contain a label of all ingredients that are included within such products when sold within the Commonwealth. Such label shall be displayed by the manufacturer in a manner that is visible and easy to understand for the consumer. The bill requires any manufacturer to make changes to the label reflecting any changes of ingredients within 18 months of any such changes. The bill also requires the manufacturer to post the required label information on its website. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB1019 Health Coordination Network Program; patient data collection.** Renames the Smartchart Network Program as the Health Coordination Network Program and relocates it within the Code. The bill expands patient level data elements and requires the Commissioner of Health to enter into contract with an authorized nonprofit organization to create, operate, maintain, and administer the Health Coordination Network Program.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB1063 Department of Health; opioid antagonist distribution program; reports.** Directs the Department of Health to maintain a list of agencies and organizations that submit requests for and receive opioid antagonists through its distribution program and requires the Department to submit a quarterly report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the chair of the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority on its distribution of opioid antagonists. The bill requires the Department to submit an annual report to the Joint Commission on Health Care and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by December 1 of each year estimating the costs of the opioid antagonist distribution program for the following fiscal year using a methodology developed by the Department pursuant to parameters set out in the bill. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care.
Patron - Hodges

P **HB1115 Nonemergency medical transportation providers; fee disclosure.** Requires a nonemergency medical transportation provider or the medical care facility prearranging transport through such a provider, prior to providing such transportation services to a patient, to provide the patient or the patient's representative with a standardized disclosure form of all associated fees or other charges for which the patient will be responsible for such transportation services. The bill also requires that nonemergency medical transportation providers provide the medical care facility with the required form. Such provisions have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. Finally, effective July 1, 2026, the bill directs the Department of Health to develop and publish a standardized disclosure form on its website by October 1, 2026.
Patron - Nivar

P **HB1284 Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance; provider-to-provider consultation; telemedicine.** Specifies that the Medicaid provision for provider-to-provider consultation includes payment for consultations provided through telemedicine services. This bill incorporates HB 87.
Patron - Downey

P **HB1285 State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board; membership; regional emergency medical services councils.** Reduces the composition of the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board from 28 members to 24 members to account for four fewer representatives from regional emergency medical services councils.
Patron - Wright

P **HB1318 Hospitals; psychiatric emergency departments.** Allows hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments located in the City of Hampton to operate without a physician on duty when certain conditions are met, including having written agreements in place with emergency medical service providers and being immediately adjacent to a non-psychiatric emergency department. The bill requires such psychiatric emergency departments to submit treatment data to the General Assembly on an annual basis by November 1. This bill is identical to SB 738.
Patron - Willett

P **HB1337 Certificate of public need; expedited review of certain projects; duties of the State Health Services Plan Task Force.** Directs the State Health Services Plan Task Force to develop recommendations for designating areas of the state with an identifiable need for additional projects, taking into account numerous barriers of access to health care. The bill also directs the Board of Health to promulgate updated regulations for expedited application and review processes for certain projects. This bill is identical to SB 239.
Patron - Clark

P **HB1353 Commissioner of Health; feasibility of a statewide maternal health safety initiative; work group; reports.** Directs the Commissioner of Health to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders, described in the bill, to evaluate the feasibility of a statewide maternal health safety initiative. The bill directs the Commissioner to submit an interim report of the work group by November 1, 2026, and a final report with the work group's recommendations no later than July 1, 2027, to the House Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Commission on Women's Health.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB1357 Joint Commission on Health Care; comprehensive assessment of the quality of care, resident safety, and operational practices of nursing facilities in the Commonwealth; report.** Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the quality of care, resident safety, and operational practices of nursing facilities in the Commonwealth and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and 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, 2027.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB1391 Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network established.** Directs the State Health Commissioner, in coordination with the Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Authority, to establish and maintain the Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network to provide health care providers in the Commonwealth with real-time consultation and support from sickle cell specialists. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 813.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB1403 Severe Maternal Morbidity Surveillance and Review Program established; duties; report.** Creates the Severe Maternal Morbidity Surveillance and Review Program (SMM Program) to identify, analyze, and review instances of severe maternal morbidity. The bill directs the Department of Health to develop a reporting system for hospitals and freestanding birthing centers to report findings and recommendations, as well as a model protocol for conducting reviews of severe maternal morbidity. The bill requires all hospitals and freestanding birthing centers to participate in the SMM Program and report their findings and recommendations to the Department of Health on an annual basis. The bill has a delayed effective date of September 1, 2026.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

P **HB1418 Sickle Cell Trait Awareness and Education Program established.** Directs the Department of Health to establish the Sickle Cell Trait Awareness and Education Program to raise public awareness of and provide education on sickle cell trait.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB1452 Department of Medical Assistance Services; expedited review process for Medicaid service authorization requests; report.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to (i) implement expedited review of Medicaid service authorization requests consistent with applicable federal law and (ii) annually transmit the prior authorization report required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services 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.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB1489 Hospitals; reports of threats or acts of violence against health care providers; expansion of reporting requirements.** Expands the reporting requirements for incidents of workplace violence in hospitals with an emergency department by requiring additional descriptors of incidents, requiring hospitals to report collected data to additional parties, and directing the Department of Health to publish a report containing an annual summary of such data. The bill directs the Board of Health to promulgate regulations implementing the provisions of the bill by January 1, 2027, and directs the Department of Health to publish its first report by December 31, 2027.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1504 Service member community members; medical care facilities; health care equity.** Permits medical care facilities to screen each patient for information on their eligibility as a service member community member, as defined by the bill. The bill permits medical care facilities to identify service member community members as a vulnerable population and comply with the most recent health care equity standards published by The Joint Commission.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB1522 Nursing homes and assisted living facilities; licensure; automated external defibrillators.** Requires nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have and maintain an automated external defibrillator and have staff trained to use such automated external defibrillator.
Patron - McGuire

P **HB1523 Certified violence prevention professional; certification.** Establishes requirements for use of the title "certified violence prevention professional" and directs the Board of Health to promulgate regulations setting forth (i) requirements for use of the title, (ii) requirements for education and training programs necessary to meet the requirements for certification, (iii) qualifications for training entities, (iv) limitations on the number of approved training entities, and (v) other regulations as deemed necessary.
Patron - McGuire

P **SB171 Minor elementary or secondary school students admitted to inpatient treatment; certain disclosures to certain school personnel upon discharge.** Provides that in the event that the facility to which a minor elementary or secondary school student is admitted to inpatient treatment determines that such minor student requires additional educational services upon discharge from the facility, the parents of such student may opt in to the disclosure, prior to or at the time of such minor student's discharge from the facility, of such determination by the facility to a mental health professional employed in such minor student's school or, if applicable, by the school division in which the student is enrolled. The bill also provides that, in the event that the facility to which a minor elementary or secondary school student is admitted to inpatient treatment determines, based on communications from such minor student to a mental health service provider at such facility, that the student poses a specific and immediate threat to cause serious bodily injury or death to an identified or readily identifiable person or persons at the time of the student's discharge from the facility, the facility shall disclose, prior to or at the time of discharge in accordance with the requirements set forth in relevant law, such determination to a mental health professional employed in such minor student's school or, if applicable, by the school division. The bill also prohibits any such facility from withholding discharge of such a student for the purpose of making any such disclosure. The provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Favola

P **SB239 Certificate of public need; expedited review of certain projects; duties of the State Health Services Plan Task Force.** Directs the State Health Services Plan Task Force to develop recommendations for designating areas of the state with an identifiable need for additional projects, taking into account numerous barriers of access to health care. The bill also directs the Board of Health to promulgate updated regulations for expedited application and review processes for certain projects. This bill is identical to HB 1337.
Patron - Head

P **SB247 Nursing homes; change of operator; application to Commissioner of Health for change of operator license; civil penalty.** Requires a person taking over the daily operations and management of a nursing home when change of ownership or control occurs to apply to the Commissioner of Health for a change of operator license. The bill establishes the requirements for the application for and for the granting of such license and establishes a civil penalty for fail-

ing to provide the Commissioner with information or documentation, effectuating a change of operator without applying for a change of operator license, or providing fraudulent information on an application for a change of operator license. This bill is identical to HB 717.

Patron - Favola

P **SB271 Prescription Drug Affordability Advisory Panel established; maximum fair price; annual reports; civil penalties.** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to establish the Prescription Drug Affordability Advisory Panel to conduct data analyses, develop policy recommendations, and identify implementation barriers related to strategies to improve prescription drug affordability, enhance price transparency, and strengthen data collection practices for prescription drugs across public and private payers. The bill requires the Panel to (i) report annually on prescription drug pricing trends and any policy recommendations on legislation to improve prescription drug affordability and (ii) provide quarterly updates on prescription drug pricing trends. The bill requires each pharmacy benefits manager to provide to the Panel, upon request, certain information relating to the dispensation of a referenced drug, as defined in the bill.

The bill prohibits prescription drug manufacturers or wholesale distributors permitted or licensed in the Commonwealth from accepting payment at an amount higher than the maximum fair price established by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to federal law for the sale of a referenced drug intended for use by individuals in the Commonwealth. Under the bill, an entity that violates such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of $10,000 per violation. The bill also prohibits a manufacturer subject to its provisions from removing a referenced drug from sale distribution in the Commonwealth for the purpose of avoiding the impact of the bill's rate limitations without providing certain prior notice. Under the bill, a manufacturer that violates such prohibition on removing a referenced drug without the required notice is subject to a civil penalty equal to the greater of $100,000 or the total amount of annual savings for the referenced drug, as determined by the Board of Pharmacy. This bill is identical to HB 483. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB291 State Board of Health regulations; standards for levels of neonatal care.** Directs the State Board of Health to establish standards for designation of care in neonatal services consistent with, but not necessarily identical to, standards published by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The bill directs the Board of Health to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2027, and prohibits enforcement of such regulations until July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to HB 456.

Patron - Aird

P **SB308 Department of Health; reduction of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths; report.** Directs the Department of Health to develop a strategic plan for opioid overdose response to reduce rates of drug overdose and drug overdose deaths in the Commonwealth and to provide a report on the status of such strategic plan and its implementation to the Governor, the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations, and the Joint Commission on Health Care by November 1, 2026, and annually thereafter. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to HB 794.

Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB319 Migrant labor camp permits; expiration.** Removes the annual December 31 expiration date for all issued migrant labor camp permits and provides that such permits expire 12 months from the date of issuance. This bill is identical to HB 340.

Patron - Perry

P **SB332 Medical cannabis; administration to terminally ill patients; report.** Directs the Department of Health to promulgate regulations specifying that hospital staff may store, dispense, and administer cannabis oil when a patient has valid certification and exempts such staff from criminal penalties for possession of cannabis oil. The bill directs the Department of Health to convene a work group to discuss the implementation process for providing cannabis products to patients in medical care facilities and report on its discussion to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 75.

Patron - Favola

P **SB405 Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; administration of nursing scholarships.** Grants the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority the authority to administer scholarships related to nursing and to promulgate regulations exempt from the requirements of the Administrative Process Act as may be necessary to carry out the administration of nursing scholarship and loan programs. Under current law, the Board of Health is the administrative authority for such scholarships and the Commissioner of Health serves as the fiscal agent for the Board in the administration of some scholarship funds. The bill directs the Authority to establish an annual reporting schedule requiring submission of health workforce data, requires the Authority to establish and provide oversight and strategic guidance to the Virginia Nursing Workforce Center, and grants the Authority the authority to evaluate health workforce programs administered or supported by the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Virginia Nursing Workforce Center to establish an advisory board to provide it with strategic oversight and guidance. This bill is identical to HB 815.

Patron - Lucas

P **SB429 Department of Health; State Health Commissioner; nursing homes; periodic medical visits and resident assessments; oversight and accountability.** Requires all nursing homes to notify the resident of a nursing home, the resident's family, and the Department of Health if a federally required physician visit does not take place. The bill also requires each nursing home to conduct a comprehensive assessment on an annual basis to determine each resident's needs and describe each resident's capability to perform daily life functions. Such assessments must be reviewed at least once every 92 days, and more frequently in the event of a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition.

The bill directs the Department of Health and State Health Commissioner to take steps to improve care quality, protect residents, and strengthen oversight and accountability of nursing homes in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to enhance recruitment efforts and expand workforce capacity in the Office of Licensure and Certification, accelerate training and onboarding initiatives, and explore measures to reduce administrative burdens. The bill requires the Commissioner to submit an annual report with recommendations for continuing improvement of nursing home quality and oversight. This bill incorporates SB 555.

Patron - Head

P **SB453 Intentional discharge of untreated sewage onto land or into waters of the Commonwealth; civil penalty.** Establishes a maximum civil penalty of $50,000 per violation for any person found to have intentionally discharged untreated sewage onto land or into waters of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Stuart

P **SB524 Mental health and substance abuse disorders; network adequacy standards; comparative analyses; report; emergency regulations.** Directs the Department of Health to issue regulations that include quantitative network adequacy standards for timely access to care, travel time, and geographical distance that are at least as stringent as those imposed for qualified health plans and qualified dental plans. The bill amends the definitions of "mental health services" and "substance abuse services" for the purposes of health insurance coverage.

The bill requires health carriers to submit all comparative analyses prepared pursuant to federal law to the Bureau of Insurance on the date and frequency as specified by the Bureau and includes additional information to include in such submission. Under the bill, the Bureau may impose a penalty not to exceed $100,000 for a noncompliant or insufficient comparative analysis or require a carrier to remove, revise, or remedy noncompliant treatment limitations. The bill also amends the contents of the annual report submitted by the Bureau to the General Assembly to cover enforcement efforts with respect to the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

The bill authorizes the Bureau to promulgate regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and directs the Department of Health to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill directs the Department of Human Resource Management to evaluate the impact of the proposed changes to the provisions of the bill related to health insurance. The provisions of the bill related to health insurance have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 656.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB535 Nursing homes and certified nursing facilities; required liability insurance coverage.** Provides that the regulations of the Board of Health shall require purchasers of licensed nursing homes or certified nursing facilities with claims-made policies of liability insurance coverage to purchase an extended reporting endorsement of two years after the date of sale or to purchase liability insurance coverage with dates that begin two years prior to the date the existing owner's policies end.
Patron - Obenshain

P **SB596 Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement.** Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill clarifies that none of its provisions shall be construed to permit or sanction the performance of any sterilization procedure without a patient's voluntary and informed consent. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. This bill is identical to HB 6.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB608 Department of Health; Department of Corrections; peer recovery specialists.** Directs the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Corrections to develop agency guidelines for hiring peer recovery specialists with previous criminal convictions for compensated employment. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to HB 209.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB630 Health insurance; tobacco surcharge.** Eliminates the authority of a health carrier to vary its premium rates based on tobacco use. Under current law, a health carrier may charge premium rates up to 1.5 times higher for a tobacco user than for a nonuser. The provisions of the bill apply to health benefit plans providing individual or small group health insurance coverage entered into, amended, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 220.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB633 Department of Health; resources for provision of emergency medical services for events.** Directs the Department of Health to publish on its website a document for event planners and event venues to provide to prospective clients containing (i) notice that emergency medical services personnel may be made available for events, (ii) information regarding the benefits of appropriate medical support for large or high-risk events, and (iii) a list of emergency medical services providers available to provide services at event venues in each locality of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB683 Appointment of receiver for waterworks; public waterworks.** Allows the Commissioner of Health to petition the circuit court for the jurisdiction in which any public or private waterworks is located for the appointment of a receiver for such waterworks. Currently such appointment of receivership is only for private waterworks.
Patron - Reeves

P **SB706 Department of Health; opioid antagonist distribution program; reports.** Directs the Department of Health to maintain a list of agencies and organizations that submit requests for and receive opioid antagonists through its distribution program and requires the Department to submit a quarterly report to the Chairs of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources, House Health and Human Services Committee, Senate Finance and Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources, and Senate Subcommittee on Health, and the chair of the Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority on its distribution of opioid antagonists. The bill requires the Department to submit an annual report to the Joint Commission on Health Care and the Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee by December 1 of each year estimating the costs of the opioid antagonist distribution program for the following fiscal year using a methodology developed by the Department pursuant to parameters set out in the bill. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB736 State/Local Hospitalization Program; repeal.** Eliminates the State/Local Hospitalization Program. Under current law, with such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly, the State/Local Hospitalization Program is established to assist indigent persons with certain inpatient and outpatient hospital expenses. This bill is identical to HB 817.
Patron - Hackworth

P **SB738 Hospitals; psychiatric emergency departments.** Allows hospitals with psychiatric emergency departments located in the City of Hampton to operate without

a physician on duty when certain conditions are met, including having written agreements in place with emergency medical service providers and being immediately adjacent to a non-psychiatric emergency department. The bill requires such psychiatric emergency departments to submit treatment data to the General Assembly on an annual basis by November 1. This bill is identical to HB 1318.
Patron - Jordan

P **SB794 Virginia Health Care Protection Act established; prohibition on extradition for certain crimes; penalties.** Establishes the Virginia Health Care Protection Act. 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 involving protected health care activity, as defined in the bill, not prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth. 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 creates a private right of action for any person who sustains any injury, damages, or other harm resulting from another person who, under the laws 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 protected health care activity 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 protected health care activity.
Patron - Perry

P **SB813 Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network established.** Directs the State Health Commissioner, in coordination with the Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Authority, to establish and maintain the Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network to provide health care providers in the Commonwealth with real-time consultation and support from sickle cell specialists. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1391.
Patron - Lucas

Failed

F **HB48 Department of Health; suicide prevention; at-risk populations; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Health to convene a work group to develop a statewide strategic plan to reduce suicides among at-risk populations in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the work group to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Joint Commission on Health Care, the Chair of the House Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Reid

F **HB87 Department of Medical Assistance Services; state plan for medical assistance; patient-initiated consultation; provider-to-provider consultation.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to modify state plan provisions covering provider-to-provider consultations to also include patient-generated consultations. The bill specifies that consultations provided through telemedicine services, including audio-only telemedicine services where applicable, shall be included in such provision. This bill was incorporated into HB 1284.
Patron - Laufer

F **HB103 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; program extension.** Directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to take all steps necessary to implement the federal extension option for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities to allow children four years of age or younger to receive services through such Program. Under current law, the Program is available for children between birth and three years of age.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB136 Department of Medical Assistance Services; sickle cell disease; feasibility of Medicaid benefit and Medicaid Health Homes; report.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to determine the feasibility of participating in an optional Medicaid benefit for sickle cell disease and establishing Medicaid Health Homes to coordinate care and provide treatment for individuals with sickle cell disease. The bill requires the Department to report its findings in its annual review of sickle cell disease treatment and submit such review to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the Joint Commission on Health Care by November 15, 2026.
Patron - Reid

F **HB146 Health Care Learning Lab and Regulatory Improvement Program established.** Requires the Department of Health (the Department) to establish the Health Care Learning Lab and Regulatory Improvement Program (the Program) to enable a person to obtain limited access to the market in the Commonwealth to temporarily test an innovative health care product or service on a limited basis without otherwise being licensed or authorized to act under the laws of the Commonwealth. Under the Program, an applicant requests the waiver of certain laws, regulations, or other requirements for a 24-month testing period, with an option to request an additional six-month testing period. The bill provides application requirements, consumer protections, procedures for exiting the Program or requesting an extension, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements. The bill requires the Department to provide an annual report to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health that provides information regarding each Program participant and recommendations regarding the effectiveness of the Program. The bill directs the Board of Health to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and has an expiration date of July 1, 2030.
Patron - Williams

F **HB231 Autism Advisory Council; name change; membership; staffing; powers and duties.** Provides for the Autism Advisory Council to be reconstituted as a permanent, independently staffed agency in the legislative branch of state government. Currently, the Autism Advisory Council is set to expire on July 1, 2027. The bill repeals the expiration date and renames the agency as the Autism Commission. The bill also modifies the membership of the Commission to more closely align with the membership makeup of other independently staffed legislative agencies and directs the Commis-

sion to appoint and employ an executive director and other staff to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission.
Patron - Cohen

F **HB267 Department of Medical Assistance Services; earned income disregard; cost-of-living adjustment.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary federal approvals to increase, as necessary based upon Social Security Administration cost-of-living adjustments, the earned income disregard for workers with disabilities.
Patron - Tata

F **HB280 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 are (i) under 19 years of age and (ii) not covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, or otherwise 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 translation, 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 requires the Department to 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 - Clark

F **HB335 Independent Pharmacy Access and Resilience Pilot Program; report; sunset.** Establishes the Independent Pharmacy Access and Resilience Pilot Program in the Department of Health to strengthen and stabilize access to pharmacy services in medically underserved communities and communities at heightened risk of pharmacy closure. The Program is established as a pilot program with an expiration date of July 1, 2030, and participation is limited to 12 independent pharmacies meeting certain criteria outlined in the bill. The bill directs the Department to submit to the Governor and General Assembly an interim report with evaluations of participating pharmacies no later than November 1, 2028, and a final comprehensive evaluation no later than November 1, 2029, in order for the General Assembly to determine whether to continue, modify, expand, or terminate the Program.
Patron - Anthony

F **HB336 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

F **HB348 Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Fund.** Directs the State Board of Health to adopt regulations to utilize point-of-use or point-of-entry drinking water treatment or filtration systems to remove or significantly reduce concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonate, and other established and emerging contaminants of concern that meet or exceed maximum contaminant levels or health advisory levels for the same contaminant adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or, in the in the absence of an EPA health advisory for such contaminant, a contaminant level determined by the Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water. The bill also establishes the Residential Well Water Testing and Treatment Program and Program Fund to allow the Department to test and treat contaminated drinking water through grants for the use of eligible treatment or filtration systems in private residential wells. This bill is a recommendation of the State Water Commission.
Patron - McLaughlin

F **HB376 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.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB435 Palliative Care Information and Education Program; Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council established.** Directs the Board of Health to include in its regulations a requirement that every hospital, nursing home, and certified nursing facility licensed by the Board (i) establish a system for identifying patients or residents who may benefit from palliative care and (ii) provide information about and facilitate access to appropriate palliative care services for patients or residents experiencing illness, injuries, or conditions that substantially affect quality of life for more than a short period of time. The bill also directs the Department of Health to establish a palliative care consumer and professional information and education program to maximize the effectiveness of palliative care initiatives in the Commonwealth by (a) ensuring that comprehensive and accurate information and education about palliative care is available to the public, health care providers, and health care facilities and (b) implementing such other initiatives related to education about palliative care and the delivery of palliative care services as may be necessary to educate health care professionals and the public about palliative care. The bill further establishes the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council to advise the Department on matters related to the establishment, operation, maintenance, and outcomes evaluations of such initiatives. The bill directs the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council to study the possibility of establishing a Medicaid benefit for palliative care and the need for a licensure scheme for palliative care providers. The bill further directs the Board of Health to develop a statewide advanced care planning campaign to increase public awareness of available palliative care options.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

F **HB486 Medical care facilities; expanded access to medical cannabis for terminally ill patients.** Requires medical care facilities to permit terminally ill patients, as defined in the bill, to use medical cannabis. The bill requires medical care facilities to adopt policies facilitating the use of

medical cannabis. The provisions of the bill do not apply to the provision of emergency medical services, including in emergency departments of hospitals. The bill requires compliance with applicable drug and medication requirements, specifies that compliance with its provisions shall not be a condition of obtaining, retaining, or renewing a license as a medical care facility, and establishes a protocol for noncompliance in the event of intervention by the federal government. The bill has a delayed effective date contingent on the federal rescheduling of marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule III drug. This bill was incorporated into HB 75.

Patron - Shin

F **HB525 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan; literacy pilot program.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary permissions from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to authorize and fund a pilot program promoting early literacy and parental bonding as part of routine pediatric primary care visits in select underserved localities through a partnership with Reach Out and Read.

Patron - Downey

F **HB537 Board of Health; regulations governing waterworks; prohibition on fluoridation of water.** Requires the Board of Health to include a prohibition on fluoridation of water in its regulations governing waterworks and requires testing for fluoridation to be included in chemical monitoring requirements for waterworks.

Patron - Hamilton

F **HB631 State pharmacy benefits manager; contractual provisions; report.** Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services' contract with the state pharmacy benefits manager to (i) require that that ingredient-cost reimbursement is based on the national average drug acquisition cost, or if unavailable, the wholesale acquisition cost minus a discount set by the Department, plus a professional dispensing fee, determined by the Department; (ii) require real-time or near real-time transparency in drug costs, rebates collected and paid, dispensing fees paid, administrative fees, and all other charges, fees, costs, and holdbacks, claim denials appeals, and network participation; (iii) prohibit the state pharmacy benefits manager from steering Medicaid recipients to affiliated pharmacies through differential cost-sharing, restrictive network design, or the mandatory use of a mail order pharmacy provider; (iv) require the state pharmacy benefits manager to (a) meet network adequacy standards established by the Department; (b) allow any willing pharmacy to participate in the pharmacy network; (c) verify that all contracted pharmacies are actively accepting Medicaid recipients; (d) submit annual reports containing certain information; (e) disclose to the Department pricing and maximum acquisition cost methodologies; and (f) allow invoice-based or national average drug acquisition cost-based appeals and require an adjustment of rates network-wide when an appeal is upheld; and (v) include enforcement mechanisms and monetary penalties for noncompliance.

Additionally, the bill requires Department to annually calculate the savings generated by the use of the state pharmacy benefits manager and to annually increase its dispensing fee by the amount of such savings. The bill requires the Department to annually (1) publish and make available on its website its annual and total savings achieved, the annual and total amount applied to dispensing fees increases, and the updated dispensing fees and (2) report to the General Assembly on the state pharmacy benefits manager's compliance, national average drug acquisition cost compliance, pharmacy reimbursement trends, network adequacy compliance, and dispensing fee sufficiency.

Patron - Callsen

F **HB664 Adult adoptee access to original birth certificate; contact preference form.** Allows the State Registrar to provide, upon written request, any adult adopted person access to his original birth certificate. The bill allows a birth parent to indicate whether they would like to be contacted by an adoptee on a contact preference form provided by the State Registrar that will accompany the adoptee's original birth certificate, to be released to an adopted person when he requests his original birth certificate.

Patron - Walker

F **HB685 Genetic sequencing; organ transplants; use of foreign genetic sequencing or genetic sequencer operational and research software; foreign storage of genetic sequencing data; health insurance coverage for certain foreign organ transplants; civil penalty.** Prohibits medical care facilities from (i) using genetic sequencers or any operational and research software, as such terms are defined in the bill, produced in a country designated as a foreign adversary by the federal government and (ii) storing genetic sequencing data with a country designated as a foreign adversary by the federal government. The bill requires medical care facilities to certify their compliance with such provisions, under penalty of perjury, annually with the Commissioner of Health and subjects medical care facilities that violate such provisions to civil penalties. The bill also prohibits health insurance carriers from covering human organ transplants that occur in China or other designated foreign countries and subjects carriers that violate this provision to civil penalties.

Patron - Zehr

F **HB740 Board of Health; regulations; utilization of helicopter instrument approach by hospital or air medical service vendor.** Directs the Board of Health to prescribe by regulation requirements directing any hospital or air medical service vendor utilizing a helicopter instrument approach procedure to a hospital helipad approved by the Federal Aviation Administration to provide such procedure to any licensed air medical service operator requesting it for the purpose of patient transport. The bill directs that such requirements shall include standardized procedures for requesting, receiving, and using such instrument approach data and enforcement mechanisms for noncompliance by a hospital or air medical service vendor.

Patron - Williams

F **HB789 Department of Health; Virginia State Anatomical Program; program finances and donor procurement, distribution, and disposition; report.** Directs the Department of Health to convene a work group to evaluate the Virginia State Anatomical Program and its current finances and to provide recommendations to strengthen practices and procedures concerning donor procurement, distribution, and disposition to institutions of higher education and research facilities. The work group is directed to report its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than November 1, 2026.

Patron - Austin

F **HB822 Reports of fetal death; miscarriage; personally identifiable information not required.** Provides that any fetal death report relating to a miscarriage shall not include a patient's name or any other personally identifiable information. The bill further directs the Department of Health

to update its regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Carr

F HB823 Department of Medical Assistance Services; 1915(c) Home and Community Based Waivers; program rule amendments; direct support professionals. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary approvals to amend the program rules for the Community Living and Family and Individual Supports Waivers to provide for compensation of a direct support professional for a waiver recipient in an acute care hospital under certain circumstances.
Patron - Carr

F HB829 Hospital price transparency; price comparison tool; penalties for noncompliance. Directs the Department of Health to establish a hospital price transparency comparison tool based on the information hospitals provide under existing law and the information available through the Virginia All-Payer Claims Database. The bill specifies that the list of standard charges provided by the hospital controls in the event of a dispute between a hospital and a patient over a patient payment amount and requires hospitals to discharge debt and not require payment for any elective procedure, test, or service for which the patient payment amount is disputed and there is not a standard charge made available to the public on the hospital's website on the date such elective procedure, test, or service is performed.
Patron - Helmer

F HB851 Department of Medical Assistance Services; consultation with federally recognized tribes. Establishes a Tribal Medicaid Advisory Group to work collaboratively on (i) plan amendments, waiver requests, and policies affecting tribal health programs at least 60 days prior to submitting them for public notice and comment and (ii) a tribal health program billing manual. The advisory group is required to meet in person on at least a quarterly basis. The bill also requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to (a) recognize the eligibility of any tribal health program to participate as a provider in the state plan, (b) consult with any tribal health program participating in the state plan at least 60 days prior to taking any adverse action, including suspension of payments or investigation regarding the participation of any tribal health program in the state plan, and (c) engage in ongoing consultation with federally recognized tribes and tribal health programs to address the needs of the state and tribal governments. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Krizek

F HB866 Department of Social Services; Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Department of Health; Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services; work group; food insecurity and hunger survey; report. Directs the Department of Social Services, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Health, the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services, and any other relevant state agencies to convene a work group to develop a statewide survey on food insecurity and hunger. The bill requires the work group to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Cousins

F HB878 Migrant labor camp permits; expiration. Removes the annual December 31 expiration date for all issued migrant labor camp permits and provides that such permits expire 12 months from the date of issuance.
Patron - Wachsmann

F HB983 Immunization requirements for children; hepatitis B vaccine. Removes the hepatitis B vaccine from the list of required immunizations for children in the Commonwealth, removes the extended conditional enrollment period for students requiring more than two doses of the hepatitis B vaccine, and directs the Board of Health to amend its regulations to remove provisions requiring children to receive the hepatitis B vaccine.
Patron - Garrett

F HB1104 Inspection of certified nursing facilities; compliance with federal reporting requirements; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Health to include validation of compliance with federal reporting requirements in its inspection process for certified nursing facilities. The bill requires certified nursing facilities to submit a quarterly report detailing (i) all self-reported incidents and compliance issues submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services during the preceding quarter; (ii) any corrective actions taken in response to self-reported incidents; and (iii) updates on ongoing investigations related to reported incidents. The Department may impose a penalty on a certified nursing facility that fails to comply with the reporting requirements imposed by the bill, which may include a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000, increased frequency of inspections, and suspension or revocation of the certified nursing facility's license.
Patron - Hodges

F HB1109 Managed care organizations; pharmacy benefits manager; data collection and reporting requirements; civil penalty. Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to develop, and managed care organizations and pharmacy benefits managers to comply with, standardized methodologies for the collection and reporting of data related to expenditures, rebates, and the source of all cost components to the Department and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The bill requires managed care organizations to solicit and undergo an independent audit of their reporting practices every two years and directs the Department to establish a compliance unit that may impose penalties on noncompliant managed care organizations and pharmacy benefits managers.
Patron - Hodges

F HB1116 Department of Health; Department of Social Services; publicly accessible nursing home information portal; publicly accessible assisted living facility information portal; reporting of incidents involving emergency medical services. Directs the Department of Health to establish a nursing home information portal and the Department of Social Services to establish an assisted living facility information portal to consolidate publicly available information on nursing homes and assisted living facilities, respectively. The bill requires operators of nursing homes and assisted living facilities to submit a quarterly report to the Department of Health or the Department of Social Services, respectively, with information on incidents involving emergency medical services.
Patron - Nivar

F HB1136 Department of Health; mobile food units; centralized office; study; report. Directs the Department of Health to conduct a study to determine the viability of establishing a centralized mobile food unit office that processes licensure, permitting, taxation, and any other procedures relevant to the operation of a mobile food unit. The bill directs

the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Cherry

F **HB1190 Appointment of receiver for waterworks; public waterworks.** Allows the Commissioner of Health to petition the circuit court for the jurisdiction in which any public or private waterworks is located for the appointment of a receiver for such waterworks. Currently such appointment of receivership is only for private waterworks.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1194 Parental access to minor's health records.** Requires health care entities that provide access to health records of minors through a secure website to make such health records available to the minor's parent or guardian through the same secure website.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1201 Certificate of public need; exception for independent outpatient or ambulatory surgery facilities.** Creates an exception from the requirement to obtain a certificate of public need for facilities for outpatient or ambulatory surgery with up to three operating rooms that are not affiliated with a hospital. The bill requires hospitals to obtain a certificate of public need before acquiring an excepted facility.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1209 Hospitals; itemized statements; non-emergent procedures, tests, or services.** Requires hospitals to provide patients with an itemized statement of charges for services rendered for any non-emergent medical procedure, test, or service.
Patron - Oates

F **HB1240 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Social Services; Medicaid eligibility determination appeal time limit; mailed communications time period.** Directs (i) the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend its regulations to extend the time limit for appeals of eligibility determinations and (ii) the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Social Services to amend their regulations to create a mailing time period for communications related to Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).
Patron - Willett

F **HB1245 Virginia Health Care Fund; additional funding and uses; emergency.** Expands allowable funding sources of the Virginia Health Care Fund to include appropriated state general fund moneys and moneys from public and private sources. The bill allows moneys from the Fund to be used for financial assistance to organizations and service providers that provide health care services, or expand the provision of health care services, to populations protected by the Virginia Human Rights Act. The bill contains an emergency clause.
Patron - Henson

F **HB1428 Secretary of Health and Human Resources; State Health Commissioner; website; services and programs available to pregnant women.** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (the Secretary) and the State Health Commissioner, by July 1, 2027, to establish, maintain, and annually update a website that provides information about public and private agencies, services, and programs available to pregnant women. The bill specifies that the website shall include a portal that allows users to receive specifically tailored pregnancy information and provides for the submission of feedback on how user-friendly and helpful the portal was in providing such specifically tailored information.
The bill requires the Secretary to submit a report to the General Assembly, no later than 180 days after the website and portal are established, on (i) the traffic on the website and portal; (ii) user feedback submitted regarding the website and portal; (iii) any identified gaps in services for pregnant and postpartum women, including any missing resources helpful to include in future updates; and (iv) recommendations on how to improve the user experience based upon user feedback.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB1434 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid benefit for nutrition services programs; sunset.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) to, conditional on the receipt of all necessary approvals and the securing of federal financial participation, implement a provision for payment of medical assistance for nutrition services programs which may include case management, nutrition counseling and instruction, home-delivered meals and pantry stocking, nutrition prescriptions, and grocery provisions. The bill directs the Department to prioritize the purchase and distribution of locally grown food wherever feasible.
The implementation of nutrition services programs pursuant to the bill is conditional on the Department obtaining all necessary approvals and federal financial participation. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027, if such approval and federal financial participation is not obtained.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB1478 In-person visitation policies and procedures at certain facilities.** Requires training centers operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department), hospitals, nursing homes, certified nursing facilities, hospices or hospice facilities, assisted living facilities, and intermediate care facilities to establish certain in-person visitation policies and procedures. The bill (i) requires that such policies and procedures include screening, personal protective equipment, and other infection control protocols for visitors; (ii) prohibits such policies from requiring the visitor to provide proof of immunization or vaccination; (iii) requires such policies and procedures to allow consensual physical contact between the visitor and the resident, client, or patient of the facility; (iv) authorizes the resident, client, or patient to designate an essential caregiver and establishes requirements related to essential caregivers; (v) requires that such policies and procedures allow in-person visitation under certain circumstances; (vi) provides that such policies and procedures may require visitors to agree in writing to follow such policies and procedures; (vii) authorizes facilities to suspend in-person visitation of visitors for violations of such agreement; (viii) requires facilities to make such policies and procedures available to the Department for review when applying for initial licensure, licensure renewal, or change of ownership; and (ix) requires facilities and the Department to make such policies and procedures easily accessible on their websites.
Patron - Davis

F **HJ35 Department of Medical Assistance Services; collection of data and information on Medicaid estate recovery; report.** Requests the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to collect data and information on Medicaid estate recovery in the Commonwealth. DMAS is requested to collect data and information on (i) whether the Commonwealth adjusts or recovers for long-term services and supports and related services provided through Medicaid

beyond the federally required minimum and, if so, what percentage of the overall amount recovered by the Commonwealth is for such services; (ii) whether additional assets beyond a Medicaid enrollee's probate estate are recovered by the Commonwealth and, if so, what percentage of the overall amount recovered by the Commonwealth is from assets beyond such enrollees' probate estates; (iii) whether homes of modest value are excluded from Medicaid estate recovery and, if so, how DMAS defines "home of modest value"; (iv) the cost-effectiveness threshold followed by DMAS for pursuing Medicaid estate recovery; and (v) the criteria used to evaluate undue hardship waiver applications. DMAS is requested to also collect race and demographic data for each of the most recent five years on (a) the total number of collections, (b) the number of undue hardship waiver applications submitted, and (c) the number of undue hardship waiver applications that were approved or otherwise successful. The bill requires DMAS to submit an executive summary and such data and information to the members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

Patron - Price

F **SB131** **State Board of Health; permanent pump and haul of sewage; agritourism.** Requires the State Board of Health to amend regulations to exempt the pumping and hauling of sewage associated with an agritourism activity from the prohibition on pumping and hauling sewage on a permanent basis unless done under the auspices and supervision of a government entity.

Patron - Craig

F **SB156** **Emergency medical services personnel; requirements for personnel without commercial driver's license.** Requires the Board of Health to include in regulations pertaining to emergency medical services personnel the requirement that any emergency medical services personnel who administer patient care or who operate emergency medical services vehicles without a commercial driver's license comply with the provisions of federal law prohibiting the use of controlled substances by commercial driver's license holders. The bill also requires the State Health Commissioner, when issuing a license or permit to an emergency medical services agency, to require that any personnel of such agency who administer patient care or who operate emergency medical services vehicles without a commercial driver's license comply with the provisions of federal law prohibiting the use of controlled substances by commercial driver's license holders.

Patron - McDougle

F **SB168** **Certificate of public need; exception; maternal and perinatal health services.** Creates an exception to certificate of public need requirements for any project or action related to maternal and perinatal health services. The bill also removes neonatal intensive care from the definition of tertiary care for purposes of determining health planning regions.

Patron - Craig

F **SB188** **Board of Health; Stillbirth Support Grant Program established.** Establishes the Stillbirth Support Grant Program to provide grants to individuals who deliver a stillborn child, as defined in the bill, to assist with out-of-pocket expenses associated with such delivery. The bill authorizes the Board of Health to administer the Program and establish procedures and issue guidelines for administration of the Program as it deems appropriate. An application for such grant must be submitted within one year of delivery of a stillborn child.

Patron - Williams Graves

F **SB193** **Unregulated pregnancy clinics; unauthorized practice of medicine; unprofessional conduct of medical providers; civil penalty.** Requires unregulated pregnancy clinics, as defined by the bill, to have a qualified medical provider who supervises and takes responsibility for the provision of all medical care at such facility. The bill provides that any such clinic is required to provide to a client, upon request, the name and contact information for the qualified medical provider who supervises medical care to such client. A clinic shall notify the Board of Health, in accordance with rules promulgated by the Board, of the name and contact information for its qualified medical providers. Any person who violates the provisions of the bill is subject to a civil penalty of up to $3,000 for a first violation and up to $10,000 for a second or subsequent violation. The bill provides that individuals licensed by the Board of Medicine or the Board of Nursing are subject to disciplinary action for making or knowing of certain willful representations of the care provided at such unregulated pregnancy clinics if such representations are not true.

Patron - Williams Graves

F **SB207** **Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; protocol; information.** Directs the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to assess the feasibility of implementing a protocol upon the finding that an individual died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), as defined in the bill. Such protocol would require the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to refer cases of SUDEP to certain public or private institutions and publish resources with information on SUDEP on its website.

Patron - Pekarsky

F **SB244** **Department of Medical Assistance Services; managed care organization contracts; notice to providers.** Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to include in all of its managed care organization contracts provisions requiring that the managed care organization notify all known providers of any new enrollee who was previously enrolled in a fee-for-service plan or another managed care plan under the state plan for medical assistance services that such enrollee has changed health plans.

Patron - Head

F **SB292** **Local health directors; evaluation criteria; reports.** Requires the State Health Commissioner to establish evaluation criteria for each local health director heading a local health department no later than October 1, 2026. The bill further requires the Commissioner to evaluate each local health director on an annual basis using such criteria and issue a written report that includes findings of such evaluation to each director and, in certain cases, to the General Assembly.

Patron - Aird

F **SB357** **Office of Medicaid Financial Oversight established; report.** Establishes the Office of Medicaid Financial Oversight as an independent agency to provide financial oversight and fiscal accountability for the Commonwealth's Medicaid and children's health insurance programs.

Patron - McDougle

F **SB374** **Newborn screening requirements; Gaucher disease.** Directs the Department of Health to amend regulations to include Gaucher disease under the Commonwealth's newborn screening panel.

Patron - Boysko

F **SB411** **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 or 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 parent. 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

F **SB483** **Department of Medical Assistance Services; consultation with federally recognized tribes.** Establishes a Tribal Medicaid Advisory Group to work collaboratively on (i) plan amendments, waiver requests, and policies affecting tribal health programs at least 60 days prior to submitting them for public notice and comment and (ii) a tribal health program billing manual. The advisory group is required to meet in person on at least a quarterly basis. The bill also requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to (a) recognize the eligibility of any tribal health program to participate as a provider in the state plan, (b) consult with any tribal health program participating in the state plan at least 60 days prior to taking any adverse action, including suspension of payments or investigation regarding the participation of any tribal health program in the state plan, and (c) engage in ongoing consultation with federally recognized tribes and tribal health programs to address the needs of the state and tribal governments. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.

Patron - Marsden

F **SB555** **Nursing homes; periodic medical visits and resident assessments.** Requires all nursing homes to notify the resident of a nursing home, the resident's family, and the Department of Health if a federally required physician visit does not take place. The bill also requires each nursing home to conduct a comprehensive assessment on an annual basis to determine each resident's needs and describe each resident's capability to perform daily life functions. Such assessments must be reviewed at least once every 92 days, and more frequently in the event of a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition.

Patron - Sturtevant

Carried Over

C **HB66** **Department of Medical Assistance Services; Department of Social Services; administration of medical assistance and social services programs; technology modernization; report.** Directs the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to contract with a third-party vendor to study and create a plan for the modernization of the technological systems used to administer federal benefit programs in the Commonwealth. The bill requires DSS and DMAS to develop and submit a legislative report that includes a plan to modernize the current technological systems to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by December 1, 2026, and to use the recommendations and plan outlined in such legislative report to move forward with the procurement process.

Patron - Feggans

C **HB855** **Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid estate recoveries.** Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) to limit the operation of its estate recovery program to the recovery of only federally required costs. The bill directs the Department to make information on estate recovery available on its website in multiple languages. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Cousins

C **HB917** **Board of Pharmacy; compounding pharmacies; use of bulk drug substances; recordkeeping.** Establishes additional requirements for when pharmacists may use bulk drug substances in compounding and specifies prohibitions on pharmacist use of (i) bulk drug substances that were withdrawn or removed from the market for reasons of safety and effectiveness or were covered by an investigational new drug application and not approved and (ii) compounded drug products that are essentially a copy of commercially available drug products. The bill permits the Board of Pharmacy to request records of all compounded drug products and requires pharmacists to furnish such records within 48 hours of such request or within a reasonable time as determined by the Board. The bill also permits the Board of Pharmacy to submit any information related to investigations, disciplinary proceedings, or inspection of a licensee to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

Patron - Willett

C **HB1332** **Regional Care Compacts Pilot Program established; workforce development; certified nurse aides; licensed practical nurses; report.** Directs the Department of Health to establish the Regional Care Compacts Pilot Program to permit health care entities to enter into compacts, as defined by the bill, to incentivize health care workforce development. The bill permits such compacts to engage in workforce development activities, pool resources, enter into agreements with other entities to expand training and placement capacity, establish shared goals, and share workforce data in accordance with applicable privacy laws. The bill directs the

Department to provide technical assistance and permits the Department to administer the Program in coordination with the Department of Health Professions, the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority, and other relevant entities. The bill requires compacts to report to the Department on their activities and requires the Department to submit a consolidated report to the Governor and General Assembly each year by December 1.
Patron - Anthony

C HB1398 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 - Franklin, M.A.

C HB1424 Department of Health; Board of Health; powers and duties; onsite sewage system designs. Directs the Board of Health to establish and maintain a pre-certified library of engineered onsite sewage system designs that may be used by right when site conditions materially match the design envelope for such systems. The bill also directs the Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Environmental Quality, to implement a fast-track permitting timeline for subdivision plat review when a subdivision will have identical, decentralized onsite sewage system designs. Within 30 days from the date of written submission of a request for approval of a site evaluation and design for subdivision plat review, the Department of Health shall (i) issue the requested letter, permit, or approval or (ii) set forth in writing the specific reasons for denial.
Patron - Whittle

C HB1458 Secretary of Health and Human Resources; private equity ownership of health care facilities; work group; report. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (the Secretary) to convene a work group to study the impact of private equity on health care. The bill requires the Secretary to submit a report on the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Downey

C HB1495 Department of Medical Assistance Services; enhanced oversight of services facilitators. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to enhance oversight of Medicaid services facilitation for consumer directed services, including incorporation of such services into the statewide Fiscal Employer Agent contract and development of a contract monitoring and oversight plan.
Patron - Tran

C SB101 Medical assistance services; volunteer emergency medical services agencies; supplemental payment for ground emergency medical services vehicle transportation. Directs the State Board of Health to include a provision in the state plan for medical assistance services to implement a supplemental payment program for qualified volunteer emergency medical services agencies to cover the difference between the agency's costs for ground emergency medical services vehicle transport services and the reimbursement amount received from the Department of Medical Assistance Services.
Patron - Stanley

C SB114 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid waivers; consumer-directed services; employer of record. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to modify the program rules for consumer-directed services available through certain Medicaid waivers to allow an individual receiving services to serve as the employer of record (EOR) for his own service delivery and designate another individual to perform all or a portion of the duties of the EOR on the individual's behalf when the individual receiving services is unable to perform such duties or direct his own care. The bill specifies that when an individual (i) has not yet reached the age of majority, (ii) is ineligible to use his existing employer identification number (EIN) to facilitate the taxation of benefits, or (iii) is otherwise determined to be ineligible by DMAS by administrative rule, the EIN shall be assigned to the individual receiving services and shall not be transferred to another individual. Under the bill, DMAS has the authority to limit such amendments to specify that an individual receiving services may make such designation no more than twice per calendar year.
Patron - Durant

C SB241 Home care organizations; licensure. Provides that no license to establish or operate a home care organization shall be issued or renewed until such time as all existing home care organizations have been inspected. The bill also prohibits a home care organization from maintaining its office in a private residence or virtual office.
Patron - Head

C SB275 Department of Medical Assistance Services; community health worker expansion. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services, in coordination with the Department of Health, Department of Social Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, to (i) evaluate opportunities for Medicaid managed care organizations to embed certified community health workers into care coordination models, (ii) evaluate the implementation of 2024 Medicare Community Health Integration services codes, (iii) develop and implement statewide workforce pathways for community health worker training, and (iv) identify opportunities to expand the use of community health workers in programs supporting high-cost Medicaid populations. The bill directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Joint Commission on Health Care and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Williams Graves

C SB392 Board of Health; site cleanup guidelines; other illicit drugs. Directs the Board of Health to establish guidelines for the cleanup of residential property and other sites formerly used to manufacture illicit drugs. Under current law, the Board of Health is only required to establish such guidelines for sites formerly used to manufacture methamphetamine.
Patron - Jordan

C SB521 Data centers; rainwater harvesting systems. Requires any new construction or substantial expansion, as defined in the bill, of a data center, as defined in the bill, to (i) include a rainwater harvesting system sufficient to capture rainwater runoff from at least 30 percent of the total roof surface area of such data center and (ii) use such harvested rain-

water for non-potable water needs, as defined in the bill, including irrigation or the dissipation of heat from any component of such data center. The bill also requires any such system to be designed, installed, and periodically inspected by a person certified by the American Society of Sanitary Engineering and authorizes the State Board of Health to promulgate regulations in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Quality as necessary to effectuate the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Deeds

C **SB668** **State pharmacy benefits manager; contractual provisions; report.** Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services' contract with the state pharmacy benefits manager to (i) require that that ingredient-cost reimbursement is based on the national average drug acquisition cost, or if unavailable, the wholesale acquisition cost minus a discount set by the Department, plus a professional dispensing fee, determined by the Department; (ii) require real-time or near real-time transparency in drug costs, rebates collected and paid, dispensing fees paid, administrative fees, and all other charges, fees, costs, and holdbacks, claim denials appeals, and network participation; (iii) prohibit the state pharmacy benefits manager from steering Medicaid recipients to affiliated pharmacies through differential cost-sharing, restrictive network design, or the mandatory use of a mail order pharmacy provider; (iv) require the state pharmacy benefits manager to (a) meet network adequacy standards established by the Department; (b) allow any willing pharmacy to participate in the pharmacy network; (c) verify that all contracted pharmacies are actively accepting Medicaid recipients; (d) submit annual reports containing certain information; (e) disclose to the Department pricing and maximum acquisition cost methodologies; and (f) allow invoice-based or national average drug acquisition cost-based appeals and require an adjustment of rates network-wide when an appeal is upheld; and (v) include enforcement mechanisms and monetary penalties for noncompliance.
Additionally, the bill requires Department to annually calculate the savings generated by the use of the state pharmacy benefits manager and to annually increase its dispensing fee by the amount of such savings. The bill requires the Department to annually (1) publish and make available on its website its annual and total savings achieved, the annual and total amount applied to dispensing fees increases, and the updated dispensing fees and (2) report to the General Assembly on the state pharmacy benefits manager's compliance, national average drug acquisition cost compliance, pharmacy reimbursement trends, network adequacy compliance, and dispensing fee sufficiency.
Patron - Rouse

C **SB721** **Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program established; report.** Directs the Department of Health to implement the Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program that provides for remote patient monitoring for maternal hypertension and maternal diabetes. The bill requires the Department to select a managed care organization and technology vendor to administer the Pilot Program and to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly no later than 18 months after the first eligible participant is enrolled in the Pilot Program.
Patron - Carroll Foy

C **SB740** **Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Act; fund and council established; report.** Establishes the Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Fund (the Fund) to provide funding to support clinical research and implementation of FDA Breakthrough Therapies, defined in the bill, for the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder, treatment-resistant depression, major depressive disorder, and traumatic brain injury. Under the bill, the Fund shall be used to (i) establish public-private partnerships to jointly fund Phase III clinical trials of FDA Breakthrough Therapies; (ii) conduct investigator-initiated clinical trials; (iii) establish a compassionate use program; (iv) create education and training opportunities for mental health professionals; (v) begin patient access pilot programs; and (vi) conduct implementation studies for best practices, cost-effectiveness, and methods to reduce treatment costs. The bill also establishes the Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Advisory Council to advise the Department of Health on administration of grant funding or contracting to carry out the purposes of the Fund. Finally, the bill requires the Board of Pharmacy to amend its regulations to designate, reschedule, or deschedule a controlled substance in accordance with federal law after the expiration of 30 days from the publication in the Federal Register of a final or interim final order or rule.

Patron - Jones

C **SB808** **Nursing facilities; related party rent disclosures; incentive payment reduction; penalty**. Requires any nursing facility enrolled as a Medicaid provider that makes rent or lease payments to publicly disclose information related to the rent or lease payments, including whether payments are made to a related party, the nature of the related party, and the related party rent expense, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to determine whether related party rent expenses exceed a fair rental value benchmark and if so, deduct a portion of any incentive payment owed to the nursing facility. A knowingly false attestation or disclosure is punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor.

Patron - Sturtevant

Highways and Other Surface Transportation Systems

Passed

P **HB88** **Highway rights-of-way; invasive species.** Prohibits the Commonwealth Transportation Board (the Board) and Commissioner of Highways from planting or causing or suffering to be planted any invasive plant on the list of invasive plants created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on the right-of-way of any state highway. Current law prohibits the planting of three listed plants if the governing body of the locality declares such weeds or plants to be injurious and requires the Board to remove such plants. The bill removes such requirement for the Board to remove such plants and requires the Department of Transportation to conduct a review of the processes and resources that are necessary and appropriate to (i) determine the prevalence of invasive plants on the list of invasive plant species created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation and develop options for establishing and implementing a plan to remove or control such plants and manage such plants on an ongoing basis.

Patron - Laufer

P **HB141** **Virginia Passenger Rail Authority; exemptions.** Exempts the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority from certain requirements, procurement and technology procedures, fees, and charges and expands certain existing exemptions to which it is already entitled.

Patron - Reid

P **HB200** **Certain transit entities; funding and administration.** Changes the purposes and geographic applicability of the Transit Ridership Incentive Program, removes various other requirements related to the program's administration and use of funds, and specifies a November 1 deadline for the annual report on the program. The bill removes the requirement for the Secretary of Transportation to coordinate with certain other entities for the purpose of revising the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact of 1966 and implementing other reforms necessary to ensure the near-term and long-term viability of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. The bill also extends from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2028, the sunset on provisions delegating to local building officials the enforcement of the Uniform Statewide Building Code for bus shelters to be constructed for transit agencies receiving state funds from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB330** **Signs and advertisements adjacent to certain highways; signs affixed to real property owned by WMATA.** Adds to the list of signs exempt from certain requirements for outdoor advertising in sight of public highways signs containing advertisements or notices that have been authorized by a county or a city and that are securely affixed to real property that is owned by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, provided that such signs comply with any applicable federal requirements.
Patron - McClure

P **HB411** **Commissioner of Highways; certain agreements with the U.S. Department of Transportation; National Environmental Policy Act.** Authorizes the Commissioner of Highways to enter into agreements for a term of five years with the U.S. Department of Transportation, as provided for in federal law, regarding state assumption of responsibility for categorical exclusions and the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program. The bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to assume certain responsibilities of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation pursuant to such agreement. Under the bill, the Commonwealth waives its immunity from civil suit in a federal court under certain circumstances. The bill contains an expiration date of five years after the date on which the first agreement is entered into. This bill is identical to SB 716.
Patron - Reid

P **HB446** **Virginia Passenger Rail Authority; eminent domain.** Expands the authority of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority to exercise the power of eminent domain.
Patron - Simon

P **HB582** **Department of Transportation; autonomous truck-mounted attenuators; pilot program authorized.** Authorizes the Department of Transportation to establish a pilot program for the implementation and deployment of autonomous truck-mounted attenuators within mobile work zones, defined in the bill. The bill has an expiration date of December 31, 2031. This bill is identical to SB 320.
Patron - Glass

P **HB649** **Removal of certain signs and advertisements within the limits of highways; agreements with local governing bodies in Planning District 23; requirements.** Requires any agreement entered into by the Commissioner of Highways with a local governing body of a locality within Planning District 23 with a population between 245,000 and 350,000 and that has a tax increment financing district authorizing the removal of signs and advertisements within the limits of a highway to provide that the locality shall only authorize designated employees of the locality acting in their official capacity and contractors employed by the locality to remove such signs or advertisements and shall not authorize volunteers to act on behalf of such locality for the removal of signs or advertisements.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB1120** **Department of Motor Vehicles; improving the safety of electric power-assisted bicycles, motorized skateboards and scooters, electric personal assistive mobility devices, and mopeds for operators and the general public; report.** Directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to examine and make recommendations for options and measures for improving the safety of electric power-assisted bicycles, motorized skateboards and scooters, electric personal assistive mobility devices, and mopeds for operators and the general public and submit a report of its findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Singh

P **HB1231** **Commonwealth Aviation Fund; allocations.** Changes (i) the allocation amounts from the Commonwealth Aviation Fund, (ii) the entity to which certain funds from such Fund are allocated from air carrier airports to commercial service airport sponsors, and (iii) the classification of airports from air carrier airport and reliever airport to commercial service airport and regional business airport, respectively.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1241** **Hampton Roads Planning District Commission; development of a Hampton Roads Infrastructure Coordination and Readiness Framework.** Directs the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) to develop an infrastructure coordination and fiscal readiness framework for Planning District 23, to be known as the Hampton Roads Infrastructure Coordination and Readiness Framework (the Framework), and to coordinate and consult with certain other entities in the development of the Framework. The bill requires HRPDC to submit to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, the House Committees on Finance and Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations a report of the progress of the development of the Framework no later than December 1, 2026, and a final report on the Framework no later than December 1, 2027.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB1322** **Sheriff Javier J. Smith Memorial Bridge.** Designates the bridge on Roxbury Road/State Route 106 at the border of Charles City County and New Kent County in Charles City County the "Sheriff Javier J. Smith Memorial Bridge."
Patron - McQuinn

P **SB320** **Department of Transportation; autonomous truck-mounted attenuators; pilot program authorized.** Authorizes the Department of Transportation to establish a pilot program for the implementation and deployment of autonomous truck-mounted attenuators within mobile work zones, defined in the bill. The bill has an expiration date of December 31, 2031. This bill is identical to HB 582.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB321** **Abandonment of highway; section of the secondary state highway system; local authority.** Removes the requirement that a section of the secondary state highway system be in a residence district for a county to find

that such section is no longer necessary for the purpose of abandoning such section of highway as a public highway.

Patron - McPike

P **SB716 Commissioner of Highways; certain agreements with the U.S. Department of Transportation; National Environmental Policy Act.** Authorizes the Commissioner of Highways to enter into agreements for a term of five years with the U.S. Department of Transportation, as provided for in federal law, regarding state assumption of responsibility for categorical exclusions and the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Program. The bill authorizes the Department of Transportation to assume certain responsibilities of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation pursuant to such agreement. Under the bill, the Commonwealth waives its immunity from civil suit in a federal court under certain circumstances. The bill contains an expiration date of five years after the date on which the first agreement is entered into. This bill is identical to HB 411.

Patron - Roem

Failed

F **HB147 Issuance of bonds for the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program.** Increases from $1.3 billion to $1.632 billion the maximum aggregate principal amount for bonds that may be issued for the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program, and specifies that the amount of such increase is not specifically allocated to a part of the project.

Patron - Williams

F **HB499 Department of Transportation; work group; examine reclaimed asphalt pavement study; report.** Directs the Department of Transportation to convene a work group to examine the Characterizing and Improving Binder Availability and Activity in Asphalt Mixtures with Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) study conducted by the Virginia Transportation Research Council and make certain recommendations, and to submit a report of the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than December 1, 2026.

Patron - Watts

F **HB539 Local highway system funding; revenue-sharing funds; funding cycle.** Requires the application process established by the Commonwealth Transportation Board for localities to receive revenue-sharing funds to use for the improvement, construction, reconstruction, or maintenance of the highway system to be conducted on an annual basis.

Patron - Hamilton

F **HB571 Central Virginia Transportation Fund; distribution of funds; Bay Transit.** Distributes two percent of certain funds from the Central Virginia Transportation Fund to Bay Transit of New Kent and Charles City (Bay Transit) and reduces from 15 to 13 percent the amount of such funds distributed to the Greater Richmond Transit Company. The bill prohibits the distribution of funds to Bay Transit unless the Central Virginia Transportation Authority first enters into an agreement with Bay Transit for the distribution of such funds. The bill also provides that, for any year in which no such agreement exists, such funds be distributed to the Greater Richmond Transit Company.

Patron - Wyatt

F **HB583 Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program and Fund; Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program and Fund; Planning District 23.** Creates (i) the Hampton Roads Interstate Highway Corridor Improvement Program and Fund for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and otherwise making infrastructure and safety improvements to and maintaining the infrastructure of certain new or existing highway corridors, highways, bridges, and tunnels in Planning District 23 (Hampton Roads) and (ii) the Hampton Roads Highway Coastal Resilience Program and Fund for the purpose of planning, developing, financing, building, constructing, and maintaining infrastructure to address transportation infrastructure that is at risk due to recurrent and coastal flooding in Planning District 23.

Patron - Glass

F **HB731 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 - Leftwich

F **HB737 Certain primary highways; review of designation or classification for certain purposes by Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment; request of a locality.** Authorizes the governing body of any locality to submit a petition for review and change of any designation or classification, related to the Statewide Transportation Plan and any other transportation planning, prioritization, or funding purposes, of a primary highway within such locality to the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and requires OIPI to conduct an assessment of such primary highway and, if such assessment determines no change in designation or classification, provide a written explanation of the determination to the locality within 10 days of such determination.

Patron - Williams

F **HB762 Transportation funding; project prioritization; sidewalks.** Authorizes the consideration of the use of sidewalks and new sidewalk projects for certain project prioritization processes that apply statewide and to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, for purposes of transportation funding, and expands the permissible use of certain revenues by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority for capital improvements that reduce congestion to new sidewalk projects.

Patron - Seibold

F **HB883 Secretary of Transportation; review of the VDOT's approval process for projects involving buildings, road development, and other construction; report.** Directs the Secretary of Transportation to (i) conduct a review of the Department of Transportation's approval process for projects involving buildings, road development, and other construction and (ii) submit a summary of his review and a report of his findings to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation no later than December 1, 2026.

Patron - Sullivan

F **HB943 Free use of toll facilities; campus police officers.** Authorizes campus police officers to use all toll bridges, toll ferries, toll tunnels, and toll roads in the Common-

wealth without the payment of toll while in the performance of their official duties.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

F **HB1000 Rappahannock Area Transportation Authority created; funding; recordation tax; sales and use tax; report.** Creates the Rappahannock Area Transportation Authority, initially comprising the counties with a population in excess of 150,000 and cities located in Planning District 16. The bill authorizes any locality in Planning District 16 to join the Authority by resolution or ordinance of such governing body. The Authority will administer transportation funding generated through the imposition of (i) an additional regional 0.5 percent sales and use tax, (ii) an additional transportation improvement grantor's fee at a rate of $0.06 per $100 of the consideration for the conveyance, and (iii) a local transportation transient occupancy tax at a rate of one percent of the amount of the charge for the occupancy of any room or space occupied in any county or city in Planning District 16. The bill also increases the annual distribution of recordation tax revenues to cities and counties from $20 million to $55 million and dedicates $15 million of such annual distribution to the Rappahannock Area Transportation Fund, created by the bill.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB1012 School access corridors; snow and ice removal; Planning District 8.** Requires the Commissioner of Highways, when providing snow and ice removal services in Planning District 8, to prioritize the removal of snow and ice from certain state-maintained sidewalks and crosswalks defined in the bill as school access corridors.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1032 Department of Transportation; rest areas and welcome centers; adult changing stations.** Requires the Department of Transportation to provide at least one adult changing station at all rest areas on interstate highways and welcome centers operated by the Virginia Tourism Authority in the Commonwealth, with such changing station being either (i) in a single-stall family restroom or (ii) one adult changing station in both the men's and women's restrooms, and provides that such requirement may be satisfied by retrofitting or renovating existing restroom facilities or family restrooms. The bill provides that the Department of Transportation is not required to complete the installation, retrofitting, or provision of such an adult changing station at existing rest areas and welcome centers prior to such a time at which other renovations to such a rest area or welcome center are conducted.
Patron - Wilt

F **HB1134 Potomac River Ferry Restoration of Service Working Group; report.** Requires the Commissioner of Highways to convene the Potomac River Ferry Restoration of Service Working Group (the Working Group) to identify and implement a solution to resume ferry service for any ferry service that ceased operations on or after December 1, 2020, between Point of Rocks and the American Legion Bridge along the Potomac River. The bill authorizes the Office of the Attorney General, Secretary of Transportation, and Commissioner of Highways to enter into any agreement proposed by the Working Group, provided that each such official determines that the agreement is necessary, prudent, and in the public interest, and the agreement places no additional financial burden on the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Working Group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Reid

F **HB1200 Department of Transportation; protective caps for guardrail posts; report.** Directs the Department of Transportation to develop and adopt statewide standards and requirements for protective caps or other comparable shielding for exposed guardrail posts installed or replaced on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Williams

F **HB1202 Department of Transportation; guardrail modernization; report.** Requires the Department of Transportation (the Department) to identify, prioritize, and conduct the replacement of guardrail systems and end treatments that do not meet current Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) safety standards. The bill requires the Department to (i) identify and use any state or federal funds available to the Department for such purposes and, as necessary, apply for other grant funds; (ii) create and maintain a public inventory of non-compliant guardrail systems and end treatments; (iii) create a five-year upgrade schedule for the replacement of non-compliant guardrail systems and end treatments; and (iv) submit an annual report to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation.
Patron - Williams

F **HB1399 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 charges 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 - Franklin, M.A.

F **HB1402 State Trails Office; Statewide Trails Plan; Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail.** Directs the State Trails Office within the Department of Transportation to include the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail in the Statewide Trails Plan.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

F **HB1480 Unpaved secondary highway funds; maximum annual allocation.** Increases the maximum total annual allocation made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board for certain unpaved secondary highways from $25 million to $50 million.
Patron - Davis

F **SB517 Issuance of bonds for the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program.** Increases from $1.3 billion to $1.632 billion the maximum aggregate principal amount for bonds that may be issued for the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program, and specifies that the amount of such increase is not specifically allocated to a part of the project.
Patron - Stanley

Carried Over

C **SB638 Transportation funding.** Changes various provisions of existing transportation funds, including the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital Fund, and creates new funds for the Northern Virginia Transportation District and the localities embraced by the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission for regional transit purposes. The bill imposes a regional sales and use tax for certain localities, a tax on transportation network companies, a tax on retail deliveries,

and a tax on regional commercial parking. The bill also imposes a regional highway use fee on all vehicles in the Commonwealth that are subject to the existing highway use fee.
Patron - Ebbin

Homestead and Other Exemptions

Passed

P **HB445 Exemptions from garnishment; exemptions in bankruptcy proceedings; disposable earnings.** Provides that the exemption provided for a debtor's disposable earnings, defined by current law, that are subject to garnishment also applies to disposable earnings for the purposes of a bankruptcy proceeding.
Patron - Simon

P **HB488 Wage garnishment; state tax debt.** Provides that the maximum part of the aggregate disposable earnings of an individual for any workweek that is subject to garnishment to collect delinquent taxes and charges owed to the state government shall not exceed the lesser of (i) 25 percent of such individual's disposable earnings for that week or (ii) the amount by which such individual's disposable earnings exceed 40 times the federal or Virginia minimum wage, whichever is greater. The bill also directs the Department of Taxation to recognize Currently Not Collectible status granted by the Internal Revenue Service and to offer taxpayers with such status a similar Virginia status with comparable protections from collection activities. The bill contains technical amendments and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Hernandez

Hotels, Restaurants, Summer Camps, and Campgrounds

Passed

P **HB373 Restaurants; food allergy awareness notice required.** Requires the State Health Commissioner to publish in multiple languages a notice on the Department of Health's website containing procedures for restaurant staff to follow when a customer has a food allergy. The bill requires restaurants to post such notice in a conspicuous location. The bill also requires restaurants to include the phrase, "If you have a food allergy, please notify us," and its translation, if applicable, on their menus or on a sign posted conspicuously in the restaurant. This bill is identical to SB 248.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB380 State Health Commissioner; training materials for restaurant personnel; celiac disease.** Directs the State Health Commissioner to add celiac disease awareness and safety to the topics included in written materials provided for the training of restaurant personnel.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB790 Hotel policies; denial of guests residing within certain distance prohibited in certain instances.** Prohibits a hotel from enforcing a policy denying the ability of a guest to stay at such hotel solely on the grounds that such guest's primary residence is located within a certain distance of such hotel if such guest is seeking to stay for his health or safety.
Patron - Austin

P **HB840 Restaurants; certain facilities or programs; exemptions.** Exempts certain facilities that provide custodial care to 12 or fewer adults or children in a home from regulations applicable to restaurants. This bill is identical to SB 677.
Patron - Simonds

P **SB183 Board of Health; restaurants; major food allergen labeling.** Directs the Board of Health to promulgate regulations requiring all restaurants that alter or substitute food due to a consumer-identified food allergy or sensitivity to place an identifying marker on any food item prepared for delivery or carry out service that has been altered or substituted.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB248 Restaurants; food allergy awareness notice required.** Requires the State Health Commissioner to publish in multiple languages a notice on the Department of Health's website containing procedures for restaurant staff to follow when a customer has a food allergy. The bill requires restaurants to post such notice in a conspicuous location. The bill also requires restaurants to include the phrase, "If you have a food allergy, please notify us," and its translation, if applicable, on their menus or on a sign posted conspicuously in the restaurant. This bill is identical to HB 373.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB677 Restaurants; certain facilities or programs; exemptions.** Exempts certain facilities that provide custodial care to 12 or fewer adults or children in a home from regulations applicable to restaurants. This bill is identical to HB 840.
Patron - Head

Failed

F **HB151 Department of Health; food service permits; out-of-state caterers.** Directs the Department of Health to adopt regulations allowing caterers located outside of the Commonwealth to obtain a permit to provide food services for events located in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Williams

F **HB600 Short-term rental properties; human trafficking awareness training.** Requires every short-term rental operator, defined in the bill, and its employees to complete an approved training course on recognizing and reporting instances of suspected human trafficking, as provided or approved by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The bill requires that any short-term rental registry ordinance adopted by a locality pursuant to relevant law shall include that the training on recognizing and reporting instances of suspected human trafficking required by the bill be completed as part of the registration process. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB695 Restaurants; sodium warning label required; civil penalty.** Requires restaurants with three or more locations in the Commonwealth to display on its menu a sodium warning label next to or beneath each menu item containing 2,300 milligrams or more of sodium. Restaurants that

violate the provisions of this bill shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $500 per violation.
Patron - Hayes

Housing

Passed

P **HB4 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 adopt 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 at least 15 years. The bill requires that any locality with a population greater than 3,500 adopting such an ordinance to preserve affordable housing submit an annual report to the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to existing law.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB196 Department of Housing and Community Development; loans for the construction of mixed income housing; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development, in collaboration with the Virginia Housing Development Authority, to create a two-year pilot program that would provide loan origination and servicing activities for mixed income housing and submit a report on its findings to the General Assembly by November 1 of each year of the pilot program. The bill provides that any funding for the pilot program, subject to the appropriation act, shall be utilized from up to 15 percent of the annual deposit made to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. This bill is identical to HB 820 and SB 490. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB527 Department of Housing and Community Development; Eviction Reduction Program; report.** Establishes the Eviction Reduction Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development to expand the Department's work to (i) promote housing stability, (ii) identify factors that contribute to eviction filings, and (iii) provide interventions to prevent or divert evictions. The bill requires the Department to report annually to the General Assembly regarding the Program. The bill directs the Department to develop and include in its report criteria and guidelines necessary to administer the Program in consultation with stakeholders, including Eviction Diversion Program grantees as identified by the Department. This bill is identical to SB 628.
Patron - McClure

P **HB735 Board of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code; temporary tents used for agritourism purposes.** Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to review the relevant regulations of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and consider amending such regulations to allow temporary tents used for agritourism purposes to remain in place for up to 12 months on a single site. This bill is identical to SB 132.
Patron - Leftwich

P **HB820 Department of Housing and Community Development; loans for the construction of mixed income housing; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development, in collaboration with the Virginia Housing Development Authority, to create a two-year pilot program that would provide loan origination and servicing activities for mixed income housing and submit a report on its findings to the General Assembly by November 1 of each year of the pilot program. The bill provides that any funding for the pilot program, subject to the appropriation act, shall be utilized from up to 15 percent of the annual deposit made to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. This bill is identical to HB 196 and SB 490. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB951 Board of Housing and Community Development; ad hoc committees.** Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to evaluate and vote on all proposals brought forth in an ad hoc committee convened by the Board to advise on proposed changes to statewide building and fire regulations during a regular meeting of the Board, including proposals for which the ad hoc committee did not reach a consensus.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB1043 Department of Housing and Community Development; Affordable and Special Needs Housing program; Virginia Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant program; applicant notification.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to review all applications for the Affordable and Special Needs Housing program and the Virginia Housing Trust Fund Homeless Reduction Grant program and formally notify each applicant of an award or a denial no later than 90 days after the application submission deadline. Such provisions sunset on July 1, 2027.

The bill additionally designates the Department to be responsible for providing applicants initial notice of award or denial under such programs prior to any public announcement and requires the Department, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to develop guidelines that include timely notification of award or denial under such programs. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carr

P **SB5 Department of Housing and Community Development; Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force established; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish, in collaboration with the Department of Energy, and with assistance from the Department of Social Services, the Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force to determine barriers to access and enrollment in the current energy efficiency programs for income-qualified energy customers and to evaluate and develop a plan to address any necessary improvements regarding coordination among state and federal government agencies for utility services and resources to more effectively deliver energy-efficient housing, weatherization resources, and energy efficiency upgrades for income-qualified individuals and households in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Task Force to meet at least six times between July 1, 2026, and September 30, 2027, and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations no later than September 30, 2027. The bill specifies that such report shall include policy recommendations and a plan to ensure that weatherization-ready repairs and whole-home energy efficiency retrofits are provided to all eligible income-qualified individuals and households in the Commonwealth residing in multifamily buildings, single-family dwellings, and manufactured homes by December 31, 2034. This bill is identical to HB 3.
Patron - Locke

P **SB132** **Board of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code; temporary tents used for agritourism purposes.** Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to review the relevant regulations of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and consider amending such regulations to allow temporary tents used for agritourism purposes to remain in place for up to 12 months on a single site. This bill is identical to HB 735.
Patron - Craig

P **SB490** **Department of Housing and Community Development; loans for the construction of mixed income housing; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development, in collaboration with the Virginia Housing Development Authority, to create a two-year pilot program that would provide loan origination and servicing activities for mixed income housing and submit a report on its findings to the General Assembly by November 1 of each year of the pilot program. The bill provides that any funding for the pilot program, subject to the appropriation act, shall be utilized from up to 15 percent of the annual deposit made to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. This bill is identical to HB 196 and HB 820. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB628** **Department of Housing and Community Development; Eviction Reduction Program; report.** Establishes the Eviction Reduction Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development to expand the Department's work to (i) promote housing stability, (ii) identify factors that contribute to eviction filings, and (iii) provide interventions to prevent or divert evictions. The bill requires the Department to report annually to the General Assembly regarding the Program. The bill directs the Department to develop and include in its report criteria and guidelines necessary to administer the Program in consultation with stakeholders, including Eviction Diversion Program grantees as identified by the Department. This bill is identical to HB 527.
Patron - Locke

P **SB665** **Department of Housing and Community Development; local housing policy; report to Department.** Expands the range of local housing policy changes that are required to be submitted annually in a report to the Department of Housing and Community Development by any locality with a population greater than 3,500. This bill is identical to HB 356.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB666** **Department of Housing and Community Development; housing development database.** Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to collect from each locality and make available to the public, localities, state agencies, and other state and regional public entities in a centralized, machine-readable, screen reader compatible database various data for each new and existing housing development in each locality in the Commonwealth, including data related to the number of housing development plans submitted and approved by the locality and the average approval timeline for housing development plans. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB803** **Virginia Fair Housing Law; unlawful conduct.** Directs the Fair Housing Board to promulgate regulations defining "quid pro quo harassment," "hostile environment harassment," and other terms related to unlawful conduct under the Virginia Fair Housing Law. The bill directs the Fair Housing Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Deeds

Failed

F **HB119** **Board of Housing and Community Development; Uniform Statewide Building Code; stakeholder group to evaluate temperature regulation.** Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to convene a stakeholder advisory group to evaluate changes to the Uniform Statewide Building Code addressing temperature regulation. The stakeholder group shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Board and to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB142** **Access to Housing Task Force; report.** Establishes the Access to Housing Task Force for the purpose of evaluating short-term and long-term access to housing in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Gardner

F **HB904** **Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Disaster Assistance Fund; post-disaster recovery; floodplain mitigation and resilience projects.** Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) to amend its criteria for awarding money from the Virginia Disaster Assistance Fund (the Fund) to allow for moneys from the Fund to be used for post-disaster recovery projects that are consistent with the state floodplain management standards for state-owned buildings or local floodplain standards, whichever are more stringent. The bill requires the Department to give priority to projects that use nature-based solutions or promote green infrastructure when possible. The bill also requires the Department to coordinate with the Interagency Resilience Management Team when evaluating new applications for awards from the Fund to ensure that such projects are aligned with the Commonwealth's resilience principles.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB953** **Department of Housing and Community Development; work group to examine the future of redevelopment and housing authorities in the Commonwealth established; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish in collaboration with the Virginia Housing Development Authority a work group to examine the future of redevelopment and housing authorities in the Commonwealth for the purpose of examining the need to repurpose and find a new mission for redevelopment and housing authorities that serve the goals of promoting housing affordability, effectuating redevelopment, and conserving land where deemed appropriate, and to develop a plan to address the diminishing role of the federal government in supporting housing authorities. The bill requires the work group to meet at least six times between July 1, 2026, and September 30, 2027, and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations no later than September 30, 2027.
Patron - Guzman

F **HB1042** **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, an eligible locality, as named in the bill, 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 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 February 1, 2027. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - Carr

F **HB1057** **Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Rural Housing Infrastructure Fund and Program.** Establishes the Virginia Rural Housing Infrastructure Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, for the purpose of financing infrastructure projects in rural communities associated with increased housing development within such communities. The bill directs the Department to develop criteria and guidelines for awarding grants under the Program.
Patron - Phillips

F **HB1498** **Virginia Interagency Council on Homelessness established; use of state funds for housing and homelessness services; report.** Establishes the Virginia Interagency Council on Homelessness with the purpose of establishing a coordinated, statewide framework to prevent and end homelessness by aligning state and local efforts around evidence-based strategies. The bill directs the Council to (i) implement a state plan to end homelessness; (ii) align state policies, programs, and funding to effectuate the purpose of the Council; (iii) identify and recommend removal of statutory, regulatory, and administrative barriers to housing stability; and (iv) coordinate state, federal, and private funding to maximize impact and improve outcomes. The bill requires the Council to submit by October 1 of each year a report on its activities and recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly, and Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill additionally prohibits the use of state funds to establish, operate, or support any congregate living arrangement, shelter or similar facility, or program that functions in a punitive or coercive manner, as such term is defined in the bill, with respect to individuals experiencing homelessness.
Patron - McClure

Carried Over

C **HB81** **State agencies; amendment of regulations pertaining to the maximum temperature at which certain rooms may be kept.** Directs the Department of Social Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Department of Health, and the Department of Corrections to amend their regulations to provide that the maximum temperature at which certain rooms in facilities regulated by such agencies may be kept shall be no more than 77 degrees Fahrenheit.
Patron - Price

C **HB314** **Board of Housing and Community Development; Uniform Statewide Building Code; homeowners who live off grid.** Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to amend the Uniform Statewide Building Code to exempt any homeowner who lives off the electrical grid from complying with provisions of the Building Code regarding electrical systems, so long as his home is otherwise habitable pursuant to Building Code regulations.
Patron - Wachsmann

C **HB377** **Uniform Statewide Building Code; amendments; energy efficiency and conservation.** Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to adopt amendments to the Uniform Statewide Building Code within 18 months of publication of a new version of the International Code Council's International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to incorporate the latest IECC standards related to energy efficiency and conservation. The bill requires the Board to adopt Building Code standards that are at least as stringent as those contained in the new version of the IECC.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

C **HB464** **Department of Housing and Community Development; powers and duties of director; accessory dwelling unit construction guide.** Requires the director of the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop an accessory dwelling unit construction guide that provides (i) an overview of the accessory dwelling unit construction process; (ii) a review of ordinances, permits, fees, programs, and incentives related to accessory dwelling unit development by locality; and (iii) a catalog of model accessory dwelling unit designs suitable for various local restraints. Such guide shall be updated at least every five years.

Patron - Cohen

C **HB1509** **Uniform Statewide Building Code; regulations superseded; exceptions; interpretations; report.** Removes existing exceptions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code and establishes a process by which counties, municipalities, and other political subdivisions may petition the State Building Code Technical Review Board (the Review Board) to grant single project exceptions. The bill requires the Review Board, in granting approval for an exception, to identify other counties, municipalities, and political subdivisions of the Commonwealth in which the conditions are substantially similar and to which such exception shall therefore apply. The bill additionally requires the Review Board to report to the General Assembly annually no later than November 1 regarding the number of petitions received, the disposition of such petitions, technical findings supporting approvals and denials, and the cost and safety impacts of any approved exception. The bill requires any interpretation issued by the Review Board to apply statewide. Finally, the bill directs the Board of Housing and Community Development, in consultation with the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, to establish a training program for local plan reviewers and inspectors to ensure enforcement of the Uniform Statewide Building Code is uniform across the Commonwealth.

Patron - Phillips

C **SB629** **First-time home buyer savings plan; townhouses; principal limits.** Includes townhouses in the definition of single-family residence for purposes of the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Plan Act. The bill also increases (i) the aggregate amount of principal that can be contributed to a first-time home buyer savings account from $50,000 to $100,000 and (ii) the limit on the amount of principal and interest or other income on the principal that may be retained in such an account from $150,000 to $200,000.

Patron - Srinivasan

Institutions of Higher Education; Other Educational and Cultural Institutions

Passed

P **HB22 Public institutions of higher education; disciplinary immunity for certain individuals who make reports; Virginia Military Institute.** Removes the authority granted to Virginia Military Institute to include in its sexual violence policy, code, rules, or set of standards a provision stipulating that in the event that a cadet discloses personal consumption of drugs or alcohol in conjunction with a good faith report of an act of sexual violence and the superintendent of Virginia Military Institute determines that such cadet's personal consumption of drugs or alcohol constitutes a threat to the cadet's well-being or the well-being of others, the superintendent may require such cadet to attend drug or substance use disorder counseling.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB131 Public institutions of higher education; reasonable accommodations for the religious beliefs and practices of individual students.** Requires each public institution of higher education to provide reasonable accommodations, as defined in the bill, for the religious beliefs and practices of individual students with regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments and to provide and describe in the institution's student handbook or an equivalent document and in the institution's faculty handbook or an equivalent document a grievance procedure for any student to seek redress when the student believes that he has been unreasonably denied such reasonable accommodations for his religious beliefs and practices.
Patron - Simon

P **HB383 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; exemption of certain courses and programs of instruction from certification requirement.** Exempts from the requirement to be certified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia any course or program of instruction on Scrum, Kanban, or other Agile-based methods or frameworks, provided that no such exempted course or program of instruction exceeds the number of hours required by the certifying body.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB401 Public institutions of higher education; other educational and cultural institutions; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; powers of the board.** Amends the enumerated powers of the board of trustees of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts by replacing the authority to adopt regulations to establish classes of membership in the Museum with the authority to adopt regulations and set fees relating to the use and visitation of properties under the control of the board. The bill clarifies that the regulations on museum and grounds use and access set forth in the Virginia Administrative Code shall continue in effect and be deemed to constitute the regulations adopted pursuant to the bill.
Patron - Askew

P **HB404 Enslaved Ancestors College Access Scholarship and Memorial Program; parameters.** Prohibits any such institution from passing the cost of any scholarship program established in accordance with the provisions of the Enslaved Ancestors College Access Scholarship and Memorial Program to other enrolled students by increasing the rate of tuition or mandatory fees. The bill also requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to (i) establish a work group that consists of a representative of each institution that participates in the Program that meets at least semiannually to discuss Program administration, including sharing best practices on administration and research, coordinating funding and fundraising strategies, developing outreach and marketing plans, collaborating on historical and genealogical research efforts, and aligning government and community engagement initiatives, and (ii) develop and maintain a single statewide online portal that describes each institution's program, criteria, and investments in scholarship students or the community, lists designated points of contact at each institution, shares application timelines and processes, and offers historical context and ongoing memorial updates.
Patron - Reid

P **HB414 Selective Service; Two-Year College Transfer Grant; Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant Program.** Removes the requirement that individuals register for the Selective Service in order to be eligible for the Two-Year College Transfer Grant, the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant Program, or any other state direct tuition assistance.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB423 Roanoke Higher Education Authority; board of trustees; membership.** Reduces from 19 to 18 the total membership of the board of trustees of the Roanoke Higher Education Authority by removing the presidents of Old Dominion University and the University of Virginia or their designees and adding the president of Appalachian College of Pharmacy or his designee. The bill also permits the President of Total Action for Progress to designate an individual to serve in his place on such board of trustees. This bill is identical to SB 242.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB427 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; uniform, comprehensive data information system; information on self-identified students who are parents.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to include in its uniform, comprehensive data information system information on self-identified students who are parents, as that term is defined in relevant law.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB430 New College Institute; name; membership and composition of board of directors.** Renames New College Institute as the West Piedmont Higher Education Center (the Center) and makes several revisions to the membership requirements for the board of directors of the Center, including (i) increasing from 15 to 20 members the total membership of the board of directors; (ii) modifying the composition of the board of directors by adding as required members the Executive Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia or his designee, the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System or his designee, and the presidents of George Mason University, Longwood University, Radford University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Virginia State University or their designees; (iii) reducing from 10 to seven the total number of nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor and requiring five of such nonlegislative citizen members to be representatives of West Piedmont public education and area business and industry, including one division superintendent, one public school teacher, and three business and industry leaders; and (iv) adding the president of Patrick Henry Community College or his designee to serve as an ex officio nonvoting member. The bill also requires the board of directors of the Center, in collabora-

tion with representatives of GO Virginia Region 3, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Patrick Henry Community College, local school boards, and major regional employers, to develop a sustainability plan, including a comprehensive strategic plan and customer recruitment and expansion strategy, to provide higher education degree and certification programs in accordance with its mission, to review options to achieve the goals stated in such plan, and to report on such options to the Governor, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, and the Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations no later than August 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 299.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB468 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; guidelines for developing a transition IEP; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council), in consultation with the Department of Education and representatives of public institutions of higher education and public secondary schools in the Commonwealth, to develop and submit to the Department of Education for public posting and access by the individualized education program (IEP) team of any student with a disability guidelines for developing a transition IEP to help facilitate the timely provision of transition services and accommodations for students with disabilities by public institutions of higher education across the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Council to encourage private institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth to make such guidelines available to help facilitate the timely provision of transition services and accommodations for such students at such institutions. The bill requires the Council to submit to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2026, a report on its findings and recommendations that includes a copy of such guidelines.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB706 Museums and other cultural institutions; Gunston Hall; meetings of the Board of Regents.** Requires the Gunston Hall Board of Regents to meet in person at least once annually. The bill clarifies that any additional meeting of the Board held within the same calendar year may be in person or held as an all-virtual public meeting, notwithstanding a certain provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to the contrary. The bill requires all such meetings to otherwise comply with FOIA.
Patron - Henson

P **HB955 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; public institutions of higher education; certain annual student demographic data; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to annually report on the enrollment of Virginia students, non-Virginia students, and international students at each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth and submit a report of its findings to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than February 1 each year.
Patron - Guzman

P **HB971 College student-athletes; biometric data; protections and limitations.** Prohibits any private institution of higher education, associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education, or baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth from disclosing to any individual or entity outside of the institution any enrolled student-athlete's biometric data, as defined in the bill, without the prior written consent of the student-athlete. The bill also prohibits any individual or entity from making the possession, use, or ownership of or the rights to any student-athlete's biometric data a condition of any contract with the student-athlete for the use of the student-athlete's name, image, or likeness without the prior written consent of the student-athlete in a writing that is separate and apart from such contract.
Patron - Price

P **HB1040 Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority; board of directors; chief executive officer.** Makes several changes relating to the board of directors and the chief executive officer of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority (the Authority), including (i) reducing from 19 to 13 the number of appointed members on the boards of directors and adding the chief executive officer of the Authority as an ex officio member with voting privileges, thereby reducing from 21 to 16 the total number of board members; (ii) changing from voting to nonvoting the nature of the membership of the President of Virginia Commonwealth University (the University) on the board of directors and prohibiting rather than requiring, as under current law, the President of the University from serving as chairman of the board of directors; (iii) lengthening the terms of all members of the board of directors from three years to four years; (iv) requiring the biennial election of a chairman and vice-chairman of the board of directors, requiring such chairman and vice-chairman to have served for at least two years on the board of directors, and prohibiting any employee of the University, employee of the Authority, member of the board of visitors of the University, or legislative member from serving as chairman; (v) providing that no further action shall be taken if a majority of each of the three-member committees appointed by the board of directors of the Authority and the board of visitors of the University do not agree on the removal of the chief executive officer of the Authority within 30 days of the appointment of the committees by each board; and (vi) providing that in the event that a majority of the members of each committee do not agree on the selection or conditions of appointment of the chief executive officer within 30 days of the appointment of the committees by each board, then the process set forth in statute shall be repeated until such selection has been made or such conditions of appointment have been determined. Current law requires the President of the University to make a binding decision in the event of any such disagreement. This bill is identical to SB 431.
Patron - Carr

P **HB1108 Public institutions of higher education; museums and other cultural institutions; Virginia Commission for the Arts; revisions.** Revises the requirements relating to the composition, administration, and duties of the Virginia Commission for the Arts, including by (i) modifying and consolidating the duties of the Commission; (ii) requiring the Governor to appoint an executive director of the Commission, as opposed to permitting the Governor to appoint a director as provided under current law; and (iii) providing that moneys in the Virginia Commission for the Arts Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of supporting initiatives relating to the duties of the Commission, as set forth in applicable law, and that expenditures and disbursements from the Fund are to be made upon written request signed by persons authorized by the executive director of the Commission. Current law requires expenditures and disbursements from the Fund to be made upon request signed by persons authorized by the Commission.
Patron - Kilgore

P **HB1221 Public institutions of higher education; financial aid review and consolidation; Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program and Fund; Virginia Commonwealth Award established; work group; report.** Amends several provisions relating to higher education finan-

cial aid programs for the purpose of establishing the Virginia Commonwealth Award in the Code of Virginia and consolidating the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program and Fund with the Virginia Commonwealth Award. Currently, the Virginia Commonwealth Award is established and administered only in the Virginia Administrative Code. In consolidating and establishing such financial aid programs as the Virginia Commonwealth Award, the bill codifies several definitions and provisions relating to award eligibility and renewal for undergraduate students and graduate students. The bill also repeals a provision of law establishing the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Fund. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to promulgate emergency regulations for the administration of financial aid in accordance with the provisions of the bill by April 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Secretary of Education to (i) establish a work group to conduct a comprehensive review of higher education financial aid systems and processes in the Commonwealth and make recommendations on strategies for maximizing the efficacy and impact of state financial aid appropriations on accessibility and affordability of and student outcomes in higher education in the Commonwealth and (ii) submit to the chairs of the applicable committees of the General Assembly by July 1, 2027, a report on the work group's findings and recommendations. Finally, the bill provides for the gradual phase-out of the award of grants under the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program by (a) prohibiting any first-time students from being offered a grant under the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program beginning with first-time students enrolled in the fall semester of 2027 and (b) permitting any public institution of higher education to provide for the annual renewal of grant awards under such program for no more than three subsequent award years, or up to a total of four award years, to any student who receives a grant during the 2026–2027 school year and continues to meet the requirements for grant renewal set forth in applicable law. This bill is identical to SB 167.
Patron - Sewell

P **SB91 Public institutions of higher education; Old Dominion University; Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center renamed as Virginia Health Sciences.** Renames the Eastern Virginia Health Sciences Center at Old Dominion University as Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB167 Public institutions of higher education; financial aid review and consolidation; Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program and Fund; Virginia Commonwealth Award established; work group; report.** Amends several provisions relating to higher education financial aid programs for the purpose of establishing the Virginia Commonwealth Award in the Code of Virginia and consolidating the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program and Fund with the Virginia Commonwealth Award. Currently, the Virginia Commonwealth Award is established and administered only in the Virginia Administrative Code. In consolidating and establishing such financial aid programs as the Virginia Commonwealth Award, the bill codifies several definitions and provisions relating to award eligibility and renewal for undergraduate students and graduate students. The bill also repeals a provision of law establishing the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Fund. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to promulgate emergency regulations for the administration of financial aid in accordance with the provisions of the bill by April 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Secretary of Education to (i) establish a work group to conduct a comprehensive review of higher education financial aid systems and processes in the Commonwealth and make recommendations on strategies for maximizing the efficacy and impact of state financial aid appropriations on accessibility and affordability of and student outcomes in higher education in the Commonwealth and (ii) submit to the chairs of the applicable committees of the General Assembly by July 1, 2027, a report on the work group's findings and recommendations. Finally, the bill provides for the gradual phase-out of the award of grants under the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program by (a) prohibiting any first-time students from being offered a grant under the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program beginning with first-time students enrolled in the fall semester of 2027 and (b) permitting any public institution of higher education to provide for the annual renewal of grant awards under such program for no more than three subsequent award years, or up to a total of four award years, to any student who receives a grant during the 2026–2027 school year and continues to meet the requirements for grant renewal set forth in applicable law. This bill is identical to HB 1221.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB242 Roanoke Higher Education Authority; board of trustees; membership.** Reduces from 19 to 18 the total membership of the board of trustees of the Roanoke Higher Education Authority by removing the presidents of Old Dominion University and the University of Virginia or their designees and adding the president of Appalachian College of Pharmacy or his designee. The bill also permits the President of Total Action for Progress to designate an individual to serve in his place on such board of trustees. This bill is identical to HB 423.
Patron - Head

P **SB299 New College Institute; name; membership and composition of board of directors.** Renames New College Institute as the West Piedmont Higher Education Center (the Center) and makes several revisions to the membership requirements for the board of directors of the Center, including (i) increasing from 15 to 20 members the total membership of the board of directors; (ii) modifying the composition of the board of directors by adding as required members the Executive Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia or his designee, the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System or his designee, and the presidents of George Mason University, Longwood University, Radford University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Virginia State University or their designees; (iii) reducing from 10 to seven the total number of nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor and requiring five of such nonlegislative citizen members to be representatives of West Piedmont public education and area business and industry, including one division superintendent, one public school teacher, and three business and industry leaders; and (iv) adding the president of Patrick Henry Community College or his designee to serve as an ex officio nonvoting member. The bill also requires the board of directors of the Center, in collaboration with representatives of GO Virginia Region 3, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, Patrick Henry Community College, local school boards, and major regional employers, to develop a sustainability plan, including a comprehensive strategic plan and customer recruitment and expansion strategy, to provide higher education degree and certification programs in accordance with its mission, to review options to achieve the goals stated in such plan, and to report on such options to the Governor, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, and the Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations no later than August 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 430.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB431 Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority; board of directors; chief execu-**

tive officer. Makes several changes relating to the board of directors and the chief executive officer of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority (the Authority), including (i) reducing from 19 to 13 the number of appointed members on the boards of directors and adding the chief executive officer of the Authority as an ex officio member with voting privileges, thereby reducing from 21 to 16 the total number of board members; (ii) changing from voting to nonvoting the nature of the membership of the President of Virginia Commonwealth University (the University) on the board of directors and prohibiting rather than requiring, as under current law, the President of the University from serving as chairman of the board of directors; (iii) lengthening the terms of all members of the board of directors from three years to four years; (iv) requiring the biennial election of a chairman and vice-chairman of the board of directors, requiring such chairman and vice-chairman to have served for at least two years on the board of directors, and prohibiting any employee of the University, employee of the Authority, member of the board of visitors of the University, or legislative member from serving as chairman; (v) providing that no further action shall be taken if a majority of each of the three-member committees appointed by the board of directors of the Authority and the board of visitors of the University do not agree on the removal of the chief executive officer of the Authority within 30 days of the appointment of the committees by each board; and (vi) providing that in the event that a majority of the members of each committee do not agree on the selection or conditions of appointment of the chief executive officer within 30 days of the appointment of the committees by each board, then the process set forth in statute shall be repeated until such selection has been made or such conditions of appointment have been determined. Current law requires the President of the University to make a binding decision in the event of any such disagreement. This bill is identical to HB 1040.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB494** **Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; membership and duties; work groups.** Revises the membership and duties of the governing board of each public institution of higher education by, among other things, increasing from four years to six years the terms of each member of the governing board and requiring the governing board of each public institution of higher education to adopt policies defining and implementing shared governance among the components of the institution's organizational structure. The bill also directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene work groups for the purpose of developing model shared governance policies, in accordance with the provisions of the bill, and for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on (i) institutional structures and processes relating to legal counsel; (ii) the current selection and use of outside legal counsel by public institutions of higher education; (iii) a process by which (a) the governing board of any public institution of higher education, the Governor, or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility, upon determining that the legal counsel of a public institution of higher education is not acting in the best interests of the institution, including due to a conflict of interest, failure to defend the lawful authority of the public institution of higher education, or failure to comply with state law, may request the Attorney General to review the adequacy of such legal representation and (b) upon a determination by the Attorney General or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility that such institution is not receiving adequate legal representation, the governing board of any public institution of higher education may request additional representation or approve alternate counsel as necessary to protect the interests of the institution; and (iv) policies for requiring any individual member of a governing board of a public institution of higher education to recuse himself from or not participate in any vote or decision of the governing board on any matter in which he has a personal or pecuniary interest or any partisan or ideological interest that would compromise his ability to vote or act objectively and in accordance with the primary duties set forth in relevant law. This bill incorporates SB 381 and is identical to HB 1385. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Deeds

Failed

F **HB56** **Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; tuition and fee waivers; eligibility.** Expands eligibility for a waiver of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education pursuant to the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program to the spouse or a child between the ages of 16 and 29 (i) of a military service member who, while serving as an active duty member in the Armed Forces of the United States, Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States, or Virginia National Guard, died in the line of duty, including from a training accident, a service-connected illness, or toxic exposure or as a result of a mental health condition such as post-traumatic stress disorder or suicide, or (ii) of a veteran who served in the Armed Forces of the United States, Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States, or Virginia National Guard and who died as a result of a service-connected condition, including a service-connected illness, an injury, toxic exposure, or suicide.
Patron - Feggans

F **HB265** **Grants for certain students at public institutions of higher education; qualifications.** Removes the requirement for each public institution of higher education to provide a grant for the payment of tuition, certain mandatory education and general fees, and, at baccalaureate institutions, room and board, for any Virginia student who was considered a special needs adoption at any time after he turned 14. The bill also clarifies that only a Virginia student who has received a high school diploma or has passed a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education and who was in foster care in the Commonwealth after he turned 14 or who was in foster care in the Commonwealth when he turned 18 and subsequently received a high school diploma or passed a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education is eligible for such a grant. Current law that governs such grant eligibility is silent on the location of such foster care placement.
Patron - Tata

F **HB287** **Institutions of higher education; eligibility for in-state tuition for citizens of federally recognized Virginia tribes.** Makes any non-Virginia student who is a member or citizen of a federally recognized tribe and who is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program eligible for in-state tuition. The bill also allows the governing board of any public institution of higher education to charge in-state tuition to such students enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program. This is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB417** **Public institutions of higher education; in-state tuition; children of active duty service members or veterans.** Provides that any child of an active duty service member or veteran who claims Virginia as his home state and filed Virginia tax returns for at least four years during active

duty service is eligible for in-state tuition charges, regardless of domicile. Under current law, any such child is eligible for in-state tuition charges if such service member or veteran claims Virginia as his home state and filed Virginia tax returns for at least 10 years during active duty service.
Patron - Guzman

F **HB436 Public institutions of higher education; tuition and mandatory fees charged to Virginia students.** Provides that, notwithstanding any provision of the general appropriation act, law, regulation, or policy to the contrary, (i) for the purpose of state support for Virginia students at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth, all fees associated with essential student services, including fees for student health services, student immigration services, and student technology services, shall be considered part of the tuition and mandatory education and general fees charged to such students and (ii) no public institution of higher education shall annually increase the total of all mandatory non-education and general fees charged to Virginia students by more than three percent of the total of such fees charged to Virginia students for the immediately preceding academic year.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

F **HB471 Public institutions of higher education; financial aid and assistance; transition and postsecondary programs for students with intellectual disabilities; eligibility for state-supported financial aid programs.** Extends eligibility for any state-supported financial aid program or other higher education program to any individual who (i) is enrolled in an eligible transition and postsecondary education program, defined by the bill as any program offered by a public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to students with intellectual disabilities attending such institution that meets the criteria for and is federally designated as a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program; (ii) is a student with an intellectual disability, as defined by the bill; and (iii) meets the other eligibility requirements for such program, except for certain enumerated eligibility requirements from which the bill exempts such individuals or for which the bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to establish alternative, equivalent standards for students with intellectual disabilities.
Patron - Cohen

F **HB502 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; fixed in-state tuition policy; review; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council), in consultation with each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth, to assess the potential impact of a policy whereby such institutions are required to establish a fixed in-state tuition rate for each incoming first year undergraduate Virginia student enrolled in a four-year baccalaureate program and declare each such student eligible for such rate for four academic years or any portion or term thereof during which the student makes satisfactory progress toward completing such degree program, provided that the student maintains continuous enrollment. The bill requires the Council to report its findings to the Chairs 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 30, 2026.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB522 Virginia Private College Preservation and Maintenance Fund and Program established.** Establishes the Virginia Private College Preservation and Maintenance Fund and Program, to be administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in collaboration with the Council of Independent Colleges in Virginia and the Department of Historic Resources, for the purpose of awarding grants on a competitive basis to any 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 to assist with the funding of renovation, restoration, repair, preservation, and deferred maintenance projects, with certain enumerated conditions such as providing sufficient evidence of matching funds for the project in an amount equal to the amount of the grant to be awarded and providing certain documentation and project monitoring for projects involving certified historic structures, as defined in the bill.
Patron - Willett

F **HB663 Public institutions of higher education; financial assistance; Medical Education Loan-for-Service Fund and Program established; report.** Establishes the Medical Education Loan-for-Service Fund and Program (the Program) for the purpose of providing loans to any person enrolled in or admitted to an eligible institution, as defined in the bill, that shall be forgiven in whole or in part upon satisfactory completion of a service agreement entered into by a recipient to engage in clinical practice in a designated service area, as defined in the bill, for the requisite period and in accordance with the requirements set forth by the bill. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council) and the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority (the Authority) to administer the Program and to enter into a memorandum of understanding establishing policies and procedures for the administration of the Program. The bill also (i) establishes requirements for the administration of the Program, including (a) requirements for eligibility to apply to and receive a loan under the Program and the prioritization of Program applications and (b) terms and conditions governing the receipt, forgiveness, and repayment of loans under the Program; (ii) directs the Council and the Authority to promulgate regulations for the administration of the Program relating to monitoring and enforcing compliance of recipients with Program requirements and terms and conditions; (iii) authorizes the Council to take certain actions relating to the enforcement of Program requirements and the collection of loans in certain circumstances; and (iv) directs the program administrator to annually collect data on the activities of the Program for the preceding fiscal year and submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committees on Education, Health and Human Services, and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations a report on such data by October 1 of each year. Finally, the bill directs the Council to promulgate such regulations as are necessary for (a) the program administrator to begin collecting applications for the Program by January 1, 2027, and (b) the disbursement of loans under the Program no later than July 1, 2027.
Patron - Willett

F **HB780 Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; appointment and composition of members; powers and duties; legal counsel.** Amends several provisions relating to the employment, oversight, and management of the legal counsel for each public institution of higher education. The bill also amends the requirements relating to the appointment of members to and the composition of the governing board of each public institution of higher education, including (i) changing the required number of members to 18; (ii) expanding the term of each member of a governing board from four years to six years; (iii) requiring each governing board to appoint one member of the faculty, one member of the staff, and one student to the respective board as voting members; (iv) modifying procedural requirements for guberna-

torial appointments and the confirmation of gubernatorial requirements by the General Assembly; and (v) amending and clarifying several procedural requirements specific to the appointment of members of governing boards, including appointments to fill vacancies and nomination and confirmation procedures and timelines.

The bill also changes the procedures and requirements for the appointment of members to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and amends the requirements relating to meetings of and exercise of authority by each governing board and any executive committee appointed by a governing board pursuant to applicable law. Finally, the bill clarifies and expands the duties of each governing board in its collective capacity, and of the members of each governing board in their individual capacities, regarding (a) the primary duties of governing boards to advance the interests of the institution and the people of the Commonwealth, (b) duties relating to ideological and partisan neutrality and the protection of academic freedom and freedom of speech, and (c) duties relating to the relationship of the governing board and the institution's administration, faculty, and students.

Patron - Callsen

F **HB877** **Public high school students; opportunity to earn transferable meta-major associate degree during high school to reduce college debt.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in cooperation with the Virginia Community College System and each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education and each baccalaureate public institution of higher education, to establish a program by which qualified high school students earn an associate degree in a meta-major through dual enrollment, independent dual enrollment, as defined in the bill, or a combination thereof, that (i) is fully transferable to any baccalaureate public institution of higher education that offers a program of study in such meta-major and (ii) to the extent possible, and as determined by the applicable baccalaureate public institution of higher education, satisfies discipline-specific degree requirements in the student's preferred program of study.

Patron - Rasoul

F **HB882** **Innovative Internship Fund and Program; local government employers and matching funds.** Adds local government employers to those eligible for institutional grants and matching funds through the Innovative Internship Fund and Program.

Patron - Sullivan

F **HB939** **Baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; Richard Bland College; boards of visitors; membership; student representative.** Increases by one the membership of the board of visitors of Richard Bland College and of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth. The bill requires at least one voting member of each such board of visitors to be a representative of the student body of the institution. The bill requires, in the case of any vacancy of the student representative on the board of visitors of Richard Bland College or any baccalaureate public institution of higher education, the student body of the relevant institution to submit to the Governor a list of three nominees from which the Governor is required to appoint a member to fill the vacancy. Current law permits the board of visitors of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education to appoint one or more nonvoting, advisory student representatives to the board.

Patron - Franklin, L.V.

F **HB1068** **Baccalaureate public institutions of higher education; livestreaming, recording, and archiving of boards of visitors meetings; closed sessions; guidelines.** Requires each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to (i) provide for the livestreaming of each meeting of its full board of visitors in a manner that is accessible to the public in real time and (ii) ensure that recordings of such meetings (a) are made, archived, and made available to the public within five business days following the conclusion of the meeting; (b) remain accessible on the institution's official website for no less than five years from the date of the meeting; and (c) include closed captioning for accessibility and are presented in a format compliant with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The bill requires the board of visitors of each such institution to include a report on the institution's compliance with the foregoing requirements in its statutorily required annual executive summary. The bill also requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to develop and provide to each baccalaureate public institution of higher education guidelines to assist such institutions with complying with the foregoing requirements, including recommendations for technology standards and accessibility features. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Hodges

F **HB1069** **Boards of visitors of baccalaureate public institutions of higher education and Richard Bland College and local community college boards; membership; faculty representative and staff representative.** Requires the governing board of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education and Richard Bland College and each local community college board to appoint one voting faculty representative and one voting staff representative to its respective board, each of whom is required to be (i) elected (a) by the majority of the institution's faculty or the institution's faculty senate or its equivalent in the case of the faculty representative or (b) by the majority of the institution's staff in the case of the staff representative and (ii) appointed to serve (a) at least one term of at least 12 months, which shall be coterminous with the institution's fiscal year or (b) for such terms as may be mutually agreed to by the local community college board or the board of visitors and the institution's faculty or staff, respectively. The bill provides that any vacancy of such a voting representative shall be filled in the same manner as the original selection, whether the vacancy occurs by expiration of a term or otherwise. Current law permits each such board to appoint one or more nonvoting, advisory faculty representatives to the board and is silent on the appointment of staff representatives to such boards.

Patron - Laufer

F **HB1085** **New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program; eligible institutions.** Includes private technical schools offering industry-recognized noncredit workforce credentials in high-demand fields in conjunction with comprehensive community colleges as institutions that are eligible to participate in and receive reimbursement for student program completion and credential attainment pursuant to the New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program.

Patron - Webert

F **HB1098** **State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; work group; study; uniform acceptance of credit earned through participation in certain volunteer or public service organizations; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to establish a work group consisting of representatives of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth and such other stakeholders as it deems appropriate to study the feasibility of the uniform acceptance by each such institution of college credit earned through student participation in certain volunteer or public service organizations such as AmeriCorps. The bill requires the work group, in conducting such study, to consider

barriers to implementation, strategies for ensuring the rigor and quality of the service-learning opportunities for which credit would be granted, and innovative approaches in other states that could be emulated in the Commonwealth, such as California College Corps or similar state-sanctioned programs whereby students have access to a statewide program of service-learning opportunities through partnerships between campuses and community-based service organizations. The bill requires the work group to submit its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Singh

F **HB1260 Public elementary and secondary schools and public institutions of higher education; certain federal immigration investigation and enforcement activities; certain notifications and prohibitions.** Requires, no later than July 1, 2027, and subject to certain enumerated conditions and requirements, (i) the written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan for each public elementary or secondary school to include (a) a requirement that whenever the division superintendent confirms that an individual is present on the property of a public elementary or secondary school in the school division to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in the investigation for compliance with or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law or any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes an individual's presence in, entry or reentry into, or employment in the United States, each school board employee at such school and the parents of each student enrolled in such school shall be notified of such presence and (b) a prohibition against any individual present on the property of a public elementary or secondary school in the school division to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in the investigation for compliance with or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law or any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes an individual's presence in, entry or reentry into, or employment in the United States from accessing any nonpublic area of such school property without a warrant signed by a judge or magistrate and (ii) each public institution of higher education to (a) notify all students, faculty, and staff whenever the institution confirms that an individual is present on campus to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in the investigation for compliance with or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law or any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes an individual's presence in, entry or reentry into, or employment in the United States and (b) prohibit any individual present on campus to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in the investigation for compliance with or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law or any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes an individual's presence in, entry or reentry into, or employment in the United States from accessing any nonpublic area of campus without a warrant signed by a judge or magistrate.
Patron - Shin

F **HB1312 Public institutions of higher education; undergraduate Virginia student tuition and mandatory fees; two-year freeze.** Requires the tuition and mandatory fees charged to undergraduate Virginia students at each public institution of higher education to be capped at the rate charged to such students for the first academic term of the 2025-2026 academic year. The provisions of the bill expire on July 1, 2028.
Patron - Singh

F **HB1354 Tuition Assistance Grant Program; eligible institutions.** Declares any nonprofit private historically black college or university whose primary purpose is to provide collegiate, graduate, or professional education and not to provide religious training or theological education and that is located in the Commonwealth and accredited by a national institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to be eligible to participate in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1374 Virginia Military Institute; board of visitors; membership.** Makes several changes relating to the membership of the Virginia Military Institute Board of Visitors, including providing that, of the 16 members appointed by the Governor, (i) no more than eight shall be alumni of the Institute, (ii) at least six shall be nonalumni residents of the Commonwealth, and (iii) at least five shall have United States military experience, as defined in the bill. Current law provides that of the 16 members appointed by the Governor, (i) 12 shall be alumni of the Institute, of whom eight shall be residents of the Commonwealth and four shall be nonresidents, and (ii) four shall be nonalumni residents of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Feggans

F **SB375 Commonwealth Savers Plan; Virginia College Opportunity Endowment and Fund established; report.** Establishes (i) the Endowment Scholarship Program for the purpose of providing scholarships to students at eligible institutions, as defined in the bill; (ii) the Virginia College Opportunity Endowment as an agency of the Commonwealth for the purpose of establishing and administering the Endowment Scholarship Program; and (iii) as subfunds of the Commonwealth Savers Plan fund, (a) the DB529 Fund for the purpose of holding in trust the assets of prepaid tuition contracts to meet contractual obligations and (b) the Virginia College Opportunity Fund (the Opportunity Fund), into which certain funds from the DB529 Fund shall be deposited for the purpose of funding, by income generated from investments of such deposits, the Endowment Scholarship Program and other applicable programs, as set forth in the bill.
The bill requires the Commonwealth Savers Plan (the Plan) to (a) after the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2026, deposit $500 million into the Opportunity Fund from the DB529 Fund; (b) each fiscal year thereafter, in accordance with the timeline set forth in the bill, submit to the General Assembly a report on the funded status, as defined by applicable law, of the DB529 Fund and the recommendations of the Plan on the prudence of directing deposits, and the amounts of any such deposits, of additional actuarial surpluses of the Plan from the DB529 Fund into the Opportunity Fund; and (c) each subsequent year, deposit additional actuarial surpluses into the Opportunity Fund in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The bill also requires the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to, no less than biennially, complete an independent evaluation and risk assessment of the Plan's risk assessment model, assumptions, and other measures employed by the Plan relating to the DB529 Fund and Opportunity Fund.
Finally, the bill contains provisions (1) relating to voluntary contributions to the Opportunity Fund for the purpose of receiving tax fund contributions and income tax deductions, and (2) exempting from mandatory disclosure requirements certain information contained in a public record relating to the Commonwealth Savers Plan or the Virginia College Opportunity Endowment and Fund.
Patron - Surovell

F **SB381 Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; appointment and composition of members; powers and duties; legal counsel.** Amends several provisions relating to the employment, oversight, and management of the legal counsel for each public institution of higher education. The bill also amends the requirements relating to the appointment of members to and the composition of

the governing board of each public institution of higher education, including (i) changing the required number of members to 18; (ii) expanding the term of each member of a governing board from four years to six years; (iii) requiring each governing board to appoint one member of the faculty, one member of the staff, and one student to the respective board as voting members; (iv) modifying procedural requirements for gubernatorial appointments and the confirmation of gubernatorial requirements by the General Assembly; and (v) amending and clarifying several procedural requirements specific to the appointment of members of governing boards, including appointments to fill vacancies and nomination and confirmation procedures and timelines.

The bill also changes the procedures and requirements for the appointment of members to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and amends the requirements relating to meetings of and exercise of authority by each governing board and any executive committee appointed by a governing board pursuant to applicable law. Finally, the bill clarifies and expands the duties of each governing board in its collective capacity, and of the members of each governing board in their individual capacities, regarding (a) the primary duties of governing boards to advance the interests of the institution and the people of the Commonwealth, (b) duties relating to ideological and partisan neutrality and the protection of academic freedom and freedom of speech, and (c) duties relating to the relationship of the governing board and the institution's administration, faculty, and students.

Patron - Surovell

F **SB625** **Public institutions of higher education; financial assistance; Medical Education Service Grant Program established; report.** Establishes the Medical Education Service Grant Program (the Program) for the purpose of providing grants to any person enrolled in or admitted to an eligible institution, as defined in the bill, that shall be awarded in whole or in part upon satisfactory completion of a service agreement entered into by a recipient to engage in clinical practice in a designated service area, as defined in the bill, for the requisite period and in accordance with the requirements set forth by the bill. The bill directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council), in partnership with the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority (the Authority), to administer the Program. The bill also (i) establishes requirements for the administration of the Program, including (a) requirements for eligibility to apply to and receive a grant under the Program and the prioritization of Program applications and (b) terms and conditions governing the awarding of grants under the Program; (ii) directs the Council and the Authority to establish policies and procedures for the administration of the Program relating to monitoring and enforcing compliance of recipients with Program requirements and terms and conditions; and (iii) directs the program administrator to annually collect data on the activities of the Program for the preceding fiscal year and submit to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committees on Education, Health and Human Services, and Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations a report on such data by January 1 of each year in which funds are made available for the Program.

Patron - Deeds

Carried Over

C **HB85** **State Council of Higher Education; Virginia-specific postsecondary transition counselor certificate program; development and establishment.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to collaborate with the Council for Exceptional Children and its Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) and each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth that has an education preparation program to develop and establish a Virginia-specific postsecondary transition counselor certificate program that is equivalent in rigor and quality to the National Certification in Transition Services offered by DCDT in order to facilitate the establishment of postsecondary transition counselor certificate programs at such institutions that would qualify for program approval by DCDT.

Patron - Laufer

C **HB1099** **State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; work group; best practices for student-athlete name, image, and likeness deal transparency; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene a work group to evaluate best practices for increasing transparency in name, image, and likeness deals for student-athletes at baccalaureate public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the work group to submit its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2026.

Patron - Singh

C **HB1183** **Comprehensive community colleges; procurement; machinery and equipment for courses and programs; certain limitations prohibited.** Prohibits the State Board for Community Colleges and any comprehensive community college from establishing or adhering to any procurement policy, practice, procedure, regulation, or rule that prohibits the procurement of used machinery or equipment when such machinery or equipment is necessary to provide proper student instruction in any relevant course or program.

Patron - O'Quinn

C **HB1310** **State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; evaluation; impact of recent federal changes to graduate and professional student loan programs on in-state students; report.** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, with the assistance of an advisory group that it convenes, to evaluate the impact of revised federal borrowing limits, the elimination of federal Grad PLUS loans, and any related federal definitions that alter the classification of graduate and professional programs for student financial aid purposes on in-state students enrolled at public institutions of higher education and private nonprofit institutions eligible to participate in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Patron - Anthony

C **HB1378** **State Board for Community Colleges; powers; Laurel Ridge Community College; acquisition and improvement of certain property; authorization.** Authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to acquire, by purchase, certain real property and improvements located adjacent to the Laurel Ridge Community College Campus and to execute and deliver such deeds, agreements, plats, and other instruments as necessary to carry out such acquisition in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Wiley

C **HB1473** **Public institutions of higher education; students and campus; restrictions on student speech; limitations.** Clarifies the requirements for and limitations on the ability of a public institution of higher education to impose restrictions on the time, place, or manner of student speech that occurs in outdoor areas of the institution's campus and is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the

United States by (i) clarifying the criteria for demonstrating that the restriction is permissible; (ii) prohibiting any public institution of higher education from imposing certain restrictions, punishments, policies, or restraints designed to restrict student speech in ways that violate the First Amendment rights of students, faculty, and staff; and (iii) requiring any public institution of higher education that deems any student speech or assembly unlawful and imposes a restriction on the time, place, or manner of such speech to submit to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education within 45 days of imposing such restriction a report detailing the justification for such restriction, demonstrating how the restriction satisfies the criteria required pursuant to applicable law and the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
Patron - Schmidt

C **HB1497** **Educational and cultural institutions; Recognition and restoration of status of Hampton University as a land-grant university; Hampton University Land-Grant Restoration Fund established; requirements.**

Patron - Ward

C **HJ27** **Study; JLARC; public institutions of higher education; options to improve affordability for students; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study options and provide updated recommendations to improve the affordability of higher education for students in the Commonwealth.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

C **SB92** **Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; tuition and fee waivers.** Requires the Commissioner of Veterans Services to consider certain domicile or physical presence requirements for the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program satisfied when (i) the failure to meet such requirements is solely attributable to a relocation outside of the Commonwealth by lawful military order or (ii) in the case of a survivor or dependent that meets all other eligibility requirements who has relocated to the Commonwealth by lawful military order, when the survivor or dependent has established residency in the Commonwealth, after having been enrolled in a higher education tuition and fees program for military survivors and dependents in another state.
Patron - Roem

C **SB97** **Institutions of higher education; Hunger-Free Campus Food Pantry Grant Program; establishment of student meal plan credit donation program.** Renames the Hunger-Free Campus Food Pantry Grant Program, established pursuant to applicable law, as "the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program" and amends the Program by expanding the criteria that a public institution of higher education or eligible private institution of higher education must satisfy to receive a designation as a "Hunger-Free Campus" and be awarded a grant under the Program to include a requirement that any such institution to establish both (i) an on-campus food pantry, pursuant to current law, and (ii) if such institution offers a meal swipe program or equivalent student meal swipe plan, a student meal credit sharing program, whereby students may voluntarily donate unused meal plan credits to be distributed for use by other students at campus dining halls or at its on-campus food pantry or to otherwise support its on-campus food pantry. The bill also requires grants awarded pursuant to the Program to be used to support on-campus efforts and initiatives to eliminate student food insecurity at such institution through the maintenance and operation of both its food pantry, pursuant to current law, and its student meal credit sharing program established in accordance with the bill.
Patron - Roem

C **SB274** **Educational and cultural institutions; Recognition and restoration of status of Hampton University as a land-grant university; requirements; task force.** Recognizes and restores the status of Hampton University as an 1862 and 1890 land-grant university of the Commonwealth, in accordance with the provisions of applicable federal law, and (i) enumerates the funding and programs Hampton University shall be eligible for as a land-grant university and (ii) provides for the establishment of an evaluation task force by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committee on appropriations upon federal recognition of Hampton University as an institution eligible to receive federal funding and participate in federal and state programs established under applicable law relating to land-grant universities for the purpose of evaluating the status of Hampton University and the feasibility of recognizing the institution as a land-grant university of the Commonwealth in accordance with the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Locke

C **SB452** **Commonwealth Savers Plan; ImABLE accounts established; tax treatment.** Provides a process whereby eligible individuals, defined in the bill, may establish ImABLE savings accounts, defined in the bill, with the Commonwealth Savers Plan. Payments and contributions, up to limits defined in the bill, to such accounts are made on an after-tax basis, distributions are generally exempt from income taxes, collections, and withdrawal penalties, and such accounts shall not be used as a factor in employment classifications. The bill authorizes the Commonwealth Savers Plan to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill also establishes the Virginia ImABLE Fund and Grant Program to award competitive grants to businesses, nonprofit organizations, and localities for projects that assist eligible individuals with support expenses, as defined in the bill.
Patron - Jordan

C **SB456** **Institutions of higher education; eligibility for in-state tuition for citizens of federally recognized Virginia tribes.** Makes any non-Virginia student who is a member or citizen of a federally recognized tribe and who is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program eligible for in-state tuition. The bill also allows the governing board of any public institution of higher education to charge in-state tuition to such students enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program. This is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Stuart

C **SB601** **Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program; grants.** Requires at least $50,000 of discretionary annual spending of Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program grant funds to be used for recruitment. Under current law, discretionary spending on recruitment from grant funds is capped at $50,000 per fiscal year.
Patron - Reeves

C **SB773** **State Board for Community Colleges; powers; Laurel Ridge Community College; acquisition and improvement of certain property; authorization.** Authorizes the State Board of Community Colleges to acquire, by purchase, certain real property and improvements located adjacent to the Laurel Ridge Community College Campus and to execute and deliver such deeds, agreements, plats, and other

instruments as necessary to carry out such acquisition in accordance with the provisions of the bill.
Patron - French

Insurance

Passed

P **HB60 Life insurance; health insurance; unfair discrimination; pre-exposure prophylaxis for prevention of human immunodeficiency virus.** Prohibits any person from refusing to insure, refusing to continue to insure, or limiting the amount or extent of life insurance or accident and sickness insurance coverage available to an individual or charge an individual a different rate for the same coverage based solely on the status of such individual as having received pre-exposure prophylaxis for the prevention of human immunodeficiency virus.
Patron - Ward

P **HB184 Bureau of Insurance; evaluation of All-Payer Claims Database; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance (the Bureau) to conduct an evaluation of the All-Payer Claims Database and the data submitted thereto in facilitating data-driven, evidence-based improvements in access, quality, and cost of health care in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Bureau to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB327 Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program; extension of program; percentage goal to decrease premium.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to apply to the appropriate federal agencies under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for an extension of the existing State Innovation Waiver authorizing the Commonwealth to implement a reinsurance program. The existing State Innovation Waiver is set to expire on January 1, 2028. Additionally, the bill removes the 20 percent upper limit of the premium reduction goal under the Commonwealth Health Reinsurance Program. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Health Insurance Reform Commission.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB328 Health insurance; essential health benefits benchmark plan.** Requires the Bureau of Insurance to select a new essential health benefits benchmark plan for the 2028 plan year, or the soonest plan year thereafter as permitted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, that includes, in addition to the essential health benefits package included in the existing benchmark plan, coverage for (i) doula care services; (ii) the treatment of iatrogenic infertility; (iii) fertility treatment and diagnosis, including a maximum of three cycles per lifetime of assisted reproductive technology; (iv) hearing aids for individuals of all ages; (v) pasteurized donor human breast milk; (vi) the prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome; and (vii) the treatment of polycystic ovary syndrome. Such mandate for coverage does not apply to the individual or small group markets. The bill has a delayed effective date pursuant to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services of certain coverage as outlined in the bill. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Health Insurance Reform Commission. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB353 Benefits consortium; sponsoring association.** Provides that the sponsoring association of a benefits consortium that offers health benefit plans to the members of such sponsoring association may operate as a nonprofit entity under §; 501(c)(3), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. Under current law, such a sponsoring association may only operate under §; 501(c)(5) or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB358 Medicare supplement policies; regulations establishing minimum standards; work group; report.** Amends provisions related to the State Corporation Commission's issuance of regulations to establish minimum standards regarding Medicare supplement policies to include minimum standards for the disclosure of methodology used in coverage decisions. The bill directs the Bureau of Insurance to convene a work group to review and make recommendations related to minimum standards regarding Medicare supplement policies, implementation of risk adjustment mechanisms, ways to eliminate waste and abuse from overpayments, methodologies used in coverage decisions, ways to improve care under such policies, and the effectiveness and utilization of existing consumer protections related to Medicare supplement policies and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB424 Health insurance; prohibited restrictions on in-network referrals.** Prohibits a health insurance carrier from prohibiting an in-network provider, as defined in the bill, from referring any enrollee or specimen to any in-network clinical laboratory or in-network pathology service provider under the terms of such insurance unless such referral would constitute a violation of certain laws. This bill is identical to SB 745.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB437 Insurance; standards of conduct for public adjusters; unauthorized practice of public adjusting.** Prohibits any person who does not hold a valid public adjuster license from soliciting, investigating, negotiating, adjusting, or providing advice to a policyholder, in relation to a first party claim arising under an insurance contract that insures the real or personal property of a policyholder, for the purpose of effecting the settlement of a claim on behalf of the policyholder. The bill prohibits any public adjuster from assisting in a claim where the policyholder has improperly assigned the duties, rights, or benefits under the relevant policy to any contractor or vendor. The bill adds requirements for advertisements by public adjusters, and excludes certain materials from being considered advertisements. The bill also includes specific standards of conduct for public adjusters regarding vulnerable adults, as defined in the bill, and contains technical amendments.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB476 Continuing care providers; quarterly meeting requirements.** Amends the quarterly meeting requirements for continuing care facilities to provide that at least two of such meetings per year shall be open to all residents and that certain individuals shall participate in at least two of such meetings per year. The bill also requires, if requested by the resident council or a majority of the independent living residents of a continuing care facility, the provider to include as a participant in the meetings of its board of direc-

tors or other governing body a resident representative elected by a majority of such residents, who shall participate in a non-voting, advisory capacity. This bill is identical to SB 358.
Patron - Watts

P **HB481 Prior authorization; requiring physician review for denial.** Prohibits a health insurance carrier from making an adverse determination of a prior authorization request (i) for prescription drugs unless such denial has been reviewed and approved by a licensed physician or, if a licensed physician is not available, by a licensed pharmacist or (ii) for health care services unless such adverse determination has been reviewed and approved by (a) a licensed physician; (b) in the case of mental health services, a licensed mental health provider if a licensed physician is unavailable; or (c) in the case of dental services, a licensed dentist if a licensed physician is unavailable.
Patron - Hope

P **HB484 Health insurance; ethics and fairness in carrier business practices; downcoded claims.** Prohibits a carrier, intermediary, administrator, or representative of a carrier from downcoding a claim unless the decision to downcode is determined by a person or electronic system that reflects correct coding standards and considers all relevant patient data from the billing provider in making the determination. The bill requires a carrier, intermediary, administrator, or representative that downcodes a claim to provide certain notice to the provider. The bill requires that all downcoding dispute decisions are reviewed and adjudicated by a natural person. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Shin

P **HB490 Health insurance; coverage for early refills of prescription eye drops.** Prohibits a health carrier from denying coverage to a covered person of an early refill of prescription eye drops if (i) the prescription eye drops are a covered benefit, (ii) the amount of time that has elapsed from the previous dispensing of such prescription would result in at least 85 percent of such prescription eye drops being used if taken consistently with the prescriber's directions, and (iii) the prescriber has indicated that additional quantities are medically necessary and the refill requested does not exceed such additional quantity. The provisions of the bill are applicable to contracts, policies, or plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2027.
Patron - Hope

P **HB618 Health insurance; reporting requirements.** Amends various reporting requirements related to health insurance, including by requiring the State Corporation Commission to maintain and publicly post an inventory of mandated benefits and providers, requiring health carriers to report annually on provider terminations and reinstatements, and consolidating reports related to balance billing and arbitration. The bill repeals reporting requirements related to the Comparable Health Care Service Incentive Program and Virginia Health Savings Account Plan. This bill is identical to SB 626.
Patron - Shin

P **HB625 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 one health plan in each of the bronze, silver, gold, and platinum levels of coverage in each rating area in the individual and small group market conform with the following: (i) a plan that offers a platinum level of coverage shall limit 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; (ii) a plan that offers a gold level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed $200 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug; (iii) a plan that offers a silver level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed $250 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug; and (iv) a plan that offers a bronze level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed $300 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug. 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 carrier. The bill's provisions apply to any individual or group accident and sickness insurance policy, any individual or group accident and sickness subscription contract, and any health care plan for health care services delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on or after January 1, 2028. This bill is identical to SB 161.
Patron - Henson

P **HB676 Health insurance; carrier business practices; electronic attachments.** Provides that, in the following contexts, information may be submitted by a provider to a health insurance carrier through electronic attachment, as defined in the bill: (i) information related to services rendered as required by the carrier in its provider contract; (ii) information related to any defect or impropriety that prevents the carrier from deeming a health insurance claim a clean claim, as defined in existing law; and (iii) information required to establish medical necessity, benefit coverage, or prior authorization of services, or to conduct reconsideration activities. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 172.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB701 Health insurance; notice of adverse determination.** Requires health carriers to send in writing to a covered person the notice of an adverse determination or final adverse determination and the covered person's right to request an external review, as required by current law, within five business days after the adverse determination or final adverse determination has been made. The bill also requires such notice to include certain information related to the person who made the adverse determination or final adverse determination.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB736 Health insurance; carrier contracts; required provisions regarding prior authorization for prescription drugs.** Amends existing required provisions for health carrier contracts related to prior authorizations for prescription drugs. Current law requires that if prior authorization is approved for prescription drugs and such prescription drugs have been scheduled, provided, or delivered to the patient consistent with the authorization, health carriers may not revoke, limit, condition, modify, or restrict that authorization except in certain circumstances. The bill requires this limitation on carriers to apply for the duration of the authorization, which the bill requires to be a minimum of six months for initial authorizations and a minimum of 12 months for continued authorizations. The bill adds circumstances under which a prior authorization may be revoked, limited, conditioned, modified, or restricted by a carrier, including (i) a final action by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, other regulatory agencies, or the manufacturer communicating a patient efficacy issue that would affect the authorization and (ii) when additional safety and efficacy monitoring is clinically appropriate or recom-

mended by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, other regulatory agencies, or the manufacturer.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB808 Insurance; unfair claim settlement practices; modification of loss estimate.** Prohibits an insurer, when reducing a loss estimate of $3,000 or more, from altering or amending an insurance adjuster's estimate of damages, photographic report data, or narrative report without meeting certain requirements including providing the policyholder with a detailed explanation as to why any change that has the effect of reducing the loss estimate was made.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB813 Health insurance; application of cost-sharing prohibitions.** Provides that provisions of state law that prohibit a health insurance carrier from imposing a cost-sharing requirement on an enrollee for receiving a health care service (i) apply only when such enrollee receives such health care service from a participating provider under the health benefit plan and (ii) do not apply if the application of such prohibition would disqualify a high-deductible health benefit plan from eligibility for a health savings account under federal law.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB830 Pharmacy benefits managers; requirements; scope; report.** Requires all health insurance carriers to use the pass-through pricing model and may limit a pharmacy benefits manager from deriving income from pharmacy benefits management services provided to a carrier except for income derived from a pharmacy benefits management fee. The bill prohibits a pharmacy benefits manager from (i) reversing and or resubmitting the claim of a pharmacist or pharmacy without meeting certain requirements, (ii) reducing any payment to a pharmacist or pharmacy to an effective rate of reimbursement, or (iii) retroactively denying or reducing a claim or aggregate of claims except under certain circumstances. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to examine the practice of carriers or pharmacy benefits managers requiring or inducing covered individuals to utilize pharmacy services at an affiliated pharmacy. The Commission is required to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2027. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 669.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB1007 Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund; board of directors; plan of operation; filing of claims; awards and coverage for expenses or services.** Makes various changes to the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund. The bill provides that a civil action arising out of or related to a birth-related neurological injury against a participating hospital or physician shall be referred to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. Under the bill, the costs of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission maintaining an electronic filing system for the submission of petitions shall be reimbursed from the Fund. Under the bill, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall receive and review any audit conducted on the accounts of the Fund. The bill includes compensation for services provided by an education advocate. The bill requires the Program's board of directors to include a relative of a current or former beneficiary, allows for the electronic submission of claims, and expands discovery of parties to a claim. The bill further requires the Program's board of directors to establish a blanket surety bonding program for all employees with access to the Fund and requires the board to meet at least once monthly. Finally, the bill increases from $100,000 to $500,000 the amount that may be awarded to families whose infant has sustained a birth-related neurological injury. This bill is identical to SB 398. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1182 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 approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, including those available over-the-counter. The bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing upon any person receiving prescription contraceptive benefits pursuant to the provisions of the bill any copayment, coinsurance payment, or fee, except in certain circumstances. Additionally, the bill requires any health benefit plan that provides coverage for hormonal contraceptives to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing at in-network pharmacies for hormonal contraceptives available over-the-counter. This bill is identical to SB 361. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Thomas

P **HB1214 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

P **HB1400 Health insurance; coverage for maternal mental health screenings.** Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for maternal mental health screenings. The bill requires such coverage to include at least one maternal mental health screening to be conducted during pregnancy, at least one additional screening to be conducted during the first six weeks of the postpartum period, and additional medically necessary postpartum screenings. Additionally, the bill provides that coverage for a prescription drug for the treatment of a maternal mental health condition shall not be subject to prior authorization requirements unless there are clinically significant safety or efficacy concerns.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

P **HB1450 Health insurance; claims experience information.** Provides that provisions requiring insurers to provide policyholders with certain claims experience information apply to all employee welfare benefit plans and include pharmacy benefits claims. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Hodges

P **SB161 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 one health plan in each of the bronze, silver, gold, and platinum levels of coverage in each rating area in the individual and small group market conform with the following: (i) a plan that offers a platinum level of coverage shall limit 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; (ii) a plan that offers a gold level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed

$200 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug; (iii) a plan that offers a silver level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed $250 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug; and (iv) a plan that offers a bronze level of coverage shall limit a person's cost-sharing payment for prescription drugs covered under the plan to an amount that does not exceed $300 per 30-day supply of the prescription drug. 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 carrier. The bill's provisions apply to any individual or group accident and sickness insurance policy, any individual or group accident and sickness subscription contract, and any health care plan for health care services delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on or after January 1, 2028. This bill is identical to HB 625.
Patron - Perry

P **SB164 Health insurance; ethics and fairness in carrier business practices; downcoded claims.** Prohibits a carrier, intermediary, administrator, or representative of a carrier from downcoding a claim unless the decision to downcode is determined by a person or electronic system that reflects correct coding standards and considers all relevant patient data from the billing provider in making the determination. The bill requires a carrier, intermediary, administrator, or representative that downcodes a claim to provide certain notice to the provider. The bill requires that all downcoding dispute decisions are reviewed and adjudicated by a natural person.
Patron - McPike

P **SB166 Insurance; contingent deferred annuities; nonforfeiture benefits.** Permits the State Corporation Commission to adopt reasonable standards for contingent deferred annuities, as defined in the bill, including nonforfeiture benefits. The bill subjects contingent deferred annuities to certain requirements applicable under current law to other types of insurance contracts.
Patron - McPike

P **SB172 Health insurance; carrier business practices; electronic attachments.** Provides that, in the following contexts, information may be submitted by a provider to a health insurance carrier through electronic attachment, as defined in the bill: (i) information related to services rendered as required by the carrier in its provider contract; (ii) information related to any defect or impropriety that prevents the carrier from deeming a health insurance claim a clean claim, as defined in existing law; and (iii) information required to establish medical necessity, benefit coverage, or prior authorization of services, or to conduct reconsideration activities. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 676.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB233 Fire Programs Fund; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Fire Programs to establish a work group to evaluate the funding formula for the distribution of aid to localities through the Fire Programs Fund.
Patron - Head

P **SB246 Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act.** Provides for numerous revisions to the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act. Among other revisions, the bill (i) authorizes certain actions to derive from its bylaws in addition to its articles of incorporation, (ii) makes changes to the process of amending articles of incorporation and bylaws, (iii) authorizes inclusion of an exclusive forum provision in the bylaws, (iv) permits transfer of membership interests, (v) authorizes members to bring derivative proceedings, (vi) permits a court to remove a director in certain circumstances, (vii) provides for abandonment of an amendment or restatement of the articles of incorporation, (viii) extends the current provisions related to mergers to include interest exchanges and to provide for parent-subsidiary mergers, (ix) replaces existing provisions on conversion with provisions based on the Virginia Stock Act, and (x) adds provisions governing charitable corporations and charitable assets, including the authority of the Office of the Attorney General with respect to such. The bill includes technical amendments and has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 439.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB257 Health insurance; requirements for certain opioid antagonists.** Requires each health insurer, corporation providing health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organization whose policy, contract, or plan includes coverage for prescription drugs to include coverage for at least one opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal dispensed pursuant to an oral, written, or standing order of a prescriber and ensure that cost-sharing for at least one opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal is included on the lowest cost tier of the insurer's, corporation's, or health maintenance organization's prescription drug formulary. The bill provides that such coverage shall be exempt from any prior authorization or step therapy requirement on coverage of benefits. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care. This bill is identical to HB 795.
Patron - Favola

P **SB358 Continuing care providers; quarterly meeting requirements.** Amends the quarterly meeting requirements for continuing care facilities to provide that at least two of such meetings per year shall be open to all residents and that certain individuals shall participate in at least two of such meetings per year. The bill also requires, if requested by the resident council or a majority of the independent living residents of a continuing care facility, the provider to include as a participant in the meetings of its board of directors or other governing body a resident representative elected by a majority of such residents, who shall participate in a nonvoting, advisory capacity. This bill is identical to HB 476.
Patron - McDougle

P **SB361 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 approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, including those available over-the-counter. The bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing upon any person receiving prescription contraceptive benefits pursuant to the provisions of the bill any copayment, coinsurance payment, or fee, except in certain circumstances. Additionally, the bill requires any health benefit plan that provides coverage for hormonal contraceptives to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing at in-network pharmacies for hormonal contraceptives available over-the-counter. This bill is identical to HB 1182. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB398 Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund; board of directors; plan of operation; filing of claims; awards and coverage for expenses or services.** Makes various changes to the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund. The bill provides that a civil action arising out

of or related to a birth-related neurological injury against a participating hospital or physician shall be referred to the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission. Under the bill, the costs of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission maintaining an electronic filing system for the submission of petitions shall be reimbursed from the Fund. Under the bill, the Auditor of Public Accounts shall receive and review any audit conducted on the accounts of the Fund. The bill includes compensation for services provided by an education advocate. The bill requires the Program's board of directors to include a relative of a current or former beneficiary, allows for the electronic submission of claims, and expands discovery of parties to a claim. The bill further requires the Program's board of directors to establish a blanket surety bonding program for all employees with access to the Fund and requires the board to meet at least once monthly. Finally, the bill increases from $100,000 to $500,000 the amount that may be awarded to families whose infant has sustained a birth-related neurological injury. This bill incorporates SB 434 and is identical to HB 1007. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Perry

P **SB594** **Motor vehicle insurance; unauthorized addition of insured drivers prohibited.** Prohibits an insurance carrier authorized to issue motor vehicle liability insurance policies from automatically adding any person to the list of persons insured under a motor vehicle owner's policy or to the household of a named insured for purposes of such policy based solely on certain information enumerated in the bill.

Patron - DeSteph

P **SB626** **Health insurance; reporting requirements.** Amends various reporting requirements related to health insurance, including by requiring the State Corporation Commission to maintain and publicly post an inventory of mandated benefits and providers, requiring health carriers to report annually on provider terminations and reinstatements, and consolidating reports related to balance billing and arbitration. The bill repeals reporting requirements related to the Comparable Health Care Service Incentive Program and Virginia Health Savings Account Plan. This bill is identical to HB 618.

Patron - Obenshain

P **SB652** **Bureau of Insurance; report on data collected from property and casualty insurance providers; report.** Requires that, as part of its existing requirements to submit annual findings and reports on companies issuing property and casualty insurance policies in the Commonwealth, the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance shall submit an additional annual report summarizing relevant information from property and casualty insurance customer satisfaction surveys.

Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB669** **Pharmacy benefits managers; requirements; scope; report.** Requires all health insurance carriers to use the pass-through pricing model and may limit a pharmacy benefits manager from deriving income from pharmacy benefits management services provided to a carrier except for income derived from a pharmacy benefits management fee. The bill prohibits a pharmacy benefits manager from (i) reversing and or resubmitting the claim of a pharmacist or pharmacy without meeting certain requirements, (ii) reducing any payment to a pharmacist or pharmacy to an effective rate of reimbursement, or (iii) retroactively denying or reducing a claim or aggregate of claims except under certain circumstances. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to examine the practice of carriers or pharmacy benefits managers requiring or inducing covered individuals to utilize pharmacy services at an affiliated pharmacy. The Commission is required to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2027. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill incorporates SB 410 and SB 413 and is identical to HB 830.

Patron - Rouse

P **SB693** **Motor vehicle insurance; use of certain factors to establish rates prohibited.** Prohibits an insurer from refusing to insure, refusing to continue to insure, or limiting the amount or extent of motor vehicle insurance coverage, or charge an individual a different rate for the same motor vehicle insurance coverage, solely because of such individual's consumer credit information or credit-based insurance score. The bill also directs the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance to study the use by insurers of an insured's or applicant's consumer credit information or credit-based insurance score in connection with underwriting motor vehicle insurance polices and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations by October 1, 2027.

Patron - Jordan

P **SB745** **Health insurance; prohibited restrictions on in-network referrals.** Prohibits a health insurance carrier from prohibiting an in-network provider, as defined in the bill, from referring any enrollee or specimen to any in-network clinical laboratory or in-network pathology service provider under the terms of such insurance unless such referral would constitute a violation of certain laws. This bill is identical to HB 424.

Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB790** **Health insurance; mandated benefits; treatment of menopause and perimenopause.** 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 medically necessary treatment and care for menopause and perimenopause, as described in the bill.

Patron - McDougle

Failed

F **HB64** **Health insurance; coverage for speech therapy as a treatment for stuttering.** Requires health insurance carriers whose health care plans include coverage for habilitative services and rehabilitative services, as such terms are defined in the bill, to provide coverage for habilitative speech therapy and rehabilitative speech therapy, as such terms are defined in the bill, as a treatment for stuttering. The bill provides that such coverage is not (i) subject to any maximum annual benefit limit, including any limits on the number of visits an insured may make to a speech-language pathologist; (ii) limited based on the type of disease, injury, disorder, or other medical condition that resulted in the stuttering; or (iii) subject to utilization review or utilization management requirements, including prior authorization or a determination that the habilitative or rehabilitative speech therapy services are medically necessary. The bill applies to health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on and after January 1, 2027.

Patron - Cole, J.G.

F HB90 Health insurance; large group policies; coverage for scalp treatment during cancer chemotherapy treatment. Requires health insurance carriers offering policies in the large group market to provide coverage for scalp cooling systems for the preservation of hair during cancer chemotherapy treatment. Provisions of the bill apply to health insurance policies, contracts, and plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the large group market in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2027.
Patron - Seibold

F HB216 Health insurance; State Plan for Medical Assistance; coverage for prosthetic and custom orthotic devices and components; reports. Amends provisions related to health insurance coverage for prosthetic devices and components to include custom orthotic devices and components. Under the bill, such coverage does not include repair and replacement due to theft or loss and may include more than one prosthetic or custom orthotic device when medically necessary, as determined by an enrollee's provider. The bill prohibits an insurer from denying coverage for a prosthetic or custom orthotic device for an individual with limb loss, limb absence, or limb impairment that would otherwise be covered for a nondisabled individual seeking medical or surgical intervention. The bill requires health plans that provide such coverage to include language describing an enrollee's rights related to coverage for prosthetic and custom orthotic devices and provide a written explanation of any claim denials.
The bill also directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek the necessary permissions from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide payment of medical assistance for prosthetic and custom orthotic devices, subject to the same requirements as insurers. Such payment is conditional on the Department obtaining all necessary approvals and federal financial participation. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027, if such approval and federal financial participation is not obtained.
The bill directs the health insurance carriers, the Department of Medical Assistance Services, and any managed care plan administering Medicaid benefits in the Commonwealth to submit reports to the Health Insurance Reform Commission regarding implementation of the provisions of the bill during plan years 2027 and 2028.
Patron - Helmer

F HB394 Fire Programs Fund; assessment. Increases the fire insurance assessment from one percent of total direct gross premium income for such insurance to (i) 1.5 percent on and after July 1, 2026, but before July 1, 2027, and (ii) two percent on and after July 1, 2027.

Patron - Askew

F HB516 Health insurance; coverage for non-opioid prescription drugs. Prohibits a health insurance carrier from imposing any cost-sharing, prior authorization, step therapy, or other limitation on coverage of a covered non-opioid drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment or management of pain that is more restrictive or less favorable to the enrollee relative to a covered opioid drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment or management of pain.
Patron - Martinez

F HB682 Fire Programs Fund; aid to localities; redistribution of funds. Provides that, for the purposes of funds distributed to localities as aid for fire programs, if a locality does not provide the required annual report and forms, any funds due to the locality for the next year shall be returned to the Fire Programs Fund and redistributed as grants to enhance firefighting and rescue services in accordance with policies developed by the Virginia Fire Services Board. Under current law, such funds are added to the 75 percent of the Fund allocated to the counties, cities, and towns of the Commonwealth for improvement of fire services in localities.
Patron - Zehr

F HB986 Insurance; Fire Programs Fund; purposes; Virginia At Risk Fire Grant Program established. Increases the assessment on certain insurance companies from one percent to 1.5 percent. The bill 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 for fire personnel; 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.
The bill also establishes the Virginia At Risk Fire Grant Program, to be funded by 0.25 percent of the assessments on insurance companies, for the purposes of providing assistance to localities with fire departments that are determined to be most at risk of being unable to provide fire suppression or rescue activities or maintain compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
Patron - Garrett

F HB1172 Pharmacy freedom of choice; specialty pharmacy benefits. Provides that in no event shall any person receiving a covered specialty pharmacy benefit from a nonpreferred or nonparticipating provider, regardless of whether it has submitted a reimbursement agreement, be responsible for amounts that may be charged by the nonpreferred or nonparticipating provider in excess of the copayment and the insurer's reimbursement applicable to all of its preferred or participating pharmacy providers.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

F HB1228 Motor vehicle insurance; use of certain factors to establish rates prohibited. Prohibits an insurer from using any classification system, rating plan, rules or rates, or modifications based in whole or in part on consumer credit information or scores to establish rates for any motor vehicle insurance policy issued or renewed in the Commonwealth. The bill also prohibits an insurer from refusing to provide or refusing to continue to provide an individual with motor vehicle insurance coverage, limiting the amount or extent of motor vehicle insurance coverage, or charging an individual a different rate for the same motor vehicle insurance coverage solely because of an individual's consumer credit information or score.
Patron - O'Quinn

F HB1253 Property insurance; use of aerial or satellite imagery. Prohibits an insurer from refusing to renew a policy written to insure an owner-occupied dwelling based on information obtained through the use of aerial or satellite imagery unless (i) such imagery has been captured not more than 12 months prior to the nonrenewal notice; (ii) the nonrenewal notice includes date-stamped aerial or satellite images of the insured property identifying the specific conditions that form the basis for nonrenewal and specifies any action that the insured may take to remedy such conditions; (iii) the insurer provides the insured a period of not less than 90 days to cure the identified conditions before the nonrenewal takes effect; and (iv) the insurer establishes a point of contact for the insured to submit documentation and a process to review such documentation. The bill requires the insurer to offer to renew

coverage if the insured provides documentation, within the 90-day period, demonstrating that the identified conditions have been cured to the insurer's reasonable satisfaction.

Patron - Glass

F **HB1271 Health insurance; pharmacy benefits managers; requirements and prohibited conduct; retail pharmacy network access standards; enforcement; civil penalty.** Amends the definition of "pharmacy benefits management" to exclude certain activities and amends certain provisions related to prohibited conduct by health carriers and pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs). The bill prohibits a health carrier or PBM from denying a pharmacy the opportunity to participate in a network at preferred status if the pharmacy is willing to accept the same terms and conditions as other pharmacies that receive preferred status. The bill prohibits a health carrier or PBM from retroactively denying or reducing reimbursement for a covered service claim, except in certain circumstances. The bill also prohibits health carriers and PBMs from failing to make a payment due to a pharmacy or pharmacist upon termination from a network and from charging a pharmacist or pharmacy a fee related to participation in a PBM's network. Under the bill, no PBM shall restrict a pharmacy from informing an individual of any differential between the individual's out-of-pocket costs and the amount the individual would pay to purchase the drug directly or through the individual's health insurance coverage. The bill also requires PBMs to establish and maintain an electronic claim inquiry processing system using national standards to provide certain disclosures and to maintain records of network development activities. The bill prohibits a PBM from including the name of any pharmacy or hospital in any material issued by the PBM unless it lists all pharmacies participating in the preferred and nonpreferred pharmacy and health networks.

Under the bill, the Attorney General is authorized to issue civil investigative demands regarding violations of the provisions of the bill and to bring an action in circuit court to enjoin any violation of such provisions. If the court finds that a person has willfully violated the provisions of the bill, the Attorney General may assess a civil penalty of up to 5,000 per violation.

Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB1338 Health insurance; coverage for the treatment of acquired brain injury required.** Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for the treatment of acquired brain injury that includes coverage for treatment using cognitive rehabilitation therapy, cognitive communication therapy, neurocognitive therapy, neuropsychological testing, neurofeedback therapy, functional rehabilitation therapy, community reintegration services, post-acute residential treatment services, inpatient services, outpatient and day treatment services, and home and community-based treatment.

Patron - Bulova

F **HB1389 Health insurance; coverage for standard fertility preservation procedures.** Requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for standard fertility preservation procedures. The bill provides that "standard fertility preservation procedures" means procedures to preserve fertility that are consistent with established medical practices and professional guidelines published by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine or the American Society of Clinical Oncology for a person who has cancer, sickle cell disease, or other medical condition or is expected to undergo medication therapy, surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, or other medical treatment that is recognized by medical professionals to cause a risk of impairment to fertility.

Patron - Carroll

F **HB1462 Supervised billing; Medicaid and health insurance plans.** Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to permit a qualified licensed provider to bill for clinical services provided by a qualified non-licensed provider under the supervision of the qualified licensed provider and requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for mental health services or substance use services provided by a qualified non-licensed provider under the supervision of a qualified licensed provider when such services would be covered if provided by a qualified licensed provider. Additionally, the bill reduces the time limit for a retroactive denial by a health insurance carrier from 12 months to 180 days.

Patron - Maldonado

F **HB1468 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.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

F **HB1526 Health insurance; prior authorization; required contract provisions; work group.** Requires any provider contract between a carrier and a participating health care provider or its contracting agent to contain specific provisions that (i) require a carrier to establish and maintain a prior authorization application program interface for processing prior authorization requests and (ii) require a participating health care provider to ensure that any electronic health record or health information technology system owned by or contracted for the provider to maintain the health record of an enrollee has the ability to access such application program interface. The bill amends requirements for the existing work group on electronic prior authorization.

Patron - Fowler

F **SB235 Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program; electronic filing; review of claims.** Requires electronic filing of claims under the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program. The bill requires such claims to include an uncondensed and uncompressed fetal heart rate monitoring record and prenatal records and increases from 10 days to 21 days the timeframe in which the Program is required to file a response to a claim. The bill also increases from $3,000 to $6,000 the amount paid to the medical school that assesses and prepares a report for a claim.

Patron - Head

F **SB362 Donor human milk banks; health insurance; coverage for donor human milk; penalties.** 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 also establishes requirements, policies, and procedures

for the operation and administration of licensed human donor milk banks, including procedures relating to disciplinary actions, application fees, and inspections and interviews related to such donor human milk banks. The bill directs (i) 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 and (ii) the Commissioner to implement and enforce numerous regulations relating to the issuance, renewal, denial, suspension, and revocation of such licenses. The bill requires (a) health insurers, corporations providing health care coverage subscription contracts, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for expenses and (b) 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 for any infant that is younger than the age of six months and who satisfies certain criteria enumerated in the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, or whenever the State Board of Health has promulgated regulations for the licensure of donor human milk banks, whichever is later.

Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB410 Pharmacy benefits managers; various requirements; report.** Prohibits a pharmacy benefits manager from (i) reimbursing a pharmacy in an amount less than the national average drug acquisition cost for the prescription drug or pharmacy service at the time the drug is administered or dispensed, plus a professional dispensing fee; (ii) basing pharmacy reimbursement for prescription drugs on patient outcomes, scores, or metrics; (iii) imposing a point-of-sale or retroactive fee on a pharmacy, pharmacist, or covered individual; (iv) receiving deductibles or copayments; (v) redirecting any prescription drug claims submitted by a pharmacy to any third-party discount card program, cash discount program, or any other non-insurance adjudication platform; (vi) using policy agreements incorporation into a pharmacy agreement, to materially change, alter, or modify the pharmacy agreement, reimbursement rates, payment terms, or other financial obligations; (vii) prohibiting a pharmacy from providing an individual certain information; (viii) charging a pharmacy a fee related to participation in a pharmacy network; (ix) requiring multiple specialty pharmacy accreditations as a prerequisite for participation in a pharmacy network that dispenses specialty drugs; or (x) deriving any revenue from a pharmacist, pharmacy, or covered individual in connection with performing pharmacy benefits management services. The bill requires a pharmacy benefits manager to calculate a covered individual's out-of-pocket cost for a covered prescription drug based on the net price of the prescription drug after taking into account all retained rebates associated with the prescription drug. The bill adds certain information to be included in a report that pharmacy benefit managers are currently required to submit and requires such report to be filed quarterly rather than annually. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Insurance to annually prepare and submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly based on the information submitted by pharmacy benefits managers.

Additionally, the bill prohibits a carrier or its pharmacy benefits manager from imposing any payment or condition relating to the purchase of pharmaceutical benefits from any pharmacy that is more costly or more restrictive than that which would be imposed upon such person if the same pharmaceutical services were purchased from a mail order pharmacy provider.

Patron - Peake

F **SB413 Health insurance; ensuring fairness in 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," "pharmacy benefits management services," and "price protection rebates." 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 requirements. The Commission is directed to impose a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000 per claim for a violation of these provisions.

The bill establishes a pharmacy benefits manager duty, which includes the duties of care, 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 - Peake

F **SB434 Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund; board of directors; plan of operation; filing of claims; awards and coverage for expenses or services.** Makes numerous changes to the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program and Fund. The bill alters the composition of the Program's board of directors to include three relatives of current or former beneficiaries, allows for the electronic submission of claims, and expands discovery of parties to a claim. The bill further requires the Program's board of directors to establish a blanket surety bonding program for all employees with access to the Fund and requires the board to meet at least once monthly. Finally, the bill increases from $100,000 to $500,000 the amount that may be awarded to families whose infant has sustained a birth-related neurological injury.

Patron - McPike

F **SB476 Health insurance; prior authorization requests reviewed by physician.** Requires a provider contract between a health insurance carrier and a provider to contain provisions requiring (i) any decision to deny a prior authorization request for drug benefits or health care services is made by a licensed physician who is (a) an expert in the treatment of the enrollee's medical condition that is the subject of the prior authorization request and (b) knowledgeable about the recommended health care service or treatment through recent or current actual clinical experience treating patients with the same or similar medical condition of the enrollee and (ii) if the carrier is questioning the medical necessity of the request, the carrier will provide the enrollee's physician an opportunity to

discuss the medical necessity of the health care service with the physician who will be responsible for determining authorization of the health care service or drug benefit under review.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB500 Health insurance; prior authorization for health care services.** Decreases from 72 hours to 24 hours and from seven days to five days the time by which a health insurance carrier is required to respond to expedited and standard requests for prior authorization for health care services, respectively. The bill prohibits a carrier from (i) denying a claim for the provision of dental services by a dentist or oral surgeon for failure to obtain prior authorization if the dentist or oral surgeon calls the dental plan during business hours to obtain such prior authorization and is unable to reach the dental plan or is placed on hold for longer than 15 minutes and (ii) downcoding a claim if a prior authorization was approved. The bill requires carriers to establish a system in which providers with high prior authorization approval rates are not required to obtain prior authorization for routine health care services. Additionally, the bill provides that if a prior authorization request is denied, the carrier is required to notify providers and enrollees if artificial-intelligence based tools were used in reviewing the request.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB593 Health insurance; balance billing protection; emergency medical services vehicle transportation.** Prohibits an out-of-network health insurance provider from balance billing any enrollee for transportation provided by an emergency medical services vehicle, defined in the bill as any vehicle, vessel, or aircraft that holds a valid permit issued by the Office of Emergency Medical Services and that is equipped, maintained, or operated to provide emergency medical care or transportation of patients who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise incapacitated or helpless.
Patron - Perry

F **SB622 Title insurance; schedule of risk rates.** Requires each title insurance company to publish its schedule of risk rates, including policies, endorsements, closing protection letter fees, any rate classifications or groupings, and any modifications or amendments. The bill prohibits a title insurance company or a title insurance agency or agent from charging a policy rate for a title insurance policy that exceeds those set forth in the title insurance company's published schedule of policy rates, with certain exceptions. Notwithstanding such prohibition, the bill permits a title insurance company or its agent to charge policy rates that it negotiates on policies insuring an owner-occupied primary residence in which a natural person or estate planning entity is in title.
Patron - Marsden

Carried Over

C **HB763 Health insurance; reimbursement rates.** Requires health insurance carriers to reimburse in-network providers for covered mental health services and outpatient treatment at rates negotiated between the health carrier and the in-network provider, provided that such rates are no less than 100 percent of the applicable reimbursement rate under Medicare for the same provider and service.
Patron - Seibold

C **HB997 Long-term care insurance; premium rate increases; regulations.** Requires regulations promulgated by the State Corporation Commission for long-term care insurance rates to (i) provide a cap on premium rate schedule increases; (ii) require any capped premium rate schedule increase to be spread by the insurer over a period of not less than five years, during which time no further rate schedule increases may be requested; and (iii) prohibit additional premium rate schedule increases after prior cumulative rate schedule increases amount to 250 percent of the original premium. Under the bill, no additional rate increases shall be approved for a long-term care insurance policy that has already reached or surpassed the limit of 250 percent of its original premium. The bill directs the Commission to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this act, including by establishing a regulatory cap on premium rate schedule increase for long-term care insurance policies that is no more than 30 percent of the maximum amount of premium rate schedule increase permitted under current regulations, as calculated on the request date of the premium rate increase.
Patron - Seibold

C **HB1276 Health care providers; required estimate for nonemergency health care services.** Requires health care providers to provide a good faith estimate of the payment amount for which the patient will be responsible for such nonemergency health care service, including any fees or other charges for an item or service the patient may reasonably be expected to receive in connection with the nonemergency health care service. The bill requires the good faith estimate to include (i) description of the scheduled nonemergency health care service, (ii) the provider's standard charge for the service and any related item or service, (iii) the provider's standard charges and any contracted rates known at the time the estimate is prepared, and (iv) a statement that the estimate is not binding and the actual amount billed may differ depending on changes in the scope of services or the health carrier's processing of the claim.
Patron - Watts

C **HB1390 Health insurance; pharmacies; freedom of choice; delivery of prescription drugs; penalties.** 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 certain provisions relating to the delivery of prescription drugs. A violation of the bill's provisions constitutes an unfair trade practice under existing law and is subject to injunctive, penalty, and enforcement provisions in existing law.
Patron - Ward

C **SB208 Property and casualty insurance; regulation and licensing of all-lines adjusters.** Provides for State Corporation Commission licensing and regulation of all-lines adjusters investigating, negotiating, or settling property, casualty, or workers' compensation claims for insurers or for self-insurers. The bill prohibits a person from acting as an all-lines adjuster without first obtaining a license from the Commission and requires all-lines adjusters to comply with standards of conduct and continuing education requirements. The bill also allows the Commission to suspend or revoke licenses under certain conditions. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - DeSteph

C **SB586 Health carriers; use of artificial intelligence; disclosures.** Requires health carriers to disclose to the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance how artificial intelligence is used to manage claims coverage and to submit all information enabling decisions made by artificial intelligence to the Bureau upon request. The bill also requires health carriers to provide notice to enrollees and health care providers when artificial intelligence has been used to issue an

adverse determination and to provide a clear and timely process for appeal of such determination.
Patron - Salim

C **SB642 Health insurance; treatment of cancer and certain diseases; coverage of certain medications.** Requires an insurer, corporation providing preferred provider subscription contracts, or health maintenance organization that provides coverage for drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration and prescribed for the treatment of cancer or diseases of the blood to allow, at the patient's direction, (i) provider-administered drugs for such treatment to be dispensed by an in-network treating provider consistent with a provider agreement; (ii) provider-administered drugs for such treatment to be dispensed by an in-network treating provider when there is a documented delay of at least three days in the delivery of a medication from the designated specialty pharmacy; and (iii) self-administered drugs for such treatment to be sent to the pharmacy of the patient's choosing.
Patron - Pillion

C **SB775 Insurance; Fire Programs Fund; fees for vehicles; Virginia At Risk Fire Grant Program established; Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Fund established.** Increases the fire insurance assessment from one percent of total direct gross premium income for such insurance to (i) 1.5 percent on and after July 1, 2026, but before July 1, 2027, and (ii) two percent on and after July 1, 2027. The bill also 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 establishes (a) the Virginia At Risk Fire Grant Program, to be funded by 0.25 percent of the assessments on insurance companies, for the purposes of providing grants to localities with fire departments that are determined to be most at risk of being unable to provide fire suppression or rescue activities or maintain compliance with relevant laws and regulations and (b) the Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Fund, for the purpose of purchasing breathing apparatus equipment and other non-vehicular equipment necessary for the protection of firefighters responding to a fire.
Patron - Hackworth

Labor and Employment

Passed

P **HB1 Minimum wage.** Increases the minimum wage incrementally to $15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028. The bill codifies the adjusted state hourly minimum wage of $12.77 per hour that is effective January 1, 2026, and increases the minimum wage to $13.75 per hour effective January 1, 2027, and to $15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2028. Effective January 1, 2029, and annually thereafter, the bill requires the minimum wage to be adjusted to reflect increases in the consumer price index. This bill is identical to SB 1.
Patron - Ward

P **HB5 Employment; paid sick leave; civil penalties; civil actions.** Requires one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked for all employees of private employers and state and local governments, with certain exceptions. The bill requires that employees who are employed and compensated on a fee-for-service 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 paid sick leave under any successor employer. The bill allows employers to provide a more generous paid sick leave policy than prescribed by its provisions and specifies that 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 to seek or obtain certain services or to relocate or secure an existing home due to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The bill requires the Commissioner to promulgate regulations for the implementation and enforcement of the bill's provisions by July 1, 2027.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 or Attorney General may commence administrative proceedings or bring a civil action to enforce the bill's provisions. Additionally, the bill authorizes an aggrieved employee 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. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 199. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB20 Minimum wage; farm laborers or farm employees.** Eliminates the exemption from Virginia's minimum wage requirements for persons employed as farm laborers or farm employees. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to SB 121.
Patron - McClure

P **HB27 Overtime for certain employees; domestic workers.** Adds domestic workers, as defined in the bill, to provisions related to overtime pay. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 28. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Henson

P **HB220 Health insurance; tobacco surcharge.** Eliminates the authority of a health carrier to vary its premium rates based on tobacco use. Under current law, a health carrier may charge premium rates up to 1.5 times higher for a tobacco user than for a nonuser. The provisions of the bill apply to health benefit plans providing individual or small group health insurance coverage entered into, amended, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 630.
Patron - Hope

P **HB238 Labor and employment; payment of wages; minimum wage and overtime wages; misclassification of workers; prevailing wage rate; civil actions.** Provides that an employer that violates provisions relating to minimum wage, overtime wages provisions, the misclassification of workers, or the prevailing wage rate is subject to civil actions 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. Under current law, if the court finds that the employer knowingly failed to pay wages to an employee, the court is required to award the employee an amount equal to triple the amount of wages due and reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill also prohibits an employer from taking certain retalia-

tory actions against an employee because the employee reports any information or allegation in good faith that, if true, amounts to a violation of any federal or state law or regulation to a supervisor, manager, or officer, or to any governmental body or law-enforcement official, including a report made in the ordinary course of the employee's employment, regardless of whether such report refers to a particular law or regulation. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB275 Employment prohibition exceptions; apprenticeships; children 16 years of age or older.** Permits a child 16 years of age or older to serve in an apprenticeship program or other work-based learning experience related to culinary arts or information technology, provided that (i) the child is continuously enrolled in an accredited secondary school, (ii) the child is a registered apprentice, (iii) the child is employed in a work-training program administered under the Board of Education, and (iv) the work being performed is not in violation of federal or state laws. This bill is identical to SB 10.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB569 Prevailing wage rate for public works contracts; localities.** Requires each state agency or locality, when procuring services or letting contracts for public works paid for in whole or in part by state or local funds, or when overseeing or administering such contracts for public works, to ensure that its bid specifications or other public contracts applicable to the public works require bidders, offerors, contractors, and subcontractors to pay wages, salaries, benefits, and other remuneration to any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform services in connection with the public contract for public works at a rate no less than the prevailing wage rate. The bill also amends the definition of "public works" to include work performed at certain institutions of higher education and to exclude work performed at a non-governmental property or facility used to provide broadband or other telecommunications services. Under the bill, a contractor or subcontractor may be liable to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry for liquidated damages for violating the prevailing wage requirements in the bill. Under the bill, any interested party shall have standing to challenge bid specifications, project agreements, or other public contracts for public works that violate the provisions of the bill. The bill requires institutions of higher education to expressly agree to comply with the public works contract requirements. Under the bill, the Commissioner shall determine the prevailing wage based on a survey of wages and benefits paid in each area, as defined in the bill, conducted every two years. The bill includes factors for the Commissioner to consider in determining a prevailing wage rate. The bill directs the Commissioner to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 518. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Feggans

P **HB627 Covenants not to compete; health care professionals; civil penalty.** Adds health care professionals as a category of employee with or upon whom no employer shall enter into, enforce, or threaten to enforce a covenant not to compete. The bill defines "health care professional" as any person licensed, registered, or certified by the Board of Medicine, Nursing, Counseling, Optometry, Psychology, or Social Work. 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. This bill is identical to SB 128. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Herring

P **HB636 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 considering the prospective employee for employment; (iii) 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; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote or otherwise retaliating against a prospective or current employee for not providing wage or salary history or requesting a wage or salary range; (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; and (vi) failing to set a wage or salary range in good faith. 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 incorporates HB 1164 and is identical to SB 215. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB670 Labor and employment provisions; application of law; protection of employees; definition of employer.** Provides that the exemption for the Commonwealth, any of its agencies, institutions, or political subdivisions, or any public body under Title 40.1 does not apply when expressly provided otherwise. The bill defines "public body" as the term relates to labor and employment and provides that for the purposes of various requirements related to the protection of employees, the definition of "employer" includes the Commonwealth and its agencies, institutions, and political subdivisions, and any public body. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB675 Protection of employees; coercion or threat based on immigration status; civil penalty.** Prohibits an employer, including the Commonwealth and its agencies and political subdivisions, from using coercion or issuing a threat to an employee based on immigration status in furtherance of committing a violation of the Virginia Minimum Wage Act or provisions related to the payment of wages. An aggrieved employee is permitted to file a complaint with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry within 180 days of the alleged coercive action or threat. The bill authorizes the Commissioner to investigate such complaints and, if the allegation is substantiated, to impose a civil penalty in the following amounts: (i) up to $5,000 for the first violation, (ii) up to $9,000 for the second violation, and (iii) up to $12,000 for any subsequent violation. The bill provides that any such penalty assessed shall be paid to the Commissioner for deposit into the General Fund. The bill also authorizes the Commissioner to seek injunctive relief as may be necessary for enforcement. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB1092 Protection of employees; standards for heat illness prevention; Safety and Health Codes Board.** Requires the Safety and Health Codes Board (the Board) to adopt regulations designed to protect workers from heat illness, as defined in the bill, during indoor and outdoor work. The bill provides that such regulations shall be enforced by the Board's existing authority. The bill directs the Board, in consultation

with the Department of Labor and Industry, to develop and adopt regulations that require employers to implement heat illness prevention plans and to convene an advisory panel to assist in developing such regulations. This bill is identical to SB 288.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1218 Employment of children; summer camps.** Permits children 14 years of age or older to be employed by a summer camp operated by a religious, service, or scouting organization and provides that such children may participate in all activities related to providing services to campers, provided that the summer camp is accredited and follows safety guidelines published by a recognized youth services organization.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1263 Collective bargaining by public employees; individual home care providers; Virginia Home Care Council established; Public Employee Relations Board established; exclusive bargaining representatives.** 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 establishes the Virginia Home Care Council within the Department of Medical Assistance Services to promote the stability of the individual provider workforce in the Commonwealth and tasks the Council with serving as the public employer of individual providers, as defined in the bill, for purposes of collective bargaining pursuant to the bill's provisions. 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. The bill directs the Department of Labor and Industry to promulgate any regulations necessary to effectuate the bill's provisions by July 1, 2028, and provides that upon the establishment of the Public Employee Relations Board, such regulations shall be transferred to the Board. The bill provides that until such regulations are adopted, no petitions or elections shall take place pursuant to the bill's provisions except pursuant to an ordinance or resolution adopted under current law. This bill is identical to SB 378. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Tran

P **SB1 Minimum wage.** Increases the minimum wage incrementally to $15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028. The bill codifies the adjusted state hourly minimum wage of $12.77 per hour that is effective January 1, 2026, and increases the minimum wage to $13.75 per hour effective January 1, 2027, and to $15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2028. Effective January 1, 2029, and annually thereafter, the bill requires the minimum wage to be adjusted to reflect increases in the consumer price index. This bill is identical to HB 1.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB10 Employment prohibition exceptions; apprenticeships; children 16 years of age or older.** Permits a child 16 years of age or older to serve in an apprenticeship program or other work-based learning experience related to culinary arts or information technology, provided that (i) the child is continuously enrolled in an accredited secondary school, (ii) the child is a registered apprentice, (iii) the child is employed in a work-training program administered under the Board of Education, and (iv) the work being performed is not in violation of federal or state laws. This bill is identical to HB 275.
Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB28 Overtime for certain employees; domestic workers.** Adds domestic workers, as defined in the bill, to provisions related to overtime pay. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 27. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB100 Protection of employees; volunteer emergency responders; civil action.** Prohibits an employer from discharging, disciplining, threatening, discriminating against, or penalizing an employee or taking other retaliatory action regarding an employee's compensation, terms, conditions, location, or privileges of employment solely because the employee fails to report for work because such employee is serving as a voluntary emergency responder, as defined in the bill, and is actively responding to an emergency alarm or during a state of emergency, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill provides that no employer shall be required to pay an employee for work time missed while serving as a voluntary emergency responder but permits such employee to use vacation or sick leave instead of unpaid time off if such employee has accrued such leave. The bill permits a person who alleges a violation of its provisions to bring a civil action seeking injunctive relief, reinstatement, and compensation for lost wages, benefits, and other remuneration.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB121 Minimum wage; farm laborers or farm employees.** Eliminates the exemption from Virginia's minimum wage requirements for persons employed as farm laborers or farm employees. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to HB 20.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB128 Covenants not to compete; health care professionals; civil penalty.** Adds health care professionals as a category of employee with or upon whom no employer shall enter into, enforce, or threaten to enforce a covenant not to compete. The bill defines "health care professional" as any person licensed, registered, or certified by the Board of Medicine, Nursing, Counseling, Optometry, Psychology, or Social Work. 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. This bill is identical to HB 627. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB170 Protection of employees; covenants not to compete; discharged employees.** Provides that no covenant not to compete, as such term is defined in existing law, between an employer and an employee is enforceable if such employer discharges such employee from employment without providing severance benefits or other monetary payment to such employee that is disclosed upon execution of the covenant not to compete, unless the employee is discharged for cause. This bill incorporates SB 569.
Patron - McPike

P **SB199 Employment; paid sick leave; civil penalties; civil actions.** Requires one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked for all employees of private employers and state and local governments, with certain exceptions. The bill requires that employees who are employed and compen-

sated on a fee-for-service 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 paid sick leave under any successor employer. The bill allows employers to provide a more generous paid sick leave policy than prescribed by its provisions and specifies that 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 to seek or obtain certain services or to relocate or secure an existing home due to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The bill requires the Commissioner to promulgate regulations for the implementation and enforcement of the bill's provisions by July 1, 2027. 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 or Attorney General may commence administrative proceedings or bring a civil action to enforce the bill's provisions. Additionally, the bill authorizes an aggrieved employee 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. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill incorporates SB 372 and is identical to HB 5. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Favola

P **SB215** **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 considering the prospective employee for employment; (iii) 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; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote or otherwise retaliating against a prospective or current employee for not providing wage or salary history or requesting a wage or salary range; (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; and (vi) failing to set a wage or salary range in good faith. 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 636. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB288** **Protection of employees; standards for heat illness prevention; Safety and Health Codes Board.** Requires the Safety and Health Codes Board (the Board) to adopt regulations designed to protect workers from heat illness, as defined in the bill, during indoor and outdoor work. The bill provides that such regulations shall be enforced by the Board's existing authority. The bill directs the Board, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Industry, to develop and adopt regulations that require employers to implement heat illness prevention plans and to convene an advisory panel to assist in developing such regulations. This bill is identical to HB 1092.
Patron - Aird

P **SB378** **Collective bargaining by public employees; individual home care providers; Virginia Home Care Council established; Public Employee Relations Board established; exclusive bargaining representatives.** 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 establishes the Virginia Home Care Council within the Department of Medical Assistance Services to promote the stability of the individual provider workforce in the Commonwealth and tasks the Council with serving as the public employer of individual providers, as defined in the bill, for purposes of collective bargaining pursuant to the bill's provisions. 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. The bill directs the Department of Labor and Industry to promulgate any regulations necessary to effectuate the bill's provisions by July 1, 2028, and provides that upon the establishment of the Public Employee Relations Board, such regulations shall be transferred to the Board. The bill provides that until such regulations are adopted, no petitions or elections shall take place pursuant to the bill's provisions except pursuant to an ordinance or resolution adopted under current law. This bill is identical to HB 1263. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Surovell

Failed

F **HB715** **Labor and employment; collective bargaining by certain constitutional officers.** Permits the employees of any sheriff within certain localities to organize, form, join, or assist a labor union or employee organization and collectively bargain and enter into a collective bargaining agreement with their locality with respect to matters relating to the supplementation of salary and benefit compensation.
Patron - Hope

F **HB722** **Protection of employees; retaliatory action against employee prohibited.** Provides that, for the purposes of the prohibition on an employer's retaliatory action against an employee for reporting a violation of a federal or state law or regulation, "federal or state law or regulation" means any federal law, any law of the Commonwealth, and any regulation published as a final rule in the Federal Register or the Virginia Administrative Code. The bill also provides that such prohibition does not apply to discrimination against an employee for exercising rights relating to safety and health provisions of existing law; such discrimination is prohibited under existing law and subject to different remedies.
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB923** **Protection of employees; stay or pay contracts prohibited; civil penalty.** Prohibits an employer from entering into, enforcing, or threatening to enforce a stay or pay contract, as defined in the bill, with any employee, with certain exceptions described. An employer that violates the bill's provisions is subject to a civil penalty of $1,000. The bill allows an employee to bring a civil action against an employer or other person that attempts to enforce a stay or pay contract

and to seek appropriate relief, including enjoining the conduct of any person or employer, ordering payment of liquidated damages, and awarding lost compensation, damages, and reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill provides that if the court finds a violation of the bill's provisions, the plaintiff is entitled to recover reasonable costs, including reasonable fees for expert witnesses, and attorney fees.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB930 Protection of employees; retaliatory action against employee prohibited.** Prohibits an employer from taking certain retaliatory actions against an employee because the employee or a person acting on the employee's behalf reports any information or allegation in good faith that, if true, amounts to a violation of any federal or state law or regulation to a supervisor, manager, officer, or other employee, or to any governmental body or law-enforcement official, including a report made in the ordinary course of the employee's employment, regardless of whether such report refers to a particular law or regulation. The bill prohibits an employer from (i) taking any action or including any policy in an employee handbook, employment contract, or separation agreement that impedes an employee from disclosing possible or actual illegal activity to the public, a governmental body, or his employer or (ii) taking any disciplinary action in retaliation against an employee for reporting to the public, a governmental body, or his employer any possible or actual violation of any federal or state law or regulation. This bill incorporates HB 722 and HB 1216.
Patron - Simon

F **HB948 Virginia Minimum Wage Act; enforcement; penalties.** Provides that an employer that violates provisions relating to minimum wage is liable to the employee for the applicable remedies, damages, penalties, and other relief available in a proceeding 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. Under current law, if the court finds that the employer knowingly failed to pay wages to an employee, the court is required to award the employee an amount equal to triple the amount of wages due and reasonable attorney fees and costs. The bill provides that criminal and civil penalties currently applicable to the nonpayment of wages shall apply to an employer that violates the Virginia Minimum Wage Act.
Patron - Maldonado

F **HB962 Labor and employment; nondiscrimination; prohibiting employer seeking wage or salary history of prospective employees; wage or salary range transparency; predictive scheduling for large employers; causes of action; civil penalties.** Prohibits an employer, labor organization, employment agency, or joint apprenticeship committee controlling an apprenticeship or other training program to discriminate based on an individual's name or address, if the individual's name or address are used as a proxy for race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, military status, disability, or ethnic or national origin. Additionally, the bill 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.
The bill also requires an employer that is a retail establishment, hospitality establishment, or a food services establishment, including a chain or integrated enterprise, employing 500 or more employees worldwide to provide a written good faith estimate of each new employee's work schedule at the time of hire, to provide 14 days' advanced notice of an employee's work schedule, and to compensate employees for certain employer-requested changes that occur to an employee's work schedule without such advanced notice. The bill prohibits such an employer from scheduling or requiring an employee to work during certain required rest periods and from retaliating against an employee for inquiring about or seeking enforcement of the bill's provisions. The bill permits an employee who is unlawfully discharged, disciplined, threatened, discriminated against, or penalized in violation of its provisions to bring a civil action for certain enumerated remedies. Additionally, the bill subjects an employer who violates any of its provisions to certain civil penalties.
Patron - Mehta

F **HB1164 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 considering the prospective employee for employment; (iii) 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; (iv) refusing to interview, hire, employ, or promote or otherwise retaliating against a prospective or current employee for not providing wage or salary history or requesting a wage or salary range; (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; and (vi) failing to set a wage or salary range in good faith. 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.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

F **HB1216 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 two years after the employer's most recent prohibited retaliatory action. The bill states that in such a case, treble damages may be awarded if such violation was willful.
Patron - Delaney

F **HB1355 Labor and employment; payment of wages.** Provides that for purposes of requirements under existing law related to the payment of wages by employers, "wages"

means all remuneration paid, or that should have been paid, for personal services, including salaries, commissions, bonuses, tips, back pay, dismissal pay, severance pay, and any other payments made by an employer to an employee during his employment and thereafter, and the cash value of all remuneration payable in any medium other than cash. The bill is intended to reverse *Groundworks Operations, LLC v. Campbell*, No. 241092 (Va. Dec. 30, 2025).
Patron - Thomas

F **HB1481 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.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **SB32 Denial or abridgement of the right to work; repeal.** Repeals the provisions of the Code of Virginia that, among other things, prohibit any agreement or combination between an employer and a labor union or labor organization whereby (i) nonmembers of the union or organization are denied the right to work for the employer, (ii) membership in the union or organization is made a condition of employment or continuation of employment by such employer, or (iii) the union or organization acquires an employment monopoly in any such enterprise.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB120 Protection of employees; warehouse distribution center requirements; civil penalty; civil action.** Provides that a warehouse employer, as defined in the bill, that violates the bill's provisions shall be liable to an impacted warehouse employee, as defined in the bill, for certain remedies, damages, and other relief as specified in the bill. The bill requires a warehouse employer to provide each warehouse employee 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 an 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 employees is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $5,000 for each violation.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB370 Prevailing wage rate for public works contracts; civil penalties.** Provides that the prevailing wage rate required to be paid under certain contracts for public works shall not be less than the applicable prevailing wage rate determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor under federal law. The bill subjects any contractor or subcontractor who fails to pay the prevailing wage rate for public works contracts as required by existing law to a civil penalty of $500 for each day on which such underpayment occurs and disqualifies such contractor or subcontractor from bidding on public contracts until three years after the final date on which such underpayment occurs. The bill revises the requirements for a contractor or subcontractor to submit certain payroll information to the Department of Labor and Industry and creates certain civil penalties for first and second or subsequent failures to meet such requirements.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB372 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-for-service 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 and specifies that 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 to seek or obtain certain services or to relocate or secure an existing home 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, the bill authorizes an aggrieved employee 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 July 1, 2027.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB569 Protection of employees; covenants not to compete; involuntarily separated employees.** Prohibits the enforcement of a covenant not to compete, as such term is defined in existing law, between an employer and an employee if such employee is involuntarily separated from employment, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that for its purposes, an employee that is separated from employment shall be presumed to be involuntarily separated from employment unless the employer provides documentation establishing that such separation is voluntary or due to the employee's inadequate job performance or misconduct.
Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB644 Labor and employment; payment of wages; minimum wage and overtime wages; misclassification of workers; prevailing wage rate; civil actions.** Provides that an employer that violates provisions relating to minimum wage, overtime wages provisions, the misclassification of workers, or the prevailing wage rate 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. Under current law, if the court finds that the employer knowingly failed to pay wages to an employee, the court is required to award the employee an amount equal to triple the amount of wages due and reasonable attorney fees and costs.
Patron - Surovell

F **SB667 Prevailing wage rate; apprenticeship requirements; RPS-eligible source work; penalties.** Requires each public service company, including its contractors and subcontractors, or third-party developer to ensure payment at the prevailing wage rate set by the Department of Labor and Industry for any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform construction, maintenance, or repair work for certain electricity generating sources. The bill requires each public service company to (i) ensure that 15 percent of the total labor hours of such work is performed by a qualified apprentice and (ii) employ at least one qualified apprentice if four or more individuals are employed to perform such work. Under the bill, a public service company that fails to meet the requirements of its provisions is required to make penalty payments to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB758 Solar energy facilities; prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements; report; civil penalties.** Requires each solar developer, including its contractors and subcontractors, to ensure payment at the prevailing wage rate set by the Department of Labor and Industry for any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform construction, maintenance, or repair work for certain electricity generating sources. The bill requires each solar developer to (i) ensure that a percentage of the total labor hours of such work is performed by qualified apprentices and (ii) employ at least one qualified apprentice if four or more individuals are employed to perform such work. Under the bill, a solar developer that fails to meet the requirements of its provisions is required to make penalty payments to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry.
Patron - Rouse

Carried Over

C **HB260 Prevailing wage rate for underground infrastructure work by public service companies.** Directs the Department of Labor and Industry to determine and make available the prevailing wage rate for underground infrastructure work, as defined in the bill. Under the bill, each public service company shall ensure that its bid specifications or other contracts applicable to underground infrastructure work 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 contractor or subcontractor subject to the provisions of the bill to comply with certain recordkeeping requirements. The provisions of the bill apply to contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Simonds

C **HB339 Employee protections; wage and hour, health and safety, and mining safety provisions; federal rules.** Requires that, if a federal wage or hour law, federal occupational health and safety law, or federal mine safety law is repealed, revoked, amended, or reinterpreted in any manner that results in the federal protections becoming less stringent or effective, the Commissioner, the Safety and Health Codes Board, or the Department of Energy, respectively, shall promulgate regulations that incorporate the federal law as it existed prior to being repealed, revoked, amended, or newly interpreted.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB551 Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; accreditation of nondegree workforce training programs.** Directs the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement to establish an accreditation pathway for nondegree workforce training programs in order to align the skills of the Commonwealth's workforce with the needs of industry in the Commonwealth and to provide a workforce entrance pathway for underserved populations in the Commonwealth. The bill includes minimum standards, admissions requirements, and reporting requirements for such programs. Additionally, the bill includes provisions related to the eligibility of accredited programs for state and federal workforce funding, including the federal Workforce Pell Grant.
Patron - Anderson

C **HB944 Workplace violence policy required for certain employers; civil penalty.** Requires any employer of 100 or more employees to develop, implement, and maintain a workplace violence policy no later than January 1, 2027. The bill includes requirements for such a policy, such as procedures and methods for employee reporting of incidents and post-incident investigations. Employers subject to the bill are required to maintain documentation of workplace violence incidents for not less than five years. An employer that violates the provisions of the bill shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $1,000 per violation. The bill prohibits retaliation from an employer on the basis of reporting a workplace violence incident and provides that any employee who makes a report of workplace violence shall be immune from civil liability. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Clark

C **HB949 Covenants not to compete; exceptions; civil penalty.** Prohibits an employer from entering into, enforcing, or threatening to enforce a covenant not to compete with employees who perform key duties of the employer's enterprise or customarily and regularly solicit customers or make sales or contracts for the employer. Under the bill, certain employees are permitted to enter agreements to refrain from soliciting business from the employer for a stated period of time following termination. The penalty provisions in current law for covenants not to compete for low-wage employees shall apply to a violation of the provisions of the bill. The provisions of the bill apply to contracts entered into, amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2026.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB1372 Solar energy facilities; prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements; state and local tax exemption; report; civil penalties.** Requires each solar developer, including its contractors and subcontractors, to ensure payment at the prevailing wage rate set by the Department of Labor and Industry for any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform construction, maintenance, or repair work for certain electricity generating sources. The bill requires each solar developer to (i) ensure that a percentage of the total labor hours of such work is performed by qualified apprentices and (ii) employ at least one qualified apprentice if four or more individuals are employed to perform such work. Under the bill, a solar developer that fails to meet the requirements of its provisions is required to make penalty payments to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry.
Additionally, the bill provides that any certified solar generation facility, as defined in the bill, is declared a separate class of property and shall be classified for local taxation separately from other classifications of real or personal property. Such

facilities shall be wholly exempt from state and local taxation under the Constitution of Virginia.
Patron - Helmer

C **HB1451 Labor and employment; warehouse employers; required disclosures and recordkeeping; civil penalties.** Requires each employer of 500 or more warehouse employees in the Commonwealth to provide a written description of each quota to which an employee is subject, any incentive or bonus associated with meeting the quota, and any potential adverse employment action that may result from failure to meet the quota. Such employers are also required to disclose the use of an automated or algorithmic management system to monitor or evaluate employee performance. Under the bill, the time periods in quotas must account for relevant standards for meal periods, rest periods, bathroom access, or workplace safety. The bill also requires such employers to keep records of each employee's work-speed data, aggregate work-speed data, and written quota disclosures provided to employees. The bill prohibits retaliatory action against an employee for requesting information, making a good faith complaint, or participating in an investigation and includes a rebuttable presumption that any adverse employment action taken within 90 days of such conduct is retaliatory. Provisions of the bill are enforceable by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry under existing provisions to enforce and remedy safety and health violations.
Patron - Anthony

C **HB1520 Military - spouse employment and economic opportunities.**
Patron - Whittle

Mechanics' and Certain Other Liens

Passed

P **HB1217 Keeper of livery stable; liens; requirements.** Creates a process by which any person that boards, pastures, or otherwise keeps any horse, cattle, or other animal pursuant to an agreement with the owner of such horse, cattle, or other animal may impose a possessory lien for the reasonable charges due for such animal's care, feeding, and maintenance, which includes a provision for the lienholder to retain possession of the animal for 30 days until certain conditions are met and a procedure for the owner of the animal to dispute such lien. The bill also provides that if no such action has occurred upon the expiration of the 30 days, the lienholder may proceed with enforcing the lien as provided by current law.
Patron - Oates

Carried Over

C **HB42 Posting of building permit; identification of mechanics' lien agent.** Requires a building permit issued pursuant to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to be conspicuously and continuously posted on the property for which the permit is issued until all work is completed on the property. The bill further provides that no person may claim a lien or otherwise perfect and enforce a lien if such person fails to notify any mechanics' lien agent identified on such building permit. The bill requires a person performing labor or furnishing materials on which a building permit is not posted at the time he first performs his labor or first furnishes his material or, if posted, does not state the name of the mechanics' lien agent, to determine whether a permit has been issued, the date on which it is issued, and the name of the mechanics' lien agent, if any, that has been appointed. Under current law, these specifications are limited to one or two-family dwelling units.
Patron - Simon

C **HB752 Mechanics' liens; liens attaching to property; memorandum of lien.** Removes the exclusion of the attachment of a mechanic's lien to property improved or repaired when the lien is based on a claim for repairs or existing structures. The bill further removes (i) the ability of a lien claimant to file any number of memoranda of lien including the details relating to the lien and (ii) the provisions of the Code specifying that no memorandum filed shall include sums due for (a) labor or materials furnished more than 150 days prior to the last day labor was performed or (b) material furnished to the job preceding the filing of such memorandum.
Patron - Runion

Military and Emergency Laws

Passed

P **HB34 Department of Military Affairs; feasibility of Sexual Offense Prevention and Response Officer; report.** Directs the Department of Military Affairs to assess the feasibility of and develop recommendations related to establishing a Sexual Offense Prevention and Response Officer position within the Sexual Offense Prevention and Response Program to perform victim advocacy services. The bill requires the Adjutant General to report to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB169 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; evaluation of emergency management needs in the Commonwealth; report.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group to evaluate existing emergency management needs, analyze sustainability of current funding of such needs, and review alternative funding models for such needs in other states, and to report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and General Laws and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology on or before October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 98.
Patron - Askew

P **HB286 Virginia National Guard; reports to the General Assembly; state militias; work group; report.** Requires the Adjutant General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing federal and state deployments of the Virginia National Guard and other matters relating to retention, readiness, funding, and resources. The bill prohibits the Governor from calling forth the Virginia National Guard for the purpose of intimidating, threatening, or coercing, or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, a person in giving his vote or ballot or to deter or prevent such person from voting. The bill additionally prohibits armed militia from another state, territory, or district from entering the Commonwealth for the purpose of active military duty over the objection of the Governor without meeting certain conditions. The bill allows certain members of the General Assembly to request that the Attorney General assess the legality of the deployment of the

(i) National Guard of another state within the Commonwealth or (ii) Virginia National Guard. Finally, the bill directs the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs to convene a work group to assess the most appropriate manner and process by which the Governor and members of the General Assembly should respond to deployments of the Virginia National Guard. This bill is identical to SB 337. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB347 Military and emergency laws; local emergency management plans.** Changes from every four years to every five years the frequency with which every local and interjurisdictional agency has to review and update its emergency operations plan.
Patron - McLaughlin

P **HB1189 Department of Emergency Management; state of preparedness; report.** Directs the Department of Emergency Management to assess the feasibility and impact of developing a program to prioritize the prevention and mitigation of damage, loss, hardship, or suffering due to the anticipated impacts of an imminent emergency necessitating a gubernatorial declaration of a state of preparedness or an emergency that does not warrant a gubernatorial declaration of a state of emergency. The Department of Emergency Management shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology and the House Committee on Appropriations by November 1, 2026.
Patron - O'Quinn

P **HB1334 Militia state active duty; cyber-related support.** Adds cyber-related support to the list of instances in which the Governor may call forth the militia or any part thereof to state active duty.
Patron - Feggans

P **SB98 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; evaluation of emergency management needs in the Commonwealth; report.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group to evaluate existing emergency management needs, analyze sustainability of current funding of such needs, and review alternative funding models for such needs in other states, and to report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and General Laws and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology on or before October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 169.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB337 Virginia National Guard; reports to the General Assembly; state militias; work group; report.** Requires the Adjutant General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing federal and state deployments of the Virginia National Guard and other matters relating to retention, readiness, funding, and resources. The bill prohibits the Governor from calling forth the Virginia National Guard for the purpose of intimidating, threatening, or coercing, or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, a person in giving his vote or ballot or to deter or prevent such person from voting. The bill additionally prohibits armed militia from another state, territory, or district from entering the Commonwealth for the purpose of active military duty over the objection of the Governor without meeting certain conditions. The bill allows certain members of the General Assembly to request that the Attorney General assess the legality of the deployment of the (i) National Guard of another state within the Commonwealth or (ii) Virginia National Guard. Finally, the bill directs the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs to convene a work group to assess the most appropriate manner and process by which the Governor and members of the General Assembly should respond to deployments of the Virginia National Guard. This bill is identical to HB 286. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Perry

P **SB600 Nonjudicial disciplinary proceedings in the Virginia National Guard.** Removes the restriction on nonjudicial disciplinary proceedings that prevents reduction in rank for members with more than 10 years of service who are in the rank of E-5 or above.
Patron - Reeves

Failed

F **HB533 Virginia National Guard; deployment to active duty combat.** Prohibits the Virginia National Guard from being deployed into active duty combat, defined in the bill, unless Congress has made an official declaration of war, defined in the bill, or has taken an official action as authorized by the Constitution of the United States for the purposes of expressly executing the laws of the United States, repelling invasion, or suppressing an insurrection.
Patron - Hamilton

F **HB776 Department of Military Affairs; biennial training; Virginia National Guard; report.** Requires the Department of Military Affairs (the Department) to conduct a biennial training among all officers of the Virginia National Guard, the curriculum for which shall be established by the Adjutant General in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, the Attorney General, and the Governor. Such training shall (a) remind officers of their oath to upholding the Constitution; (b) inform officers on the process for identifying and responding to suspected unlawful order; and (c) remind officers of their obligation to remain nonpartisan in the execution of their duties. The bill requires the Department to conduct the training among all officers of the Virginia National Guard by November 1, 2026. The bill directs the Adjutant General to require officers holding command and company and flight commanders to inform their Guard members on the processes for addressing any suspected unlawful order. The bill additionally directs the Adjutant General to establish a standard operating procedure by which officers can report the issuance of an unlawful order to the Office of the Attorney General, the Inspector General of the Virginia National Guard, and the United States Department of War and Military Services Offices of Inspector General.
Patron - Thornton

F **HB937 Virginia Resiliency Grant Program and Fund.** Establishes the Virginia Resiliency Grant Program and Fund, administered by the Department of Emergency Management, to award local governing bodies grants of up to $100,000 to support disaster recovery from those disasters and emergencies for which federal assistance under the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act is unavailable. The bill also authorizes the Department to establish a Virginia Disaster Individual Assistance Program to support households impacted by disasters or emergencies for which federal individual assistance is unavailable or insufficient.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

F **SB635 Department of Emergency Management; state of preparedness; report.** Directs the Department of Emergency Management to assess the feasibility and impact

of developing a program to prioritize the prevention and mitigation of damage, loss, hardship, or suffering due to the anticipated impacts of an imminent emergency necessitating a gubernatorial declaration of a state of preparedness or an emergency that does not warrant a gubernatorial declaration of a state of emergency. The Department of Emergency Management shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology and the House Committee on Appropriations by November 1, 2026.
Patron - McDougle

F **SB654 Virginia militia; officers of certain educational institutions.** Provides that the officers of certain educational institutions shall, for the purposes of being commissioned officers of the Virginia militia, be subject to the same rules and regulations as to discipline provided for the military organizations in which they previously served. Current law provides that such officers also shall be subject to the orders of the Governor and such rules and regulations as to discipline provided for other officers of the military organizations of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Craig

F **SB704 Virginia encroachment grant; incompatible uses.** Expands the application of grants to address the encroachment of incompatible uses to include localities in which any Virginia military installation with missions that produce noise, smoke, vibration, or explosive hazards and that is vulnerable to electromagnetic spectrum, light pollution, and other mission-limiting hazards is located. The bill also removes the required initial allocation to the locality in which the Master Jet Base and the auxiliary field for the Master Jet Base is located.
Patron - Durant

F **SB718 Virginia National Guard; power of Governor to summon in certain circumstances; mobilization under federal authority; annual report.** Provides that the Governor, within 48 hours of ordering the deployment of the Virginia National Guard, shall inform, in writing, the General Assembly of such deployment. The bill also provides that the Governor shall summon the General Assembly if he wishes for such a deployment to continue for longer than two weeks, and the General Assembly may pass a joint resolution by simple majority authorizing the continuation of such deployment. The bill also requires the Adjutant General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing federal and state deployments of the Virginia National Guard and other matters relating to retention, readiness, funding, and resources.
The bill clarifies that the Virginia National Guard's role in counterdrug operations is limited to that of support, as opposed to direct law enforcement. The bill also prohibits the Governor from calling forth the Virginia National Guard for the purpose of intimidating, threatening, or coercing, or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, a person in giving his vote or ballot or to deter or prevent such person from voting.
The bill provides several measures to be followed in the event of Virginia National Guard mobilization under federal authority either within or outside the Commonwealth, and such measures are enumerated within the bill.
Patron - VanValkenburg

Carried Over

C **HB349 Department of Emergency Management; emergency services and disaster preparedness programs; inclusion of federally recognized tribes.** Requires the Department of Emergency Management to administer certain emergency services in coordination with federally recognized tribes that the Department has entered into a contract or memorandum of understanding with for assistance regarding such emergency services. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - McLaughlin

C **HB1114 Military leaves of absence for employees of the Commonwealth or political subdivisions; law-enforcement officers.** Provides that any person who is employed by the Commonwealth or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth as a law-enforcement officer shall receive paid leaves of absence for up to 388 hours for which a leave of absence is required, 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.
Patron - Nivar

C **SB787 Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund established.** Establishes the Virginia National Guard TRICARE Reimbursement Fund for the purpose of reimbursing the costs of federal TRICARE dental insurance plan premiums and TRICARE Reserve Select health insurance plan premiums for Virginia National Guard members deemed eligible by the Adjutant General.
Patron - Cifers

Mines, Minerals, and Energy

Passed

P **HB67 Department of Energy; workforce development in offshore wind industry.** Directs the Director of the Department of Energy to identify and develop training resources to advance workforce development in the offshore wind industry in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 25.
Patron - Feggans

P **HB323 Department of Energy; use of waste heat from data centers; findings and recommendations; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Energy to lead efforts to accelerate the use of waste heat from data centers in the Commonwealth by making certain findings and recommendations and convening a work group to provide expertise, assistance, and feedback on the Department's efforts. The bill requires the Department to submit a report of its efforts, findings, legislative proposals, and recommendations no later than September 1, 2026.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB590 Smart Solar Permitting Platform established; residential solar energy systems; work group; report.** Creates the Smart Solar Permitting Platform (the Platform) to serve as a tool for (i) contractors to obtain permits for the construction of streamline-eligible residential solar energy systems and (ii) localities to process applications for such permits. The bill requires the Department of Energy to establish, launch, and administer the Platform by July 1, 2027, as an internet-based platform that automates plan review and instantly releases a permit or a permit revision to construct certain residential solar energy systems that comply with any applicable building codes and state laws. The bill requires localities to allow contractors to submit an application to construct a residential solar energy system through the Platform or

through an alternative automated solar permitting platform by July 1, 2028. The bill requires any locality that chooses to use an alternative automated solar permitting platform to submit an annual report to the Department no later than March 1 of each year. The bill directs the Director of the Department to convene a work group to determine the appropriateness of adding a surcharge to local government permitting fees to defray state costs for the Platform and to report its findings to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 382.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB672 Minimum energy and water conservation standards; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning facilities and home appliances; Department of Energy; prohibited practices; penalty.** Provides that if any product or product categories under the federal Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (the EPCA) are removed by the U.S. Secretary of Energy or the federal government, the Department of Energy shall adopt energy or water conservation standards that shall be equivalent to the last applicable federal standards with a product compliance date of on or before December 31, 2025. The bill prohibits any such new products from being sold, offered for sale, leased, or rented in the Commonwealth unless such products meet or exceed such standards. The bill excludes any energy or water conservation standards set aside by a court or any product if federal law preempts the application of the minimum energy and water conservation standards to such a product, including any product or product categories where there is a requirement to develop a standard under the EPCA.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB683 Solar Interconnection Grant Fund and Program established; report; sunset.** Establishes the Solar Interconnection Grant Program for the purpose of awarding grants on a competitive basis to public bodies to offset costs associated with the interconnection of solar facilities to the grid. The Program is administered by the Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of the Department of Energy. The bill requires that priority be given to solar facilities located on previously developed project sites and requires the Division to establish and publish guidelines and criteria for the awarding of grants and general requirements of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027, and, as introduced, was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 659.
Patron - Herring

P **HB1381 Groundwater management areas; bioslurry injections in wells prohibited.** Prohibits any person from conducting any bioslurry injection, as defined in the bill, in any well that has been drilled through any portion of a groundwater management area declared by regulation prior to January 1, 2020. This bill is identical SB 784.
Patron - Bloxom

P **SB25 Department of Energy; workforce development in offshore wind industry.** Directs the Director of the Department of Energy to identify and develop training resources to advance workforce development in the offshore wind industry in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 67.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB43 Department of Energy; demand response programs; evaluation and assessment; report.** Directs the Department of Energy to evaluate and assess the benefits and impacts of and best practices and implementation recommendations for demand response programs in the Commonwealth and to submit a report of such evaluation and assessment by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Roem

P **SB256 Minimum energy and water conservation standards; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning facilities and home appliances; Department of Energy; prohibited practices; penalty.** Provides that if any product or product categories under the federal Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (the EPCA) are removed by the U.S. Secretary of Energy or the federal government, the Department of Energy shall adopt energy or water conservation standards that shall be equivalent to the last applicable federal standards with a product compliance date of on or before December 31, 2025. The bill prohibits any such new products from being sold, offered for sale, leased, or rented in the Commonwealth unless such products meet or exceed such standards. The bill excludes any energy or water conservation standards set aside by a court or any product if federal law preempts the application of the minimum energy and water conservation standards to such a product, including any product or product categories where there is a requirement to develop a standard under the EPCA. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McPike

P **SB333 Remediated Mine Gas Grant Program established; report.** Directs the Department of Energy to establish the Remediated Mine Gas Grant Program to assist projects in the Commonwealth with capture and sequestration of remediated mine gas. The bill requires (i) the Department to award grants for the Program to taxpayers on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to appropriation by the General Assembly, and (ii) grant recipients to submit a report to the Department by October 1 of any year in which funds are made available for the Program. The bill also directs the Department to submit a report summarizing the information received from grant recipients to relevant committees of the General Assembly by January 1 after any year in which funds are made available for the Program.
Patron - Hackworth

P **SB382 Smart Solar Permitting Platform established; residential solar energy systems; work group; report.** Creates the Smart Solar Permitting Platform (the Platform) to serve as a tool for (i) contractors to obtain permits for the construction of streamline-eligible residential solar energy systems and (ii) localities to process applications for such permits. The bill requires the Department of Energy to establish, launch, and administer the Platform by July 1, 2027, as an internet-based platform that automates plan review and instantly releases a permit or a permit revision to construct certain residential solar energy systems that comply with any applicable building codes and state laws. The bill requires localities to allow contractors to submit an application to construct a residential solar energy system through the Platform or through an alternative automated solar permitting platform by July 1, 2028. The bill requires any locality that chooses to use an alternative automated solar permitting platform to submit an annual report to the Department no later than March 1 of each year. The bill directs the Director of the Department to convene a work group to determine the appropriateness of adding a surcharge to local government permitting fees to defray state costs for the Platform and to report its findings to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 590.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB659 Solar Interconnection Grant Fund and Program established; report; sunset.** Establishes the Solar Interconnection Grant Program for the purpose of awarding

grants on a competitive basis to public bodies to offset costs associated with the interconnection of solar facilities to the grid. The Program is administered by the Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of the Department of Energy. The bill requires that priority be given to solar facilities located on previously developed project sites and requires the Division to establish and publish guidelines and criteria for the awarding of grants and general requirements of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027, and, as introduced, was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 683.

Patron - Craig

P **SB784 Groundwater management areas; bioslurry injections in wells prohibited.** Prohibits any person from conducting any bioslurry injection, as defined in the bill, in any well that has been drilled through any portion of a groundwater management area declared by regulation prior to January 1, 2020. This bill is identical to HB 1381.

Patron - Stuart

Failed

F **HB824 Department of Energy; energy generation and storage by data centers; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Energy to convene a work group to study the cost and feasibility of (i) energy generation by data centers, (ii) the use of such energy generation to serve as backup or primary generation for data centers, and (iii) the use of energy storage resources by data centers in the Commonwealth. The work group shall also examine the potential for partnerships with public universities to support the development of advanced energy technologies. The work group shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by September 1, 2026.

Patron - Sullivan

F **HB945 Department of Energy to study geothermal energy; State Corporation Commission proceeding to establish geothermal energy requirements for high energy users.** Directs the Department of Energy to conduct a study on geothermal electric generating resources and geothermal heating and cooling systems in the Commonwealth and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the State Corporation Commission by July 1, 2027.

The bill also directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate a proceeding by September 30, 2027, to establish requirements for high energy users to utilize standardized amounts of capacity from geothermal electric generating resources and geothermal heating and cooling systems, as informed by the study submitted by the Department of Energy. The bill defines "high energy user" as a retail electric service customer of a utility regulated by the Commission with a consistent demand of 100 megawatts, but the Commission is permitted to adjust the megawatt size threshold for high energy users as determined by the Commission to be appropriate to manage electric demand in the Commonwealth through the use of geothermal energy.

Patron - Clark

F **HB1089 Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund.** Increases from $100 per kilowatt of nameplate capacity from renewable energy sources that are located on brownfields to $200 per kilowatt of nameplate capacity from renewable energy sources that are located on brownfields the grant amount a project developer can receive from the Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.

Patron - Webert

F **SB588 Department of Energy; developing criteria to determine the appropriateness of sites for solar facilities.** Requires the Department of Energy (the Department) to develop a set of criteria to be used by reviewers to (i) assess the appropriateness of potential siting areas and (ii) assign a siting appropriateness score from one to 100 for each area and to establish a scoring committee to review applications for proposed solar facilities. Beginning January 1, 2027, the bill requires every completed land use application for a proposed solar facility to be forwarded by the host locality to the Department for evaluation and scoring. The bill provides that the locality shall continue to have final authority for approval or disapproval of a proposed solar facility.

Patron - Marsden

F **SB825 Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Fund; surface mining pool bond fees.** Amends various provisions under the Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Fund, including a requirement for the Director of the Department of Energy to assess market conditions no less than biannually to set the rate of reclamation tax based on the (i) most recent price per ton of metallurgical coal exports as reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration or (ii) local market conditions provided by the industry representatives currently serving on the Coal Surface Mine Reclamation Fund Advisory Board. The bill also changes the entrance fee for coal surface mining operators participating in the pool fund.

Patron - Hackworth

F **SB834 Virginia Solar Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems Grant Program.** Establishes the Virginia Solar Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems Grant Program (the Program), subject to appropriation by the General Assembly, for the purposes of (i) coordinating and supporting the development of solar energy and short duration battery energy storage industries and projects by public or private entities; (ii) evaluating and approving solar energy and short duration battery energy storage projects as qualified projects for the purposes of the Program; and (iii) determining which items and services are considered eligible project costs for a given qualified project, as defined in the bill. The bill provides requirements for what can be considered a qualified solar energy and short duration battery energy storage project based on whether the use of such project is for a residential, commercial and industrial, or utility-scale project. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Energy to monitor allocation of the grant awards and maintain a public dashboard displaying certain information on the solar energy and short duration battery energy storage installations.

Patron - Jones

Carried Over

C **HB324 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 electric vehicle charging stations (i) in certain localities; (ii) on eligible public land, as defined in the bill; or (iii) within one mile of the boundary of eligible public land. The bill provides that a private developer may apply for a grant in an amount equal to 70 percent of the private developer's non-utility costs for the installation of such public electric vehicle charging stations. The awarding of a grant under the Program is conditional upon an agreement with the applicant that any cost of a project

not funded by a grant awarded by the Program be funded by non-federal funds. The bill directs the Department of Energy to establish guidelines for the administration of the Program, including guidelines related to the application for and award of grants. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2031.
Patron - Sullivan

C **HB591 Policy of the Commonwealth; data centers.** Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage the responsible operation of data centers in the Commonwealth while supporting grid reliability, affordability, and the deployment of renewable resources. The bill provides that in furtherance of this policy, the Commonwealth shall (i) promote coordination between data centers, state agencies, and regional grid operators to share information on energy usage, interconnection timelines, and barriers to rapid deployment of renewable and flexible energy resources; (ii) incentivize data centers to participate in demand response programs, implement energy storage and management systems, and leverage automated technologies to reduce peak demand and support grid stability; (iii) encourage flexible energy practices that allow data centers to adjust energy consumption in real time in alignment with available renewable generation; (iv) ensure large-scale data centers pay their fair share of infrastructure investments, mitigating impacts on residential and small business ratepayers; (v) require data centers to report water and aggregated energy usage, sustainability measures, and participation in grid support programs to appropriate state and federal agencies; and (vi) promote cybersecurity, physical security, and supply chain security measures to protect Virginia data center operations from foreign adversary access or compromise.
Patron - Simonds

C **HB918 Virginia Clean Energy Research and Support Center; established.** Establishes the Virginia Clean Energy Research and Support Center (the Center) as an interdisciplinary study, research, and informational resource for individuals and businesses in the Commonwealth. The Center is governed by a board of directors that includes representatives from several colleges and universities in the Commonwealth, the Department of Energy, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. The board is directed to establish an advisory council to provide expertise and guidance related to the functions and duties of the Center. Functions and duties of the Center include providing technical assistance in matters related to energy technologies, siting, permitting, project design, interconnection, electric infrastructure, electric utilities, ratepayer proceedings, and environmental impacts of energy projects. Under the bill, the Center shall conduct an annual evaluation and collaborate with state agencies and institutions of higher education to provide technical assistance, research, or support in matters related to siting and permitting, programs to improve electric grid reliability, energy programs established at a participating institution of higher education, and administration and implementation of the Virginia Energy Plan. The bill also requires the Center to submit an annual report to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation summarizing its research activities and any funding received by the Center by November 1 of each year.
This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Sullivan

C **HB935 Virginia Clean Energy and Battery Storage Promotion Program established; report.** Directs the Director of the Department of Energy to establish the Virginia Clean Energy and Battery Storage Promotion Program. The purpose of the Program is to (i) promote the adoption, deployment, and understanding of solar energy and battery storage technologies; (ii) support market development, public information, and workforce development initiatives; and (iii) conduct research and technical studies on cost reduction, deployment barriers, and grid integration. The bill establishes the Virginia Clean Energy and Battery Storage Promotion Board as a policy board in the executive branch of state government to coordinate with the Director to establish a program for the promotion, research, and market development of clean energy and battery storage. Additionally, the bill establishes the Virginia Clean Energy and Battery Storage Promotion Fund to fund the administration and implementation of the Program. The bill requires the developer of a solar energy project or an energy storage system to pay a one-time fee of $0.02 per watt of generation or storage capacity to the Fund. The fee is assessed by the Department of Energy.
Patron - Lopez

C **HB1133 Department of Energy; Virginia Solar Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems Program and tax credit; solar energy and battery energy storage projects.** Establishes the Virginia Solar Energy and Battery Energy Storage Systems Program, to be administered by the Department of Energy for the purpose of (i) coordinating and supporting the development of solar energy and short duration battery energy storage industries and projects by other public or private entities; (ii) evaluating and approving solar energy and short duration battery energy storage projects as qualified projects for the purposes of the tax credit established by the bill; and (iii) determining which items and services are considered eligible project costs for a given qualified project, as defined in the bill. The bill establishes requirements for what can be considered a qualified solar energy and battery energy storage project based on whether the use of such project is for a residential, commercial and industrial, or utility-scale project. The bill establishes a tax credit for the installation of such residential, commercial and industrial, or utility-scale solar energy and energy storage projects for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2027, but before January 1, 2032. Finally, the bill requires the Department to monitor allocation of the tax credit and publish quarterly transparency reports summarizing such information and to establish and maintain a public dashboard displaying certain information on the solar energy and short duration battery energy storage installations by January 1, 2027. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Reid

C **SB415 Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund.** Increases from $100 per kilowatt of nameplate capacity from renewable energy sources that are located on brownfields to $200 per kilowatt of nameplate capacity from renewable energy sources that are located on brownfields the grant amount a project developer can receive from the Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.

Patron - Peake

C **SB510 Virginia Clean Energy Research and Support Center; established.** Establishes the Virginia Clean Energy Research and Support Center (the Center) as an interdisciplinary study, research, and informational resource for individuals and businesses in the Commonwealth. The Center is governed by a board of directors that includes representatives from several colleges and universities in the Commonwealth, the Department of Energy, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. The board is directed to establish an advisory council to provide expertise and guidance related to the functions and duties of the Center. Functions and duties of the Cen-

ter include providing technical assistance in matters related to energy technologies, siting, permitting, project design, interconnection, electric infrastructure, electric utilities, ratepayer proceedings, and environmental impacts of energy projects. Under the bill, the Center shall conduct an annual evaluation and collaborate with state agencies and institutions of higher education to provide technical assistance, research, or support in matters related to siting and permitting, programs to improve electric grid reliability, energy programs established at a participating institution of higher education, and administration and implementation of the Virginia Energy Plan. The bill also requires the Center to submit an annual report to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation summarizing its research activities and any funding received by the Center by November 1 of each year.

This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.

Patron - VanValkenburg

Motor Vehicles

Passed

P **HB55 Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties.** Authorizes counties and cities in Planning Districts 8, 9, and 15 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, on any highway located in the locality for the purpose of recording and enforcing exhaust system violations, also defined in the bill. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed $100, but the violation shall not be reported on the driver's operating record or to the driver's insurance agency. The bill provides that a locality may exempt from enforcement by noise abatement monitoring systems vehicles used for agricultural, horticultural, or forestry purposes as demonstrated by vehicle license plates. Under the bill, the civil penalty will be paid to the locality in which the violation occurred to be used for the cost of administering the noise abatement monitoring system program and for transportation safety initiatives. The bill contains the same data privacy and storage requirements as are in current law for photo speed monitoring devices. The bill requires any locality that places and operates such a noise abatement monitoring system to report on its public website by January 15 of each year on the number of traffic violations prosecuted, the number of successful prosecutions, and the total amount of monetary civil penalties collected. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028. This bill incorporates HB 1349.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB77 Enforcement of federal traffic infractions by state and local law-enforcement officers; Planning District 8.** Provides that state and local law-enforcement officers may enforce federal traffic infractions on any highway within Planning District 8. This bill is identical to SB 81. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Krizek

P **HB94 Vehicle registration fees; disabled veterans.** Extends the current exemption from annual vehicle registration fees for disabled veterans or their unremarried surviving spouse to eligible vehicles displaying a standard passenger license plate. Current law applies such exemption to a vehicle displaying disabled veteran special license plates.

Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB230 Motor vehicles; use of safety belt systems; certain persons exempt.** Exempts from the requirements for the use of safety belt systems emergency medical services personnel while in the patient compartment of an emergency medical services vehicle providing necessary care, as defined in the bill, to a patient. The bill provides that, for seats that are subject to such requirements for the use of safety belt systems, such personnel shall use safety belt systems while the vehicle is in motion and such personnel is not providing necessary care to a patient. The bill also changes the existing exemption for law-enforcement agency personnel driving motor vehicles to enforce laws governing motor vehicle parking to an exemption for law-enforcement officers driving motor vehicles to enforce laws governing motor vehicle parking. This bill incorporates HB 233.

Patron - McQuinn

P **HB320 Live streaming while driving; prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits any person, while driving a moving motor vehicle on the highways in the Commonwealth, from (i) initiating, participating in, or interacting with any live stream, as that term is defined in the bill, and (ii) manipulating any electronic device to enable or maintain the functions of a live stream on or with such electronic device. The bill establishes penalties for violations, in addition to any other penalties available under current law, including periods of license suspension and a fine of not more than $500 if a person who commits such a violation is involved in an accident at the time of such violation. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB343 Helmets; local authority.** Permits localities to adopt ordinances requiring children 14 years of age or younger to wear protective helmets whenever riding or being carried on a motorized skateboard or scooter or a nonmotorized scooter. Current law authorizes localities to adopt such ordinances for riders of bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, toy vehicles, and electric power-assisted bicycles.

Patron - Martinez

P **HB351 Flashing red and white warning lights; emergency vehicle exemptions; Department of Military Affairs emergency vehicles.** Authorizes Department of Military Affairs emergency vehicles to (i) be equipped with flashing, blinking, or alternating red or red and white combination warning lights and (ii) disregard certain regulations regarding the operation of vehicles without being subject to criminal prosecution while responding to an emergency. This bill is identical to SB 573.

Patron - Feggans

P **HB409 Passing a stopped school bus; divided highways, access roads, and certain driveways.** Clarifies that the exemption from the requirement for a driver of a motor vehicle to stop for a stopped school bus if such bus is stopped on the other roadway of a divided highway, on an access road, or on a driveway when the other roadway, access road, or driveway is separated from the roadway on which he is driving by a physical barrier or an unpaved area applies regardless of whether the physical barrier or unpaved area is continuous or segmented when necessary to accommodate an intersection or turning vehicles.

Patron - Reid

P **HB498 Motor carrier violations; authority of law-enforcement officers.** Authorizes the enforcement of motor carrier violations of license, registration, and tax requirements and vehicle size limitations at locations other than permanent weighing stations and clarifies that law-

enforcement officers, in addition to size and weight compliance agents, may enforce such provisions.
Patron - Watts

P **HB559 Driver training school and driver training instructors; standards; discipline; report.** Prohibits the licensure of a person as a driver training school instructor for driver education courses for minors if the person has been convicted of certain sex crimes or any offense that requires registration on the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. The bill removes the five-year limitation on the period the Department of Motor Vehicles is authorized to set for a licensee whose license was revoked to reapply and provides that if the revocation was due to a conviction of (i) driving under the influence, (ii) reckless driving, (iii) refusal to submit to alcohol or drug testing, or (iv) vehicular manslaughter, such period shall be no less than 10 years. The bill requires the Department to establish and maintain a public, searchable database of disciplinary action taken by the Department against an instructor or driver training school. The bill requires driver training schools to notify students, prospective students, and guardians thereof of any such disciplinary actions taken in the preceding 24 months or while such student is enrolled. The bill also requires the Department to annually by November 1 submit a report to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation detailing such disciplinary actions. This bill is identical to SB 399.
Patron - Wyatt

P **HB564 Parking, stopping, and standing enforcement; bus obstruction monitoring systems.** Allows localities to authorize the use of bus obstruction monitoring systems by a public transit agency operating within the locality for the purpose of enforcing local ordinances related to parking, stopping, or standing in bus stop zones or in lanes reserved for transit buses during posted times. This bill is identical to SB 583.
Patron - Reid

P **HB570 Motor vehicle dealers; dealer records and advertisements.** Provides that motor vehicle dealer records may be preserved in original form or electronically and removes the option to use certain obsolete archival methods. The bill removes the requirement that a dealer receive prior approval to maintain records on a computerized record keeping system. The bill additionally removes the requirement that a dealer maintain on the premises of the licensed location records regarding uninsured motor vehicle fees, which no longer exist under current law. The bill expands the application of certain naming requirements for advertisements to all advertisements placed by any licensee, rather than only to advertisements placed in newspapers and publications.
Patron - Feggans

P **HB586 Motor vehicle dealers; conduct of business; business hours; filing changes.** Changes the entity with which a dealer who changes his business hours must file such change from the Department of Motor Vehicles to the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board.
Patron - Wyatt

P **HB608 Dealer's license plates; permitted uses.** Authorizes the use of dealer's license plates on vehicles delivering or transporting vehicle parts and accessories and fuel, so long as such delivery or transport of fuel consists of no more than five gallons of such fuel and such fuel is in a container of a type approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. The bill also authorizes a dealer to permit his license plates to be used in the operation of a motor vehicle by a person authorized by the dealer on a vehicle that is being driven to or from an automotive retail or supply store or retail facility selling automotive supplies or parts.
Patron - Wyatt

P **HB646 Green warning lights; certain farm vehicles.** Authorizes the use of green warning lights on vehicles displaying a permanent farm use placard, farm vehicles, farm tractors, and farm utility vehicles while operating on or along a highway.
Patron - Kent

P **HB684 Photo speed monitoring devices; photo-monitoring systems for traffic signals; school bus video-monitoring systems; proof of violation; certain persons swearing to or affirming certificates; training.** Authorizes retired sworn law-enforcement officers, registered special conservators of the peace, and technicians employed by a locality to swear to or to affirm certificates for the purposes of enforcement of violations recorded by traffic light signal violation monitoring systems, traffic control device violation monitoring systems, photo speed monitoring devices, or school bus video-monitoring systems upon completion of a training course developed and approved by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The bill also requires law-enforcement officers swearing to or affirming such certificates to complete such training course. These provisions of the bill have an effective date of July 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop, approve, and make available such training course no later than January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 59.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB783 Parking enforcement; issuance of a summons or parking ticket.** Removes the population requirement for a locality to be authorized to, by ordinance, authorize law-enforcement officers, other uniformed employees of the locality, and uniformed personnel serving under contract with the locality to issue a summons or parking ticket for a violation of an ordinance regulating the parking, stopping, and standing of vehicles. Existing law grants such authority to localities having a population of at least 40,000. This bill is identical to SB 67.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB788 Vehicle crash reports; open to inspection by certain persons; towing and recovery operators.** Makes certain vehicle crash reports open for inspection and available to towing and recovery operators that responded to a public safety towing request for the removal of a vehicle involved in such crash for purposes of obtaining registered owner information and insurance information for any such vehicle. The bill prohibits the dissemination of any such crash report received by such a towing and recovery operator to any other party.
Patron - Austin

P **HB811 Special license plates; SAVING LIVES TOGETHER.** Authorizes the issuance of revenue-sharing special license plates for supporters of the Richmond Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) bearing the legend SAVING LIVES TOGETHER.
Patron - Carr

P **HB812 Regulation of traffic; bicycles and certain other devices; bicycle signals.** Requires a person operating a bicycle or other device lawfully permitted in a bicycle lane or on a shared-use path in or approaching an intersection with a bicycle signal to obey such bicycle signal. The bill also sets requirements for signals that are displayed by bicycle signals and requirements for situations in which traffic lights,

including bicycle signals, are out of service. The bill provides that a violation constitutes a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of no more than $350.
Patron - Carr

P **HB819 Pedestrians; walking on roadways that are part of divided highways.** Permits pedestrians, when walking on a roadway that is part of a highway divided by a physical barrier or barriers or an unpaved area, and when there are no shoulders of the highway present, to keep to the extreme right side or edge of the roadway, regardless of the direction of traffic they face. Under current law, pedestrians, when permitted to walk on a roadway, are required to keep to the extreme left side or edge thereof. The bill also clarifies current law, which requires pedestrians walking on a roadway to face oncoming traffic.
Patron - Carr

P **HB908 Towing advisory boards; membership.** Changes the membership of a towing advisory board appointed by a local governing body to an equal number of representatives of local law-enforcement agencies, representatives of licensed towing and recovery operators, and members of the general public, specifies that such membership requirements apply to voting members, and provides that vacancies of members of the general public shall not prevent the advisory board from meeting or taking any authorized action. Under current law, the membership of such towing advisory boards consists of an equal number of representatives of local law-enforcement agencies and representatives of licensed towing and recovery operators and one member of the general public. The bill removes the requirement for the chairmanship of a towing advisory board to rotate between certain representatives and the one year term limit for such chairmanship.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB911 Limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards; 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 aligns requirements for eligibility for limited-duration commercial driver's licenses and permits and REAL ID-compliant limited-duration commercial driver's licenses with federal requirements and clarifies the validity periods for such documents. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards, or permits upon renewal or reissuance. This bill is identical to SB 446.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB994 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation.** Authorizes the governing body of any locality to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of a photo speed monitoring device by a law-enforcement agency in a safety red zone, defined in the bill, for the purpose of recording vehicle speed violations in such safety red zone. The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid.
The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation. The bill directs the Commissioner of Highways to develop criteria for designating a highway segment as a high-risk pedestrian corridor for purposes of identifying safety red zones.
The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB1124 Autonomous driving systems; work group convened by the Secretary of Transportation; certain assessments and stakeholders**. Directs the existing work group convened by the Secretary of Transportation regarding autonomous driving systems to (i) conduct an assessment of the workforce impacts created by autonomous vehicles, including an overview of job losses and gains; (ii) identify and include stakeholders and representatives from the auto manufacturing industry and labor representatives from the passenger and product carrier business; and (iii) conduct an assessment of labor impacts created by autonomous vehicles no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Clark

P **HB1145 Motor vehicle safety inspections; safety inspectors.** Requires motor vehicle safety inspections to be conducted by persons certified as a safety inspector by the Superintendent of State Police. Existing law requires the person conducting a vehicle safety inspection, or under whose immediate supervision such inspection is made, to have at least one year's practical experience as an automotive mechanic or have satisfactorily completed a training program in automotive mechanics approved by the Superintendent of State Police.
Patron - Austin

P **HB1220 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation.** Directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid.
The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation.
The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1224 Driver's licenses; requirements for initial licensure; persons age 18 to 21.** Expands from 60 days to 90 days the length of time an applicant for a first-time noncommercial driver's license who is at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old is required to hold a learner's permit and requires such an applicant to complete a course of driver instruction prior to being issued a driver's license. The bill provides that learner's permits other than motorcycle learner's permits, accompanied by other documentation verifying that the driver is at least 18 years old and less than 21 years old and has successfully completed an approved driver's education course, constitute a temporary driver's license for the purpose of driving unaccompanied by a licensed driver 18 years old or older, provided that certain other requirements are met. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 396.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1226 Department of Motor Vehicles data; certain institutions of higher education; fees.** Authorizes the release of certain privileged Department of Motor Vehicles data to those institutions of higher education that have entered into an agreement with the Department to offer special license plates bearing the seal, symbol, emblem, or logotype of that institution of higher education. The bill authorizes the Department to charge a one-time fee of $10,000 from each participating institution to cover the cost of implementing the provisions of this bill. The bill limits the use of such data to surveys, marketing, and solicitations related to such institution of higher education and such purposes as are otherwise authorized in writing by the subject of the information and requires the consent of the subject of the information prior to disclosure of the information. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 445.
Patron - Sewell

P **HB1270 Transportation network companies; publishing and disclosure requirements.** Requires a transportation network company (TNC) to (i) issue a confidential 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; (ii) disclose to TNC partners information about the deactivation process; (iii) 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; and (iv) provide an itemized receipt within 24 hours of the completion of each ride. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 550. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Singh

P **HB1273 Transportation network companies; requirements; civil penalties.** Adds various additional requirements for (i) transportation network companies, including ensuring options for audio and video recording of rides for TNC partners and riders and requiring a TNC partner to verify his identity through the digital platform prior to the activation of a TNC partner's account and periodically thereafter, and (ii) TNC partners, including changes to requirements for background checks and circumstances that disqualify them from acting as TNC partners, verification of identity, and prohibitions on sharing digital platform accounts or credentials. The bill imposes civil penalties for transportation network companies or TNC partners who violate certain requirements to which they are subject and provides that the funds for such civil penalties be paid to the Department of Motor Vehicles for the administration of certain requirements of the bill. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Glass

P **HB1288 Enforcement of vehicle liens; property value.** Increases from $12,500 to $17,000 the maximum value of property that may be sold at public auction to satisfy a lien on a motor vehicle without petitioning for a court order for the sale of such property. This bill is identical to SB 17. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Wiley

P **HB1290 Commercial motor vehicle; definition.** Expands the definition of a commercial motor vehicle to include vehicles inclusive of a towed vehicle with a gross vehicle weight or a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds. Currently, the definition includes, in relevant part, a towed vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds. The new definition is consistent with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations.
Patron - Wiley

P **HB1339 Special license plates; Virginia REALTORS.** Converts the existing non-revenue sharing special license plate for members of the Virginia Realtors to a revenue sharing special license plate with the revenue benefiting the Virginia REALTORS Disaster Relief Fund. The bill provides that such existing plates will remain valid until their expiration. This bill is identical to SB 204.
Patron - Bulova

P **HB1344 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.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB1386 Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund; recovery for breach of extended service contracts.** Authorizes any person who is awarded a final judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Commonwealth for any loss or damage resulting from a breach of an extended service contract for a motor vehicle to recover the unpaid amount on the judgment from the Motor Vehicle Transaction Recovery Fund, subject to certain limitations.
Patron - Wyatt

P **HB1457 Vehicle weight limits; violations; owner of commercial motor vehicle hauling coal.** Assigns liability for violations of certain vehicle weight limits for commercial motor vehicles hauling coal to the owner of the vehicle in violation of such weight limits. Existing law authorizes such liability to be assigned to the owner, operator, or both. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Morefield

P **HB1469 TNC partners; requirements and background screening.** Changes the requirements for background screening of a transportation network company (TNC) partner to specify that background checks are not to be limited to a specific period of time, except as required by law, and shall include all addresses at which such TNC partner has resided since the age of 18. The bill also changes the entity by which persons conducting background checks for TNC partners are

required to be accredited to the Professional Background Screening Association.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

P **SB17 Enforcement of vehicle liens; property value.** Increases from $12,500 to $17,000 the maximum value of property that may be sold at public auction to satisfy a lien on a motor vehicle without petitioning for a court order for the sale of such property. This bill is identical to HB 1288. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB41 Voluntary contributions during electronic Department of Motor Vehicles transactions.** Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a method by which an individual conducting certain electronic Department transactions may make a voluntary contribution to the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program. Under current law, the Department is only required to provide a method by which voluntary contributions may be made to the Virginia Donor Registry and Public Awareness Fund.
Patron - Roem

P **SB59 Photo speed monitoring devices; photo-monitoring systems for traffic signals; school bus video-monitoring systems; proof of violation; certain persons swearing to or affirming certificates; training.** Authorizes retired sworn law-enforcement officers, registered special conservators of the peace, and technicians employed by a locality to swear to or to affirm certificates for the purposes of enforcement of violations recorded by traffic light signal violation monitoring systems, traffic control device violation monitoring systems, photo speed monitoring devices, or school bus video-monitoring systems upon completion of a training course developed and approved by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The bill also requires law-enforcement officers swearing to or affirming such certificates to complete such training course. These provisions of the bill have an effective date of July 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop, approve, and make available such training course no later than January 1, 2027. This bill incorporates SB 81 and is identical to HB 684.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB67 Parking enforcement; issuance of a summons or parking ticket.** Removes the population requirement for a locality to be authorized to, by ordinance, authorize law-enforcement officers, other uniformed employees of the locality, and uniformed personnel serving under contract with the locality to issue a summons or parking ticket for a violation of an ordinance regulating the parking, stopping, and standing of vehicles. Existing law grants such authority to localities having a population of at least 40,000. This bill is identical to HB 783.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB81 Enforcement of federal traffic infractions by state and local law-enforcement officers; Planning District 8.** Provides that state and local law-enforcement officers may enforce federal traffic infractions on any highway within Planning District 8. This bill is identical to HB 77. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB84 Photo speed monitoring devices, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, and stop sign violation monitoring systems; placement and operation; violation enforcement; civil penalties.** Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk speed corridors for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, to conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion.
The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and violations captured by the other devices authorized by this bill and requires summonses issued for such violations captured by such devices to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of these devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of such devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons.
The bill also limits the use of such devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring system, or stop sign violation monitoring system, respectively, provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the violation.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB95 Rest area signage; human trafficking information.** Adds information about human trafficking and how to self-identify the signs of human trafficking to the notice required to be posted by the Department of Transportation at all rest areas along any interstate highway. Current law requires the Department to post notice of the existence of a human trafficking hotline.
Patron - Roem

P **SB124 Towing, impoundment, immobilization, and storage costs; payments or reimbursements by the Commonwealth.** Clarifies that the payments or reimbursements owed by the Commonwealth to the owner or lienholder of a vehicle under existing law for the cost of towing, impounding, immobilizing, or storing certain vehicles involved in criminal offenses shall be paid through the state treasury from the appropriation for criminal charges. The bill requires such requests to be on a form developed specifically for such purpose by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB204 Special license plates; Virginia REALTORS.** Converts the existing non-revenue sharing special license plate for members of the Virginia Realtors to a revenue sharing special license plate with the revenue benefiting the Virginia REALTORS Disaster Relief Fund. The bill provides that such existing plates will remain valid until their expiration. This bill is identical to HB 1339.
Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB219 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation; summons.** Requires a second summons for a vehicle speed violation captured by a photo speed monitoring device to be mailed if a summoned person fails to appear on the date of return set out in the first summons mailed. If the summoned person fails to appear after the second summons,

the bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to refuse to issue or renew the vehicle registration certificate or the license plate issued for such vehicle until the required civil penalties and any administrative fees have been paid and any applicable reinstatement processes required by the Department of Motor Vehicles have been completed.

The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons.

The bill provides that any person against whom an enforcement action is carried out by a locality or law-enforcement agency, pursuant to the authority granted for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, where the enforcement action was based upon a willful disregard for applicable law, shall be entitled to an award of compensatory damages and to an order remanding the matter to the locality with a direction to carry out any further enforcement in a manner consistent with the law and may be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and court costs. The bill also provides that if a locality fails to comply with such an order, the court may order that the locality shall be ineligible to receive any funds collected from enforcement using photo speed monitoring devices, in excess of those used for its photo speed monitoring device program, and that the court shall order that any such excess funds be deposited in the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program until the locality comes into compliance with such order.

The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation.

The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.

Patron - Jones

P **SB221 School crossing zones; active times.** Authorizes a local governing body, by ordinance, to increase from 30 minutes to up to 60 minutes the period of time before and after regular school hours during which school crossing zones are active if it determines that children will be going to or from school during that period of time.

Patron - Jones

P **SB396 Driver's licenses; requirements for initial licensure; persons age 18 to 21.** Expands from 60 days to 90 days the length of time an applicant for a first-time noncommercial driver's license who is at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old is required to hold a learner's permit and requires such an applicant to complete a course of driver instruction prior to being issued a driver's license. The bill provides that learner's permits other than motorcycle learner's permits, accompanied by other documentation verifying that the driver is at least 18 years old and less than 21 years old and has successfully completed an approved driver's education course, constitute a temporary driver's license for the purpose of driving unaccompanied by a licensed driver 18 years old or older, provided that certain other requirements are met. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1224.

Patron - Diggs

P **SB399 Driver training school and driver training instructors; standards; discipline; report.** Prohibits the licensure of a person as a driver training school instructor for driver education courses for minors if the person has been convicted of certain sex crimes or any offense that requires registration on the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry. The bill removes the five-year limitation on the period the Department of Motor Vehicles is authorized to set for a licensee whose license was revoked to reapply and provides that if the revocation was due to a conviction of (i) driving under the influence, (ii) reckless driving, (iii) refusal to submit to alcohol or drug testing, or (iv) vehicular manslaughter, such period shall be no less than 10 years. The bill requires the Department to establish and maintain a public, searchable database of disciplinary action taken by the Department against an instructor or driver training school. The bill requires driver training schools to notify students, prospective students, and guardians thereof of any such disciplinary actions taken in the preceding 24 months or while such student is enrolled. The bill also requires the Department to annually by November 1 submit a report to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation detailing such disciplinary actions. This bill is identical to HB 559.

Patron - Diggs

P **SB426 Alteration of suspension system and bumper heights; proof of compliance.** Authorizes a court to dismiss a summons for offenses related to altering the suspension system or bumper heights of vehicles when proof of compliance is provided to the court on or before the court date.

Patron - Mulchi

P **SB436 Photo speed monitoring devices; highway work zones; workers present.** Limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the violation.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB437 Green warning lights, snow plows and vehicles equipped with truck-mounted attenuators.** Authorizes snow plows used for clearing or removing snow on or along public highways and vehicles equipped with a truck-mounted attenuator that are used in constructing, maintaining, and repairing highways or utilities on or along public highways to be equipped with and use either (i) flashing, blinking, or alternating amber warning lights of types approved by the Superintendent of State Police or (ii) alternating amber and green warning lights of a type approved by the Superintendent of State Police. The bill requires that warning lights be lit only when performing the functions that qualify them to be equipped with such lights and that if a vehicle is equipped with multiple warning lights that are alternating amber and green warning lights, such lights shall be used synchronously with each other.

Patron - Bagby

P **SB440 Use of license plates from another vehicle; authorized time period.** Extends from five to 30 days the

time period for which the owner of a motor vehicle is authorized to use license plates from his motor vehicle on another motor vehicle owned by a person operating a garage or owned by a motor vehicle dealer, provided that such use is limited to the time during which his motor vehicle is being repaired or while the motor vehicle owned by the garage operator or motor vehicle dealer is loaned to him for demonstration.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB441 Use of license plates; special permit; validity period.** Extends from five to 30 days the validity period of a special permit authorizing the use of license plates on a vehicle other than the vehicle for which the license plates were issued, when the vehicle for which the license plates were issued is undergoing repairs in a licensed motor vehicle dealer's repair shop and when the license plates are being used on a vehicle owned by the dealer in whose repair shop the vehicle is being repaired. The bill removes the provisions authorizing the renewal of such permit and limiting such renewals to once per permit.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB445 Department of Motor Vehicles data; certain institutions of higher education; fees.** Authorizes the release of certain privileged Department of Motor Vehicles data to those institutions of higher education that have entered into an agreement with the Department to offer special license plates bearing the seal, symbol, emblem, or logotype of that institution of higher education. The bill authorizes the Department to charge a one-time fee of $10,000 from each participating institution to cover the cost of implementing the provisions of this bill. The bill limits the use of such data to surveys, marketing, and solicitations related to such institution of higher education and such purposes as are otherwise authorized in writing by the subject of the information and requires the consent of the subject of the information prior to disclosure of the information. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1226.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB446 Limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards; 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 aligns requirements for eligibility for limited-duration commercial driver's licenses and permits and REAL ID-compliant limited-duration commercial driver's licenses with federal requirements and clarifies the validity periods for such documents. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards, or permits upon renewal or reissuance. This bill is identical to HB 911.
Patron - McPike

P **SB455 Tow truck drivers; registration.** Prohibits towing and recovery operators from employing tow truck drivers who are not registered with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, as required under current law. The bill also limits the requirement that a registered tow truck driver have his registration in his possession when driving a tow truck to when such driving is for hire.
Patron - DeSteph

P **SB506 Vehicle equipment; films on windshields.** Authorizes the application of clear film to the windshield of a vehicle, so long as it is maintained in a condition consistent with federal requirements.
Patron - Cifers

P **SB550 Transportation network companies; publishing and disclosure requirements.** Requires a transportation network company (TNC) to (i) issue a confidential 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; (ii) disclose to TNC partners information about the deactivation process; (iii) 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; and (iv) provide an itemized receipt within 24 hours of the completion of each ride. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1270. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB573 Flashing red and white warning lights; emergency vehicle exemptions; Department of Military Affairs emergency vehicles.** Authorizes Department of Military Affairs emergency vehicles to (i) be equipped with flashing, blinking, or alternating red or red and white combination warning lights and (ii) disregard certain regulations regarding the operation of vehicles without being subject to criminal prosecution while responding to an emergency. This bill is identical to HB 351.
Patron - Reeves

P **SB583 Parking, stopping, and standing enforcement; bus obstruction monitoring systems.** Allows localities to authorize the use of bus obstruction monitoring systems by a public transit agency operating within the locality for the purpose of enforcing local ordinances related to parking, stopping, or standing in bus stop zones or in lanes reserved for transit buses during posted times. This bill is identical to HB 564.
Patron - Salim

P **SB595 Mechanics and storage liens; abandoned vehicles; vehicle records.** Removes the requirement that the Department of Motor Vehicles, when searching for owner or lienholder information for a vehicle titled in another jurisdiction for (i) the enforcement of a mechanic's or storage lien or (ii) determining ownership of an abandoned vehicle, ascertain such information by contacting the other jurisdiction. The bill retains the requirement that the Department ascertain such information upon initiation of a search by the bailee or person in possession of an abandoned vehicle.
Patron - DeSteph

P **SB686 Holding a handheld personal communications device while driving; driver improvement clinic.** Clarifies that a court may order, for a first violation of texting and driving, the satisfactory completion of a driver improvement clinic in lieu of a conviction.
Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB720 Driver training schools; instructor identification license.** Requires any instructor employed by a driver training school, when conducting behind-the-wheel training or any other training in which a student of a driver training school is driving or operating a motor vehicle, to display, or cause to be displayed, in the motor vehicle in a location

that is clearly visible to the student his license authorizing him to act as a driving instructor.
Patron - Marsden

P **SB832 Department of Transportation; criteria and recommendations for the potential designation of vulnerable road user safety zones; report.** Requires the Department of Transportation to develop criteria and recommendations for the potential designation of vulnerable road user safety zones in the Commonwealth in areas that have experienced elevated rates of crashes, injuries, or fatalities involving pedestrians or cyclists. The bill requires the Department to submit a report with its criteria and any recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Transportation and the House Committees on Appropriations and Transportation no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Srinivasan

Failed

F **HB99 Felony eluding; mandatory minimum.** Imposes a one year mandatory minimum term of confinement in a state correctional facility for any person convicted of felony eluding if evidence is presented at sentencing that (i) the law-enforcement officer or responding law-enforcement agency used equipment, including spike strips or a law-enforcement vehicle, to forcibly stop such person's motor vehicle or (ii) such person's motor vehicle was used to intentionally damage a law-enforcement vehicle.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB233 Motor vehicles; use of safety belt systems; certain emergency medical services personnel.** Exempts from requirements for the use of safety belt systems emergency medical services personnel performing patient care while transporting persons inside the patient compartment of an emergency medical services vehicle where the wearing of such safety belt systems is impractical. This bill was incorporated into HB 230.
Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB241 Display of license plate; only rear plate required; exception.** Permits every registered motor vehicle to display a single license plate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the rear of the vehicle, except for tractor trucks, which shall display such license plate on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires license plates displayed on the front and rear of most such vehicles.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB311 Photo speed monitoring devices; summons by mail; certain information to be included.** Requires a mailed summons for a vehicle speed violation captured by a photo speed monitoring device to include (i) an explanation indicating the section of Code authorizing the placement and operation of photo speed monitoring devices and that such violation for which the summons was mailed will not be (a) deemed a conviction as an operator, (b) made part of the liable person's operating record, or (c) used for insurance purposes; (ii) an explanation of the process by which a person may contest such violation; and (iii) an explanation of the penalties for failure to pay the imposed civil penalty.
Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB365 Emergency vehicles; exempt from certain traffic regulations.** Authorizes a law-enforcement vehicle, defined in current law, operated by or under the direction of a state or local law-enforcement officer to disregard parking and stopping provisions. The bill expands the situations in which such vehicles may disregard speed limits to include when establishing evidence of other violations of law and when responding to an emergency in which emergency lights and siren may pose a safety risk and removes such authorization for disregarding speed limits in certain situations provided under existing law for law-enforcement vehicles operated by or under the direction of a federal law-enforcement officer.
Patron - McLaughlin

F **HB440 Suspension of driver's licenses; child support and certain unsatisfied judgments; repealed.** Repeals the suspension of driver's licenses for nonpayment of child support and certain unsatisfied judgments.
Patron - Mehta

F **HB517 Department of Motor Vehicles; driver communication improvement program.** Expands the driver communication improvement plan for the promotion, printing, and distribution of envelopes for use by drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder to allow use by drivers with a disability that can impair communication, which, as defined by current law, includes persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to (i) meet certain specifications for such envelopes, (ii) provide such envelopes on request without requiring a person to identify or provide proof of a disability, and (iii) notify certain persons of the program and provide instructions for requesting such envelopes.
Patron - Martinez

F **HB545 Driver improvement clinics; motorcycle driver improvement clinics; Motorcycle Driver Improvement Clinic Fund; created.** Creates motorcycle driver improvement clinics, defined in the bill, as a subset of existing driver improvement clinics and provides requirements and parameters for the instruction and administration of the motorcycle driver improvement clinics. The bill authorizes courts to direct defendants who have committed violations while operating a motorcycle to attend a motorcycle driver improvement clinic and satisfy the requirements thereof. The bill also creates the Motorcycle Driver Improvement Clinic Fund for the operation and administration of motorcycle driver improvement clinics. The bill specifies that priority be given to the creation of motorcycle driver improvement clinics that operate as computer-based clinics.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB818 Photo speed monitoring devices; reduced-speed segments.** Authorizes a locality without its own law-enforcement agency to, by ordinance, place and operate a photo speed monitoring device at a reduced-speed 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. The bill requires any such locality to, by ordinance, authorize officers of the law-enforcement agency with jurisdiction within such locality or retired sworn law-enforcement officers employed by the locality to issue the summons and to swear to or affirm the certificate stating that the information produced by such photo speed monitoring device shows evidence of a vehicle speed violation. 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, highway work zones, and high-risk intersection segments.
Patron - Carr

F **HB821 Photo speed monitoring devices; historic district segments.** Permits a state or local law-enforcement agency to place and operate a photo speed monitoring device at a historic district 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. 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, highway work zones, and high-risk intersection segments.
Patron - Carr

F **HB936 Enforcement of parking violations; certain counties; pilot program.** Allows counties operating under the county manager plan of government to use authorized equipment, defined in the bill, to enforce such county's parking ordinances and regulations and to issue a parking ticket for a violation of such a parking ordinance or regulation by mail. The bill provides that a certificate, or a facsimile thereof, sworn to or affirmed by an employee of the authorized county, based upon inspection of information collected by authorized equipment, is prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein and that such prima facie evidence of a violation of a parking ordinance or regulation, together with proof that the defendant was at the time of such violation the owner, lessee, or renter of the vehicle, constitutes a rebuttable presumption in the prosecution of such violation. The bill provides procedures for the use of authorized equipment, including requirements for data retention and the use of collected information. The bill requires any county using authorized equipment to conduct a public awareness campaign prior to or upon implementation of such use. The bill also authorizes such counties to contract with private vendors for the operation of authorized equipment. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB993 Driver privilege cards and permits; discontinued.** Discontinues the issuance of driver privilege cards and provides that any issued driver privilege card is invalid as of July 1, 2026. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to notify any person who has been issued a driver privilege card that such driver privilege card is invalid.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1010 School crossing zones; large children's sports complexes; Planning District 8.** Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students, in addition to children, reasonably requires a special warning to motorists. The bill also defines "school" and provides that, in Planning District 8, the term "school" includes large children's sports complexes, defined in the bill. 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 - Tran

F **HB1125 Automated driving systems; civil penalties; work group; report.** Provides requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles and motor vehicles operated with an automated driving system engaged. The bill requires fully autonomous vehicles and automated driving systems operated in the Commonwealth to receive autonomous operation licenses prior to being operated in the Commonwealth. The bill provides requirements regarding geofences and requirements for providers, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill also prohibits localities from prohibiting the operation of fully autonomous vehicles or motor vehicles operated with an automated driving system. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of the provisions of the bill. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to convene a work group to make recommendations regarding the regulation of fully autonomous vehicles and automated driving systems and the requirements created by the bill and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Reid

F **HB1129 Local motor vehicle licenses and motor vehicle registrations; failure to pay certain taxes, fees, and parking citations.** Provides that certain suspension of local motor vehicle licenses and motor vehicle registrations for failure to pay certain taxes, fees, and parking citations apply only to vehicles for which such unpaid taxes, fees, and citations are assessed and owed. Under current law, such suspensions are permitted for unpaid taxes, fees, and citations on any vehicle owned by the person who is liable for such a tax, fee, or citation.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1137 Renewal of licenses; persons serving in the armed services on active duty outside the Commonwealth.** Authorizes any person serving in the armed services of the United States on active duty who will be serving outside the Commonwealth at the time of the expiration of his valid driver's license to request the Department of Motor Vehicles (the Department) to send the notice of renewal required under current law, that includes information regarding whether he must be reexamined and when he may be reexamined, more than one year prior to his driver's license's expiration. The bill requires the Department to (i) send such notice of renewal within two business days of receipt of such request and (ii) if such person provides the date of his departure from the Commonwealth in such request, ensure that the time when he may be reexamined, if applicable, occurs prior to his departure from the Commonwealth, such that he may renew his driver's license prior to his departure.
Patron - Cherry

F **HB1198 Display of license plate; only rear plate required; exception.** Permits every registered motor vehicle to display a single license plate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the rear of the vehicle, except for tractor trucks, which shall display such license plate on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires license plates displayed on the front and rear of most such vehicles.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1203 Department of Motor Vehicles; addresses.** Authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles (the Department) to require any person submitting a form for which he must provide his current address, at the time of submission of such form, to present proof of residence at such current address. The bill authorizes the owner or lessee of any real property in the Commonwealth to notify the Department if the address of the real property is used for the issuance of a driver's license or special identification card that does not belong to any owner, lessee, or resident of the real property, and, provided certain conditions are met, authorizes the Department to revoke such driver's license or special identification card. Current law authorizes such a process in cases in which real property is used for the titling or registration of a vehicle that does not belong to any owner, lessee, or resident of such real property. The bill also authorizes, for both such cases when such certain conditions are met, the Department to disassociate the

address from any account the person to whom the driver's license or special identification card was issued or the vehicle owner, respectively, holds with the Department.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1205 Motor vehicles; insurance; highway use fee; tangible personal property tax relief for certain vehicles.** Removes the highway use fee for fuel-efficient vehicles, and maintains the same highway use fee for electric vehicles and alternative fuel vehicles.
The bill removes the prohibition on motor vehicle insurers establishing a repair facility network. Under current law, insurers are prohibited from requiring an insured or claimant to utilize designated replacement or repair facilities or services as a prerequisite to settling or paying any claim arising under a policy or policies of insurance.
The bill also directs each county, city, or town that receives annual reimbursements from the Commonwealth for providing tangible personal property tax relief on qualifying vehicles to, beginning in tax year 2027, ensure that after first reimbursing certain tax attributable to qualifying vehicles leased by active duty members of the United States military, as is currently required by law, (i) no qualifying vehicle owned by an individual with an annual household income in excess of $200,000 receives any reimbursement for such vehicle and (ii) the remainder of the reimbursement provided to such locality is distributed based on a sliding scale for household incomes of residents of such locality, adopted by an ordinance of the governing body of such locality, as described in the bill.
Patron - Oates

F **HB1281 Motor vehicles; insurance, highway use fee, and tangible personal property tax relief; application to certain vehicles.**
Patron - Oates

F **HB1349 Use of compression release engine brakes in localities.** Authorizes localities to regulate the use of compression release engine brakes, commonly known as "Jake brakes" or "Jacobs brakes", when motor vehicles are operated within their boundaries and adjacent to residence districts. This bill was incorporated into HB 55.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB1417 Bicycle riders; traffic control device exceptions; liability.** Authorizes a bicycle rider to proceed through an intersection controlled by a stop sign, "Yield Right-of-Way" sign, or red light if such rider (i) is at least 16 years of age or is accompanied by a person who is at least 16 years of age who is also riding a bicycle and who precedes him through such intersection with no more than 10 feet of distance separating the bicycles and (ii) yields the right-of-way to the driver of any vehicle lawfully within such intersection or approaching or entering such intersection from another direction. The bill provides that proceeding through such an intersection without yielding as required by the bill constitutes negligence per se if such action is the proximate cause of a collision or vehicular accident.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB1494 Motor vehicle liens; enforcement and sales.** Creates a new, expedited process for the sale of certain unclaimed vehicles subject to liens, and accompanying requirements for such sales, and changes certain existing requirements for liens of keepers of vehicles, as defined in the bill, and mechanics.
Patron - Hodges

F **SB12 Issuing citations; certain traffic offenses and odor of marijuana; exclusion of evidence.** Removes provisions prohibiting a law-enforcement officer from stopping a motor vehicle for operating (i) with an expired registration sticker prior to the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date; (ii) with defective and unsafe equipment; (iii) without tail lights, brake lights, or a supplemental high mount stop light; (iv) without lighted headlights displayed when so required; (v) with certain tinting films, signs, posters, stickers, or decals; (vi) with objects or other equipment suspended so as to obstruct the driver's view; or (vii) with an expired inspection prior to the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date, as well as the accompanying exclusionary provisions. The bill also authorizes a law-enforcement officer to lawfully stop, search, or seize a person, place, or thing or a search warrant to be issued based solely on the odor of marijuana if such odor creates a reasonable suspicion of a violation of the law prohibiting driving while intoxicated.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB13 Display of license plate; only rear plate required; exception.** Permits every registered motor vehicle to display a single license plate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the rear of the vehicle, except for tractor trucks, which shall display such license plate on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires license plates displayed on the front and rear of most such vehicles.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB15 Driver improvement clinics; motorcycle driver improvement clinics; Motorcycle Driver Improvement Clinic Fund; created.** Creates motorcycle driver improvement clinics, defined in the bill, as a subset of existing driver improvement clinics and provides requirements and parameters for the instruction and administration of the motorcycle driver improvement clinics. The bill authorizes courts to direct defendants who have committed violations while operating a motorcycle to attend a motorcycle driver improvement clinic and satisfy the requirements thereof. The bill also creates the Motorcycle Driver Improvement Clinic Fund for the operation and administration of motorcycle driver improvement clinics. The bill specifies that priority be given to the creation of motorcycle driver improvement clinics that operate as computer-based clinics.
Patron - Suetterlein

F **SB45 Display of license plate; only rear plate required; exception.** Permits every registered motor vehicle to display a single license plate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the rear of the vehicle, except for tractor trucks, which shall display such license plate on the front of the vehicle. Current law requires license plates displayed on the front and rear of most such vehicles.
Patron - Craig

F **SB53 Lighted vehicle headlights; lawful stop by law-enforcement officer.** Clarifies that any evidence discovered or obtained following the lawful stop by a law-enforcement officer of a vehicle displaying no lighted headlights may be offered as evidence in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding if such evidence is otherwise admissible.
Patron - Diggs

F **SB135 Department of Motor Vehicles; motor vehicle title databases.** Authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to enter into agreements with nationally recognized motor vehicle title databases to share and receive motor vehicle owner and lienholder information between governmental entities.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB150** **School bus video-monitoring systems; enforcement; sworn or affirmed certificates.** Authorizes, for enforcement of violations related to passing a stopped school bus via video-monitoring system, the use of a certificate, or a facsimile thereof, sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer, as defined in the bill, based on recorded images produced by the video-monitoring system as prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.
Patron - Craig

F **SB297** **Use of photo speed monitoring devices; repeal.** Repeals the authority of law-enforcement agencies to place and operate photo speed monitoring devices to record vehicle speed violations.
Patron - Peake

F **SB306** **Use of violation monitoring systems to enforce traffic light signals and certain traffic control devices; repeal.** Repeals the authority of localities to use traffic light signal violation monitoring systems, colloquially known as red light cameras, and traffic control device violation monitoring systems to enforce certain traffic offenses, including traffic light signal violations.
Patron - Peake

F **SB389** **Motor vehicles; use of safety belt systems; certain emergency medical services personnel.** Exempts from the requirements for the use of safety belt systems emergency medical services personnel while in the patient compartment of an emergency medical services vehicle providing necessary care, as defined in the bill, to a patient. The bill also provides that, for seats that are subject to such requirements for the use of safety belt systems, such personnel shall use safety belt systems while the vehicle is in motion and such personnel is not providing necessary care to a patient.
Patron - Jordan

F **SB428** **School crossing zones; institutions of higher education.** 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" as it relates to a school crossing zone 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 **SB435** **Lane filtering; motorcycles; penalty.** Authorizes the operator of a two-wheeled motorcycle to pass another vehicle that is stopped or traveling at no more than 10 miles per hour in the same lane or on the shoulder, provided that there are at least two lanes of travel in each direction, such motorcycle does not exceed a speed of 20 miles per hour, and the operator executes such passing with ordinary care. The bill makes intentionally impeding or attempting to impede the operator of a motorcycle from lawfully engaging in lane filtering a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of $300. The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement a statewide education campaign to alert drivers and the public that motorcycles may lawfully engage in lane filtering. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Bagby

F **SB477** **Tow truck drivers; temporary registration.** Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to offer a temporary registration or driver authorization document to tow truck drivers that is effective upon submission of an application for registration and that expires upon issuance or denial of permanent registration. Under current law, the Department is authorized, but not required, to offer such temporary registration or driver authorization document.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB587** **Transportation network companies; minimum compensation; civil penalty.** Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to establish a process for reporting violations and to investigate claims. The bill authorizes enforcement by civil action or by civil penalties assessed by the DMV Commissioner.
Patron - Salim

F **SB663** **Emergency vehicles; exempt from certain traffic regulations.** Authorizes a law-enforcement vehicle, defined in current law, operated by or under the direction of a federal, state, or local law-enforcement officer to disregard parking and stopping provisions and expands the situations in which such vehicles may disregard speed limits to include when establishing evidence of other violations of law and when responding to an emergency in which emergency lights and siren may pose a safety risk.
Patron - Diggs

Carried Over

C **HB57** **Fees for vehicles designed and used for transportation of passengers; funds returned to a locality; permitted uses.** Expands the permitted use of funds returned to a locality from certain vehicle fees to include the purchase or maintenance of necessary equipment, supplies, facilities, and vehicles permitted by the Office of Emergency Medical Services and other operating expenses deemed necessary by the locality to ensure the provision of emergency medical services in such locality by nonprofit emergency medical services agencies. Under current law, such funds may be used for the purchase of necessary equipment and supplies for use in the locality for emergency medical services provided by nonprofit emergency medical services agencies.
Patron - Feggans

C **HB219** **Kei vehicles; operation and requirements.** Prohibits kei vehicles, as defined in the bill, from being operated on any limited access highway, interstate highway, or highway with a posted speed limit of 55 miles per hour or more. The bill provides for the licensing and registration of kei vehicles by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The bill prohibits localities from placing certain restrictions on kei vehicles and prohibits the imposition of liability for motor vehicle dealers for any damages that are directly or indirectly attributable to the sale of a kei vehicle that was not manufactured in accordance with federal safety standards. The bill directs the State Air Pollution Control Board to develop and adopt emissions inspection standards for kei vehicles and directs the Superintendent of State Police to promulgate any regulations necessary for conducting safety inspections of kei vehicles.
Patron - Feggans

C **HB269 Motorized mobility vehicles; civil penalties.** Establishes a new class of vehicle, the motorized mobility vehicle, as defined in the bill, and establishes requirements for the sale, operation, registration, and titling of such vehicles. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to establish regulations governing motorized mobility vehicle safety training courses and to implement an educational outreach program to inform the public about the requirements of the bill. The bill, other than the educational outreach program, has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Reid

C **HB302 All-terrain vehicles and off-road motorcycles; operation in the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority.** Expands the authorized operation of all-terrain vehicles to include (i) operation on highways in all localities embraced by the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority, in addition to Buchanan County and Tazewell County, which are already authorized under current law, provided that certain conditions are met, and (ii) operation on public highways or other public property by employees of the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority conducting official business. The bill also authorizes any locality embraced by the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority to provide for the lawful seizure, impounding, and disposition of an unlawfully operated all-terrain vehicle or off-road motorcycle operated on a highway or sidewalk within the boundaries of such locality.
Patron - Morefield

C **HB587 All-terrain vehicles; operation on highways in certain localities.** Authorizes the operation of all-terrain vehicles in Giles County and Pulaski County on highways designated by such counties, provided that certain conditions are met. The bill provides certain requirements for the operation of all-terrain vehicles on such designated highways.
Patron - Ballard

C **HB661 Traffic regulation; bicycles, electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric power-assisted bicycles, and motorized skateboards or scooters.** Authorizes any 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 certain conditions are met. The bill also authorizes such a person to proceed through the intersection on a steady red light if the pedestrian control signal corresponding to the person's direction of travel and to the parallel crosswalk indicates "Walk" and if certain other conditions are met. The bill requires any such persons riding two abreast on roadways with only one travel lane in the direction of such persons and a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or more to not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. Under current law, such persons riding two abreast are required to not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and are required to move into a single-file formation when being overtaken from the rear by a faster moving vehicle, regardless of the type of road and posted speed limit.
Patron - Willett

C **HB1003 Transportation network companies; minimum compensation; civil penalty.** Establishes minimum compensation rates for TNC partners. The bill also prohibits gratuities from passengers from being included in TNC partner compensation calculations, authorizes TNC partners to collect gratuity in cash or electronically, and prohibits transportation network companies from limiting the amount that can be paid as gratuity through such companies' digital platforms. The bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to establish a process for reporting violations and to investigate claims. The bill authorizes enforcement by civil action or by civil penalties assessed by the DMV Commissioner.
Patron - Tran

C **HB1143 Registration decals; discontinued.** Discontinues the requirement for and issuance of decals displaying the expiration month and year of motor vehicle registration to be displayed on license plates. The bill also removes the requirement for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue appropriately designated license plates for motor vehicles held for rental. The bill does not eliminate existing requirements that vehicles are to be registered.
Patron - Austin

C **HB1330 Speed safety cameras, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, and stop sign violation monitoring systems; placement and operation; violation enforcement; civil penalties.** Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk speed corridors for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill changes the terms "photo speed monitoring device" to "speed safety camera" and "high-risk intersection segment" to "high-risk speed corridor" in provisions related to vehicle speed violations. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of speed safety cameras and extends most of those requirements to the use of pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems. The bill requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, to conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion.

The bill also limits the use of speed safety cameras, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, and stop sign violation monitoring systems in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a speed safety camera, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring system, or stop sign violation monitoring system, as applicable, placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the speed safety camera, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring system, or stop sign violation monitoring system, respectively, provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the violation.

The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for violations captured by speed safety cameras, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, and stop sign violation monitoring systems and requires summonses issued for such violations to be such summons. The bill also establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of speed safety cameras, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, or stop sign violation monitoring systems, as applicable, render such summons invalid.

The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.
Patron - Seibold

C **HB1371 Special license plates; QUAIL FOREVER.** Authorizes the issuance of revenue-sharing special license plates for supporters of Quail Forever bearing the legend QUAIL FOREVER. The bill exempts such special license plates from requirements related to the minimum number of prepaid applications and the minimum number of active

license plates after five years of issuance for special license plates.
Patron - Fowler

C **SB363 Special license plates in recognition of those lost or injured in military service; fees.** Eliminates the annual registration fee and annual fee for one special license plate for any veteran who has been certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having a service-connected disability. Existing law authorizes the waiver of such fees for one special license plate for any disabled veteran who has either lost, or lost the use of, a leg, arm, or hand, is blind, or is permanently and totally disabled as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or his unremarried surviving spouse.
The bill also exempts special license plates for immediate family members of persons who have died in military service to their country from the annual fee assessed for special license plates.
Patron - McDougle

C **SB670 Commercial use of fully autonomous vehicles.** Provides requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles operated to transport property or passengers in furtherance of a commercial enterprise. The bill requires persons operating such fully autonomous vehicles to receive autonomous operation licenses prior to such operation in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Salim

C **SB675 Special fund for emergency medical services; distribution of certain funds to localities.** Expands the use of funds by localities from the special emergency medical services fund. The bill allows funds to be used for (i) training of emergency medical services personnel; (ii) the purchase of equipment and supplies; (iii) maintenance of equipment, facilities, and certain vehicles; and (iv) operating expenses deemed necessary by the locality to ensure the provision of emergency medical expenses in such locality. Under current law, funds may only be used for training of personnel and purchase of equipment and supplies.
Patron - Rouse

Notaries and Out-of-State Commissioners

Passed

P **HB163 Notarization, filing, and recordation of certain land records; duties of notary or settlement agent; acknowledgement and satisfactory evidence of identity; requirements for commission or recommission of notary; clerk of circuit court to establish property alert notification system.** Removes personal knowledge of identity from the methods by which a notary public, electronic notary public, or other person authorized by law to perform a notarial act may identify an individual for purposes of performing a notarial act such as acknowledgement or affirmation. Under current law, the identity of an individual for such purpose may be established if such individual is personally known to the person performing the notarial act or by a presentation of satisfactory evidence of identity, as defined by law. The bill also adds a requirement that, within the six months immediately preceding the submission of his application, a person applying for commission to be a notary public or electronic notary public, or an existing notary public or electronic notary public applying for recommission, complete a course of instruction developed and approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The bill specifies that one hour of such course of instruction shall be on the topic of real estate fraud and financial exploitation of elderly persons and shall include training on current trends on such topics and on recognizing instances of such fraud or financial exploitation. The bill directs the Secretary of the Commonwealth to develop the curricula for such courses of instruction by January 1, 2027, and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, for those provisions related to the requirement that applicants for commission and recommission complete and present proof of completion of such courses of instruction. The bill also requires any clerk of a circuit court that has established a network or system of electronic filing of land records to also establish a property alert notification system for owners of real property within the circuit court's jurisdiction. The bill provides that an owner who enrolls his real property into such property alert notification system may do so at no cost and that such system shall send notifications to such owner when documents affecting or purporting to affect the enrolled property are filed with the clerk's office. The provisions related to the establishment of the property alert notification system have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. Finally, the bill requires notaries public to keep a record of all notarial acts occurring on or after July 1, 2026, and to include in such record the form of satisfactory evidence of identification used to verify the identity of the principal and credible witnesses. Similarly, the bill requires settlement agents responsible for recording deeds, deeds of trust, or other documents relating to land records to obtain satisfactory evidence of identity of a seller of real property prior to settlement. This bill is identical to SB 316.
Patron - Simon

P **SB316 Notarization, filing, and recordation of certain land records; duties of notary or settlement agent; acknowledgement and satisfactory evidence of identity; requirements for commission or recommission of notary; clerk of circuit court to establish property alert notification system.** Removes personal knowledge of identity from the methods by which a notary public, electronic notary public, or other person authorized by law to perform a notarial act may identify an individual for purposes of performing a notarial act such as acknowledgement or affirmation. Under current law, the identity of an individual for such purpose may be established if such individual is personally known to the person performing the notarial act or by a presentation of satisfactory evidence of identity, as defined by law. The bill also adds a requirement that, within the six months immediately preceding the submission of his application, a person applying for commission to be a notary public or electronic notary public, or an existing notary public or electronic notary public applying for recommission, complete a course of instruction developed and approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The bill specifies that one hour of such course of instruction shall be on the topic of real estate fraud and financial exploitation of elderly persons and shall include training on current trends on such topics and on recognizing instances of such fraud or financial exploitation. The bill directs the Secretary of the Commonwealth to develop the curricula for such courses of instruction by January 1, 2027, and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, for those provisions related to the requirement that applicants for commission and recommission complete and present proof of completion of such courses of instruction.
The bill also requires any clerk of a circuit court that has established a network or system of electronic filing of land records to also establish a property alert notification system for owners of real property within the circuit court's jurisdiction. The bill provides that an owner who enrolls his real property into such property alert notification system may do so at no cost and that such system shall send notifications to such owner when docu-

ments affecting or purporting to affect the enrolled property are filed with the clerk's office. The provisions related to the establishment of the property alert notification system have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Finally, the bill requires notaries public to keep a record of all notarial acts occurring on or after July 1, 2026, and to include in such record the form of satisfactory evidence of identification used to verify the identity of the principal and credible witnesses. Similarly, the bill requires settlement agents responsible for recording deeds, deeds of trust, or other documents relating to land records to obtain satisfactory evidence of identity of a seller of real property prior to settlement. This bill is identical to HB 163.

Patron - Hackworth

Carried Over

C **HB1506 Notaries; altered documents; name across instruments.** Provides that a notary shall not affix an official signature or seal on a notarial certificate that is altered. The bill further provides that the name associated with the commissioned notary shall be the same on and across such notary's signature, certificate, seal, and any other document or instrument requiring such notary's name and information.

Patron - Phillips

Pensions, Benefits, and Retirement

Passed

P **HB176 State-facilitated IRA savings program.** Makes various changes to the state-facilitated IRA savings program administered by the Commonwealth Savers Plan. For purposes of defining an eligible employer, the bill (i) reduces the minimum number of eligible employees an organization must have in its employ from 25 to five for the period ending December 31 of the preceding calendar year prior to the program's open enrollment period for that calendar year and (ii) clarifies that such term does not include employers offering and sponsoring a qualified retirement plan, including 401(k) plans. The bill also removes the requirement that an eligible employee, for purposes of the program, works at least 30 hours a week and adds the requirement that participating individuals enrolling in the program independent of an employment relationship with an eligible employer be at least 18 years of age.

The bill also expands the powers and duties of the governing board of the Commonwealth Savers Plan to include (a) procedures for reenrollment of participating employees and participating individuals; (b) allowing program participants to invest in a lifetime income option; (c) establishing the resources, tools, and incentives to promote greater financial education and literacy; (d) procedures for receiving and crediting federal matching contributions to an IRA or qualified retirement savings account; and (e) exploring and establishing incentives that encourage participation by eligible employers and eligible employees, including initiatives that incentivize compliance or that defray any costs incurred by an eligible employer to facilitate participation.

The bill also requires eligible employers that withhold a program contribution from a participating employee's wages to remit such contribution not later than 10 business days following the date upon which such withholding was made and notes that eligible employers who fail to submit contributions to the program may be in violation of law and incur penalties. This bill is identical to SB 149.

Patron - Torian

Failed

F **HB204 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, Capitol Police, and agencies whose law-enforcement officers are eligible for membership in VaLORS. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and provides that such membership applies only to service earned on or after July 1, 2027.

Patron - Cherry

F **HB205 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, 2027, 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, 2027, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Cherry

F **HB491 Line of Duty Act; sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.** Provides that a sheriff or deputy sheriff shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits. Under current law, sheriffs or deputy sheriffs are only eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits in the City of Richmond.

Patron - Guzman

F **HB585 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for animal control officers and 911 dispatchers.** Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service to full-time salaried animal control officers and 911 dispatchers. The bill provides that such enhanced retirement benefits apply only to service earned as a full-time salaried animal control officer or 911 dispatcher on or after July 1, 2027, 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 animal control officer or 911 dispatcher before July 1, 2027, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Ballard

F **HB659 State retiree health benefits program; reenrollment in program.** Allows a state retiree who elects to participate in the state retiree health plan but later discontinues participation one opportunity to return to participation in the plan, provided that such return to participation occurs within five years after the date of such employee's retirement. Under current law, a state retiree who elects to participate in the state retiree health plan but later discontinues participation is barred from participating in the plan.

Patron - Kent

F **HB750 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, 2027, 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, 2027, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Runion

F **HB987 Virginia Retirement System; service credit for career and technical education teachers.** Provides that a member of the Virginia Retirement System shall be eligible for additional years of service credit for service earned as a teacher in the field of career and technical education. The amount of service credit earned shall determined as follows: (i) for service earned as a member who is 45 years of age or older but younger than 55 years of age at the time of such service, such service shall be multiplied by the weighted years of service factor of 2.0 and (ii) for service earned as a member who is 55 years of age or older at the time of such service, such service shall be multiplied by the weighted years of service factor of 2.5.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1055 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; membership.** Extends membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System to full-time sworn unit investigators appointed by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and provides that such membership applies only to service earned on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Phillips

F **HB1107 Virginia Retirement System; service retirement allowance; return to work.** Allows Virginia Retirement System (VRS) members who return to work full time at the Department of Corrections as a correctional officer or an instructional employee required to be licensed by the Board of Education to continue to receive their VRS pension if (i) the person has a break in service of at least six calendar months between retirement and returning to work full time for the Department of Corrections, (ii) the person is not receiving a retirement benefit pursuant to an early retirement incentive program offered by the Department of Corrections, and (iii) those returning to work as a correctional officer successfully complete the minimum training standards established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services within 12 months of the hiring date. If the person makes the election to continue to receive a VRS pension during such new employment at the Department of Corrections, then (a) such service and compensation shall not affect any other retirement benefits, (b) such person shall still be eligible for cash match plan benefits, and (c) the employer shall include the person's compensation in membership payroll subject to certain employer contributions.
Patron - Kilgore

F **HB1128 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.** Allows local governments to provide enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service, other than a hazardous duty supplement, 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, 2027, 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, 2027, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Reid

F **HB1267 Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System; membership.** Adds (i) full-time sworn members of the enforcement division of the Department of Motor Vehicles, (ii) probation officers employed by the Department of Corrections, (iii) full-time sworn law-enforcement officers employed by the Department of Corrections, and (iv) full-time sworn law-enforcement officers employed by the Department of Juvenile Justice to membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and provides that such membership applies only to service earned on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Nivar

F **HB1269 Virginia Retirement System; 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, Capitol Police, and agencies whose law-enforcement officers are eligible for membership in VaLORS. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, and provides that such membership applies only to service earned on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Nivar

F **HB1296 Health insurance credits for general registrars and employees of general registrars.** Increases the amount of monthly health insurance credits received by retired general registrars and employees of general registrars with a minimum of 15 years of creditable service from $1.50 to $1.75 per month per year of creditable service not to exceed $52.50 per month beginning July 1, 2026.
Patron - Glass

F **HB1306 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 before such person may return to work full time and continue to receive his pension under the Virginia Retirement System.
Patron - Cornett

F **HB1488 Virginia Retirement System; return to work for law-enforcement officers.** Allows a retired sworn law-enforcement officer to return to work full time in any covered position and continue to receive his pension under the Virginia Retirement System if such person has a break in service of at least six calendar months before reemployment and meets certain other requirements, including having retired in good standing from his sworn law-enforcement officer position. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Bulova

F **SB507 Virginia retirement system; investments in companies with elected official interests.** Prohibits investments by the Virginia Retirement System and local retirement systems in (i) companies with a majority ownership interest held by those holding elected federal positions or (ii) in investment funds with holdings of such companies in their portfolios on and after January 1, 2027, unless such investments or holdings are held in a blind trust established pursuant to federal law.
Patron - McPike

Carried Over

C **SB113 Virginia Retirement System; service retirement allowance; return to work.** Allows a retired law-enforcement officer to continue to receive his service retirement allowance during a subsequent period of employment by a local law-enforcement agency in a civilian role that does not require law-enforcement certification as a fingerprint examiner, forensics specialist, property and evidence technician,

background investigator, or firearms instructor, so long as he has a break in service of at least six calendar months between retirement and reemployment, did not retire under an early retirement program, did not retire under the Workforce Transition Act of 1995, and retired in good standing from his sworn law-enforcement officer position.
Patron - Craig

C **SB154 Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 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, 2027. 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, 2027.
Patron - Hackworth

C **SB419 Retirement systems and creditable service.** Awards an individual who has reached normal retirement age under the State Police Officers' Retirement System (SPORS) or Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System (VaLORS), as determined by relevant law, one additional year of creditable service for every five full years of creditable service earned (i) as a member of SPORS, (ii) as a member of VaLORS, or (iii) while employed by a locality that has elected to provide SPORS-benefits to its employees. This bill only affects those retirements that take place on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Craig

Persons with Disabilities

Passed

P **HB431 Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission; extension of expiration date.** Extends the expiration date of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to SB 682.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB602 Open captioning at motion picture theaters.** Establishes requirements for open captioning for motion picture theaters. The bill requires all motion picture theater companies, excluding outdoor theaters such as drive-in theaters, that own, operate, control, or lease five or more locations in the Commonwealth and are open to the general public to provide open captioning on any film that has at least seven showings per operating week for a period greater than one operating week, provided that open captioning is available to the theater for such film as part of the digital cinema package. The bill specifies that (i) within the first two operating weeks following a film's release, a theater shall provide at least four open captioning viewings; (ii) at least one of such open captioning viewings shall start between (a) 5:59 p.m. and 11:01 p.m. on a Friday, (b) 10:59 a.m. and 11:01 p.m. on a Saturday or Sunday, or (c) 5:59 p.m. and 10:01 p.m. on a Monday through Thursday; and (iii) beginning in the third operating week following a film's release, a theater shall provide at least one open captioning viewing within 72 hours after receiving a request for such a viewing provided that no theater shall be obligated to provide open captioning viewing for any particular screening for which advance tickets have been sold prior to its receipt of such request. Under the bill, motion picture theater companies are required to provide contact information on their websites for receiving and fulfilling requests for open captioning screenings and advertise the date and time of open captioning screenings in the same manner used to advertise all other motion picture screenings and indicate which screenings shall include open captioning by utilizing the character symbol "OC" or such other language or symbols as may reasonably identify which screenings will include open captioning. The bill directs the Office of Civil Rights of the Attorney General of Virginia to establish a process for receiving consumer reports of suspected violations of the bill. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Disability Commission. This bill is identical to SB 722.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1336 Definition of three-unit service dog team.** Clarifies, in the definition of a three-unit service dog team, that a person who is an adult and who has been trained to handle the service dog can include the parent of the person with a disability who is part of such team.
Patron - Fowler

P **SB260 Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services; senior isolation prevention.** Requires the Commonwealth Council on Aging to advise the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services on strategies for reducing social isolation and loneliness among seniors and promoting volunteer engagement.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB682 Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission; extension of expiration date.** Extends the expiration date of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2029. This bill is identical to HB 431.
Patron - Head

P **SB722 Open captioning at motion picture theaters.** Establishes requirements for open captioning for motion picture theaters. The bill requires all motion picture theater companies, excluding outdoor theaters such as drive-in theaters, that own, operate, control, or lease five or more locations in the Commonwealth and are open to the general public to provide open captioning on any film that has at least seven showings per operating week for a period greater than one operating week, provided that open captioning is available to the theater for such film as part of the digital cinema package. The bill specifies that (i) within the first two operating weeks following a film's release, a theater shall provide at least four open captioning viewings; (ii) at least one of such open captioning viewings shall start between (a) 5:59 p.m. and 11:01 p.m. on a Friday, (b) 10:59 a.m. and 11:01 p.m. on a Saturday or Sunday, or (c) 5:59 p.m. and 10:01 p.m. on a Monday through Thursday; and (iii) beginning in the third operating week following a film's release, a theater shall provide at least one open captioning viewing within 72 hours after receiving a request for such a viewing provided that no theater shall be obligated to provide open captioning viewing for any particular screening for which advance tickets have been sold prior to its receipt of such request.
Under the bill, motion picture theater companies are required to provide contact information on their websites for receiving and fulfilling requests for open captioning screenings and advertise the date and time of open captioning screenings in the same manner used to advertise all other motion picture screenings and indicate which screenings shall include open captioning by utilizing the character symbol "OC" or such other language or symbols as may reasonably identify which screenings will include open captioning. The bill directs the Office of Civil Rights of the Attorney General of Virginia to establish a process for receiving consumer reports of suspected violations

of the bill. As introduced, the bill was a recommendation of the Disability Commission. This bill is identical to HB 602.
Patron - Williams Graves

Police (State)

Passed

P **HB702 Local law-enforcement agencies; firearm give-back or buy-back programs.** Allows for any county or city law-enforcement agency and any town law-enforcement agency to develop policies and procedures to implement either a firearm give-back program or a firearm buy-back program by January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter. The bill enumerates several requirements to be included in such policies. The bill also requires local law-enforcement agencies to submit an annual report to the Department of State Police. The bill states that proceeds generated from the sale or auction of a returned firearm shall be deposited into the locality's general fund or used solely for the administration of the locality's firearm give-back program or firearm buy-back program. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

Carried Over

C **SB287 Department of State Police; Executive Protection Division; security and transportation duties.** Provides that the Executive Protection Division of the Virginia Department of State Police shall have a duty to provide security and transportation to those persons designated by the Constitution of Virginia to succeed to the office of the Governor should a vacancy exist.
Patron - Aird

Prisons and Other Methods of Correction

Passed

P **HB126 Local, regional, and community correctional facilities; access to counsel for inmates.** Requires the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to establish additional standards no later than January 1, 2027, to ensure access to legal counsel for inmates held in any local, regional, or community correctional facility and enumerates the standards that the Board shall include in such additional standards.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB173 State correctional facilities; visitation policies; work group.** Sets additional visitation standards for visitors to state correctional facilities. The bill requires the Department of Corrections (the Department) to provide extended or additional visitation access for long-distance visitors. The bill provides that each in-person visit shall last a minimum of two hours unless shortened at the request of either the visitor or the incarcerated individual, or in response to an active security event. The bill also provides that visitation privileges may be suspended only for conduct occurring during visitation that presents a direct and substantial threat to the physical safety of participants or the security of the correctional facility. The bill provides a timeline and process for appealing any suspension of visitation rights. Finally, the bill directs the Department to convene a work group to consider and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations regarding visitation. The work group is required to report its findings and specific legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 276.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB193 Parole; exception to limitation on the application of parole statutes.** Provides that a person is eligible to be considered for parole if such person (i) was sentenced by a jury after the date of the Supreme Court of Virginia decision in *Fishback v. Commonwealth*, 260 Va. 104 (2000), in which the Supreme Court held that a jury should be instructed on the fact that parole has been abolished, for a felony committed on or after the abolition of parole going into effect on January 1, 1995; (ii) can prove by the preponderance of the evidence that the jury in his case was not instructed on the fact that parole has been abolished; and (iii) remained incarcerated for the offense on July 1, 2026, and the offense was not one of the following: (a) a Class 1 felony; (b) if the victim was a minor, rape, forcible sodomy, object sexual penetration, or aggravated sexual battery or an attempt to commit any such act; or (c) carnal knowledge. The bill also requires the Parole Board to establish procedures for consideration of parole of persons entitled to it and also provides that any person who is eligible for parole as of July 1, 2026, shall be scheduled for a parole interview no later than July 1, 2027, allowing for extension of time for reasonable cause.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB296 State correctional facilities; visitation policies; report.** Requires the Department of Corrections to establish and publicly post on its website and in the lobby of each state correctional facility an objective dress code for individuals visiting a state correctional facility and specifies certain requirements for and limitations on what such dress code may include. The bill prohibits any state correctional facility from enforcing a dress code that is more restrictive than the dress code posted by the Department.
The bill also prohibits any individual from being denied in-person visitation unless such individual is in clear violation of visitation rules or policies. Prior to denying entry to a visitor, the bill requires the reasoning to be (i) reviewed in person by the facility administrative duty officer and (ii) approved by a regional administrator or superior. The bill requires the Department to submit a report annually on or before November 1 to the General Assembly and the Governor with information on visitors denied entry to state correctional facilities, including the following information disaggregated by facility and by month: (a) the number of visitors denied entry and (b) the reasoning for such denials, including the specific rules or policies such visitors were alleged to have violated.
The bill requires the Department to convene a work group consisting of relevant stakeholders to consider goals and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations related to facilitating visitation within state correctional facilities and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Seibold

P **HB318 Virginia Parole Board; powers and duties; juvenile offenders; parole procedures and considerations.** Increases the members of the Virginia Parole Board (the Board) from up to five to at least 11 members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor within 60 days of inauguration, three of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates within 60 days of a new House being sworn in during a Senate election year, and three of whom shall be appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules

within 60 days of a new Senate being sworn in after an election, and all of whom shall be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, if in session when such appointment is made, and if not in session, then at its next succeeding session. The bill specifies that all members of the Board shall have significant professional experience working in criminal law, corrections, reentry and community services, or victim services and that the Board members appointed by the Governor shall include (i) an attorney with significant experience in criminal prosecution; (ii) an attorney with significant experience in criminal defense; (iii) a qualified mental health professional with relevant background in adolescent development, trauma responses, psychology, and decision-making; and (iv) a representative of a crime victims organization or a victim of crime. These provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.

The bill also requires the Board to provide a meaningful opportunity for release to certain juvenile offenders eligible for parole and specifies various factors the Board shall give substantial weight to when making a determination on whether to grant parole to such juvenile offender. The bill allows a juvenile offender to request for reconsideration or appeal of a decision by the Board not to grant parole based on (a) the Board's failure to give substantial weight to such juvenile offender's age and its related mitigating circumstances as required by the bill or (b) the Board's overreliance on static factors such as the nature and circumstances of the offense and failure to ground its decision in evidence of maturity, rehabilitation, and a lack of present danger to public safety. The bill requires the Board to provide individualized reasons for the grant or denial of parole upon reconsideration or appeal.

The bill also requires that if parole is denied for any such juvenile offender, each Board member shall identify his reasoning for such decision at the time such member's vote is cast, including any youth-related factor and evidence of maturity and rehabilitation that was considered. The bill requires that the Board provide to such prisoner for whom parole is denied recommendations to demonstrate commitment to rehabilitation and at the next hearing, the Board is required to consider whether the prisoner has followed such recommendations. The bill also requires the Board to annually review the cases of such juvenile offenders eligible for parole. This bill is identical to SB 60. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hope

P **HB553 Department of Corrections; language services for offenders.** Provides that the Department of Corrections shall take reasonable steps to provide offenders with limited English proficiency meaningful access to Department facilities, services, programs, and activities to ensure that language does not prevent Department employees from communicating effectively with such offenders. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Anderson

P **HB726 Credit for time spent in confinement while awaiting trial; extradition or fugitive warrant.** Provides that if any person is extradited from another state pursuant to (i) an extradition warrant from the Commonwealth or (ii) a fugitive warrant issued from the state where such person is detained and such person is subsequently sentenced to a term of confinement in a correctional facility in the Commonwealth for an offense from the same act as the violation for which the extradition warrant or fugitive warrant was authorized, such person shall have deducted from any such term all time actually spent in confinement awaiting extradition from such other state, provided that he was solely held on the extradition warrant or fugitive warrant and not on any other offense that he allegedly committed in such other state. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference.

Patron - Davis

P **HB857 Home/electronic incarceration program.** Provides that any court having jurisdiction for the trial of a pregnant person or a postpartum person who still has contact with their infant child and is charged with certain offenses shall assign the offender to a home/electronic incarceration program unless there is probable cause to believe that (i) the offender will not appear for trial or hearing or at such other time and place as may be directed or (ii) the offender's liberty will constitute an unreasonable danger to such person, such person's family or household members, or the public. The bill also provides that a pregnant or postpartum person assigned to home/electronic incarceration shall remain eligible for bond. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB860 State Board of Local and Regional Jails; standards and regulations for pregnant and postpartum incarcerated persons in local and regional correctional facilities; report.** Directs the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to set minimum standards and regulations regarding lactation policies for incarcerated persons and their infants by December 1, 2028. In developing such regulations and standards, the Board is directed to consider best practices related to lactation and how to incorporate such practices into the regulations and standards set by the Board.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB861 Reporting requirements of state, regional, and local correctional facilities; pregnant and postpartum inmates.** Requires the warden or other official in charge of a state correctional facility that houses women prisoners to compile a monthly summary and the sheriff in charge of a local correctional facility, or his designee, or the jail superintendent of a regional correctional facility, or his designee, to compile a quarterly summary of all of the following and submit such summary to the Director of the Department of Corrections or State Board of Local and Regional Jails, as applicable: (i) the number of prisoners known to be pregnant in the facility, (ii) the number of prisoners in postpartum recovery in the facility, (iii) the number of women prisoners in the facility, (iv) the total number of prisoners in the facility, (v) the number of deaths of prisoners known to be pregnant in the facility, and (vi) the number of deaths of prisoners in postpartum recovery in the facility. The bill also requires such summary to be submitted to the Maternal Mortality Review Team and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.

Lastly, the bill requires the sheriff in charge of a local correctional facility, or his designee, or the jail superintendent of a regional correctional facility, or his designee, to compile a quarterly summary of all written reports received pursuant to relevant law regarding use of restraints on any prisoner known to be pregnant or any prisoner who is in postpartum recovery and any body cavity search of a pregnant prisoner and submit such summary to the Board each quarter.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB1030 Discretionary parole eligibility guidelines.** Requires the Virginia Parole Board to complete discretionary parole criteria guidelines, described in the bill, for each prisoner eligible for parole. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Wilt

P **HB1041 Department of Corrections; functional literacy program for incarcerated individuals; Virginia Prison Education Task Force established; report.**

Requires the Superintendent employed by the Director of Corrections to (i) by January 1, 2027, develop a functional literacy program for inmates testing below at least an eighth grade level, instead of a twelfth grade level as required by current law, and include in such program evidence-based literacy instruction, as defined in accordance with applicable law; (iii) share data with (a) the state entity that oversees the management, direction, and governance of the Commonwealth's education and workforce data for the purpose of developing educational, health, social service, and employment outcome data and improving the efficacy of state services and (b) the Virginia Community College System necessary for comprehensive community colleges to apply for and maintain eligibility as Federal Pell Grant-eligible prison education programs; and (iv) track and publicly report at least annually the number of incarcerated individuals eligible for, enrolled in, and waitlisted for the literacy and education programs. The bill also establishes the Virginia Prison Education Task Force for the purpose of implementing a consistent education program across all state correctional facilities operated by the Department. The bill requires the Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly on its activities, findings, and recommendations by November 1, 2026. Finally, the bill requires the Department of Education to, by November 1, 2026, (a) review and update the salary schedules for teachers licensed by the Board of Education and employed by the Department of Corrections to provide instruction in the schools of the correctional centers to be competitive with those in effect for the school division in which the correctional facility is located and (b) make recommendations for the inclusion of such teacher salary increases in the appropriation act.
Patron - Carr

P **HB1392** **Powers and duties for operation of local and regional correctional facilities and courthouse security; attorney access to courthouses and communication and visitation with incarcerated clients; penalty.** Provides that if a sheriff allows courthouse employees or law-enforcement officers to bypass any security screening required to enter a courthouse, such sheriff shall also exempt from the security screening any attorney who displays a valid Virginia State Bar-issued bar card and a government-issued identification. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any attorney who has had his license to practice law in the Commonwealth suspended or revoked and who displays a Virginia State Bar-issued bar card in an effort to be exempt from the security screening. The bill also requires any telephonic, electronic, or web-based communication system for prisoners that is offered by a sheriff or jail superintendent who operates a local or regional correctional facility to include a confidential means for a prisoner to communicate with his attorney at regular and reasonable times. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **HB1421** **State Board of Local and Regional Jails; administrative and supervisory authority.** Directs the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to convene a work group to evaluate the feasibility of transferring the administrative and supervisory authority of the State Board of Local and Regional Jails (the State Board) from the Department of Corrections to another state agency or an independent oversight body. The bill requires the work group to submit its plan, recommended timeline, and any legislative proposals to the General Assembly by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **SB60** **Virginia Parole Board; powers and duties; juvenile offenders; parole procedures and considerations.** Increases the members of the Virginia Parole Board (the Board) from up to five to at least 11 members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor within 60 days of inauguration, three of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates within 60 days of a new House being sworn in during a Senate election year, and three of whom shall be appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules within 60 days of a new Senate being sworn in after an election, and all of whom shall be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, if in session when such appointment is made, and if not in session, then at its next succeeding session. The bill specifies that all members of the Board shall have significant professional experience working in criminal law, corrections, reentry and community services, or victim services and that the Board members appointed by the Governor shall include (i) an attorney with significant experience in criminal prosecution; (ii) an attorney with significant experience in criminal defense; (iii) a qualified mental health professional with relevant background in adolescent development, trauma responses, psychology, and decision-making; and (iv) a representative of a crime victims organization or a victim of crime. These provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.
The bill also requires the Board to provide a meaningful opportunity for release to certain juvenile offenders eligible for parole and specifies various factors the Board shall give substantial weight to when making a determination on whether to grant parole to such juvenile offender. The bill allows a juvenile offender to request for reconsideration or appeal of a decision by the Board not to grant parole based on (a) the Board's failure to give substantial weight to such juvenile offender's age and its related mitigating circumstances as required by the bill or (b) the Board's overreliance on static factors such as the nature and circumstances of the offense and failure to ground its decision in evidence of maturity, rehabilitation, and a lack of present danger to public safety. The bill requires the Board to provide individualized reasons for the grant or denial of parole upon reconsideration or appeal.
The bill also requires that if parole is denied for any such juvenile offender, each Board member shall identify his reasoning for such decision at the time such member's vote is cast, including any youth-related factor and evidence of maturity and rehabilitation that was considered. The bill requires that the Board provide to such prisoner for whom parole is denied recommendations to demonstrate commitment to rehabilitation and at the next hearing, the Board is required to consider whether the prisoner has followed such recommendations. The bill also requires the Board to annually review the cases of such juvenile offenders eligible for parole. This bill is identical to HB 318. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Locke

P **SB83** **Security policies for courthouses and local or regional correctional facilities; penalty.** Adds several provisions relating to courthouse and courtroom security. The bill requires the chief judge of each general district court, juvenile and domestic relations district court, and circuit court to set a policy regarding the use and possession of portable electronic devices by visitors to the court. The bill authorizes such chief judge to condition the use and possession of portable electronic devices upon certain limitations.
The bill also provides that if a sheriff allows courthouse employees to bypass any security screening required to enter a courthouse, such sheriff shall also exempt from the security screening any attorney who displays a valid Virginia State Bar-issued bar card and a government-issued identification. The bill creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any attorney who has had his license to practice law in the Commonwealth suspended or revoked and who displays a Virginia State Bar-issued bar card in an effort to be exempt from the security screening.

Finally, the bill requires the State Board of Local and Regional Jails to develop and establish minimum standards to ensure that attorneys have sufficient opportunities to have confidential visits with their clients and requires sheriffs or jail superintendents to provide a telephonic, electronic, or web-based communication method for prisoners in local correctional facilities to communicate with attorneys. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Salim

P **SB218 Director of the Department of Corrections; placement of inmates.** Directs the Director of the Department of Corrections to continue accepting and reviewing applications for the confinement of inmates from a state party to the Interstate Corrections Compact entered into pursuant to relevant law, but prohibits any placement of any such inmate at the Red Onion State Prison until such time as the General Assembly reauthorizes such placement by act of assembly. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Jones

P **SB276 State correctional facilities; visitation policies; work group.** Sets additional visitation standards for visitors to state correctional facilities. The bill requires the Department of Corrections (the Department) to provide extended or additional visitation access for long-distance visitors. The bill provides that each in-person visit shall last a minimum of two hours unless shortened at the request of either the visitor or the incarcerated individual, or in response to an active security event. The bill also provides that visitation privileges may be suspended only for conduct occurring during visitation that presents a direct and substantial threat to the physical safety of participants or the security of the correctional facility. The bill provides a timeline and process for appealing any suspension of visitation rights. Finally, the bill directs the Department to convene a work group to consider and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations regarding visitation. The work group is required to report its findings and specific legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 173.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB713 Sheriffs; courthouse and courtroom security; physical location of courthouse or courtroom.** Clarifies that, where a courtroom of a locality is located within the courthouse of a different county, city, or town, the sheriff, any deputy sheriff, or any law-enforcement officer of such locality shall have (i) the same police powers within and on the surrounding property of the courthouse as in his own jurisdiction and (ii) concurrent jurisdiction while present within or on the surrounding property of such courthouse, or while traveling to and returning from such courthouse, and engaged in the performance of his official duties to enforce certain laws of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Deeds

Failed

F **HB482 State Board of Local and Regional Jails.** Moves supervision of the State Board of Local and Regional Jails from the Department of Corrections to the Office of the Department of Corrections Ombudsman within the Office of the State Inspector General.
Patron - Hope

F **HB739 Virginia Parole Board; membership; appointment of members; powers and duties.** Increases the membership of the Parole Board from up to five members to 10 members, five of whom are to be appointed by the Governor, three of whom are to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and two of whom are to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The bill requires that four of the five Parole Board members appointed by the Governor have specific background and experience as enumerated in the bill.

The bill also provides that when the Parole Board votes to deny an inmate's parole and issues the basis for such denial in writing as required by current law, the Parole Board shall also include in such writing specific steps that the inmate may take to demonstrate commitment to rehabilitation and notice that the Parole Board shall, at such inmate's next parole hearing, consider whether the inmate has taken such steps. Finally, the bill requires the Parole Board, at least 30 days prior to its final deliberation and vote regarding whether to grant parole to an inmate, to provide a true copy of all information collected throughout the investigation to such inmate, his attorney, or another person that the inmate has designated to receive such information either electronically or in paper form.
Patron - Williams

F **HB1246 State correctional facilities; visitation privileges; Visitation Enhancement Program established.** Establishes the Visitation Enhancement Program (the Program) and requires all state correctional facilities to participate in the Program and provide visitation privileges to inmates in accordance with the standards specified in the bill. The bill provides that all inmates in state correctional facilities shall be classified within one of three phases of the Program, which shall be based on the class level at which the inmate earns good time such as good conduct time, good conduct allowances, or earned sentence credits. The bill specifies certain enhanced visitation privileges permitted for each of the three phases of the Program.

The bill also requires visitors be permitted to visit an inmate for at least two hours prior to a visit being terminated due to capacity issues and provides that if the visitation area is at maximum capacity, state correctional facility staff shall ask visitors, on a voluntary basis, to end their visit. The bill states that if a sufficient number of visitors fail to volunteer, staff shall terminate visits, beginning with the first visitors processed, until the required seating or space is available for incoming visitors.
Patron - Glass

F **HB1326 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 - Tata

F **HB1329 Local correctional facilities; reimbursements for housing convicted state felons.** Provides that, notwithstanding the quarterly installment payments the Compensation Board is required to provide for reimbursements to localities, the Compensation Board shall ensure that it provides reimbursement to localities for the entirety of the costs incurred by such locality arising from housing convicted state felons in any local or regional correctional facility.
Patron - Ware

F **HB1459 Ice-Free Communities Act; notification to federal immigration authorities of pending release of certain persons from custody.**
Patron - Zehr

F **SB209 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 - DeSteph

Carried Over

C **HB35 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 two business days 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 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.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

C **HB1162 State correctional facilities; required education or vocational training; earned sentence credits classification levels.** Requires a prisoner in a state correctional facility, as a part of his reentry plan developed and implemented by the Department of Corrections, to complete a high school equivalency test or vocational, technical, or other certification prior to such prisoner's release. The bill also provides that the annual review of a prisoner's classification level for earned sentence credits shall include such prisoner's quantifiable or measurable progress, as available, in any programs, job assignments, and educational curricula in which he is participating, such as test scores achieved or completion of a high school equivalency test or other trade or vocational certification.
Patron - Walker

C **HB1280 State correctional facilities; participation of prisoners in employment and educational programs; reentry planning.** Expands the program assignments in which the Director of the Department of Corrections may place a prisoner while such prisoner is confined in a state correctional facility. The bill requires the Director to place a prisoner in an appropriate program assignment within (i) 90 days of the arrival of a prisoner sentenced to a new term of confinement to a state correctional facility or (ii) 60 days of a prisoner already in custody being transferred to a new state correctional facility and provides that participation in such program assignments shall be for an average of 30 hours per week, calculated individually across the calendar year. Finally, the bill expands upon the requirements for a prisoner's reentry plan, including requiring an assessment, if necessary, of a prisoner's readiness to take a high school equivalency test and any modifications needed for the prisoner to take or improve upon such test, and making available peer and group educational programs developed and led by qualified prisoners.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

C **HB1508 Department of Corrections; investigations of violent incidents.** Designates the Department of State Police as the law-enforcement agency responsible for investigating (i) alleged serious violent incidents that result in the death of either an inmate or officer and (ii) alleged or suspected incidents of inmate suicide.
Patron - Phillips

C **SB222 Parole; eligibility; youthful offenders.** Expands the eligibility requirements for juvenile parole to include (i) any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was 20 years of age or younger and who has served at least 20 years of such sentence and (ii) any person who has active sentences that total more than 20 years for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was 20 years of age or younger and who has served at least 20 years of such sentence. Under current law, only a person who was a juvenile when he committed any such offense is eligible for juvenile parole.
Patron - Jones

C **SB538 Parole; investigation prior to release; input from the attorney for the Commonwealth.** Requires the Parole Board to notify the attorney for the Commonwealth in each jurisdiction in which an offense occurred for which a prisoner is incarcerated as part of the required investigation to determine if such prisoner will be released on parole. The bill further provides that the attorney for the Commonwealth may submit his input to the Board regarding the impact the release of the prisoner will have on the jurisdiction. The bill requires that any such input received shall be considered by the Board but shall not infringe on the Board's authority to exercise its decision-making authority.
Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB762 Local correctional facilities; reimbursements for housing convicted state felons.** Provides that, notwithstanding the quarterly installment payments the Compensation Board is required to provide for reimbursements to localities, the Compensation Board shall ensure that it provides reimbursement to localities for the entirety of the costs incurred by such locality arising from housing convicted state felons in any local or regional correctional facility.
Patron - Mulchi

Professions and Occupations

Passed

P **HB156 Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing; licensure renewal; electronic death registration system; death certificates.** Requires the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to amend their applications for licensure and licensure renewal to require doctors of medicine and osteopathic medicine, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants to indicate if they expect their scope of practice to include signing death certificates and, if so, to indicate that they have completed the online tutorial for the Electronic Death Registration System on the Department of Health website. This bill is identical to SB 194.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB165 Board for Contractors; examinations; alternative languages.** 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 state election law.

Patron - Thomas

P **HB170 Real estate appraisers; educational requirements for licensure; fair housing and appraisal bias course.** Requires, in addition to successfully completing an examination, applicants for licensure as a certified residential real estate appraiser or a certified general real estate appraiser to also successfully complete a fair housing and appraisal bias education course administered or approved by the Real Estate Appraiser Board prior to licensure, the specifics of which are provided in the bill.

Patron - Askew

P **HB232 Collaborative agreements; practitioners; diagnosis.** Removes registered nurses from the list of practitioners whose diagnoses may form the basis of drug therapy conducted pursuant to a collaborative agreement between a practitioner and a pharmacist.

Patron - Wachsmann

P **HB276 Members of the Virginia State Bar; rules and regulations relating to schedule of fees.** Increases from $250 to $350 the annual fee cap that an attorney member of the Virginia State Bar may be required to pay pursuant to any rules and regulations promulgated related to fixing a schedule of fees.

Patron - Kilgore

P **HB452 Practice of radiologic technology; licensure exceptions.** Permits a person employed or engaged by a hospital, health system, or urgent care center that is affiliated with a hospital or health care system to practice within the scope of his employment as a radiologic technologist, radiologic assistant, or radiologic technologist, limited without obtaining a license. Under current law, such exception only applies to radiologic technologists who are employees of a hospital. The bill exempts the initial promulgation of regulations pursuant to the bill by the Board of Medicine from the requirements of the Administrative Process Act. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.

Patron - Willett

P **HB465 Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis; composition.** Amends the composition of the Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis to require that three members shall be licensed behavior analysts or licensed assistant behavior analysts who have practiced for at least three years. Under current law, the composition of the Advisory Board requires two licensed behavior analysts who have practiced for at least three years and one licensed assistant behavior analyst who has practiced for at least three years.

Patron - Cohen

P **HB558 Drug Control Act; Schedule I; penalties.** Adds certain chemicals to Schedule I 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.

Patron - Wachsmann

P **HB573 Board of Medicine; breast implant educational materials; work group.** Directs the Board of Medicine to convene a work group to create educational materials for patients considering breast implants and distribute such materials to its licensees by January 1, 2027.

Patron - Glass

P **HB574 Athletic Trainer Compact.** Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Athletic Trainer Compact. The Compact permits qualified licensed athletic trainers to practice in other states that are also members of the Compact. The Compact has not yet been passed in any state and will take effect when the Compact is enacted by a seventh participating state.

Patron - Glass

P **HB575 Respiratory Care Interstate Compact.** Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact. The Compact allows respiratory therapists who have or are eligible for an active, unencumbered license in the Compact member state where they reside to apply for a multistate license. The Compact has been passed in five states and takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh participating state.

Patron - Glass

P **HB577 Social work; licensure; criminal background check.** Requires applicants for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker, master's social worker, or clinical social worker to provide fingerprints and personal identifying information for a criminal background check, directs the Central Criminal Records Exchange to disseminate criminal history record information obtained to the Board of Social Work, and establishes the process by which an applicant may obtain his criminal history record in the event that such applicant disputes the criminal history information on which a denial of licensure privilege is based. The bill specifies that no criminal history record information obtained from a national criminal history record check conducted for employment or licensing purposes pursuant to federal law shall only be further disseminated to a federal, state, or local government agency or entity. The bill also specifies that any state or local government agency or entity that receives such record information shall not disseminate such information to any private person or entity. The bill also requires the Department of State Police (the Department) to convene a work group to review potential issues and concerns regarding the dissemination of criminal history record information. The bill requires the Department to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2026. The bill has a partial delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Patron - Glass

P **HB746 Physician assistants; authorization to practice without a practice agreement.** Authorizes a physician assistant with at least three years of full-time clinical experience to practice without a practice agreement upon receipt of an attestation from a patient care team physician or patient care team podiatrist who provided collaboration and consultation to such physician assistant verifying the length and nature of the physician assistant's practice. The bill establishes methods for a physician assistant who is unable to obtain the required attestation to submit other evidence that the physician assistant meets the requirements to practice without a practice agreement and establishes a method for physician assistants who obtain licensure by endorsement to practice without a practice agreement if they meet the applicable requirements. The bill also establishes a scope of practice for physician assistants who practice without a practice agreement.

The bill specifies that the effective date of the foregoing provisions are contingent upon the Board of Medicine adopting regulations to implement the bill's provisions and to establish processes for granting authorization to physician assistants to practice without a practice agreement.
Patron - Henson

P **HB796 Professions and occupations; adjustment of fees by regulatory boards; recovery of disciplinary and monitoring costs.** Repeals the provision of law that requires, following the close of any biennium, when the account for any regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) shows revenue to be a certain percentage greater than expenses, such regulatory board to distribute excess revenue to current regulants and reduce its licensure or certification fees so that fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. The bill also repeals the provision with respect to the Department of Health Professions (DHP) that requires, following the close of any biennium, when the account for any regulatory board shows expenses allocated to it for the past biennium to be a certain percentage greater than moneys collected by the board, the board to revise its fees so that such fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. The bill makes it permissive for the regulatory boards within DPOR and DHP to annually revise the fees levied by it for certification, licensure, registration, or permit and renewal so that the fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. Regulatory boards are also permitted to recover reasonable administrative costs associated with investigation, disciplinary proceedings, monitoring, and confirming compliance with any terms and conditions imposed from any person who is (i) licensed, registered, certified, or issued a multistate licensure privilege by any regulatory or health regulatory board and (ii) issued a finding of a violation of law or regulation from such regulatory or health regulatory board. Such administrative costs shall not exceed $500 for regulatory boards within DPOR and $1,500 for health regulatory boards within DHP. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB870 Board of Accountancy; licensing requirements; inactive and emeritus status.** Directs the Board of Accountancy to establish "Inactive" and "Emeritus" CPA license statuses for licensees who no longer provide services to the public or services to or on behalf of an employer. The bill requires the Board to develop guidelines to provide active and inactive licensees additional clarity governing the manner in which such licensees should reference autobiographical and biographical information with respect to their CPA licensure to remain historically accurate and compliant with the law and relevant regulations. The bill directs the Board of Accountancy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill incorporates HB 228 and is identical to SB 605.
Patron - Carroll

P **HB970 Dental assistants; additional treatments; certification.** Permits any dental assistant I or dental assistant II with a minimum of 1,800 hours of clinical experience to obtain certification pursuant to the requirements of the bill to perform supragingival scaling and coronal polishing. This bill is identical to SB 178.
Patron - Price

P **HB1006 TPA-certified optometrists; sale and dispensation of Schedule VI controlled substances; requirements.** Permits TPA-certified optometrists to sell and dispense Schedule VI controlled substances to their own patients provided that they obtain a license to do so from the Board of Pharmacy and comply with requirements related to dispensation, storage, packaging, labeling, recordkeeping, and reporting of the controlled substances sold and dispensed. The bill permits the Board of Optometry and the Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and establish a limited-use license for TPA-certified optometrists pursuant to the bill. The bill exempts such initial regulations from the APA requirements. This bill is identical to SB 212.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1026 Foreign-trained chiropractors; licensure by endorsement.** Permits the Board of Medicine to issue a license to practice chiropractic to a foreign-trained chiropractor who meets certain requirements.
Patron - Walker

P **HB1036 Dental hygienist licensure; dentists eligible to practice in a foreign country or jurisdiction.** Permits the Board of Dentistry to grant a license to practice dental hygiene to persons who are eligible to practice dentistry in a country or jurisdiction outside of the United States and who are graduates of a dental school or college, or the dental department of an institution of higher education, located outside of the United States that the Board determines is acceptable. This bill is identical to SB 282.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1117 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; universal license recognition.** Reduces from three years to one year the number of years an individual is required to have held a professional or occupational license or government certification in another state in order to apply to the regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation and be issued an occupational license or government certification under the universal license recognition program.
Patron - Nivar

P **HB1139 Board of Medicine; membership; removal of residence requirements.** Removes the requirement that the Board of Medicine have one physician from each congressional district and instead requires that 11 physicians be on the Board. The bill removes references to change of residence provisions for physician Board members.
Patron - Downey

P **HB1147 Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing; continuing education; bias reduction training.** Directs the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to require certain licensees to complete continuing learning activities on bias reduction in health care as part of their continuing education and continuing competency requirements for licensure and authorizes the Board of Nursing to require certain continuing learning activities or courses in a specific subject area. Under current law, the Board of Medicine has such authority. This bill is identical to SB 22.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB1176 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; quorum requirements for certain regulatory boards.** Lowers the quorum requirements for the (i) 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 and (ii) Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists of two professional soil scientists, two professional wetland delineators, and two professional geologists to at least one professional soil scientist, one professional wetland delineator, and one professional geologist.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

P **HB1247 Professions and occupations; barbers and cosmetologists; Esthetics Licensure Compact.** Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Esthetics Licensure Compact. The Compact permits eligible licensed estheticians to practice in Compact member states, provided that they meet certain requirements. The Compact takes effect when enacted by a seventh member state.
Patron - Glass

P **HB1254 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.** Makes several amendments for the purposes of regulatory boards within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to include (i) removing the exemption for a person engaged in the practice of engineering, architecture, or land surveying as a full-time, salaried employee of the Commonwealth on March 8, 1992, from certain licensure requirements provided the employee does not furnish advisory service for compensation to the public in connection with engineering, architecture, or land surveying; (ii) providing that any state agency or political subdivision that is unable to employ a qualified licensed engineer, architect, or land surveyor to fill a responsible charge position, after a reasonable and unsuccessful search, may fill the position with an unlicensed person upon the determination by the chief administrative officer of the agency or political subdivision that the person, by virtue of education, experience, and expertise, can perform the work required of the position; (iii) directing the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists and Opticians to promulgate regulations for the issuance of training permits and work permits; and (iv) repealing provisions of the Code allowing for the waiver of examinations for wax technicians and estheticians. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Glass

P **HB1282 Licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners; licensure by endorsement; licensure without examination.** Directs the Board of Counseling to establish a pathway to licensure by endorsement as a licensed substance abuse treatment practitioner for applicants who have held certification as a certified substance abuse counselor for at least 10 years without a history of disciplinary action, have completed at least five years of documented supervised experience, hold at least a master's degree in an appropriate field of counseling, and hold a Master Addiction Counselor credential issued by NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals. The bill provides that such pathway to licensure by endorsement does not require examination.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB1287 Board of Veterinary Medicine; applications for licensure or renewal; indication of interest to serve as a veterinarian for a public or private animal shelter.** Directs the Board of Veterinary Medicine to amend its applications for licensure and renewal of licensure to allow applicants to indicate interest in serving as a veterinarian for public or private animal shelters and to provide disclosure that, if the applicant indicates such interest, the Board shall provide the applicant's name and contact information to the State Veterinarian for inclusion on a list distributed to animal shelters quarterly.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB1289 Professions and occupations; regulation of geologists.** Adds geology to the definition of "professional services" as used in the Virginia Public Procurement Act. The bill also eliminates the option for the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists to waive the examination requirement for licensure as a professional geologist for an applicant who has at least 12 years of geological work. The bill also requires the Board to promulgate regulations governing continuing education requirements for geologists licensed by the Board that require the completion of eight hours annually in continuing education for any license renewal or reinstatement. This bill is identical to SB 492.
Patron - Wiley

P **HB1291 Professions and occupations; regulation of geologists; exemptions.** Exempts the practice of geology by any officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the United States of America when practicing solely as such from the licensing requirements for professional geologists.
Patron - Wiley

P **HB1305 Professions and occupations; powers and duties of regulatory boards; disciplinary action; dismissal.** Permits regulatory boards to take a disciplinary case against a licensee under advisement, defer a finding in such case, and dismiss such action upon terms and conditions set by the Board for Professional and Occupational Regulation. The bill additionally clarifies that regulatory boards may take such actions as well as other disciplinary actions and monetary penalties by including a reference to such disciplinary actions and monetary penalties among the listed powers of certain regulatory boards.
Patron - Nivar

P **HB1347 Board of Pharmacy; regulation of psilocybin.** Directs the Board of Pharmacy to reschedule psilocybin consistent with federal scheduling upon approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of a formulation of psilocybin designed to be administered by a health care professional in a health care setting. This bill is identical to SB 379.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB1439 Regulation of contractors; solar installation companies; sale, lease, or power purchase of solar energy systems; civil penalty.** Authorizes the Board for Contractors (the Board) to require specific contract provisions and disclosures relating to the sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system, as defined in the bill. The bill requires a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system to have a written contract that includes specific provisions related to the solar installation company, system design and performance or production guarantees, and information related to invoices and payments. The bill includes several mandatory disclosures to be included with a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system. Under the bill, a willful violation of such requirements shall be subject to a civil penalty of no more than $2,500 per violation. The bill also directs the Board to adopt regulations and update existing regulations to implement the provisions of the bill by January 1, 2027. The remaining provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 823.
Patron - Shin

P **SB22 Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing; continuing education; bias reduction training.** Directs the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to require certain licensees to complete continuing learning activities on implicit and explicit bias reduction in health care as part of their continuing education and continuing competency requirements for licensure and authorizes the Board of Nursing to require certain continuing learning activities or courses in a specific subject area. Under current law, the Board of Medicine has such authority.
Patron - Locke

P **SB178 Dental assistants; additional treatments; certification.** Permits any dental assistant I or dental assistant II with a minimum of 1,800 hours of clinical experience to obtain certification pursuant to the requirements of the bill to perform supragingival scaling and coronal polishing. This bill is identical to HB 970.
Patron - Locke

P **SB194 Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing; licensure renewal; electronic death registration system; death certificates.** Requires the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to amend their applications for licensure and licensure renewal to require doctors of medicine and osteopathic medicine, advanced practice registered nurses, and physician assistants to indicate if they expect their scope of practice to include signing death certificates and, if so, to indicate that they have completed the online tutorial for the Electronic Death Registration System on the Department of Health website. This bill is identical to HB 156.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB212 TPA-certified optometrists; sale and dispensation of Schedule VI controlled substances; requirements.** Permits TPA-certified optometrists to sell and dispense Schedule VI controlled substances to their own patients provided that they obtain a license to do so from the Board of Pharmacy and comply with requirements related to dispensation, storage, packaging, labeling, recordkeeping, and reporting of the controlled substances sold and dispensed. The bill permits the Board of Optometry and the Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of the bill and establish a limited-use license for TPA-certified optometrists pursuant to the bill. The bill exempts such initial regulations from the APA requirements. This bill is identical to HB 1006.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB278 Drug manufacturers; 340B Drug Pricing Program; work group; report.** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the impacts of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program within the Commonwealth, with emphasis on governance, transparency, and the availability of pharmacy services in rural and underserved areas. The bill requires the work group to submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of 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, 2026.
Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB282 Dental hygienist licensure; dentists eligible to practice in a foreign country or jurisdiction.** Permits the Board of Dentistry to grant a license to practice dental hygiene to persons who are eligible to practice dentistry in a country or jurisdiction outside of the United States and who are graduates of a dental school or college, or the dental department of an institution of higher education, located outside of the United States that the Board determines is acceptable. This bill is identical to HB 1036.
Patron - Aird

P **SB331 Board of Veterinary Medicine; traineeships.** Expands eligibility for veterinary traineeship programs to include (i) graduates of an American Veterinary Medical Association-accredited college of veterinary medicine who have not yet passed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE); and (ii) registrants in the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) program who have taken and received a passing score on the NAVLE and have completed all steps of the ECFVG program except for the clinical proficiency examination.
Patron - Roem

P **SB379 Board of Pharmacy; regulation of psilocybin.** Directs the Board of Pharmacy to reschedule psilocybin consistent with federal scheduling upon approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of a formulation of psilocybin designed to be administered by a health care professional in a health care setting. This bill is identical to HB 1347.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB418 Therapeutic interchange and adaptation.** Authorizes pharmacists to perform therapeutic interchanges by substituting a drug with another drug in the same therapeutic class when such substitution lowers the cost or is cost-neutral to the patient or the prescribed drug is in a drug shortage and the substitution conforms to Board of Pharmacy regulations. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy to determine which therapeutic classes of drugs shall be eligible for therapeutic interchange and which classes shall be prohibited. The bill also authorizes pharmacists to adapt prescriptions by changing the dosage form or quantity of a medication or by completing missing information on a prescription when there is evidence to support such change.
Patron - Favola

P **SB421 Remote pharmacist verification and counseling in opioid treatment programs.** Authorizes a pharmacist licensed in the Commonwealth to exercise verification, counseling, and supervision duties remotely when a pharmacy technician or other authorized personnel dispenses medication prescribed for the management of opioid use disorder at a federally certified opioid treatment program.
Patron - Favola

P **SB492 Professions and occupations; regulation of geologists.** Adds geology to the definition of "professional services" as used in the Virginia Public Procurement Act. The bill also eliminates the option for the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists to waive the examination requirement for licensure as a professional geologist for an applicant who has at least 12 years of geological work. The bill also requires the Board to promulgate regulations governing continuing education requirements for geologists licensed by the Board that require the completion of eight hours annually in continuing education for any license renewal or reinstatement. This bill is identical to HB 1289.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB565 Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund; claim limits; license threshold amounts.** Expands the scope of Chapters 127 and 133 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025, which increased certain claim limits and license threshold amounts, to apply to any claimant who filed a verified claim with the Director of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation on or after June 6, 2024, for recovery from the Virginia Contractor Transaction Recovery Fund and whose claim was thereafter approved by the Board for Contractors.
Patron - Sturtevant

P **SB574 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Auctioneers Board; citizen members.** Clarifies that no citizen member appointed to the Auctioneers Board shall (i) have training or experience as an auctioneer; (ii) be the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of an auctioneer; or (iii) have any direct or indirect financial interest, except as a consumer, in auctioneering. The bill further prohibits appointing any citizen member of the Board currently licensed in,

employed by, or financially affiliated with any profession or occupation that provides similar services to auctioneers, including a real estate broker or salesperson.
Patron - Reeves

P **SB605 Board of Accountancy; licensing requirements; inactive and emeritus status.** Directs the Board of Accountancy to establish "Inactive" and "Emeritus" CPA license statuses for licensees who no longer provide services to the public or services to or on behalf of an employer. The bill requires the Board to develop guidelines to provide active and inactive licensees additional clarity governing the manner in which such licensees should reference autobiographical and biographical information with respect to their CPA licensure to remain historically accurate and compliant with the law and relevant regulations. The bill directs the Board of Accountancy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 870.
Patron - Obenshain

P **SB613 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; review of real estate salesperson licensure process; report.** Directs the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to conduct a comprehensive review of the Commonwealth's current process for obtaining licensure as a real estate salesperson and to submit, on or before January 1, 2027, a report of its findings to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB641 Board of Medicine; office-based buprenorphine treatment; counseling.** Directs the Board of Medicine to amend its regulations regarding office-based buprenorphine treatment to require providers to offer counseling or referral to counseling to each patient as clinically necessary and mutually agreed-upon. The bill specifies that a patient's refusal of counseling does not preclude the patient from receiving office-based buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Health Care and is identical to HB 712.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB680 Professions and occupations; adjustment of fees by regulatory boards; recovery of disciplinary and monitoring costs.** Repeals the provision of law that requires, following the close of any biennium, when the account for any regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) shows revenue to be a certain percentage greater than expenses, such regulatory board to distribute excess revenue to current regulants and reduce its licensure or certification fees so that fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. The bill also repeals the provision with respect to the Department of Health Professions (DHP) that requires, following the close of any biennium, when the account for any regulatory board shows expenses allocated to it for the past biennium to be a certain percentage greater than moneys collected by the board, the board to revise its fees so that such fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. The bill makes it permissive for the regulatory boards within DPOR and DHP to annually revise the fees levied by it for certification, licensure, registration, or permit and renewal so that the fees are sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses. The bill specifies that each regulatory board must report such revisions to DPOR or DHP and requires each agency to report such revisions to the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2026, and annually thereafter. Regulatory boards are also permitted to recover reasonable administrative costs associated with investigation, disciplinary proceedings, monitoring, and confirming compliance with any terms and conditions imposed from any person who is (i) licensed, registered, certified, or issued a multistate or compact licensure privilege by any regulatory or health regulatory board and (ii) issued a finding of a violation of law or regulation from such regulatory or health regulatory board. Such administrative costs shall not exceed $500 for regulatory boards within DPOR and $1,500 for health regulatory boards within DHP.
Patron - Head

P **SB823 Regulation of contractors; solar installation companies; sale, lease, or power purchase of solar energy systems; civil penalty.** Authorizes the Board for Contractors (the Board) to require specific contract provisions and disclosures relating to the sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system, as defined in the bill. The bill requires a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system to have a written contract that includes specific provisions related to the solar installation company, system design and performance or production guarantees, and information related to invoices and payments. The bill includes several mandatory disclosures to be included with a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system. Under the bill, a willful violation of such requirements shall be subject to a civil penalty of no more than $2,500 per violation. The bill also directs the Board to adopt regulations and update existing regulations to implement the provisions of the bill by January 1, 2027. The remaining provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1439.
Patron - Bagby

Failed

F **HB58 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; radon measurement, mitigation, and mitigation compliance inspection services; Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors renamed; penalty.** Transfers the oversight and licensure of persons who practice radon measurement, radon mitigation, and radon mitigation compliance inspection services from the Board of Health to the Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, Radon, and Home Inspectors, as renamed in the bill from the Virginia Board for Asbestos, Lead, and Home Inspectors, under the direction of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB97 Professions and occupations; precious metals dealers; permit requirements.** Eliminates the requirement that an applicant for a precious metals dealer permit submit fingerprints to the chief law-enforcement officer of the appropriate jurisdiction as part of the application process. The bill instead requires the chief law-enforcement officer to issue a permit to an applicant after confirming via a fingerprint-based or computerized criminal background check that such applicant has not been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude within seven years prior to the date of application.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB157 Professions and occupations; regulation of real estate brokers, salespersons, and rental location agents; other powers and duties of the Real Estate Board; licensure; criminal history certification.** Directs the Real Estate Board to promulgate regulations requiring an applicant for a new real estate license to certify his criminal history on his application. The bill further provides procedures for the

Board to follow in granting licensure after applications are submitted but before criminal history is received. Finally, the bill directs the Board to require an applicant to certify on his license renewal application that he has no criminal history that he has not previously disclosed.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB186 Professions and occupations; barbers and cosmetologists; estheticians; permanent make-up specialty licensure; licensure by endorsement.** Allows the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology to issue a permanent make-up specialty license to any licensed esthetician or master esthetician who performs permanent make-up services, including permanent eyebrow, eyeliner, lip coloration, and similar pigmentation services. The bill requires the Board to promulgate regulations to permit licensed estheticians or master estheticians to be granted such licenses and allows the Board to issue such licenses by endorsement to perform permanent make-up services to persons who have held a current and unrestricted license to perform such services in other states, the District of Columbia, or possessions or territories of the United States for at least three years.
Patron - Williams

F **HB228 Board of Accountancy; licensing requirements; inactive and emeritus status.** Directs the Board of Accountancy to establish "Inactive" and "Emeritus" CPA license statuses for licensees who no longer provide services to the public or services to or on behalf of an employer. The bill requires the Board to develop guidelines to provide active and inactive licensees additional clarity governing the manner in which such licensees should reference autobiographical and biographical information with respect to their CPA licensure to remain historically accurate and compliant with the law and relevant regulations. The bill directs the Board of Accountancy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB432 Department of Housing and Community Development; Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity.** Creates the Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity to study the misvaluation and undervaluation of real property owned by minority individuals to combat bias in real property appraisal and valuation. 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. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

F **HB451 Board of Social Work; Doctor of Social Work degree; education requirements for licensure.** Directs the Board of Social Work to amend its regulations to specify that a Doctor of Social Work degree satisfies the education requirements for certain social work licenses.
Patron - Willett

F **HB530 Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact; criminal background check.** Establishes the procedure by which the Board of Dentistry shall fulfill the criminal background check requirement of the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact. The bill requires applicants for compact-eligible licensure to provide fingerprints and personal identifying information for a criminal background check, directs the Central Criminal Records Exchange to disseminate criminal history information obtained to the Board, and establishes the process by which an applicant may obtain their criminal history record in the event that such applicant disputes the criminal history information on which a denial of licensure is based.
Patron - Thornton

F **HB576 Dietitian Licensure Compact.** Authorizes Virginia to be a signatory to the Dietitian Licensure Compact in order to increase public access to dietetics services and provide opportunities for interstate practice by licensed dietitians who meet uniform requirements. The Compact is presently in effect, as it has reached the enactment threshold of seven member states.
Patron - Glass

F **HB579 Interstate Massage Compact; education and examination requirements; Compact Commission membership.** Modifies the education and examination requirements of the Interstate Massage Compact to clarify acceptable national examinations and expand acceptable education programs to include massage therapists with less than 625 clock hours of education but who have held a license in good standing for at least two years. The bill permits each state to choose its delegate to the Commission as either a member of the state's licensing board or its primary administrative officer of the state's licensing authority and the Compact Commission to elect up to two ex officio, nonvoting members of the Commission. As introduced, the amendments are statutory updates requested of participating states by the Interstate Massage Compact Commission.
Patron - Glass

F **HB622 Advanced practice registered nurses; authorization to practice without a practice agreement; service in military or employment with Department of Veterans Affairs.** Permits advanced practice registered nurses who practiced autonomously for at least three years as part of either military service or employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs to practice without a practice agreement.
Patron - Glass

F **HB668 Use of artificial intelligence system by mental health service providers; civil penalty.** Permits the use of an artificial intelligence system by mental health service providers for administrative support and supplementary support, as those terms are defined in the bill, and prohibits the use of an artificial intelligence system to provide therapy or counseling services without a mental health service provider. The bill specifies that records kept by mental health service providers must comply with health records privacy requirements; creates an exception for religious counseling, peer support, or self-help materials and educational resources; and establishes a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000 for violations of the statute.
Patron - Maldonado

F **HB669 Professions and occupations; impersonation of certain licensed professionals by chatbot; notice; civil liability.** Provides that a proprietor that owns, operates, or deploys a chatbot, defined in the bill, shall not permit such chatbot to provide any substantive response, information, or advice, or take any action that, if taken by a natural person, would (i) constitute the unlawful practice of architecture, engineering, surveying, landscape architecture, geology, dentistry, medicine, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, physical therapy, certain mental health professions, psychology, social work, or veterinary medicine; (ii) violate the provisions of law making it unlawful for any person to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, chiropractic, or podiatry or as a physician assistant in the Commonwealth without a valid unrevoked license or to practice law without being authorized or licensed; or (iii) violate the provisions of law making it unlawful for a teacher to be employed without a license or provisional license or relating to

division superintendents, members of a school board or other school officers, or principals or teachers in a public school. The bill allows a person injured by a proprietor who engages in any such conduct to sue therefor no more than two years after the cause of action accrues and recover compensatory damages and reasonable attorney fees and costs.

The bill also requires a proprietor operating or deploying a chatbot to provide a clear, conspicuous, and explicit notice to users that they are interacting with a chatbot but specifies that the provisions of such notice shall not be a defense to liability.

Patron - Maldonado

F **HB782 Health care providers; caller identification information; civil penalty.** Requires a health care provider to ensure that the caller identification information associated with his practice readily identifies such practice to the recipient of his practice's telephone call. The bill further provides that any person who knowingly causes a telephone to ring and engages in conduct that results in the display of false caller identification information, as defined in the bill, on the called party's telephone shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $500 plus reasonable attorney fees, expenses, and court costs, as determined by the court.

Patron - Hayes

F **HB831 Board of Pharmacy; work group to study medication, drug, and vaccine ingredient labeling; report.** Directs the Board of Pharmacy to convene a work group to study medication, drug, and vaccine ingredient labeling. The bill directs the work group to review all regulations related to medications, drugs, or vaccines sold or distributed in the Commonwealth to ensure that (i) all active and inactive ingredients contained in such medication, drug, or vaccine are clearly listed on the product packaging or accompanying informational insert and (ii) accompanying informational inserts are readily available to consumers at a pharmacy upon request. The bill also directs the work group to study and make recommendations on the feasibility of requiring that any medication, drug, or vaccine sold or distributed in the Commonwealth that includes gluten as an active or inactive ingredient include a statement on the packaging or insert that such product contains gluten. The bill requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by December 1, 2026.

Patron - Kent

F **HB907 Security requirements for dealers in firearms; civil penalty.** Prohibits dealers in firearms operating from a retail mercantile establishment, as defined in the bill, and holding a valid federal firearms license issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives from conducting business or storing firearms at a location unless certain security requirements specified in the bill are met. The bill creates a civil penalty not exceeding $1,000 for violations of such security requirements. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2028.

Patron - Shin

F **HB1025 Access to investigational drugs, biological products, and devices; patient with severely debilitating condition.** Allows a patient who has a severely debilitating condition, defined in the bill as a disease or condition that causes major irreversible morbidity, to access investigational drugs, biological products, and devices when certain criteria are met. Under current law, only a patient who has a terminal condition may access such drugs, products, and devices.

Patron - Walker

F **HB1052 Board of Pharmacy; membership; registered pharmacy technician.** Increases the membership of the Board of Pharmacy from 10 to 11 members, with the additional member being a registered pharmacy technician.

Patron - Phillips

F **HB1416 Pharmacists; initiation of treatment; influenza prophylaxis.** Permits pharmacists to initiate treatment with, dispense, or administer drugs and devices for prophylactic purposes to prevent or mitigate the symptoms of influenza virus infection.

Patron - Hodges

F **HB1501 Boards of Medicine and Nursing; advanced practice registered nurses; feasibility of temporary or provisional licensure; report.** Directs the Boards of Medicine and Nursing to assess the feasibility of implementing a temporary or provisional licensure pathway for advanced practice registered nurses.

Patron - Whittle

F **SB71 Health Care Decisions Act; patients incapable of making informed decisions; absence of next of kin.** Authorizes, for purposes of the Health Care Decisions Act, the patient care consulting committee to make health care decisions for a patient incapable of making informed decisions when no next of kin is reasonably available.

Patron - Favola

F **SB210 Positive behavior support facilitators; scope of practice, supervision, and qualifications.** Adds positive behavior support facilitators to the professions governed by the Board of Counseling. The bill establishes qualification, scope of practice, and supervision requirements and directs the Board of Counseling to adopt regulations governing positive behavior support facilitators. The bill also directs 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 - DeSteph

F **SB279 Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Board for Contractors; tradesman apprenticeship requirements.** Requires any individual who performs plumbing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning or electrical work for the purpose of qualifying for licensure as a tradesman to hold an apprentice license issued by the Board for Contractors. The bill outlines the requirements for an apprentice licensee generally, and the specific requirements for plumbing, HVAC, and electrical apprentices. The bill directs the Board for Contractors to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Patron - Craig

F **SB359 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 self-administered aid in dying medication for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill requires that a patient's request for self-administered aid in dying medication to end his life 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 self-administered aid in dying medication to end his life with the intent and effect of causing the patient's death; (ii) to coerce, intimidate, or exert undue influ-

ence on a patient to request self-administered aid in dying medication 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 self-administered aid in dying medication 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 self-administered aid in dying medication to a patient for the purpose of ending the patient's life.
Patron - Boysko

F **SB486** **Required disclosures for dietary supplements and medication; gluten disclaimer.** Requires any person who manufactures, distributes, or sells or offers for sale a dietary supplement to label such dietary supplement with a list of active and inactive ingredients and include a separate disclaimer if the product contains gluten. The bill requires pharmacists, when dispensing a prescription drug, to provide all information required under federal law to accompany the drug, including the medication guide, patient package insert, or other written patient information. The bill also requires pharmacists to provide counseling consistent with federally required labels to patients upon request when dispensing a nonprescription drug. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Stuart

F **SB545** **Ivermectin; over-the-counter sale.** Authorizes the over-the-counter sale of ivermectin suitable for human use to persons 18 years of age or older without a prescription or consultation with a pharmacist or other health care professional.
Patron - Cifers

F **SB795** **Board of Physical Therapy; licensed massage therapists.** Moves oversight and licensure of licensed massage therapists from the Board of Nursing to the Board of Physical Therapy. Directs the Board of Nursing to transfer all records related to licensed massage therapists to the Board of Physical Therapy upon enactment and directs the Board of Physical Therapy to promulgate regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of the act.
Patron - Peake

Carried Over

C **HB548** **Uniform Health Care Decisions Act; civil penalty.** Repeals most provisions of the Health Care Decisions Act and enacts the Uniform Health Care Decisions Act. The bill creates a process for the execution of advance health care directives, as defined in the bill; establishes criteria for determining the capacity of an individual to make health care decisions; provides for the establishment of a default surrogate in the absence of an appointed agent for health care decisions; establishes powers and duties of agents appointed by powers of attorney for health care; and establishes duties of health care professionals.
Patron - Hope

C **HB742** **Barbers and cosmetologists; barbershop trainees.** Establishes a path to licensure for barbershop trainees, as defined by the bill, through employment at a registered barbershop under the supervision of one or more licensed barbers. The bill allows any barbershop trainee to take the examination approved by the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology upon submission of a signed statement to the Board attesting that such trainee has the necessary skills to competently practice barbering. Barbershop trainees shall not exceed four years of training for competency-based licensure and shall pass the examination approved by the Board within four years of commencing training at any barbershop. The bill authorizes the Board to (i) develop forms for barbershop and barbershop trainee registration and the attestation required for examination; (ii) waive any part of the examination requirement for good cause; and (iii) establish penalties for any violation of the provisions of the bill.
Patron - Williams

C **HB841** **Professions and occupations; definition of "practice of athletic training"; dry needling.** Adds dry needling to the definition of "practice of athletic training," as such term relates to the practice of medicine and other healing arts, and directs the Board of Medicine to adopt regulations requiring training and certification for the practice of dry needling by athletic trainers.
Patron - Downey

C **HB886** **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 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 self-administered controlled substance to a patient for the purpose of ending the patient's life.
Patron - Hope

C **HB1223** **Health professionals; mandatory suicide training required.** Requires health care professionals to complete training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management. The bill requires counselors, licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners, marriage and family therapists, behavioral health technicians, qualified mental health professionals, occupational therapists, psychologists, and social workers to complete such training at least once every six years and requires other health professionals to complete such training once. The bill requires the Commissioner of Health and the Department of Health Professions to develop a model list of training programs in suicide assessment, treatment, and management and update such list at least once every two years.
Patron - Delaney

C **SB269** **Use of artificial intelligence system by mental health service providers; civil penalty.** Permits the use of an artificial intelligence system by mental health service providers to assist in providing therapy or counseling services if such mental health service provider maintains full responsibility for all interactions, outputs, and data use associated with the system. The bill prohibits the use of an artificial intelli-

gence system to provide therapy or counseling services without a mental health service provider. The bill specifies that records kept by mental health service providers must comply with health records privacy requirements; creates an exception for religious counseling, peer support, or self-help materials and educational resources; and establishes a civil penalty not to exceed $10,000 for violations of the statute.
Patron - Favola

C **SB578** **Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; auctioneers; definition.** Specifies that sales meeting the definition of "auction" include sales made both in person and online. The bill contains a technical amendment.
Patron - Reeves

C **SB708** **Physicians; informed consent; disclosure of certain information prior to hysterectomy or oophorectomy.**
Patron - Stuart

C **SB728** **Professions and occupations; definition of "practice of athletic training"; dry needling.** Adds dry needling to the definition of "practice of athletic training," as such term relates to the practice of medicine and other healing arts.
Patron - Jones

C **SB798** **Boyd-Graves Conference and Virginia Criminal Justice Conference; work group to address legal deserts within the Commonwealth; report.** Directs the Boyd-Graves Conference, in conjunction with the Virginia Criminal Justice Conference, to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to make recommendations for legislative solutions to address the disparities in the geographical distribution of available legal services within the Commonwealth. The bill directs the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Mulchi

C **SB811** **Clinical nurse specialists; practice agreements; consultation requirements.**
Patron - Head

Property and Conveyances

Passed

P **HB14** **Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; enforcement by localities.** Provides that if a condition exists in a dwelling unit that constitutes a material noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not remedied within a reasonable time frame, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of a tenant or occupant of the premises, a locality may institute an action on behalf of any tenant or occupant of the premises who is injured by such material noncompliance for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the premises where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the premises, 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 290.
Patron - Price

P **HB15** **Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement; mandatory waiting period.** Increases the mandatory waiting period for a landlord to pursue remedies for termination of the rental agreement from five days to 14 days. The waiting period begins 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. This bill is identical to SB 48.
Patron - Price

P **HB39** **Duty of settlement agent; restrictive covenants.** Requires a settlement agent to notify the purchaser of any residential real property of the purchaser's right to remove a prohibited restrictive covenant that is contained in an instrument affecting the title of the property and disclosed as the result of the title search performed pursuant to the real estate transaction.
Patron - Simon

P **HB95** **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. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB174** **Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; tenant remedies; early termination of rental agreement by military personnel.** Removes the requirement that military personnel terminating a rental agreement due to identified permissible circumstances shall provide the landlord with a termination date that is no more than 60 days prior to the date of departure necessary to comply with the official orders or any supplemental instructions for interim training or duty prior to the transfer.
Patron - Feggans

P **HB252** **Relocation or modification of easement by owner of servient estate.** Establishes that any easement may be relocated or modified either (i) by filing with each clerk of the circuit court of the city or county in which the easement or any part of the easement is located a written agreement evidencing the consent of the easement holder, as defined in the bill, and the consent of any other affected persons or (ii) in

the absence of such agreement, upon petition to the circuit court and notice to all interested parties. The bill also provides that certain easements enumerated in the bill shall not be subject to a relocation or modification upon petition to the circuit court. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Watts

P **HB281 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; noncompliance as defense to action for possession for nonpayment of rent.** Removes the provision requiring that a tenant in possession of a dwelling unit, prior to asserting a defense against an action for rent or possession, pay into court the amount of rent found by the court to be due and unpaid and for such amount to be held by the court pending the issuance of an order. The bill also limits the discretion of the court in actions for possession based upon nonpayment of rent and actions for rent by a landlord when the tenant is in possession of a dwelling unit. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB329 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. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - McClure

P **HB374 Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act.** Requires landlords subject to the Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act to include, on the first page of a written lot rental agreement, an itemization of all charges to the tenant, along with a statement that states: "No additional security deposits or rent shall be charged unless such security deposits or rent are listed below or incorporated into this rental agreement by way of a separate addendum after the execution of this rental agreement." The bill also prohibits, with certain exceptions, any owner or operator of a manufactured home community from increasing the annual lot rent of a tenant at the time of renewal if the manufactured housing community has received a notice of violation of zoning, building, or fire code or an inspection report listing violations of habitability from the locality where the community operates and the notice of violation remains unresolved. Lastly, the bill requires any manufactured home community operating in the Commonwealth to register with the Department of Housing and Community Development.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB375 Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; right of first refusal; resident entities and localities.** Provides for a right of first refusal, under the Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act, for resident entities, defined in the bill, and localities in which a manufactured home park is located when a manufactured home park owner enters into a contract to sell such manufactured home park.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB379 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; application; notice, deposit, fee, and additional information.** Provides that, prior to requesting or collecting any payment or information about a prospective tenant, a landlord shall first notify the applicant in writing or by posting in a manner accessible to a prospective tenant certain information relating to the rental application process. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

P **HB519 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; essential services.** Adds central air conditioning when supplied by the landlord and operating or represented as operating as of the effective date of the rental agreement to the list of what constitutes an essential service for purposes of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB616 Department of Housing and Community Development; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; tenant records.** Requires a landlord, upon written request by a tenant, to within 10 business days provide such tenant a statement containing all charges and payments incurred by the tenant over the duration of the tenancy or the past 12 months, whichever is shorter. The bill specifies that such statement shall itemize separately rent and the cost of each utility and that the landlord is not obligated to provide such written statement if the landlord owns fewer than four rental dwelling units or less than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, in the Commonwealth unless the landlord receives any state or local rental or utility assistance funds on behalf of the tenant. The bill additionally directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to, based on input from relevant stakeholders, develop a standardized printable template for the landlord to use to provide the tenant such written statement. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Anthony

P **HB678 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; terms and conditions of rental agreement; notice of rent increase.** 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, whether individually or through a business entity, in the Commonwealth to provide a tenant with written notice of any increase in rent for the subsequent rental agreement term at least 90 days prior to the end of such term and to include in such notice a deadline, which shall be no sooner than 30 days after such notice is delivered, by which the tenant shall advise the landlord of whether the tenant will renew the rental agreement. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Maldonado

P **HB798 Virginia Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act; digital financial assets.** Creates a statutory framework for the treatment and disposition of unclaimed intangible property in the form of digital assets, as defined in the bill.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB834 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; fire or casualty damage; termination by landlord.** 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 offer the tenant a substantially similar dwelling unit, if one is available, or (ii) deter-

mine that the damage was caused by the tenant's failure to maintain the dwelling unit in accordance with relevant law. 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 dwelling unit unless the landlord has determined that the damage was caused by the tenant's failure to maintain the dwelling unit. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - McClure

P **HB837 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Eviction Diversion Program; eligibility.** Requires any general district court that implements the Eviction Diversion Program to attach information about the Program, including eligibility criteria, to any summons for unlawful detainer. The bill also alters eligibility requirements for a tenant to participate in the Program. This bill is identical to SB 273.

Patron - McClure

P **HB848 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 within five days of the date due under the 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. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Cousins

P **HB910 Department of Housing and Community Development; powers and duties of Director; comprehensive statewide housing needs assessment; review of certain parcels.** Requires the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development to conduct a review of parcels owned by certain partnerships, corporations, or real estate investment trusts as part of the comprehensive statewide housing needs assessment conducted by the Department at least every five years.

Patron - Shin

P **HB1005 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; rental payment methods; prohibited fees.** Requires a landlord subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to accept payment of periodic rent and any security deposit by check and money order. The bill additionally prohibits such a landlord from requiring a tenant to pay any fee to submit periodic rent payments or other amounts due in excess of the actual out-of-pocket expenses charged to the landlord by a third party to process a payment. Finally, the bill prohibits a landlord from requiring a tenant to pay any fee for the maintenance or repair of any dwelling unit unless the repair is necessitated by the tenant's violation of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. This bill is identical to SB 313.

Patron - Tran

P **HB1325 Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; landlord obligations.** Requires a landlord to provide a copy of any written rental agreement and the statement of tenant rights and responsibilities within 10 business days of the effective date of the written rental agreement; current law requires a landlord to provide such copies within one month of such effective date. The bill outlines required notice language regarding flood insurance to be included by the landlord in the rental agreement and provides that failures of the landlord to provide notice shall not affect the validity of the rental agreement. The bill applies to rental agreements that are entered into, extended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2026.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB1361 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; civil action for unlawful detainer; termination notice; energy submetering equipment.** Provides that no landlord shall file or maintain an action for unlawful detainer against a residential tenant for any alleged lease violation until the landlord has provided the tenant with a proper and effective termination notice and that no notice of termination of tenancy for nonpayment of rent pursuant to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act shall be effective unless such notice contains a written statement of charges and payments over the course of the tenancy or the past 12 months, whichever is shorter, and any late charges, attorney fees, costs, and other charges or damages as contracted for in the rental agreement that are due and owing. The bill requires such notice to also include debits and credits incurred by the tenant for energy and utility bills and any additional charges permitted as applicable. The bill also requires the owner of any residential building to maintain adequate records indicating how monthly energy and utility billing fees are calculated and including a history of billing fee payments for each tenant over the duration of the tenancy or the past 12 months, whichever is shorter. Such records shall be made available to the tenant upon request. Finally, the bill removes a provision allowing for the collection of fees when a tenant requests such records. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 294.

Patron - Maldonado

P **HB1408 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; rental agreement noncompliance; victim of family abuse.** Removes the requirement that a tenant who is a victim of family abuse provide the landlord prompt notification should the perpetrator return to the dwelling unit to prevent the landlord from terminating a lease solely due to such act of family abuse occurring in the dwelling unit or on the premises by a perpetrator barred from the dwelling unit. Under the bill, if the tenant provides the landlord with a copy of the protective order, should the perpetrator not already be barred from the unit by the landlord, the lease shall not be terminated due solely to an act of family abuse against the tenant by a perpetrator barred from the dwelling unit.

Patron - Schmidt

P **HB1518 Virginia Housing Commission; Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; comprehensive review of required disclosures; report.** Directs the Virginia Housing Commission to convene a stakeholder advisory group to assist the Commission in conducting a comprehensive review of (i) required disclosures for a buyer to beware, (ii) current methods for a buyer to receive a residential property disclosure statement, and (iii) the statutory language related to residential property disclosure statements and the language used in such disclosure statements. The bill further directs the Commission to develop recommendations based on such review and stakeholder input to improve efficiency, transparency, and the consumer experience while maintaining legal

protections for all parties. The bill requires the Commission to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology no later than October 1, 2026. This bill incorporates HB 477.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **SB48 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement; mandatory waiting period.** Increases the mandatory waiting period for a landlord to pursue remedies for termination of the rental agreement from five days to 14 days. The waiting period begins 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. This bill is identical to HB 15.
Patron - Rouse

P **SB273 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Eviction Diversion Program; eligibility.** Requires any general district court that implements the Eviction Diversion Program to attach information about the Program, including eligibility criteria, to any summons for unlawful detainer. The bill also alters eligibility requirements for a tenant to participate in the Program. This bill is identical to HB 837.
Patron - Locke

P **SB290 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; enforcement by localities.** Provides that if a condition exists in a dwelling unit that constitutes a material noncompliance by the landlord with the rental agreement or with any provision of law that, if not remedied within a reasonable time frame, constitutes a fire hazard or serious threat to the life, health, or safety of a tenant or occupant of the premises, a locality may institute an action on behalf of any tenant or occupant of the premises who is injured by such material noncompliance for injunction and damages to enforce the landlord's duty to maintain the dwelling unit in a fit and habitable condition, provided that (i) the premises where the violation occurred is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the locality and (ii) the locality has notified the landlord who owns the premises, 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 14.
Patron - Aird

P **SB294 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; civil action for unlawful detainer; termination notice; energy submetering equipment.** Provides that no landlord shall file or maintain an action for unlawful detainer against a residential tenant for any alleged lease violation until the landlord has provided the tenant with a proper and effective termination notice and that no notice of termination of tenancy for nonpayment of rent pursuant to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act shall be effective unless such notice contains a written statement of charges and payments over the course of the tenancy or the past 12 months, whichever is shorter, and any late charges, attorney fees, costs, and other charges or damages as contracted for in the rental agreement that are due and owing. The bill requires such notice to also include debits and credits incurred by the tenant for energy and utility bills and any additional charges permitted as applicable. The bill also requires the owner of any residential building to maintain adequate records indicating how monthly energy and utility billing fees are calculated and including a history of billing fee payments for each tenant over the duration of the tenancy or the past 12 months, whichever is shorter. Such records shall be made available to the tenant upon request. Finally, the bill removes a provision allowing for the collection of fees when a tenant requests such records. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1361.
Patron - Aird

P **SB313 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; rental payment methods; prohibited fees.** Requires a landlord subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to accept payment of periodic rent and any security deposit by check and money order. The bill additionally prohibits such a landlord from requiring a tenant to pay any fee to submit periodic rent payments or other amounts due in excess of the actual out-of-pocket expenses charged to the landlord by a third party to process a payment. Finally, the bill prohibits a landlord from requiring a tenant to pay any fee for the maintenance or repair of any dwelling unit unless the repair is necessitated by the tenant's violation of the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. This bill is identical to HB 1005.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB325 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; tenant remedies; early termination of rental agreement by military personnel.** Removes the requirement that military personnel terminating a rental agreement due to identified permissible circumstances shall provide the landlord with a termination date that is no more than 60 days prior to the date of departure necessary to comply with the official orders or any supplemental instructions for interim training or duty prior to the transfer.
Patron - Perry

P **SB373 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; noncompliance as defense to action for possession for nonpayment of rent.** Removes the provision requiring that a tenant in possession of a dwelling unit, prior to asserting a defense against an action for rent or possession, pay into court the amount of rent found by the court to be due and unpaid and for such amount to be held by the court pending the issuance of an order. The bill also limits the discretion of the court in actions for possession based upon nonpayment of rent and actions for rent by a landlord when the tenant is in possession of a dwelling unit.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB577 Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; proximity to military ground installation.** Adds a property's proximity to any military ground installation to the residential property disclosure statement provided by the Real Estate Board on its website for the buyer to beware as to whether a property may be impacted by related noise or other effects of military operations.
Patron - Reeves

P **SB660 Virginia Self-Service Storage Act; disposal of abandoned personal property in certain cases; definitions.** Creates a process by which the owner of a self-service storage facility may dispose of the personal property of an occupant of a leased storage space when such personal property has been left in such leased storage space or on the property of the self-service storage facility following the termination or nonrenewal of a rental agreement, provided that such noncompliance did not involve a failure to meet any financial or monetary obligation. The bill also clarifies that an occupant's last known address may be updated pursuant to a specific method as may be required by the terms of the rental agreement.
Patron - Rouse

Failed

F **HB202 Prohibited acquisition of single-family homes; affidavit; civil penalty.** Restricts any partnership, corporation, or real estate investment trust that manages funds pooled from investors, is a fiduciary to such investors, has net value or assets under management on any day during a taxable year, and holds an interest in more than 50 single-family homes from acquiring any interest in any other single-family home, as defined in the bill to include manufactured home parks and residential single-family homes split into multiple dwellings, on or after July 1, 2026. The bill also requires an offering purchaser of a manufactured home park to provide a notarized affidavit certifying that the purchaser is not prohibited from acquiring such an interest. Any false statements on such affidavit is subject to a civil penalty of up to $10,000 per occurrence.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB344 Property under common ownership; creation of easements.** Provides that a private appurtenant easement may be created for any purposes by the owner of the dominant and servient estate by the recordation of an instrument that grants or reserves such easement. The bill further provides that the rule of property law known as the doctrine of merger shall not prevent such grant or reservation.
Patron - Martinez

F **HB477 Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures; local permits.** Requires the owner of residential real property with actual knowledge that the local governing body issued any special exception, special use permit, variance, or other land disturbing permit, including building permits and erosion and sediment control permits, for the property within the five years preceding the execution of a contract for sale for such property to disclose such fact to the purchaser prior to the execution of the contract for sale.
Patron - Watts

F **HB1078 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; adverse action by landlord; tenant remedies.** Prohibits a residential landlord who 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 from taking adverse action against a prospective tenant due to the prospective tenant's history of a dismissed or nonsuited unlawful detainer case. The bill allows a prospective tenant to recover, as a result of any such adverse action, (i) actual damages, (ii) statutory damages of $250, and (iii) reasonable attorney fees.
Patron - Hernandez

F **HB1093 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; tenant's right of redemption; attorney fees.** Limits attorney fees to $100 when, prior to the initial court date on an action for unlawful detainer, a tenant makes full payment of all money due for (i) rent as of the date of payment; (ii) any late fees authorized by law and the rental agreement; (iii) any damages; and (iv) court costs.
Patron - Hernandez

F **HB1259 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Virginia Consumer Protection Act; mold remediation.** Requires landlords subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to utilize mold inspectors and remediators certified by a nationally or internationally recognized certifying body for mold remediation that comply with (i) the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification S520 Standard for Professional Mold Remediation, as revised, or (ii) any other equivalent ANSI-accredited mold remediation standard, when conducting or offering to conduct mold remediation in the Commonwealth. The bill additionally prohibits selling or offering for sale services as a professional mold inspector without meeting the same requirements of a mold inspector under the Act. Finally, the bill directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish and publish a resource to educate the public on laws, policies, and information about the mold inspection and mold remediation industry in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Wilt

F **HB1415 Public funding for multifamily residential housing; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; common household pets.** Requires any multifamily residential housing development receiving an investment of public funds to allow occupants to own or otherwise maintain within the occupant's dwelling unit at least one common household pet, defined in the bill, without restrictions on breed or weight below 65 pounds. The bill additionally requires any landlord subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act to provide a disclosure with any application for a rental agreement containing a written copy of any terms and conditions of the rental agreement regarding an applicant's ability to own or otherwise maintain a common household pet within the dwelling unit. If such landlord maintains a website regarding the property, such terms and conditions shall additionally be published to such website. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Schmidt

F **SB464 Interest in agricultural land; foreign adversaries.** Amends the definition of foreign adversary, as it relates to the prohibition on ownership of agricultural land by foreign adversaries, to include any business entity that is substantially funded by a foreign government or nongovernment person determined by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to have engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and safety of United States persons. The bill also amends the definition of "interest in agricultural land" to (i) include any controlling lease, long-term land use agreement, mineral rights, or water rights and (ii) remove the exclusion for any interest that taken on its own or together with any other interest held in common or under common control does not give the holder of the interest the ability to possess or occupy the agricultural land in any manner or the power or authority to direct the conduct of the agricultural operation being conducted on the agricultural land.
Patron - Stuart

F **SB547 Single-Family Homebuyer Protection Act established; civil penalty.** Establishes the Single-Family Homebuyer Protection Act for the purpose of prohibiting a covered entity from acquiring an interest in more than five single-family homes within the same county, city, or town in the Commonwealth on or after July 1, 2026. The bill provides that no seller of a single-family home shall enter into an agreement with a covered entity for acquisition of such home before publicly marketing such home to natural persons residing in the Commonwealth and first-time homebuyers for at least 10 calendar days. The bill allows the Department of Housing and Community Development to publish aggregated information using existing data, including (i) the number and percentage of single-family homes owned by covered entities, broken down by locality, zip code, and census tract, and (ii) identified trends in the concentration of covered entity interests in single-family homes. The bill allows the Attorney General to seek an injunc-

tion and a civil penalty to restrain any violation of its provisions.

Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB585 Virginia Fair Housing Law; Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; personalized algorithmic pricing disclosures; prohibitions; civil penalties; civil actions.** Prohibits, for purposes of the Virginia Fair Housing Law and the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act (VRLTA), certain discriminatory uses of protected class data, defined in the bill, in the sale or rental of a dwelling. The bill requires, when applicable, disclosure of the use of personalized algorithmic pricing, defined in the bill, for purposes of the Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act and the VRLTA.

Under the VRLTA, the bill prohibits a landlord from facilitating an agreement between or among two or more landlords to not compete with respect to any dwelling unit, including by operating or licensing software, a data analytics service, or an algorithmic device that performs a coordinating function, defined in the bill, on behalf of or between and among such landlords. The bill also prohibits a landlord and a multiple listing service, defined in the bill, from setting or adjusting rent prices, rental agreement terms, occupancy levels, or other rental agreement terms and conditions in one or more of his dwelling units based on recommendations from software, a data analytics service, or an algorithmic device performing a coordinating function.

The bill allows the Attorney General to seek an injunction and civil penalties to restrain certain violations of the bill and allows any injured individual to bring a civil action to recover the greater of actual or statutory damages and reasonable attorney fees.

Patron - Salim

Carried Over

C **HB79 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; duties of landlord; mold remediation; civil penalty.** Provides that a tenant, authorized occupant, or guest or invitee of a tenant or authorized occupant may bring a personal injury or wrongful death action for exposure to mold arising from the condition within the interior of a dwelling unit or for any property damage claims arising out of the landlord-tenant relationship to recover (i) compensatory damages, including medical bills, lost wages, and injury to personal property; (ii) punitive damages; and (iii) reasonable attorney fees and costs, if the mold is caused solely by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the landlord or managing agent. The bill also mandates a landlord to require a tenant to temporarily vacate the dwelling unit in order for the landlord to perform mold remediation in accordance with professional standards if it has been determined by a physician or other qualified medical professional and certified by a written medical statement that the mold condition in the dwelling unit materially affects the health or safety of the tenant or any authorized occupant.

Patron - Price

C **HB621 Property Owners' Association Act; disclosure requirements; declarant control.** Requires a declarant who has any unexpired right to control the conduct of business of a property owners' association, once the majority of the members of the board of directors other than the declarant are owners of improved lots in the association, to disclose such rights and the status of the declarant's control in any contract for the sale of any lot in the association other than for development or resale. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission.

Patron - Bloxom

C **HB1196 Property Owners' Association Act; operation and management of association; condemnation of common area; procedure.** Requires consideration of the physical characteristics of a property owners' association's common area land when determining such land's highest and best use for purposes of valuing the property for award or payment for such land in a condemnation proceeding after the common area land is taken or damaged under the power of eminent domain.

Patron - Scott, P.A.

C **HB1252 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; algorithmic pricing device use by certain landlords; civil penalties.** Requires a landlord, defined in the bill as a landlord who owns more than 10 rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than 10 rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, in the Commonwealth, who uses an algorithmic pricing device, defined in the bill, to establish the advertised rent, renewal rent, or rent offered to a prospective tenant to disclose such use in writing to the tenant or the prospective tenant under the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. The bill provides that, upon request, a landlord shall provide to the tenant or prospective tenant a plain-language summary of the general factors considered by the algorithmic pricing device in determining rent, and that a tenant or prospective tenant shall be entitled to a human review of any rent determination or renewal increase generated or recommended by an algorithmic pricing device.

The bill allows the Attorney General to seek an injunction and civil penalties to restrain any violations of the bill.

Patron - Anthony

C **HB1409 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; prohibited provisions in rental agreements; landlord's maintenance responsibilities.** Prohibits a rental agreement from containing any provision stating that the tenant agrees to pay (i) any fee for the maintenance of the premises, including the maintenance or provision of heating and cooling systems, pest control, trash disposal, common area utilities, and mail or package delivery; (ii) a fee for internet, cable, or any other utilities or services that amount to more than the cost paid by the landlord; or (iii) for the maintenance or security of the common areas. The bill also repeals the provision allowing the landlord and tenant to agree in writing that the tenant may perform certain duties typically assigned to the landlord and also specified repairs, maintenance tasks, alterations, and remodeling, but only if the transaction is entered into in good faith and not for the purpose of evading the obligations of the landlord and if the agreement does not diminish or affect the obligation of the landlord to other tenants in the premises.

Patron - Schmidt

C **SB349 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act; pre-tenancy fees.** Prohibits a landlord from charging or collecting any fee that is not a pre-tenancy fee as described in the bill and limits the charging or collection of such pre-tenancy fees to either prior to or upon the execution of a rental agreement. The bill requires a landlord to, prior to requesting or collecting any payment or information about a prospective tenant and prior to exhibiting the dwelling unit to a prospective tenant, notify the prospective tenant of any pre-tenancy fees in writing or by posting in a manner accessible to a prospective tenant. The bill provides that no landlord shall charge any fee to a prospective tenant prior to exhibiting the dwelling unit to the prospective

tenant, unless the prospective tenant agrees to waive such requirement.

The bill allows a landlord to collect a pet deposit, defined in the bill as separate from a security deposit, from a tenant if a pet is occupying the dwelling unit. The bill provides that no security deposit or pet deposit may be applied by the landlord toward (i) the cost of professional services or (ii) the cost of materials and labor performed by the landlord or an employee of the landlord, unless such costs are (a) reasonably necessary to return the premises to the same condition as the condition of the premises at the start of the rental agreement, less reasonable wear and tear, and (b) the landlord provides a receipt reflecting such costs to the tenant. The bill also reduces from two months of rent to one month of rent the maximum security deposit amount and decreases from 45 days to 30 days the amount of time after the termination date of the tenancy or the date the tenant vacates the dwelling unit, whichever occurs last, that the landlord shall provide a written notice to the tenant of the itemized charges deducted from the security deposit and applies the same provisions to pet deposits.

The bill also provides that nothing shall be construed to allow an owner, manager, or operator of a residential building to charge a tenant for water, sewer, electrical, natural gas, oil, or other utilities if the utility is supplied directly to the tenant.

Finally, the bill applies the provisions of law relating to the rental application process and administrative or renewal fees, as amended by this bill, to the Manufactured Home Lot Rental Act.

Patron - VanValkenburg

C **SB746 Property Owners' Association Act; operation and management of association; condemnation of common area; procedure.** Requires consideration of the physical characteristics of a property owners' association's common area land when determining such land's highest and best use for purposes of valuing the property for award or payment for such land in a condemnation proceeding after the common area land is taken or damaged under the power of eminent domain.

Patron - Durant

Public Service Companies

Passed

P **HB2 Phase I and Phase II Utilities; energy efficiency upgrades; low-income residents; report.** States that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to reduce, wherever feasible and cost-effective, heating-related costs of living for low-income residents. The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power to make best, reasonable efforts to provide by December 31, 2031, prescriptive efficiency measures, as defined in the bill, and related efficiency improvements to at least 30 percent of the qualifying households, as defined in the bill, identified by such utilities, provided that the State Corporation Commission determines that such measures and improvements are in the public interest. The bill requires such utilities to report to the Commission its activities, plans, and filings regarding the bill's provisions no later than January 1, 2028, annually thereafter, and in any recurring filing that the Commission deems appropriate. The bill also requires that Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power make reasonable efforts to incorporate recommendations or feedback provided by the task force that evaluates barriers to access and enrollment in programs for income-qualified energy customers. This bill is identical to SB 72. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Sickles

P **HB3 Department of Housing and Community Development; Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force established; report.** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish, in collaboration with the Department of Energy, and with assistance from the Department of Social Services, the Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force to determine barriers to access and enrollment in the current energy efficiency programs for income-qualified energy customers and to evaluate and develop a plan to address any necessary improvements regarding coordination among state and federal government agencies for utility services and resources to more effectively deliver energy-efficient housing, weatherization resources, and energy efficiency upgrades for income-qualified individuals and households in the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Task Force to meet at least six times between July 1, 2026, and September 30, 2027, and to submit a report of its findings and recommendations no later than September 30, 2027. The bill specifies that such report shall include policy recommendations and a plan to ensure that weatherization-ready repairs and whole-home energy efficiency retrofits are provided to all eligible income-qualified individuals and households in the Commonwealth residing in multifamily buildings, single-family dwellings, and manufactured homes by December 31, 2034. This bill is identical to SB 5.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB25 Railroad safety; minimum train crew; movement of freight.** Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in connection with moving freight except in use for hostler or utility service. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission to include in an existing report the number of probable violations of federal regulations related to railroad safety investigated by the Commission's Division of Utility and Railroad Safety and reported to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforcement. This bill is identical to SB 191.

Patron - Anthony

P **HB84 Electric utilities and licensed suppliers of electricity; regional transmission entity; annual report.** Requires each investor-owned utility or licensed supplier that joins or establishes the regional transmission entity (PJM Interconnection, LLC) to submit an annual report to the State Corporation Commission by February 1 of each year. Such report shall include (i) all recorded votes cast by the utility or licensed supplier at a meeting during the immediately preceding calendar year, (ii) all votes cast by an affiliate of the utility or licensed supplier at a meeting during the immediately preceding calendar year, and (iii) a brief description explaining how each recorded vote is in the public interest. The provisions of the bill do not apply to municipal utilities or certain electric cooperatives. This bill is identical to SB 777.

Patron - Laufer

P **HB242 Public utilities; budget plan payment increases.** Prohibits a public utility from, for any residential customer who is enrolled in a budget plan, increasing the amount of such customer's monthly payment more than once within any 12-month period or without notifying the customer in writing at least 60 days before such increase takes effect. The bill defines "budget plan" as a fixed billing option offered by a public utility to a customer whereby the total service for the succeeding 12-month period is estimated in advance and bills are rendered monthly on the basis of one-twelfth of the

12-month estimate. The provisions of the bill do not apply to any public utility engaged in the business of furnishing water or sewerage facilities.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

P **HB284 Electric utilities; high energy demand customers; demand flexibility programs; reports.** Directs Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to file a petition with the State Corporation Commission by January 15, 2027, for approval of voluntary demand flexibility programs that apply to high energy demand customers, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to consider all forms of demand flexibility and other specific factors in approving each such program. The bill directs each cooperative that serves one or more high energy demand customers to establish a voluntary demand flexibility program for such customers by January 1, 2029. Under the bill, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power are required to file status reports on their demand flexibility programs with the Commission three years after initial program approval and every three years thereafter. Additionally, in 2028 and annually thereafter, the Commission is required to submit information summarizing the status and performance of such programs as part of an existing report. This bill is identical to SB 371.
Patron - Feggans

P **HB285 Distributed Energy Resources Task Force established; reports; sunset.** Establishes the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force as an advisory commission within the executive branch with the purpose of developing a comprehensive strategy to advance the Commonwealth's transition toward integrated distributed energy resource markets and to support the Commonwealth's compliance with certain regulations. The bill describes the membership, powers, and duties of the Task Force and requires the Task Force to submit various reports to the Governor, the State Corporation Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 223. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Helmer

P **HB369 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard; zero-carbon electricity; accelerated clean energy buyers.** Revises the conditions under which accelerated clean energy buyers, defined in existing law as accelerated renewable energy buyers, may contract with Appalachian Power or Dominion Energy Virginia to obtain renewable energy certificates (RECs). The bill exempts an accelerated clean energy buyer obtaining capacity, energy, or RECs from qualifying resources or facilities from the assignment of non-bypassable costs associated with compliance with the renewable portfolio standard program based on the amount and type of renewable energy certificates obtained in proportion to such accelerated clean energy buyer's total electric energy consumption. This bill is identical to SB 598.
Patron - Reid

P **HB395 Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices; local regulation; installation by tenants; consumer protection.** Prevents a locality from prohibiting the use of a small portable solar generation device, as defined in the bill, on a residential structure, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill includes provisions related to the installation of small portable solar generation devices by tenants and prevents landlords from prohibiting such installation in certain circumstances. Under the bill, small portable solar generation devices are excluded from the provisions of net metering programs applicable to eligible agricultural customer-generators, eligible customer-generators, or small agricultural generating facilities. The bill also permits any electric utility customer to own and operate a small portable solar generation device, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill prohibits an investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative from imposing interconnection requirements, charging any fee related to the device, or requiring that the customer obtain the utility's approval before installing or using the device. Under the bill, no electric utility, municipal utility, electric cooperative shall be liable for damage or injury caused by a small portable solar generation device. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission to develop and publish a notification form for a customer of an electric utility or cooperative to install a small portable solar generation device and directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to convene a work group to evaluate and develop recommendations regarding the safety standards and requirements applicable to small portable solar generation devices. Certain provisions of the bill become effective on January 1, 2027. This bill incorporates HB 289 and HB 928 and is identical to SB 250. This bill received Governor's recommendations.This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Krizek

P **HB422 Water utilities; prohibition of multiple rate increases within three-year period for water utilities.** Prohibits a public utility authorized to furnish water or water and sewer service from filing an application for a rate increase more frequently than once in any three-year period. The bill provides exceptions to such prohibition for the utility to file an application (i) for a decrease in rates; (ii) limited to a rate adjustment clause, rider, or surcharge; (iii) for a temporary emergency increase in rates; or (iv) for an increase upon a finding by the State Corporation Commission that extraordinary circumstances exist. The provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

P **HB429 Electric utilities; integrated resource plans.** Makes various changes related to the content and process for an integrated resource plan (IRP) developed by an electric utility that provides a forecast of its load obligations and a plan to meet those obligations. The bill (i) extends the planning timeframe from 15 to 20 years; (ii) requires Appalachian Power to file an IRP by removing an exception from the definition of "electric utility"; (iii) changes the frequency with which a utility is required to file an IRP from biennially to triennially; (iv) requires utilities to consider the use of grid-enhancing technologies as alternatives to new transmission infrastructure, and when new transmission lines are envisioned, to provide the reasons grid-enhancing technologies are not sufficient to defer or eliminate the need for new transmission infrastructure; and (v) requires utilities to consider the use of surplus interconnection service, as defined in the bill, to add new electric generation projects and energy storage resources to the grid. The bill requires that the current stakeholder review process for integrated resource plans be facilitated by a third-party facilitator selected by the State Corporation Commission and compensated by the utility. The bill requires, as part of the stakeholder review process, the utility to provide stakeholders with reasonable access to the same modeling software, modeling assumptions, modeling inputs, and data used by the utility to evaluate supply and demand resources in its integrated resource plan to enable stakeholders to create modeling scenarios for the utility's consideration during the development of its integrated resource plan. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission to (a) establish guidelines that ensure that utilities develop comprehensive integrated resource plans and provide meaningful public engagement and maximum trans-

parency during the planning process; (b) conduct a proceeding by July 1, 2027, and at least once every five years thereafter, to identify and review each of its existing orders relevant to integrated resource plans to determine if such orders remain necessary and effective and are not overly burdensome; and (c) convene a work group to make recommendations on the required guidelines. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 249.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB434 Phase I and Phase II Utilities; electric grid utilization metrics.** Requires Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval of grid utilization metrics by October 15, 2026, which petition may be consolidated with the integrated resource plan filing for Dominion Energy in 2026. Under the bill, the petition shall include certain assessments comparing current electric grid system performance with optimal utilization of existing electric grid assets. The bill also requires the Commission to include in an existing annual report its findings on each applicable utility's assessment of relevant grid utilization metrics, which shall include an analysis of the potential for each applicable utility to increase electric grid utilization through the deployment of non-wires alternatives. This bill is identical to SB 621.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB466 State Corporation Commission; time frame for completion of certain proceedings.** Requires the State Corporation Commission to complete proceedings involving an application for a certificate, permit, or approval required for the construction or operation by a public utility of certain transmission lines within nine months following such application, as required by current law for small renewable energy projects. The bill permits the Commission to enlarge such nine-month period for up to 120 days for applications regarding certain transmission lines. This bill is identical to SB 310.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB562 Electric utilities; virtual power plant program; electric cooperatives.** Authorizes electric cooperatives to establish and implement a virtual power plant program. The bill defines a virtual power plant as an aggregation of distributed energy resources, enrolled either directly with an electric cooperative or indirectly through an aggregator, that are operated in coordination to provide one or more grid services. Under the bill, an electric cooperative may offer incentives to residential customers to purchase battery storage devices and is required to evaluate various methods to optimize demand. This bill is identical to SB 487.
Patron - Reid

P **HB628 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements; power purchase agreements.** Amends certain renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements for Dominion Energy Virginia, including the annual percentage of program requirements to be met with solar, wind, or anaerobic digestion resources of one megawatt or less located in the Commonwealth. The bill changes from 2025 to 2027 the compliance year beginning in which at least 75 percent of renewable energy certificates used by Dominion Energy Virginia shall come from eligible resources located in the Commonwealth. The bill also removes the requirement for a solar-powered or wind-powered generation facility to have a capacity of no less than 50 kilowatts to qualify for a third party power purchase agreement under a pilot program. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission, by July 1, 2033, to initiate a proceeding to evaluate the future availability of renewable energy certificates from certain resources and permits the Commission to increase or decrease by up to one percentage point the percentage of program requirements to be met by such resources in future compliance years. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage development on previously developed project sites, as defined in existing law, to reduce the land use impacts of solar development. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 175.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB770 Public utilities; water and sewerage companies; discounted rates for low-income customers.** Provides that a public utility engaged in the business of furnishing water or sewerage facilities may propose and the State Corporation Commission may approve rates and tariff provisions that provide discounted service to customers with an annual household income equal to or less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The bill permits the utility to recover the costs of providing such discounted service through its rates for commercial and industrial customers. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to SB 650.
Patron - Herring

P **HB807 Electric utilities; shared solar programs; Phase II Utility.** Amends certain provisions related to the shared solar program established by the State Corporation Commission for Dominion Energy Virginia. Under the bill, Dominion Energy Virginia is authorized to release an additional 525 megawatts of capacity as part two of such program upon the earlier of (i) a determination that at least 90 percent of the aggregate program capacity has been subscribed and project construction is substantially complete or (ii) July 1, 2026. The bill directs Dominion Energy Virginia to petition the Commission to initiate a proceeding to determine the capacity for part three of such program on or before part two of such program is substantially complete for 268 megawatts of capacity. The bill directs the Commission to evaluate the costs and benefits of the shared solar program under such proceeding and to consider the results of such proceeding in determining any future allocations of shared solar capacity and changes in program design. The bill directs the Commission to update its regulations on shared solar programs to comply with the provisions of the bill by December 31, 2026, and to require each participating utility to file any tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementation of such programs by March 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 254.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB809 Electric utilities; shared solar programs; Phase I Utility.** Amends certain provisions related to the shared solar program established by the State Corporation Commission for Appalachian Power Company. The bill permits excess bill credits to be distributed to shared solar subscribers more than once annually. The bill also requires the utility in administering its shared solar program to require net crediting functionality for customer utility bills, as described in the bill. The bill also directs Appalachian Power to (i) release an additional 50 megawatts as part two of the shared solar program on July 1, 2026; (ii) release a further additional 50 megawatts as part three of the shared solar program by January 1, 2028; and (iii) petition the Commission to initiate a shared solar expansion proceeding to determine the capacity for part four of the shared solar program by May 1, 2029. See final enactments for bill effective date. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 255.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB828** **Electric utilities; disconnection reports; State Corporation Commission database; annual summary.** Requires each investor-owned utility and electric cooperative operating in the Commonwealth to provide a monthly report on residential account disconnections to the State Corporation Commission. The monthly report is required to include specific information outlined in the bill, including the number of residential accounts involuntarily disconnected due to nonpayment, the amount of time in which such accounts were reconnected to service, the amounts of arrearages attributable to such disconnected accounts and other residential accounts, and information related to how many of the disconnected accounts participate in a payment assistance program or have a serious medical condition certification form on file with the electric utility. The bill requires the Commission to publish the information from such monthly reports in a comprehensive and easily accessible online database. The bill also requires the Commission to submit an annual executive summary to the Governor and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation on trends in electric utility disconnections based on the reports submitted by electric utilities, the first of which is due by September 1, 2027. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 516.
Patron - Herring

P **HB884** **Electric utilities; Percentage of Income Payment Program; eligibility.** Amends the objectives of the Percentage of Income Payment Program, which provides electric bill payment assistance to eligible customers, to include (i) reducing the energy burden of eligible participants by limiting electric bill payments directly to no more than three percent of the eligible participant's annual household income if the household's heating source is anything other than electricity and to no more than five percent of an eligible participant's annual household income on electricity costs if the household's primary heating source is electricity. The bill also amends the eligibility criteria of the Program beginning January 1, 2027, to include any retail electric customer of Dominion Energy or Appalachian Power with a household income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The bill directs the Department of Social Services, in consultation with the Department of Housing and Community Development as needed, to update its rules and guidelines for the implementation of the Program to reflect the eligibility requirements of the bill. The provisions of the bill, other than the provisions directing the Department of Social Services to update its rules and guidelines, have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Herring

P **HB889** **Policy of the Commonwealth; siting of certain new electric transmission facilities; Department of Transportation work group; report.** Provides that in the siting of new electric transmission facilities, it is the policy of the Commonwealth that existing linear infrastructure corridors shall be prioritized over new corridors. The bill directs the Department of Transportation to convene a work group to identify opportunities and develop recommendations to amend regulations and permitting processes to facilitate the expedient and efficient siting of new electrical transmission infrastructure in existing state highway rights-of-way. This bill is identical to SB 497.
Patron - Shin

P **HB892** **Electric utilities; integrated resource plans; State Corporation Commission to investigate electric load forecasting practices.** Requires Dominion Energy to provide information related to forecasting its compliance with renewable energy portfolio standards in its integrated resource plan submitted to the State Corporation Commission, excluding information related to accelerated renewable energy buyers or customers purchasing electricity from a licensed supplier. The bill also directs the Commission to initiate a proceeding no later than March 1, 2027, to investigate electric load forecasting practices by Dominion Energy, Appalachian Power Company, and electric distribution cooperatives. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Shin

P **HB893** **Electric utility integrated resource planning; energy storage resources.** Requires Dominion Energy, as part of its integrated resource plan, to assess the use of energy storage resources through appropriate modeling that accounts for economic charge and discharge times and represents various economic scenarios. The bill also requires systematic evaluation of and permits proposing investments in energy storage resources in the integrated resource plan.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB895** **Electric utilities; energy storage resources; Department of Energy to develop model ordinances; State Corporation Commission to conduct technology demonstration program**. Increases the targets for energy storage capacity that Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to petition the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) for approval to construct, acquire, or procure and extends the time frame by which such capacity must be met. Under the bill, (i) Appalachian Power shall petition the Commission for approval to construct, acquire, or procure at least 780 megawatts of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2040 and 520 megawatts of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045 and (ii) Dominion Energy Virginia shall petition the Commission for approval to construct, acquire, or procure at least 16,000 megawatts of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2045 and 4,000 megawatts of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045. "Long-duration energy storage" and "short-duration energy storage" are defined in the bill. Under the bill, the Commission shall approve an independent auditor to help develop criteria for and to help review requests for proposals for new energy storage resources. The bill requires the Commission to conduct a technology demonstration program for long-duration energy storage resources and initiate a proceeding to determine if such technology is viable and that the targets in the bill are reasonably achievable, for which a final order shall be entered no later than March 1, 2031. Certain provisions of the bill are only effective upon such determination by the Commission.
The bill requires the Department of Energy, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Fire Programs, to develop model ordinances suggested for use by localities in their regulation of energy storage projects by December 1, 2026. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a technical conference by September 1, 2026, to evaluate safety standards and practices for energy storage development. The bill also includes a provision authorizing the Commission to evaluate energy storage project proposals during annual petitions filed for the development of new renewable generation capacity. This bill is identical to SB 448.
Patron - Sullivan

P **HB898** **State Corporation Commission to determine maximum fees for disconnection of utility service for nonpayment.** Directs the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to determine, in the next relevant cost recovery proceeding for certain utilities, the maximum allowable amount of fees for disconnection and reconnection such utilities may charge to residential customers disconnected from service due to nonpayment of bills or fees. The bill defines

"utility" as an electric company, natural gas supplier, or water supplier or wastewater service provider subject to the Commission's regulation.

Patron - Herring

P **HB903 Electric utilities; performance-based regulation; work group; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to independently consider whether elements of an effective performance-based regulatory framework to evaluate and potentially improve electric utility performance and cost control incentives in the Commonwealth are in the public interest and to develop related legislative recommendations. The bill requires the Commission to include its findings and recommendations in a report required by existing law by July 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to SB 251.

Patron - Sullivan

P **HB921 Electric utilities; licensed retail suppliers; notice period for return to service.** Permits an individual nonresidential retail customer of electric energy of Appalachian Power or Dominion Energy Virginia whose noncoincident peak demand exceeded five megawatts during the most recent calendar year to purchase electric energy from a licensed supplier within the Commonwealth. Currently, such a customer may only purchase electric energy from a licensed supplier if the customer's peak demand did not exceed one percent of the incumbent electric utility's peak load during the most recent calendar year unless the customer had a noncoincident peak demand of more than 90 megawatts. The bill changes from five years to eighteen months the advance notice period required for such a customer to return to service by an incumbent electric utility. This bill is identical to SB 818.

Patron - Lopez

P **HB1002 Electric, natural gas, and water or wastewater utilities; disconnection procedures for nonpayment.** Requires certain utilities, for the purposes of required notices related to disconnections for nonpayment, to provide such notices in an additional language for customers residing in a locality that is required to provide voting or election materials in such additional language. The bill prohibits certain utilities from disconnecting a residential customer without making reasonable efforts to offer bill payment assistance, arrange a payment plan, or provide information to the customer for other bill payment assistance or energy savings programs. The bill directs the Department of Elections to post on its website a list of the localities designated as a covered locality for the purposes of providing voting or election materials in an additional minority language by September 1, 2026, and to update such list as necessary.

Patron - Tran

P **HB1062 Electric utilities; pilot program for electric energy conservation, generation, and storage.** Requires American Electric Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to each petition the State Corporation Commission by December 31, 2026, to conduct a pilot program for electric energy conservation, solar energy generation, and energy storage resources for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals. The bill directs the Commission to convene a technical conference to evaluate the creation of an energy efficiency program meeting certain requirements by November 1, 2026. Under the bill, if the Commission determines that such a program is feasible for implementation by American Electric Power and Dominion Energy Virginia, the Commission shall require such utilities to petition for approval by May 1, 2027, to implement such programs. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2034. This bill is identical to SB 327.

Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1065 Electric utilities; surplus interconnection service sites.** Directs Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to undertake a comprehensive assessment of available interconnection capacity at each such utility's existing and planned intermittent electric generation facilities located in the Commonwealth. The bill directs such utilities to establish pilot programs for energy storage resources and solar generation facilities that utilize surplus interconnection service, as defined in the bill, including a request for proposals. The bill requires such utilities to submit the results of such requests for proposals as part of their 2027 plans and petitions for approval for the development of new solar and onshore wind generation capacity, which plans are required under existing law. This bill is identical to SB 508. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1067 Regional emergency communications authorities; creation and powers.** Authorizes localities to create a regional authority to operate and manage emergency communication services including public safety answering points. The bill authorizes such authorities to employ or contract for personnel, acquire and manage property, enter into agreements, and receive and expend funds, and requires compliance with the standards of the 9-1-1 Services Board.

Patron - Hodges

P **HB1073 State Corporation Commission; pipeline leak detection and repair standards.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to promulgate regulations establishing standards for the use of pipeline leak detection technologies for intrastate natural gas distribution facilities operated by certain utilities, as informed by a federal rulemaking on gas pipeline safety. The provisions of the bill and any such regulations shall expire upon the effective date of any final rule under the federal rulemaking on gas pipeline safety.

Patron - Rasoul

P **HB1102 Renewable energy portfolio standard program; geothermal heating and cooling systems; report.** Requires, for purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard program, Dominion Energy Virginia and American Electric Power to annually procure and retire certain percentages of renewable energy certificates from geothermal heating and cooling systems, as defined in the bill. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission to prepare and deliver a report evaluating the procurement and retirement of renewable energy certificates from geothermal heating and cooling systems in the Commonwealth on or before November 1, 2028. The bill also directs the Real Estate Appraiser Board to promulgate regulations requiring the development of a continuing education curriculum and required training for all licensees that includes how to properly determine the increase in value of real estate created by reductions in building energy costs associated with solar, geothermal, and solar water heating investments. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation and is identical to SB 252.

Patron - Singh

P **HB1127 State Corporation Commission; duration and timeline for review of toll rate increases.** Increases from one year to two years the maximum length of time the State Corporation Commission is authorized to approve toll rate increases under the Virginia Highway Corporation Act of 1988. The bill also requires the Commission to issue a final order regarding any application for approval of one year or two

years of such toll rate increases to be entered within nine months or 12 months, respectively, after the date of the filing of such application.
Patron - Reid

P **HB1151 Electric utilities; delay in provision of service permitted.** Provides that a distributor of electric energy may delay the provision of service if such delay is necessary to maintain electric grid reliability, to avoid exceeding available generation or transmission capacity constraints, or to ensure compliance with load interconnection policies or rules issued by the State Corporation Commission or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 423.
Patron - Willett

P **HB1191 Utility consumer services cooperatives; substation construction agreements.** Permits an electric cooperative to enter into an agreement to construct a substation with a member receiving regulated electric service, with an electric demand of at least 20 megawatts during the most recent calendar year, that requires a point of interconnection with a transmission line system of 230 kilovolts or more. The bill provides that, upon final completion of a substation constructed under such an agreement, the member shall transfer ownership of such substation to the cooperative for the cooperative to operate and maintain at the member's sole expense. Under the bill, the costs of acquisition, operation, or maintenance of such a substation shall be excluded from the cooperative's general and base rates and shall not be recovered from any other ratepayer. This bill is identical to SB 377.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1225 Transportation electrification; integrated resource planning; fast-charging stations; cost recovery by electric utilities.** Permits Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company to file a proposed tariff with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to provide utility owned and operated electrical distribution infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging stations. The bill requires Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company to file transportation electrification plans with the Commission by February 1, 2028, and every three years thereafter, and includes requirements for information to include in such plans. Under the bill, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company are required to seek recovery of necessary and appropriate expenditures for transportation electrification only through their rates for generation and distribution services.
The bill prohibits Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company from petitioning for approval of expenditures to own and operate electric vehicle fast-charging stations unless such stations are located at or beyond a radial distance as determined by the Commission relative to the location of any privately owned fast charging station. The bill also directs the Commission to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to determine the appropriate radial distance for such utility-owned fast-charging stations from privately-owned fast charging stations, to enter its final rule in such proceeding no later than December 31, 2027, and to review such final rule by December 31, 2029. Provisions of the bill restricting the radial distance of utility owned and operated fast-charging stations expire on July 1, 2031.
This bill is identical to SB 407.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1255 Net energy metering; standby charge; facility capacity.** Increases the minimum capacity from 15 kilowatts to an aggregate nameplate capacity of 20 kilowatts of alternating current for an electrical generating facility for which certain electric utility customers are required to pay a monthly standby charge as part of the net energy metering program.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1256 State Corporation Commission; electric utilities; fuel and purchased power cost risk mitigation practices.** Directs the State Corporation Commission, in certain cost recovery proceedings and other annual filings as determined by the Commission, to examine the efficacy and sufficiency of fuel and purchased power cost risk mitigation practices by Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power. Under the bill, the Commission is required to include legislative recommendations related to effectively regulating fuel and purchased power cost risk in an existing report. This bill is identical to SB 505.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1360 Investor-owned electric utilities; fuel factor proceedings; requirements.** Requires that in any fuel factor proceeding conducted with the State Corporation Commission under current law, each investor-owned electric utility shall provide specific information regarding coal-fueled or oil-fueled electric generating units and requires the Commission to make determinations about reasonableness and prudence for the purposes of cost recovery based on such specific information.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1393 Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.** Amends annual funding commitments for the purposes of the annual pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals conducted by Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company. Under the bill, Appalachian Power Company is required to continue its pilot program at no less than $1 million and no greater than $1.5 million annually. Dominion Energy Virginia is required to continue its pilot program at no less than $156 million and no greater than $204 million for the time period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 1, 2038. The bill extends the sunset date of such pilot programs from July 1, 2028, to July 1, 2038.The bill also provides that Dominion Energy Virginia may recover costs associated with certain electrical facilities that have been approved by the State Corporation Commission as of December 1, 2033, provided that certain requirements are met and notwithstanding any limitations on such cost recovery in current law. The bill directs Dominion Energy Virginia to propose to the Commission, in any proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after January 1, 2027, and before July 1, 2033, that certain costs related to capacity procurement requirements and distribution infrastructure investments are allocated to the utility's customer class approved to serve customers with a contracted or measured electric demand of 25 megawatts or greater and an anticipated or measured average annual electric load factor of 75 percent or greater. The bill provides that certain customers in manufacturing, industrial, or consumer goods warehousing and distribution activities other than data storage may elect to remain on their existing rate schedule. The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia, in connection with its first proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after July 1, 2026, to include in its petition to the Commission a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The bill provides that the Commission shall only approve such proposal if it determines that such tariff will not adversely affect other retail customers or the utility in a manner contrary to the public interest, and any revised tariff terms shall include protections against stranded cost risks to the utility customer base. Addi-

tionally, the bill authorizes Dominion Energy Virginia to file a petition for the securitization of certain deferred fuel costs. The bill requires the Commission, in evaluating certain petitions, to require to the greatest extent it finds in the public interest the use of wages, salaries, benefits, and other remuneration to any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform services in connection with a contract contemplated pursuant to such petition at the prevailing wage rate and to the greatest extent practicable, the use of a skilled workforce through registered apprenticeship programs for any authorized demand flexibility programs, utility-related procurement through utility-owned or third-party providers, and an evaluation of other potential opportunities to develop Virginia's skilled workforce by requiring minimum apprenticeship program requirements for such electric generation or energy storage facility work. This bill incorporates HB 634. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB1467** **Electric utilities; virtual power plant pilot program; Phase I Utilities.** Requires Appalachian Power to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval to conduct a pilot program to evaluate methods to optimize demand through various technology applications, including the establishment of virtual power plants, by July 1, 2027. The bill requires the pilot program to evaluate electric grid capacity needs and the ability of such virtual power plants to provide grid services, including peak-shaving, during times of peak electric demand.

Patron - Franklin, L.V.

P **HB1487** **Pilot program for underground transmission lines; qualifying projects; levy; report.** Authorizes the State Corporation Commission, in reviewing any application submitted by a public utility for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an electrical transmission line of 500 kilovolts filed between January 1, 2025, and July 1, 2033, to approve up to four applications for qualifying projects to be constructed in whole or in part underground as part of the pilot program for underground transmission lines and to provide an expedited review of any such application. The bill removes certain provisions related to the existing pilot program.

Under the bill, a project shall be qualified if (i) the Commission finds that an engineering analysis demonstrates that it is technically feasible to place the proposed line in whole or in part underground, (ii) the application contains certain information regarding projections of project costs, (iii) the application contains evidence that the governing body of each locality in which at least a portion of the proposed line will be placed underground supports the project's inclusion in the program and agrees to meet its related funding obligations, and (iv) the Commission finds the overall cost of the project reasonable and consistent with the public interest. The bill permits the Commission to deny an application for a project that otherwise meets the criteria to qualify, provided that the Commission publicly shares its rationale for doing so.

The bill requires at least 50 percent of the marginal costs, as defined in the bill, of the portion of a qualifying project chosen to be placed underground within a locality pursuant to its provisions to be paid by such locality. The bill permits such a locality to meet such requirement through imposing a levy that meets certain requirements on electric utility customers within the locality, issuing a general obligation bond subject to a referendum, allocating its own funds, or any combination of such methods. The bill extends the Commission's final report deadline for the pilot program from December 1, 2024, to December 1, 2034. This bill is identical to SB 827.

Patron - Singh

P **HB1491** **Electric utilities; construction of certain electrical transmission lines; siting requirements.** Requires the State Corporation Commission, in order to approve the construction of an electrical transmission line of 138 kilovolts or more, to determine that the corridor or route chosen for the line will avoid or reasonably minimize adverse impact to the greatest extent reasonably practicable on dwelling houses. For overhead transmission lines of 500 kilovolts or more constructed by Dominion Energy Virginia, the bill directs the Commission to prioritize approving corridors or routes for construction for which the center is located farther than 150 feet from any dwelling house, public or private school building, day care, or place of worship unless no other practicable alternative exists.

Patron - Singh

P **SB72** **Phase I and Phase II Utilities; energy efficiency upgrades; low-income residents; report.** States that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to reduce, wherever feasible and cost-effective, heating-related costs of living for low-income residents. The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power to make best, reasonable efforts to provide by December 31, 2031, prescriptive efficiency measures, as defined in the bill, and related efficiency improvements to at least 30 percent of the qualifying households, as defined in the bill, identified by such utilities, provided that the State Corporation Commission determines that such measures and improvements are in the public interest. The bill requires such utilities to report to the Commission its activities, plans, and filings regarding the bill's provisions no later than January 1, 2028, annually thereafter, and in any recurring filing that the Commission deems appropriate. The bill also requires that Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power make reasonable efforts to incorporate recommendations or feedback provided by the task force that evaluates barriers to access and enrollment in programs for income-qualified energy customers. This bill is identical to HB 2. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB175** **Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements; power purchase agreements.** Amends certain renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements for Dominion Energy Virginia, including the annual percentage of program requirements to be met with solar, wind, or anaerobic digestion resources of one megawatt or less located in the Commonwealth. The bill changes from 2025 to 2027 the compliance year beginning in which at least 75 percent of renewable energy certificates used by Dominion Energy Virginia shall come from eligible resources located in the Commonwealth. The bill also removes the requirement for a solar-powered or wind-powered generation facility to have a capacity of no less than 50 kilowatts to qualify for a third party power purchase agreement under a pilot program. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission, by July 1, 2033, to initiate a proceeding to evaluate the future availability of renewable energy certificates from certain resources and permits the Commission to increase or decrease by up to one percentage point the percentage of program requirements to be met by such resources in future compliance years. The bill provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage development on previously developed project sites, as defined in existing law, to reduce the land use impacts of solar development. This bill is identical to HB 628.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB191** **Railroad safety; minimum train crew; movement of freight.** Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in

connection with moving freight except in use for hostler or utility service. The bill requires the State Corporation Commission to include in an existing report the number of probable violations of federal regulations related to railroad safety investigated by the Commission's Division of Utility and Railroad Safety and reported to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforcement. This bill is identical to HB 25.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB223 Distributed Energy Resources Task Force established; reports; sunset.** Establishes the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force as an advisory commission within the executive branch with the purpose of developing a comprehensive strategy to advance the Commonwealth's transition toward integrated distributed energy resource markets and to support the Commonwealth's compliance with certain regulations. The bill describes the membership, powers, and duties of the Task Force and requires the Task Force to submit various reports to the Governor, the State Corporation Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 285. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB249 Electric utilities; integrated resource plans.** Makes various changes related to the content and process for an integrated resource plan (IRP) developed by an electric utility that provides a forecast of its load obligations and a plan to meet those obligations. The bill (i) extends the planning timeframe from 15 to 20 years; (ii) requires Appalachian Power to file an IRP by removing an exception from the definition of "electric utility"; (iii) changes the frequency with which a utility is required to file an IRP from biennially to triennially; (iv) requires utilities to consider the use of grid-enhancing technologies as alternatives to new transmission infrastructure, and when new transmission lines are envisioned, to provide the reasons grid-enhancing technologies are not sufficient to defer or eliminate the need for new transmission infrastructure; and (v) requires utilities to consider the use of surplus interconnection service, as defined in the bill, to add new electric generation projects and energy storage resources to the grid.
The bill requires that the current stakeholder review process for integrated resource plans be facilitated by a third-party facilitator selected by the State Corporation Commission and compensated by the utility. The bill requires, as part of the stakeholder review process, the utility to provide stakeholders with reasonable access to the same modeling software, modeling assumptions, modeling inputs, and data used by the utility to evaluate supply and demand resources in its integrated resource plan to enable stakeholders to create modeling scenarios for the utility's consideration during the development of its integrated resource plan.
The bill requires the State Corporation Commission to (a) establish guidelines that ensure that utilities develop comprehensive integrated resource plans and provide meaningful public engagement and maximum transparency during the planning process; (b) conduct a proceeding by July 1, 2027, and at least once every five years thereafter, to identify and review each of its existing orders relevant to integrated resource plans to determine if such orders remain necessary and effective and are not overly burdensome; and (c) convene a work group to make recommendations on the required guidelines.
As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 429.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB250 Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices; local regulation; installation by tenants; consumer protection.** Prevents a locality from prohibiting the use of a small portable solar generation device, as defined in the bill, on a residential structure, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill includes provisions related to the installation of small portable solar generation devices by tenants and prevents landlords from prohibiting such installation in certain circumstances. Under the bill, small portable solar generation devices are excluded from the provisions of net metering programs applicable to eligible agricultural customer-generators, eligible customer-generators, or small agricultural generating facilities. The bill also permits any electric utility customer to own and operate a small portable solar generation device, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill prohibits an investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative from imposing interconnection requirements, charging any fee related to the device, or requiring that the customer obtain the utility's approval before installing or using the device. Under the bill, no electric utility, municipal utility, electric cooperative shall be liable for damage or injury caused by a small portable solar generation device. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission to develop and publish a notification form for a customer of an electric utility or cooperative to install a small portable solar generation device and directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to convene a work group to evaluate and develop recommendations regarding the safety standards and requirements applicable to small portable solar generation devices. Certain provisions of the bill become effective on January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 395. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB251 Electric utilities; performance-based regulation; work group; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to independently consider whether elements of an effective performance-based regulatory framework to evaluate and potentially improve electric utility performance and cost control incentives in the Commonwealth are in the public interest and to develop related legislative recommendations. The bill requires the Commission to include its findings and recommendations in a report required by existing law by July 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 903.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB252 Renewable energy portfolio standard program; geothermal heating and cooling systems; report.** Requires, for purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard program, Dominion Energy Virginia and American Electric Power to annually procure and retire certain percentages of renewable energy certificates from geothermal heating and cooling systems, as defined in the bill. The bill directs the State Corporation Commission to prepare and deliver a report evaluating the procurement and retirement of renewable energy certificates from geothermal heating and cooling systems in the Commonwealth on or before November 1, 2028. The bill also directs the Real Estate Appraiser Board to promulgate regulations requiring the development of a continuing education curriculum and required training for all licensees that includes how to properly determine the increase in value of real estate created by reductions in building energy costs associated with solar, geothermal, and solar water heating investments. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation and is identical to HB 1102.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB253 Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.** Amends annual funding commitments for the purposes of the annual pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals conducted by Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power Company. Under the bill, Appalachian Power Company is required to continue its pilot program at no less than $1 million and no greater than $1.5 million annually. Dominion Energy Virginia is required to continue its pilot program at no less than $156 million and no greater than $204 million for the time period beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 1, 2038. The bill extends the sunset date of such pilot programs from July 1, 2028, to July 1, 2038. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

The bill also provides that Dominion Energy Virginia may recover costs associated with certain electrical facilities that have been approved by the State Corporation Commission as of December 1, 2033, provided that certain requirements are met and notwithstanding any limitations on such cost recovery in current law. The bill directs Dominion Energy Virginia to propose to the Commission, in any proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after January 1, 2027, and before July 1, 2033, that certain costs related to capacity procurement requirements and distribution infrastructure investments are allocated to the utility's customer class approved to serve customers with a contracted or measured electric demand of 25 megawatts or greater and an anticipated or measured average annual electric load factor of 75 percent or greater. The bill provides that certain customers in manufacturing, industrial, or consumer goods warehousing and distribution activities other than data storage may elect to remain on their existing rate schedule.

The bill requires Dominion Energy Virginia, in connection with its first proceeding to determine rates for generation and distribution services commencing after July 1, 2026, to include in its petition to the Commission a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The bill provides that the Commission shall only approve such proposal if it determines that such tariff will not adversely affect other retail customers or the utility in a manner contrary to the public interest, and any revised tariff terms shall include protections against stranded cost risks to the utility customer base. Additionally, the bill authorizes Dominion Energy Virginia to file a petition for the securitization of certain deferred fuel costs.

Patron - Lucas

P **SB254 Electric utilities; shared solar programs; Phase II Utility.** Amends certain provisions related to the shared solar program established by the State Corporation Commission for Dominion Energy Virginia. Under the bill, Dominion Energy Virginia is authorized to release an additional 525 megawatts of capacity as part two of such program upon the earlier of (i) a determination that at least 90 percent of the aggregate program capacity has been subscribed and project construction is substantially complete or (ii) July 1, 2026. The bill directs Dominion Energy Virginia to petition the Commission to initiate a proceeding to determine the capacity for part three of such program on or before part two of such program is substantially complete for 268 megawatts of capacity. The bill directs the Commission to evaluate the costs and benefits of the shared solar program under such proceeding and to consider the results of such proceeding in determining any future allocations of shared solar capacity and changes in program design. The bill directs the Commission to update its regulations on shared solar programs to comply with the provisions of the bill by December 31, 2026, and to require each participating utility to file any tariffs, agreements, or forms necessary for implementation of such programs by March 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 807.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB255 Electric utilities; shared solar programs; Phase I Utility.** Amends certain provisions related to the shared solar program established by the State Corporation Commission for Appalachian Power Company. The bill permits excess bill credits to be distributed to shared solar subscribers more than once annually. The bill also requires the utility in administering its shared solar program to require net crediting functionality for customer utility bills, as described in the bill. The bill also directs Appalachian Power to (i) release an additional 50 megawatts as part two of the shared solar program on July 1, 2026; (ii) release a further additional 50 megawatts as part three of the shared solar program by January 1, 2028; and (iii) petition the Commission to initiate a shared solar expansion proceeding to determine the capacity for part four of the shared solar program by May 1, 2029. See final enactments for bill effective date. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 809.

Patron - Surovell

P **SB267 State Corporation Commission; electric utility infrastructure; report.** Directs the Department of Energy (the Department), in consultation with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission), Appalachian Power, and Dominion Energy Virginia, to conduct a comprehensive analysis of existing electric utility infrastructure to identify cost-saving opportunities that improve or preserve electric system reliability as an alternative or supplement to greenfield infrastructure projects. Provided that the Department receives sufficient voluntary financial contributions to engage independent consulting services, the Department and the Commission shall complete the analysis and submit a report to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB310 State Corporation Commission; time frame for completion of certain proceedings.** Requires the State Corporation Commission to complete proceedings involving an application for a certificate, permit, or approval required for the construction or operation by a public utility of certain transmission lines within nine months following such application, as required by current law for small renewable energy projects. The bill permits the Commission to enlarge such nine-month period for up to 120 days for applications regarding certain transmission lines. This bill is identical to HB 466.

Patron - Hackworth

P **SB327 Electric utilities; pilot program for electric energy conservation, generation, and storage.** Requires American Electric Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to each petition the State Corporation Commission by December 31, 2026, to conduct a pilot program for electric energy conservation, solar energy generation, and energy storage resources for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals. The bill directs the Commission to convene a technical conference to evaluate the creation of an energy efficiency program meeting certain requirements by November 1, 2026. Under the bill, if the Commission determines that such a program is feasible for implementation by American Electric Power and Dominion Energy Virginia, the Commission shall require such utilities to petition for approval by May 1, 2027, to implement such programs. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2034. This bill is identical to HB 1062.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB371** **Electric utilities; high energy demand customers; demand flexibility programs; reports.** Directs Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to file a petition with the State Corporation Commission by January 15, 2027, for approval of voluntary demand flexibility programs that apply to high energy demand customers, as defined in the bill. The bill requires the Commission to consider all forms of demand flexibility and other specific factors in approving each such program. The bill directs each cooperative that serves one or more high energy demand customers to establish a voluntary demand flexibility program for such customers by January 1, 2029. Under the bill, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power are required to file status reports on their demand flexibility programs with the Commission three years after initial program approval and every three years thereafter. Additionally, in 2028 and annually thereafter, the Commission is required to submit information summarizing the status and performance of such programs as part of an existing report. This bill is identical to HB 284.
Patron - McPike

P **SB377** **Utility consumer services cooperatives; substation construction agreements.** Permits an electric cooperative to enter into an agreement to construct a substation with a member receiving regulated electric service, with an electric demand of at least 20 megawatts during the most recent calendar year, that requires a point of interconnection with a transmission line system of 230 kilovolts or more. The bill provides that, upon final completion of a substation constructed under such an agreement, the member shall transfer ownership of such substation to the cooperative for the cooperative to operate and maintain at the member's sole expense. Under the bill, the costs of acquisition, operation, or maintenance of such a substation shall be excluded from the cooperative's general and base rates and shall not be recovered from any other ratepayer. This bill is identical to HB 1191.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB423** **Electric utilities; delay in provision of service permitted.** Provides that a distributor of electric energy may delay the provision of service if such delay is necessary to maintain electric grid reliability, to avoid exceeding available generation or transmission capacity constraints, or to ensure compliance with load interconnection policies or rules issued by the State Corporation Commission or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1151.
Patron - Perry

P **SB448** **Electric utilities; energy storage resources; Department of Energy to develop model ordinances; State Corporation Commission to conduct technology demonstration program.** Increases the targets for energy storage capacity that Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to petition the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) for approval to construct, acquire, or procure and extends the time frame by which such capacity must be met. Under the bill, (i) Appalachian Power shall petition the Commission for approval to construct, acquire, or procure at least 780 megawatts of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2040 and 520 megawatts of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045 and (ii) Dominion Energy Virginia shall petition the Commission for approval to construct, acquire, or procure at least 16,000 megawatts of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2045 and 4,000 megawatts of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045. "Long-duration energy storage" and "short-duration energy storage" are defined in the bill. Under the bill, the Commission shall approve an independent auditor to help develop criteria for and to help review requests for proposals for new energy storage resources. The bill requires the Commission to conduct a technology demonstration program for long-duration energy storage resources and initiate a proceeding to determine if such technology is viable and that the targets in the bill are reasonably achievable, for which a final order shall be entered no later than March 1, 2031. Certain provisions of the bill are only effective upon such determination by the Commission.
The bill requires the Department of Energy, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Fire Programs, to develop model ordinances suggested for use by localities in their regulation of energy storage projects by December 1, 2026. The bill directs the Commission to initiate a technical conference by September 1, 2026, to evaluate safety standards and practices for energy storage development. The bill also includes a provision authorizing the Commission to evaluate energy storage project proposals during annual petitions filed for the development of new renewable generation capacity. This bill is identical to HB 895.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB487** **Electric utilities; virtual power plant program; electric cooperatives.** Authorizes electric cooperatives to establish and implement a virtual power plant program. The bill defines a virtual power plant as an aggregation of distributed energy resources, enrolled either directly with an electric cooperative or indirectly through an aggregator, that are operated in coordination to provide one or more grid services. Under the bill, an electric cooperative may offer incentives to residential customers to purchase battery storage devices and is required to evaluate various methods to optimize demand. This bill is identical to HB 562.
Patron - McPike

P **SB497** **Policy of the Commonwealth; siting of certain new electric transmission facilities; Department of Transportation work group; report.** Provides that in the siting of new electric transmission facilities, it is the policy of the Commonwealth that existing linear infrastructure corridors shall be prioritized over new corridors. The bill directs the Department of Transportation to convene a work group to identify opportunities and develop recommendations to amend regulations and permitting processes to facilitate the expedient and efficient siting of new electrical transmission infrastructure in existing state highway rights-of-way. This bill is identical to HB 889.
Patron - Perry

P **SB505** **State Corporation Commission; electric utilities; fuel and purchased power cost risk mitigation practices.** Directs the State Corporation Commission, in certain cost recovery proceedings and other annual filings as determined by the Commission, to examine the efficacy and sufficiency of fuel and purchased power cost risk mitigation practices by Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power. Under the bill, the Commission is required to include legislative recommendations related to effectively regulating fuel and purchased power cost risk in an existing report. This bill is identical to HB 1256.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB508** **Electric utilities; surplus interconnection service sites.** Directs Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to undertake a comprehensive assessment of available interconnection capacity at each such utility's existing and planned intermittent electric generation facilities located in the Commonwealth. The bill directs such utilities to establish pilot programs for energy storage resources and solar generation facilities that utilize surplus interconnection service, as defined in the bill, including a request for proposals. The bill

requires such utilities to submit the results of such requests for proposals as part of their 2027 plans and petitions for approval for the development of new solar and onshore wind generation capacity, which plans are required under existing law. This bill is identical to HB 1065. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - VanValkenburg

P **SB516 Electric utilities; disconnection reports; State Corporation Commission database; annual summary.** Requires each investor-owned utility and electric cooperative operating in the Commonwealth to provide a monthly report on residential account disconnections to the State Corporation Commission. The monthly report is required to include specific information outlined in the bill, including the number of residential accounts involuntarily disconnected due to nonpayment, the amount of time in which such accounts were reconnected to service, the amounts of arrearages attributable to such disconnected accounts and other residential accounts, and information related to how many of the disconnected accounts participate in a payment assistance program or have a serious medical condition certification form on file with the electric utility. The bill requires the Commission to publish the information from such monthly reports in a comprehensive and easily accessible online database. The bill also requires the Commission to submit an annual executive summary to the Governor and the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation on trends in electric utility disconnections based on the reports submitted by electric utilities, the first of which is due by September 1, 2027. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation. This bill is identical to HB 828.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB598 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard; zero-carbon electricity; accelerated clean energy buyers.** Revises the conditions under which accelerated clean energy buyers, defined in existing law as accelerated renewable energy buyers, may contract with Appalachian Power or Dominion Energy Virginia to obtain renewable energy certificates (RECs). The bill exempts an accelerated clean energy buyer obtaining capacity, energy, or RECs from qualifying resources or facilities from the assignment of non-bypassable costs associated with compliance with the renewable portfolio standard program based on the amount and type of renewable energy certificates obtained in proportion to such accelerated clean energy buyer's total electric energy consumption. This bill incorporates SB 470. This bill is identical to HB 369.

Patron - Deeds

P **SB621 Phase I and Phase II Utilities; electric grid utilization metrics.** Requires Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval of grid utilization metrics by October 15, 2026, which petition may be consolidated with the integrated resource plan filing for Dominion Energy in 2026. Under the bill, the petition shall include certain assessments comparing current electric grid system performance with optimal utilization of existing electric grid assets. The bill also requires the Commission to include in an existing annual report its findings on each applicable utility's assessment of relevant grid utilization metrics, which shall include an analysis of the potential for each applicable utility to increase electric grid utilization through the deployment of non-wires alternatives. This bill is identical to HB 434.

Patron - Srinivasan

P **SB650 Public utilities; water and sewerage companies; discounted rates for low-income customers.** Provides that a public utility engaged in the business of furnishing water or sewerage facilities may propose and the State Corporation Commission may approve rates and tariff provisions that provide discounted service to customers with an annual household income equal to or less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The bill permits the utility to recover the costs of providing such discounted service through its rates for commercial and industrial customers. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to HB 770.

Patron - Marsden

P **SB777 Electric utilities and licensed suppliers of electricity; regional transmission entity; annual report.** Requires each investor-owned utility or licensed supplier that joins or establishes the regional transmission entity (PJM Interconnection, LLC) to submit an annual report to the State Corporation Commission by February 1 of each year. Such report shall include (i) all recorded votes cast by the utility or licensed supplier at a meeting during the immediately preceding calendar year, (ii) all votes cast by an affiliate of the utility or licensed supplier at a meeting during the immediately preceding calendar year, and (iii) a brief description explaining how each recorded vote is in the public interest. The provisions of the bill do not apply to municipal utilities or certain electric cooperatives. This bill is identical to HB 84.

Patron - Rouse

P **SB818 Electric utilities; licensed retail suppliers; notice period for return to service.** Permits an individual nonresidential retail customer of electric energy of Appalachian Power or Dominion Energy Virginia whose noncoincident peak demand exceeded five megawatts during the most recent calendar year to purchase electric energy from a licensed supplier within the Commonwealth. Currently, such a customer may only purchase electric energy from a licensed supplier if the customer's peak demand did not exceed one percent of the incumbent electric utility's peak load during the most recent calendar year unless the customer had a noncoincident peak demand of more than 90 megawatts. The bill changes from five years to eighteen months the advance notice period required for such a customer to return to service by an incumbent electric utility. This bill is identical to HB 921.

Patron - Suetterlein

P **SB827 Pilot program for underground transmission lines; qualifying projects; levy; report.** Authorizes the State Corporation Commission, in reviewing any application submitted by a public utility for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an electrical transmission line of 500 kilovolts filed between January 1, 2025, and July 1, 2033, to approve up to four applications for qualifying projects to be constructed in whole or in part underground as part of the pilot program for underground transmission lines and to provide an expedited review of any such application. The bill removes certain provisions related to the existing pilot program.Under the bill, a project shall be qualified if (i) the Commission finds that an engineering analysis demonstrates that it is technically feasible to place the proposed line in whole or in part underground, (ii) the application contains certain information regarding projections of project costs, (iii) the application contains evidence that the governing body of each locality in which at least a portion of the proposed line will be placed underground supports the project's inclusion in the program and agrees to meet its related funding obligations, and (iv) the Commission finds the overall cost of the project reasonable and consistent with the public interest. The

bill permits the Commission to deny an application for a project that otherwise meets the criteria to qualify, provided that the Commission publicly shares its rationale for doing so.The bill requires at least 50 percent of the marginal costs, as defined in the bill, of the portion of a qualifying project chosen to be placed underground within a locality pursuant to its provisions to be paid by such locality. The bill permits such a locality to meet such requirement through imposing a levy that meets certain requirements on electric utility customers within the locality, issuing a general obligation bond subject to a referendum, allocating its own funds, or any combination of such methods. The bill extends the Commission's final report deadline for the pilot program from December 1, 2024, to December 1, 2034. This bill is identical to HB 1487.
Patron - Srinivasan

Failed

F **HB74 Electric utilities; recovery of development costs associated with small modular reactor.** Permits the State Corporation Commission to impose, as part of a final order approving cost recovery for Dominion Energy for project development of a small modular reactor (SMR), a deadline to either (i) place the SMR into commercial operation or (ii) refund all SMR project development costs recovered from customers. Current law allows the Commission to place such a deadline on either (a) placing the SMR into commercial operation or (b) selling the permitted site and returning the proceeds of such sale to customers.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB120 Office of the Public Utility Ombudsman; established.** Requires the State Corporation Commission to establish the Office of the Public Utility Ombudsman to protect the interests of residential customers of public utilities. The Office of the Public Utility Ombudsman shall serve (i) residential customers of public utilities that are jurisdictional or of limited jurisdiction and (ii) residential customers who cannot be assisted by other Commission staff due to a potential conflict of interest. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB155 Electric utilities; certificate of operation for high-load facilities.** Prohibits any person from operating a high-load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 25 megawatts that was not operating before July 1, 2026, without first having obtained a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission. The bill includes factors for the Commission to consider in reviewing a petition to operate a high-load facility. The bill establishes a presumption that a high-load facility shall be considered to have met certain requirements if the high-load facility has secured sufficient contracts for energy storage resources or zero-carbon electric generating resources or that the high-load facility has a plan to implement sufficient demand reduction measures. The bill also requires the Commission to consider certain factors in a review of a petition for a certificate to operate a high-load facility, including whether there is sufficient energy, capacity, and grid infrastructure to support the operation of the high-load facility and whether the operation of the high-load facility would create an unreasonable cross-subsidy across customers served by the incumbent electric utility.
Patron - Thomas

F **HB289 Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices.** Permits any electric utility customer to own and operate a small portable solar generation device, defined in the bill as a nationally certified, plug-in solar photovoltaic device with a maximum power output of no more than 1,200 watts at a single premise that is not designed to be interconnected with the electric grid and is intended primarily to offset part of the customer's electricity consumption. The bill prohibits an investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative from imposing interconnection requirements, charging any fee related to the device, or requiring that the customer obtain the utility's approval before installing or using the device. Under the bill, no electric utility or electric cooperative shall be liable for damage or injury caused by a small portable solar generation device.
Patron - Anderson

F **HB492 Public utilities; vegetation management in public parks.** Requires a public utility, when managing trees, shrubs, or other plants located in any public park owned or operated by a locality, to consult with the locality and aim to trim or prune such trees, shrubs, or other plants only to the extent necessary to preserve the reliability of service.
Patron - Seibold

F **HB565 Electric utilities; renewable portfolio standard program; zero-carbon electricity; accelerated renewable energy buyers.** Classifies zero-carbon electricity generating facilities that are not otherwise renewable portfolio standard (RPS) program eligible sources and that are placed into service in the Commonwealth after July 1, 2030, as RPS eligible sources. The bill permits an accelerated renewable energy buyer to contract to obtain bundled capacity, energy, and renewable energy certificates from solar, wind, or zero-carbon electricity generation located within the PJM region and placed in commercial operation on or before January 1, 2015, if investments to increase the maximum thermal power output of such facility occurred after January 1, 2015, or if a financial agreement for procurement of energy and capacity was entered into with such facility after January 1, 2015, to prevent the early retirement or decommissioning of such facility due to financial constraints.
Patron - Reid

F **HB615 Electric utilities; renewable portfolio standard program; deficiency payments.** Changes from $45 to $0.01 the amount of deficiency payment required by certain electric utilities that are unable to meet the compliance obligations of the renewable energy portfolio standard program requirements and removes provisions requiring a payment of $75 per megawatt-hour of shortfall in procuring renewable energy certificates for solar, wind, or anaerobic digesters.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB617 Electric utilities; virtual power plant pilot program; Phase I Utilities.** Requires Appalachian Power to petition the State Corporation Commission for approval to conduct a pilot program to evaluate methods to optimize demand through various technology applications, including the establishment of virtual power plants, by December 1, 2026. The bill requires the pilot program to evaluate electric grid capacity needs and the ability of such virtual power plants to provide grid services, including peak-shaving, during times of peak electric demand.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB634 Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.** Amends annual funding commitments for the purposes of the annual pilot program for energy assistance and weatherization for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals conducted by Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company. Under the bill, Dominion Energy shall conduct its pilot program at no less than $13 million and no greater than

$17 million annually, and Appalachian Power Company shall conduct its pilot program at no less than $1 million and no greater than $1.5 million annually. The bill extends the sunset date of such pilot programs from July 1, 2028 to July 1, 2038.
The bill also provides that Dominion Energy may recover costs associated with certain electrical facilities that have been approved by the State Corporation Commission as of December 1, 2038, notwithstanding any time limitations on such cost recovery in current law.
This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Kilgore

F **HB658 State Corporation Commission; cost allocation proceedings for certain electric utilities.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to conduct proceedings to review cost allocation among different customer classifications for certain electric utilities. For Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power, the Commission is directed to determine if the cost allocation of transmission costs require customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the transmission costs attributable to serving customers that are data centers by January 1, 2027. For Dominion Energy, the Commission is directed to determine if the current allocation of generation and distribution costs require customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the generation and distribution costs attributable to serving customers that are data centers by January 1, 2028.
Patron - Maldonado

F **HB766 Electrical generating facilities; capacity factor; report.** Requires the owner of any electrical generating facility in the Commonwealth with a nameplate capacity of at least one megawatt to provide an annual report to the State Corporation Commission that includes for each month of the immediately preceding year (i) the amount of electricity produced by such facility and (ii) the capacity factor, as defined in the bill, for such facility. The bill requires the Commission to compile all information reported pursuant to the bill's provisions and to publish an annual report of such compiled information.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB779 Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices; local regulation; Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.** Permits any electric utility customer to own and operate a small portable solar generation device, defined in the bill as a nationally certified, plug-in solar photovoltaic device with a maximum power output of no more than 1,200 watts that is not designed to be interconnected with the electric grid and is intended primarily to offset part of the customer's electricity consumption, provided that such customer has submitted notice to its incumbent investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative. The bill prohibits an investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative from imposing interconnection requirements, charging any fee related to the device, or requiring that the customer obtain the utility's approval before installing or using the device. Under the bill, no electric utility or electric cooperative shall be liable for damage or injury caused by a small portable solar generation device.
The bill also restricts (i) localities from prohibiting the use of a small portable solar generation device on a residential structure, provided that certain requirements are met, and (ii) landlords owning more than four rental dwelling units from prohibiting a tenant from installing a small portable solar generation device on the exterior of the tenant's premises, provided that reasonable restrictions may be established concerning size, manner, and placement.
Patron - Oates

F **HB920 Electric utilities; development of offshore wind capacity.** Increases the maximum capacity for offshore wind generation facilities that is in the public interest to be constructed or purchased by a public utility from 5,200 megawatts to 25,000 megawatts. The bill also changes the deadline for such construction or purchase from December 31, 2032, to December 31, 2030.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB928 Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices; local regulation; Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.** Permits any electric utility customer to own and operate a small portable solar generation device, defined in the bill as a nationally certified, plug-in solar photovoltaic device with a maximum power output of no more than 1,200 watts that is intended primarily to offset part of the customer's electricity consumption. The bill prohibits an investor-owned utility, municipal utility, or electric cooperative from imposing interconnection requirements, charging any fee related to the device, or requiring that the customer obtain the utility's approval before installing or using the device. Under the bill, no electric utility or electric cooperative shall be liable for damage or injury caused by a small portable solar generation device. Small portable solar generation devices are excluded under the bill from the provisions of net metering programs applicable to eligible agricultural customer-generators, eligible customer-generators, or small agricultural generating facilities.
The bill also restricts landlords owning more than four rental dwelling units from prohibiting a tenant from installing a small portable solar generation device on the exterior of the tenant's premises, provided that reasonable restrictions may be established concerning size, manner, and placement.
Patron - Lopez

F **HB1031 Electric utilities; RPS requirements; Air Pollution Control Board; regulations.** Delays for 20 years the timeline by which Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to produce 100 percent of their electric energy from 100 percent renewable resources. Under the bill, the annual percentage requirements are paused after the 2023 compliance year and do not resume until 2044. The bill provides that Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to meet the 100 percent requirement by 2070 and 2065, respectively. Additionally, the bill provides that the Air Pollution Control Board is required to adopt regulations for the period of 2051 to 2070 to reduce carbon emissions from electric power generating facilities. Under current law, the Board is required to adopt regulations to reduce emissions for the period of 2031 through 2050.
Patron - Wilt

F **HB1077 Electric utilities; State Corporation Commission to investigate financial incentives; renewable energy portfolio standard; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to conduct an investigation of financial incentives related to the renewable energy portfolio standard program and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1079 Electric utilities; State Corporation Commission; all-source competitive procurement.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to conduct and review an all-source competitive procurement process for Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power. Under the bill, the Commission shall determine best practices for the competitive procure-

ment, including methods to evaluate all available resources prior to selecting feasible and cost-effective options.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1087 High energy use facilities; natural gas fuel cell generating resources.** Permits a high energy use facility, as defined in the bill, that owns or operates a natural gas fuel cell generating resource to enter a contract to generate electric energy on such terms and conditions negotiated with the Dominion Energy or Appalachian Power Company, including provisions related to (i) issuing utility bill credits equivalent to the value of such energy generation and (ii) the utility's purchase of excess power generated by the high energy use facility. The bill requires such natural gas fuel cell generating resource to be located on the same real property as the high energy use facility.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1090 Electric utilities; emissions intensity target program.** Requires the State Corporation Commission to develop an emissions intensity target program for Dominion Energy Virginia and Appalachian Power to achieve net-zero emissions. The bill requires the Commission to promulgate regulations to implement its provisions by January 1, 2027. Upon the promulgation of such regulations, the bill repeals certain provisions that require Dominion Energy Virginia and American Electric Power to participate in a renewable energy portfolio standard program, authorize the State Air Pollution Control Board to promulgate certain regulations, and provide that the construction or purchase by a public utility of certain generation facilities is in the public interest.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1106 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard eligible sources; zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities.** Provides that, for the purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard, eligible sources include zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities located in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Kilgore

F **HB1141 Electric utilities; suspension of certain requirements.** Provides that the renewable energy portfolio standard requirements and any associated construction, procurement, or retirement mandates are suspended for the applicable compliance year if the State Corporation Commission determines that compliance has resulted in, or will result in, any of the following: (i) an increase in the average residential customer's total monthly electric bill of more than five percent in any calendar year that is attributable to compliance with the renewable energy portfolio standard or associated zero-carbon generation or energy storage requirements; (ii) an increase in any rate adjustment clause, rider, or non-bypassable charge associated with compliance with this section that exceeds $50 per month for the average residential customer; (iii) a determination that compliance poses a material risk to electric system reliability or resource adequacy in the Commonwealth; or (iv) a determination that the cost of renewable energy certificates necessary for compliance exceeds the applicable alternative compliance payment or deficiency payment for two consecutive compliance years.
Patron - Griffin

F **HB1175 Electric utilities; request for proposals required for certain facilities.** Requires Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia, at least 15 months prior to seeking approval to construct or purchase a generating facility that emits carbon dioxide, to conduct a thorough evaluation of non-carbon-emitting electric generation options through an independent administrator selected by the State Corporation Commission and retained by such utility. The bill directs the Commission to review the framework and schedule of the request for proposals designed by the independent administrator and accept feedback from relevant stakeholders. The bill provides that if the results of the request for proposals indicate that a cost-effective set of proposed resources can meet the identified energy and capacity needs, such utility shall petition the Commission for approval of such resources.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1184 Electric utilities; retirement of certain electric generating units.** Provides that, for the required retirement by December 31, 2045, of electric generating units that emit carbon as a by-product of combusting fuel to generate electricity, exceptions to such requirement include natural gas electric generating units with carbon capture capability and emissions-positive electric generating units. Under the bill, "emissions-positive generating unit" means an electric generating unit that produces a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by either preventing, capturing, or collecting such emissions from fuel combustion.
Patron - O'Quinn

F **HB1275 Electric utilities; recovery of certain project development costs.** Permits an investor-owned electric utility to petition the State Corporation Commission at any time for the approval of a rate adjustment clause for the recovery of project development costs for up to five electric generation facilities, regardless of fuel source. The bill also exempts such facilities from requirements in existing law to retire or decommission such facilities. The provisions of the bill have a contingent expiration date of one year after the effective date of any regulations promulgated by the State Air Pollution Control Board to establish carbon dioxide emissions allowances pursuant to current law.
Patron - Phillips

F **HB1420 Direct the Director of the Department of Energy to identify and develop training resources to advance workforce development in the nuclear energy industry.**
Patron - Whittle

F **HB1445 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard eligible sources; zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities.** Provides that, for the purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard, eligible sources include zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities located in the Commonwealth.

Patron - Webert

F **HB1512 Electric utilities; renewable energy standard eligible sources.** Requires that, in order to qualify as renewable energy standard eligible sources under the renewable portfolio standard program, certain waste-to-energy resources, landfill gas-fired resources, and biomass-fired facilities be electric generating sources. Additionally, the bill requires, for waste-to-energy and landfill gas-fired resources to qualify, that such resources not use waste heat from fossil fuel combustion or credit thermal output or use the renewable thermal energy equivalent calculation to produce renewable energy certificates (RECs). Finally, the bill requires the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to revoke and invalidate RECs if the Commission finds them to have been inappropriately or erroneously produced, registered, sold, banked, or retired and requires utilities to procure and retire RECs to cover any amount revoked and invalidated.
Patron - McAuliff

F **SB31 Railroad safety; minimum train crew; movement of freight; civil penalties.** Requires a crew of at least two qualified individuals on all trains, locomotives, or light engines used in connection with moving freight. The bill requires a railroad company that violates its provisions to pay certain fines for first, second, and third or subsequent violations within three years.
Patron - Carroll Foy

F **SB40 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard program; deficiency payments.** Removes provisions requiring deficiency payments by certain electric utilities if such utilities are unable to meet the compliance obligation of the renewable energy portfolio standard (RPS) program requirements or if the cost of renewable energy certificates necessary to comply with RPS program requirements exceeds $45 per megawatt hour.
Patron - Stanley

F **SB69 Electric utilities; construction and 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 utility-owned generation facilities that emit carbon dioxide as a by-product of energy generation under 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 - Peake

F **SB104 Electric utilities; customer bill requirements; rate adjustment clauses.** Requires Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to provide a list on each residential customer bill of each rate adjustment clause applicable to such bill and the corresponding amount due as a result of such rate adjustment clause. The bill requires each utility to maintain on its publicly accessible website certain additional information relating to rate adjustment clauses.
Patron - Stanley

F **SB457 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard eligible sources; zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities.** Provides that, for the purposes of the renewable energy portfolio standard, eligible sources include zero-carbon electricity generating nuclear facilities located in the Commonwealth.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB458 Electric utilities; regional energy market.** Permits Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia to join a regional energy market.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB470 Electric utilities; renewable portfolio standard program; zero-carbon electricity; accelerated renewable energy buyers.** Classifies zero-carbon electricity generating facilities that are not otherwise renewable portfolio standard (RPS) program eligible sources and that are placed into service in the Commonwealth after July 1, 2030, as RPS eligible sources. The bill permits an accelerated renewable energy buyer to contract to obtain bundled capacity, energy, and renewable energy certificates from solar, wind, or zero-carbon electricity generation located within the PJM region and placed in commercial operation on or before January 1, 2015, if investments to increase the maximum thermal power output of such facility occurred after January 1, 2015, or if a financial agreement for procurement of energy and capacity was entered into with such facility after January 1, 2015, to prevent the early retirement or decommissioning of such facility due to financial constraints.
Patron - Marsden

F **SB512 Electric utilities; rates for generation and distribution services; notice of energy rationing.** Prohibits the State Corporation Commission from approving a rate increase proposed by Dominion Energy or Appalachian Power Company unless the utility demonstrates a net increase in total electric generating capacity within the previous rate period. The bill requires any electric utility that, due to an emergency or other energy shortage, rations energy to avoid power outages, including by conducting fuel rationing, load shedding, or disconnections or imposing surcharges, to provide written notice of such rationing to such utility's customers within 10 days after such rationing occurs.
The bill also prohibits the retirement or full decommissioning of an electric generation facility with a capacity of more than 20 megawatts unless the Commission determines that sufficient electric generation capacity located in the Commonwealth exists to meet at least 90 percent of all current and forecasted electric demand in the Commonwealth. The bill also provides that if the Commonwealth rejoins the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and resumes participation therein, no electric utility that incurs an expense of more than $10 million as a result of such participation shall recover any portion of such expense from its customers.
Patron - Stanley

F **SB551 State Corporation Commission; work group; energy load flexibility protocols; high electric demand customers; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group to evaluate and assess energy load flexibility protocols for high electric demand customers, including any commercial or industrial customer located in the Commonwealth with an electricity demand of greater than 50 megawatts. In conducting its assessment, the work group shall consider factors as outlined in the bill, provide an analysis of the current regulatory framework in the Commonwealth regarding high electric demand customers, and develop recommendations for improving load flexibility protocols and demand response management programs by electric utilities or the regional transmission entity. The work group shall include members as outlined in the bill and shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Srinivasan

F **SB562 Electric utilities; RPS requirements; Air Pollution Control Board; regulations.** Delays for 20 years the timeline by which Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to produce 100 percent of their electric energy from 100 percent renewable resources. Under the bill, the annual percentage requirements are paused after the 2023 compliance year and do not resume until 2044. The bill provides that Appalachian Power and Dominion Energy Virginia are required to meet the 100 percent requirement by 2070 and 2065, respectively. Additionally, the bill provides that the Air Pollution Control Board is required to adopt regu-

lations for the period of 2051 to 2070 to reduce carbon emissions from electric power generating facilities. Under current law, the Board is required to adopt regulations to reduce emissions for the period of 2031 through 2050.
Patron - Cifers

F **SB619 Electric utilities; certificate of operation for high-load facilities.** Prohibits any person from operating a high-load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 90 megawatts that was not operating before January 1, 2027, without first having obtained a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission. The bill includes factors for the Commission to consider in reviewing a petition to operate a high-load facility. The bill establishes a presumption that a high-load facility shall be considered to have met certain requirements if the high-load facility has secured sufficient contracts for energy storage resources or zero-carbon electric generating resources or that the high-load facility has a plan to implement sufficient demand reduction measures. The bill also requires the Commission to consider certain factors in a review of a petition for a certificate to operate a high-load facility, including whether there is sufficient energy, capacity, and grid infrastructure to support the operation of the high-load facility and whether the operation of the high-load facility would create an unreasonable cross-subsidy across customers served by the incumbent electric utility.
Patron - Srinivasan

F **SB627 Electric utilities; renewable energy portfolio standard program.** Repeals provisions (i) requiring Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to participate in a renewable energy portfolio standard program that requires each such utility to procure and retire renewable energy certificates and (ii) permitting the recovery of certain costs associated with compliance with such program.
Patron - DeSteph

F **SB691 State Corporation Commission; Phase I Utility; biennial rate review; reports.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to adhere to certain requirements and consider certain enumerated factors in its 2026 review of the rates, terms, and conditions for the provision of generation and distribution services by Appalachian Power. The bill prohibits the Commission from approving a rate of return on common equity that is greater than the rate of return approved by the Commission as part of Appalachian Power's preceding biennial rate review unless Appalachian Power demonstrates that such increase is the approach to maintaining reasonable access to capital that results in the lowest cost to customers. The bill directs the Commission to conduct reviews of Appalachian Power's terms of service and rates for electric transmission and efforts to address rising costs of severe weather events. The bill also directs the Office of the Attorney General to conduct a study of the methods used to determine the cost of equity capital for investor-owned utilities.
Patron - Suetterlein

F **SB752 Electric utilities; construction and 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 utility-owned generation facilities that emit carbon dioxide as a by-product of energy generation under 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 - DeSteph

F **SB761 Electric and gas utilities; rates and charges for service; political influence activities; promotional advertising; annual report.** Prohibits an electric or gas utility subject to regulation by the State Corporation Commission from recovering certain costs through its retail rates and charges for service. The costs prohibited for such recovery include political influence activities and promotional advertising, as such terms are defined in the bill. Under the bill, each electric and gas utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission shall submit an annual report by January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, of information related to the categories of expenses listed in the bill, including political influence activities and promotional advertising. The bill permits the Commission to impose a fine on utilities that violate the provisions of the bill by improperly recovering costs for activities and expenses prohibited for cost recovery by the bill. The bill requires the Commission to make such annual reports publicly available online.
Patron - Jones

F **SB772 State Corporation Commission; reliable electricity provision.** Provides that it shall be the primary duty of the State Corporation Commission, with respect to electric utility regulation, to ensure that all customers of electric power utilities and cooperatives throughout the Commonwealth are provided reliable electricity at rates that the Commission deems to be low, just, and reasonable.
Patron - McDougle

Carried Over

C **HB114 State Corporation Commission; electric utility infrastructure; report.** Directs the Department of Energy (the Department) and the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to conduct a comprehensive analysis of existing electric utility infrastructure to identify cost-saving opportunities that improve or preserve electric system reliability as an alternative or supplement to greenfield infrastructure projects. The bill requires the Department and the Commission to complete their analysis and submit a report to the General Assembly no later than July 1, 2027.
Patron - Ware

C **HB420 Public utilities; reopening rate case in certain instances.** Provides that if an application is filed with the State Corporation Commission for approval of the acquisition or disposition of control involving a public utility and such application is filed within 24 months after the entry of a final order in a rate increase proceeding, the Commission may, on its own initiative or upon petition of any interested person, reopen such rate increase proceeding.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

C **HB503 Electric utilities; cost recovery; costs substantially related to serving data center customers.** Prohibits the recovery of costs incurred by an electric utility that (i) are substantially related to the provision of electric service to data center customers and (ii) would not have been incurred but for the demand of such data center customers from being included in any rates or charges approved by the State Corpo-

ration Commission under current law, unless such rates and charges are designed to recover, or substantially recover, such costs solely from data center customers. Under the bill, "data center customers" are data centers with a peak demand of 100 megawatts or greater.
Patron - McAuliff

C **HB906 State Corporation Commission; work group; energy load flexibility protocols; high electric demand customers; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group to evaluate and assess energy load flexibility protocols for high electric demand customers, including any commercial or industrial customer located in the Commonwealth with an electricity demand of greater than 50 megawatts. In conducting its assessment, the work group shall consider factors as outlined in the bill, provide an analysis of the current regulatory framework in the Commonwealth regarding high electric demand customers, and develop recommendations for improving load flexibility protocols and demand response management programs by electric utilities or the regional transmission entity. The work group shall include members as outlined in the bill and shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations by November 1, 2026. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.
Patron - Sullivan

C **HB1075 State Corporation Commission; Phase I Utility; 2026 biennial rate review; report.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to consider certain requirements in the 2026 review of the rates, terms, and conditions for the provision of generation and distribution services by Appalachian Power. The bill directs the Commission to review the decision by Appalachian Power to satisfy its capacity obligations with the regional transmission entity through a fixed resource requirement alternative. The bill also directs the Commission to conduct a review of Appalachian Power's efforts to improve system efficiency, resilience, and reliability to address rising costs of responding to severe weather events. The bill requires the Commission to submit a report summarizing its review and providing recommendations by September 1, 2027, or to include such report as part of an existing annual report.
Patron - Rasoul

C **HB1379 Electric utilities; interconnection service standards; high-demand customers.** Requires the State Corporation Commission to establish standards for interconnection service by an electric utility to high-demand customers, as defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth that are designed to support economic growth in the Commonwealth while maintaining the reliability of the electric grid and minimizing the potential for stranded infrastructure costs.
Patron - Carnegie

C **SB339 State Corporation Commission; cost allocation proceedings for certain electric utilities.** Directs the State Corporation Commission to conduct proceedings to review cost allocation among different customer classifications for certain electric utilities. For Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power, the Commission is directed to determine if the cost allocation of transmission costs require customers that are not high-load customers, as defined in the bill, to unreasonably subsidize the transmission costs attributable to serving high-load customers by January 1, 2027. For Dominion Energy, the Commission is directed to determine if the current allocation of generation and distribution costs require customers that are not high-load customers to unreasonably subsidize the generation and distribution costs attributable to serving high-load customers by January 1, 2028.
Patron - Perry

C **SB466 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, including the costs of any associated land acquisition, from being recovered from any other customer.
Patron - Stuart

C **SB467 High load facilities; impact assessments.** Prohibits a governing body or board of zoning appeals from issuing final approval for any special exception, special use permit, variance, rezoning application, or other land disturbing permit, including building permits and erosion and sediment control permits, for a high load facility, defined in the bill, until the applicant submits a finding of no impact or minimal impact issued by the State Corporation Commission. The bill provides that upon request by the owner or operator of a high load facility, the Commission will assess whether the high load facility will have a material adverse impact upon the incumbent electric utility's ability to (i) to maintain electric grid reliability, (ii) avoid exceeding available generation or transmission capacity constraints, or (iii) meet certain statutory requirements.
Patron - Deeds

C **SB503 Phase II Utility; rates, terms, and conditions of services; certain customers.** Requires Dominion Energy Virginia to establish rates, terms, and conditions for the provision of generation and distribution services for its customers within the GS-5 rate class, as established by final order of the State Corporation Commission, that require each such customer to pay a minimum generation charge equal to 100 percent of such customers' contracted electric demand.
Patron - Roem

C **SB509 Electric utilities; licensed suppliers of electric energy; aggregate demands; total retail load limit.** Amends provisions that permit two or more individual nonresidential retail customers of electric energy to petition the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to aggregate their electric demands for the purpose of purchasing electric energy from a licensed supplier. Under the bill, the five megawatt participation threshold is based on noncoincident peak demand in calendar year 2024 and any year thereafter. Under the bill, such customers are not required to petition the Commission for approval to aggregate their demands, but are required to notify the Commission and incumbent electric utility in writing that they have met the requirements for doing so. The bill makes it voluntary rather than mandatory for the Commission to impose certain periodic monitoring and reporting obligations for such customers to demonstrate continued compliance with the aggregate demand limitations.
Patron - VanValkenburg

C **SB700 Large-Scale Electricity Consumer Infrastructure Impact Fund.** Establishes the Large-Scale Electricity Consumer Infrastructure Impact Fund (the Fund) for the purposes of offsetting infrastructure replacement and enhancement costs incurred by utilities that are directly attributable to the electricity demand of large-scale electricity consumers and providing bill credits to residential customers to offset rate increases due to the electricity demand of large-scale electricity consumers.

The bill requires each large-scale electricity consumer operating in the Commonwealth to remit an annual infrastructure impact fee in an amount determined and assessed by the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) based on energy usage and demand in megawatts and square footage of the large-scale electricity consumer. Additionally, the bill requires each locality that gives final approval for the construction or

operation of a large-scale electricity consumer on or after January 1, 2028, to remit an annual infrastructure impact fee to the Commission in an amount equal to five percent of the total annual tax revenue received by the locality that is directly or indirectly attributable to the construction or operation of each such large-scale electricity consumer. All fees collected from such assessments shall be deposited into the Fund.
Patron - Srinivasan

C **SB751 Utility Facilities Act; definition of public utility.** Provides that for the purposes of the Utility Facilities Act, the term "public utility" does not include any company that owns or operates one or more facilities for the generation, distribution, or storage of electric energy exclusively for consumption by one or more customers located on the site of such facilities or on adjoining property, provided that such facilities are connected on the customer's side of the electric meter and electricity is delivered without the use of a public utility's distribution or transmission system. The bill also provides that after such a facility operates within the certificated service territory of an electric utility for a duration of five years, such company is required to submit to such public utility a written offer for the sale of such facility.
Patron - DeSteph

Religious and Charitable Matters; Cemeteries

Passed

P **HB1237 Cemeteries; maintenance of abandoned or neglected graveyards; owner unknown.** Permits the owner of adjacent land or an incorporated nonprofit entity to petition the circuit court for an exclusive license to maintain a graveyard that has been abandoned, is unused and neglected by the owner, and the owner of such graveyard is unknown, or cannot with reasonable diligence be found. The bill requires the petitioner to (i) demonstrate a good faith effort to identify and contact an owner of record of the graveyard and (ii) publish in a newspaper having general circulation in the locality in which the graveyard is located, once a week for two consecutive weeks, notice that a petition for a maintenance license has been filed. The bill allows a court to grant a petitioner an exclusive license for the maintenance of an abandoned graveyard not to exceed five years. Such petitioner may, by petition of the court, renew such license indefinitely. After the court grants a petitioner a license to maintain the property, the owner of such graveyard may petition the circuit court of the county or city in which the graveyard is located to terminate the license.
Patron - Sewell

Failed

F **SB408 Solicitation of contributions; enforcement; private right of action.** Creates a private right of action for contributing individuals who were aggrieved by the actions of any charitable or civic organization, commercial co-venturer, professional fund-raising counsel, or professional solicitor that violated any provision of law relating to the solicitation of contributions. The bill provides that such individuals may initiate an action to recover (i) actual damages or $500, whichever is greater; (ii) reasonable costs; and (iii) attorney fees. The bill also allows the trier of fact to increase damages to an amount not to exceed three times the actual damages sustained or $1,000, whichever is greater, if it finds that the violation was willful.
Patron - Stuart

Taxation

Passed

P **HB167 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, the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Incorporated, the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust, Inc. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Askew

P **HB218 Casino gaming; consideration of service permit application.** Provides that the Virginia Lottery (the Department) may only consider the criminal record information of an applicant for a service permit for the eight years immediately preceding the date of the application. The bill also directs the Department to issue or deny any service permit within 30 business days of receipt; requires service permits to be renewed by the Virginia Lottery Board every 10 years; requires service permit application forms to include additional space for an applicant to include a written narrative detailing important facts regarding his application; and makes the service permit application fee refundable.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB282 Real property tax; classification of land and improvements; Charlottesville and Falls Church.** Authorizes the Cities of Charlottesville, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, and Newport News to levy a tax on the improvements to real property at a different rate than the tax imposed upon the land on which it is located. The rate levied on the improvements to real property shall not be zero and shall not exceed the rate of tax on the land on which it is located. This bill incorporates HB 72 and HB 261.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB341 Plastic bag tax; distribution to towns.** Requires that any town located within a county that has imposed a disposable plastic bag tax receive a distribution of revenues collected by the county based on the local sales tax distribution formula for appropriations to towns. The bill restricts a town's use of such revenues to the same purposes allowable for a county or city.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB400 Motion picture production tax credit; sunset extended.** Extends the motion picture production tax credit sunset date from taxable year 2026 to taxable year 2030. This bill is identical to SB 612.
Patron - Herring

P **HB474 Real estate with delinquent taxes or liens; appointment of special commissioner; increases required value.** Increases from $75,000 to $125,000 the maximum assessment that an individual parcel of land may be valued at to be subject to a locality's appointment of a special commissioner to convey property with delinquent taxes or

liens to the locality, to the locality's land bank entity, or to an existing nonprofit entity designated by the locality to carry out the functions of a land bank entity in lieu of sale at public auction. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Rasoul

P **HB515 Sports betting; prohibition on use of credit cards.** Prohibits the Director of the Virginia Lottery from approving the use of credit cards as a method for sports bettors to fund sports betting accounts. The bill also requires a permit holder to take reasonable measures to prohibit the acceptance of credit cards to fund sports betting accounts on its sports betting platform.
Patron - Martinez

P **HB550 Admissions tax in counties; retail sales and use tax dedicated to promotion of tourism.** Allows a county in which a state sales and use tax of at least one percent that is at least partially dedicated to the promotion of tourism is imposed to levy a tax on admissions for attendance at an event. Under current law, any county may levy a tax on admissions for attendance at an event except such counties in which a state sales and use tax of at least one percent that is at least partially dedicated to the promotion of tourism is imposed. This bill is identical to SB 400.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB557 Tangible personal property tax; electric landscaping equipment.** Establishes a separate classification of tangible personal property for electric-powered landscaping equipment employed in a trade or business and used to maintain commercial, public, or private gardens, lawns, trees, shrubs, or other plants, including lawn mowers, edgers, trimmers, leaf blowers, and chainsaws. Such property may be taxed by a locality at a rate not to exceed that applied to the general class of tangible personal property.
Patron - Reaser

P **HB716 Income tax; innocent spouse tax relief.** Authorizes the Department of Taxation to grant relief to a taxpayer liable for payment of all or part of any unpaid tax, assessment, or other deficiency that is owed due to a mistake made by such taxpayer's spouse on a joint tax return, regardless of whether the taxpayer claimed such relief from the federal government.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB854 Real property tax; local classification or designation for portion of property.** Clarifies that, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia and by adoption of a local ordinance, any locality may by designation or classification exempt from real or personal property taxes, or both, the real or personal property, or both, owned by an ownership entity of which a controlling interest of the managing member or general partner of such ownership entity is held, directly or indirectly, by one or more nonprofit organizations, notwithstanding any for-profit ownership interests, that is used for charitable or benevolent purposes. The bill requires such local ordinance to stipulate any suspension or termination of such exemption in such ordinance.
The bill also provides that any rental income or other sources of income received from any portion of real property that is used for charitable or benevolent purposes in accordance with such constitutional designation or classification shall not be considered a source of revenue or profit for which tax shall be assessed. Finally, the bill provides that the purpose of the bill is to stimulate public purpose projects by clarifying that localities have such authority and provides that the provisions of the bill providing that any county, city, or town may exempt from real or personal property taxes, or both, any real or personal property owned by an ownership entity of which a controlling interest of the managing member or general partner of such ownership entity is held directly or indirectly by one or more nonprofit organizations, notwithstanding any for-profit ownership interests, that is used for charitable or benevolent purposes are declaratory of existing law.
Patron - Cousins

P **HB915 Local taxation; extension for federal government shutdown.** Allows a local governing body to provide an extension on personal property taxes owed by federal employees who are furloughed due to a federal government shutdown and essential federal employees who continue to work during such shutdown but do not receive immediate payment for such work as a result of such shutdown. The bill states that any such extension granted shall end and the taxes shall be due no later than 90 days following the reopening of the federal government.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB954 Rounding procedures.** Provides for rounding procedures in certain cash transactions and authorizes the governing body of a locality to by ordinance set temporary procedures for the adjustment of bills and account balances for taxes and other charges due to the locality to account for the cessation of production of the penny coin by the United States Mint until July 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Department of Taxation to evaluate options and recommend a uniform procedure for such adjustments and balances for all localities of the Commonwealth and report its findings and recommendations no later than November 1, 2026.
Patron - Watts

P **HB1100 Wage garnishments; treasurers' liens for unpaid taxes and charges.** Limits a treasurer's lien issued with respect to wages or salary to 25 percent of the delinquent taxpayer's disposable earnings in a single pay period. The 25 percent limitation shall not apply (i) if the lien issuer determines that the adjusted gross income of the delinquent taxpayer exceeds 250 percent of the poverty guideline amount adjusted for household size; (ii) if the treasurer determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that the delinquent taxpayer or the property assessed with such taxes is no longer in the jurisdiction, or the taxpayer is attempting to flee the jurisdiction or is improperly disposing of assets with the intent to hinder or delay the collection of the delinquent taxes; or (iii) to any portion of the delinquent obligation collected by the delinquent taxpayer and held in trust to remit to the local governing authority. This bill is identical to SB 597. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Hernandez

P **HB1180 Department of Taxation; free tax filing program for individuals.** Directs the Tax Commissioner to develop and offer a free individual state income tax filing program, effective beginning in taxable year 2028, that is similar to the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Direct File Program as it existed during the 2025 tax filing season. The bill contains technical amendments that remove obsolete language regarding fillable forms. This bill is identical to SB 591.
Patron - Pope Adams

P **HB1358 Real property tax; special assessment for land use; notice requirements; civil penalty.** Establishes notice requirements for the sale of real estate that is valued, assessed, and taxed by a locality under a special assessment on the basis of use. The bill directs the Department of Taxation to create a written notice that may be provided to the purchaser of real estate in a land use program. The notice must include disclosures regarding the special classification of the real estate

and liability for roll-back taxes if a change in use occurs. The bill also requires settlement agents to provide this written notice to purchasers of real estate in a land use program and to obtain the purchaser's written acknowledgement of receipt of the notice. The willful failure of a settlement agent to provide the notice and obtain the written acknowledgement will subject the settlement agent to a civil penalty in an amount not exceeding $250. The bill directs the Real Estate Board to include in the residential property disclosure statement on its website a statement that the owner makes no representations or warranties with respect to whether the property is located in a locality that has adopted a land-use plan that may provide use value assessment and taxation for certain real estate and that advises purchasers to exercise due diligence to determine whether the property may be subject to roll-back taxes and interest for taxation on the basis of a use assessment and the liability for additional taxes and penalties that may attach if a change in use occurs. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 649.
Patron - Runion

P **HB1529 Tax Commissioner; information sharing; eligibility for medical assistance.** Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to provide to the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange information voluntarily provided by taxpayers for the purposes of identifying persons who meet the income eligibility requirements for medical assistance and would like to newly enroll in medical assistance. The bill authorizes the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange to divulge to the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Social Services, upon entering into a written agreement, such information to facilitate such enrollments and applications, as applicable. The bill contains technical amendments and is effective for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026.
Patron - McGuire

P **SB181 Real property tax; partial exemption for repurposing underutilized structures for residential use; local incentives.** Permits localities to provide partial real estate taxation exemptions for converted real property where such conversion establishes a residential structure that has set aside at least 30 percent of the structure for households with a per capita income at or below 80 percent of the locality's median income or where the building owner is subject to an agreement with the Commonwealth or the locality regarding the provision of affordable housing. Localities have discretion to determine (i) whether a converted building qualifies for the partial exemption, (ii) any additional restrictions and conditions, (iii) whether the exemption is the amount equal to the increase in assessed value or a percentage of such increase resulting from the repurposing of the structure, and (iv) the length of time the exemption will run with the land, not to exceed 15 years.
The bill provides that, at any time a building for which its owner claims a partial exemption no longer meets the requirements to receive such exemption, the locality may recapture all or a portion of the exemption granted in the immediately preceding year. Further, if a building owner that claims an exemption as described by the bill sells the building for which he is claiming the exemption and, after the sale, the property no longer meets the requirements described by the bill, the purchaser shall be subject to a penalty. The building owner shall provide written notification of the partial exemption to the purchaser. The bill also permits localities to grant tax incentives or provide regulatory flexibility to qualifying converted real property. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB400 Admissions tax in counties; retail sales and use tax dedicated to promotion of tourism.** Allows a county in which a state sales and use tax of at least one percent that is at least partially dedicated to the promotion of tourism is imposed to levy a tax on admissions for attendance at an event. Under current law, any county may levy a tax on admissions for attendance at an event except such counties in which a state sales and use tax of at least one percent that is at least partially dedicated to the promotion of tourism is imposed. This bill is identical to HB 550.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB591 Department of Taxation; free tax filing program for individuals.** Directs the Tax Commissioner to develop and offer a free individual state income tax filing program, effective beginning in taxable year 2028, that is similar to the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Direct File Program as it existed during the 2025 tax filing season. The bill contains technical amendments that remove obsolete language regarding fillable forms. This bill is identical to HB 1180.
Patron - McPike

P **SB612 Motion picture production tax credit; sunset extended.** Extends the motion picture production tax credit sunset date from taxable year 2026 to taxable year 2030. This bill is identical to HB 400.
Patron - Pillion

P **SB620 Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority; permitting of retail tobacco product retailers; purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; penalties; report.** Transitions and provides a more comprehensive structure for the current licensing and enforcement responsibilities related to liquid nicotine and retail tobacco products from the Department of Taxation to a permitting system administered by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage and Control Authority to conduct an unannounced buyer operation at least once every 24 months to verify that a permittee, defined in the bill, is not selling retail tobacco products to persons under 21 years of age. Portions of the bill have a delayed effective date of October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 308. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB649 Real property tax; special assessment for land use; notice requirements; civil penalty.** Establishes notice requirements for the sale of real estate that is valued, assessed, and taxed by a locality under a special assessment on the basis of use. The bill directs the Department of Taxation to create a written notice that may be provided to the purchaser of real estate in a land use program. The notice must include disclosures regarding the special classification of the real estate and liability for roll-back taxes if a change in use occurs. The bill also requires settlement agents to provide this written notice to purchasers of real estate in a land use program and to obtain the purchaser's written acknowledgement of receipt of the notice. The willful failure of a settlement agent to provide the notice and obtain the written acknowledgement will subject the settlement agent to a civil penalty in an amount not exceeding $250. The bill directs the Real Estate Board to include in the residential property disclosure statement on its website a statement that the owner makes no representations or warranties with respect to whether the property is located in a locality that has adopted a land-use plan that may provide use value assessment and taxation for certain real estate and that advises purchasers to exercise due diligence to determine whether the property may be subject to roll-back taxes and interest for taxation on the basis of a use assessment and the liability for additional taxes and penalties that may attach if a change in use

occurs. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Obenshain

P **SB661 Regulation and taxation of electronic skill gaming devices; penalties.** Authorizes and specifies the registration and licensing requirements for the manufacture, distribution, operation, hosting, and playing of electronic skill gaming devices, as defined in the bill, under the regulatory authority of the Virginia Lottery. The bill imposes a 25 percent tax on all gross profits generated from the play of such electronic skill gaming devices and provides for the use of such tax proceeds after deposit in the Virginia Gaming Commerce and Development Fund, established in the bill. The bill also imposes criminal and civil penalties for violations of the law and regulations related to electronic skill gaming devices. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Rouse

P **SB701 Virginia Lottery; disclosure of identity of winners.** Prohibits the Virginia Lottery (the Department) from disclosing information about any individual winner and exempts such information from disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act unless the winner consents to such disclosure. Under current law, the Department is prohibited from disclosing information about any individual winner whose prize exceeds $1 million unless the winner consents to such disclosure.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB756 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 consisting of no less than 1.5 million square feet, (iii) within two miles of a regional enclosed mall containing not less than 1.5 million square feet of gross building area, and (iv) outside of the Interstate 495 Beltway. This bill was vetoed by the Governor.
Patron - Surovell

Failed

F **HB10 Real property tax; classification of land and improvements.** Reclassifies improvements to real property as a separate class of real property and authorizes any locality to impose a real property tax on improvements to real property at a tax rate that is different than the rate applied to the land on which such improvements are located. Such rate may exceed, equal, or be less than the tax imposed upon the land on which the improvements are located.

Under current law, such classification is allowed only for the Cities of Fairfax, Poquoson, Richmond, and Roanoke. For the Cities of Fairfax, Richmond, and Roanoke, the rate applied shall not exceed the rate applied to land under current law. The City of Poquoson is currently the only locality authorized to impose a rate in excess of the rate applied to land. The bill applies only to taxable years beginning on and after July 1, 2026.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB12 Income tax; standard deduction.** Removes the sunset from and makes permanent the enhanced standard deduction amounts of $8,750 for single individuals and $17,500 for married individuals filing jointly. Under current law, the standard deduction is scheduled to revert to $3,000 for single individuals and $6,000 for married individuals filing jointly after taxable year 2026.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB33 Income tax; pass-through entities; sunset.** Removes the sunset for the elective entity level tax on pass-through entities that is currently set to expire after taxable year 2026.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB47 Income tax subtractions; uniformed services and foreign service retirement benefits.** Provides that, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2027, (i) the military retirement income tax subtraction allowed under current law shall include retirement income of uniformed service members and (ii) up to $40,000 of United States Foreign Service member retirement benefits shall be subtracted in computing Virginia taxable income.
Patron - Reid

F **HB72 Real property tax; classification of land and improvements; City of Fredericksburg.** Authorizes the City of Fredericksburg to levy a tax on the improvements to real property at a different rate than the tax imposed upon the land on which it is located. The rate levied on the improvements to real property shall not be zero and shall not exceed the rate of tax on the land on which it is located. This bill was incorporated into HB 282.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HB137 Individual income tax; subtractions; military benefits.** Incrementally increases the current cap of $40,000 of military benefits that may be subtracted from Virginia taxable income such that by taxable year 2030 and for all taxable years thereafter, the total amount of military benefits may be subtracted from such income.
Patron - Feggans

F **HB161 Virginia Lottery; casinos; internet gaming authorized; penalties.** Authorizes internet gaming in the Commonwealth to be regulated by the Virginia Lottery Board. The bill requires a casino gaming operator that intends to conduct internet gaming to submit a separate notice of intent to the Director of the Virginia Lottery for each internet gaming platform that it intends to offer accompanied by a $2 million platform fee that is to be deposited into the Internet Gaming Platform Fee Holding Fund for the purpose of funding start-up costs and other costs associated with the implementation and creation of a gaming commission. The bill permits the Board to issue an internet gaming operator license to a casino gaming operator that submits an application on forms approved by the Board, meets certain qualifications, and pays an initial licensing fee of $500,000. The tax rate is set at 20 percent of an internet gaming operator's adjusted gross internet gaming revenue with five percent allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, six percent allocated to the Internet Lottery Hold Harmless Fund until January 1, 2037 and the remaining 89 percent before January 1, 2037, and 95 percent after January 1, 2037, allocated to the general fund.
Patron - Simon

F **HB188 Imposition of income tax.** Establishes a new income tax bracket beginning in taxable year 2026, that taxes income in excess of $1 million at a rate of 10 percent. Currently, all income in excess of $17,000 is taxed at the rate of 5.75 percent. The bill provides that, from the additional revenue generated from such increased tax rate upon income in excess of $1 million, 50 percent will be dedicated to providing additional basic aid funding for public schools, 30 percent will be dedicated to the Child Care Subsidy Program, and 20 per-

cent will be dedicated to the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

F **HB207 Retail sales and use tax; firearm suppressor tax.** Imposes a firearm suppressor tax equal to $500 per retail sale of any firearm suppressor by a dealer in firearms. The bill provides that the revenue from such tax shall be deposited in the general fund.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB261 Real property tax; classification of land and improvements; City of Newport News.** Authorizes the City of Newport News to levy a tax on the improvements to real property at a different rate than the tax imposed upon the land on which it is located. The rate levied on the improvements to real property shall not be zero and shall not exceed the rate of tax on the land on which it is located. This bill was incorporated into HB 282.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB272 Local film industry community zones.** Allows localities to establish, by ordinance, one or more zones in a film industry community, defined in the bill as a zone designated by a locality to promote a significant film industry presence 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 film industry businesses, along with related businesses that serve the needs of the film industry, looking to locate within a film industry community zone, including the 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 film industry community zone does not preclude a filmmaker from participating in the Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund and the motion picture production tax credit.
Patron - Walker

F **HB345 Real property tax; partial exemption for certain commercial and industrial structures.** Prohibits the application of a partial real property tax exemption to the demolition or replacement of an existing structure when such structure is a registered Virginia landmark or is determined by the Department of Historic Resources to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district. Current law prohibits the application of an exemption to the demolition or replacement of an existing structure when such structure is a registered Virginia landmark or is determined to contribute to the significance of a registered historic landmark.
Patron - McLaughlin

F **HB378 Net investment income tax.** Imposes a net investment income tax on individuals, trusts, and estates beginning in taxable year 2027. The tax is generally equal to 3.8 percent of the lesser of (i) net investment income, defined in the bill, for the taxable year or (ii) federal modified adjusted gross income, defined in the bill, for such taxable year reduced by $500,000.
Patron - Bennett-Parker

F **HB403 Income tax credits; child care-related expenses.** Establishes in taxable years 2026 through 2030 (i) a refundable tax credit in an amount equal to 20 percent of the credit claimed by a qualified taxpayer, as defined in the bill, pursuant to the federal Employer-Provided Childcare Credit, and (ii) a refundable tax credit equal to 50 percent of an employer's qualified child care expenditures, as defined in the bill. The bill directs that the aggregate amount of credit for an employer's qualified child care expenditures shall not exceed $500,000 per taxable year and such amount shall be adjusted annually for inflation.
Patron - Reid

F **HB405 Health Insurance Premium Stabilization Tax Credit Act.** Establishes the Health Insurance Premium Stabilization Tax Credit Act, through which a qualified taxpayer, defined in the bill, shall be allowed a refundable income tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 in an amount equal to such taxpayer's certifiable premium. The bill provides that the Health Benefit Exchange Division of the State Corporation Commission shall determine each qualifying taxpayer's certifiable premium for each taxable year in which such taxpayer may claim a health insurance premium stabilization tax credit and shall annually report such amount to the Department of Taxation. Such amount, with respect to any taxable year, shall be the sum of each coverage month's premium balance across all coverage months for such taxable year, as described in the bill.
Patron - Reid

F **HB458 Income tax subtraction; broadband grant fund awards.** Establishes an individual and corporate income tax subtraction for any amount of public grant awards received in the taxable year for the exclusive purpose of planning, constructing, expanding, or improving upon broadband infrastructure and services in the Commonwealth beginning in taxable year 2026.

Patron - Krizek

F **HB566 Tangible personal property tax relief; rate of taxation.** Requires, for tax year 2027 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 the eligible assessed value of the qualifying vehicle. The bill defines "eligible assessed value" as $5,000 of the assessed value of a qualifying vehicle. For tax year 2028 and all tax years thereafter, for any year in which the revenues of a county, city, or town grow by five percent or more, the bill provides that the eligible assessed value applied in such county, city, or town shall increase by an additional $5,000 until such time that the eligible assessed value equals $20,000.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB588 Individual income tax; subtractions; military benefits.** Removes the cap on military benefits that may be subtracted from Virginia taxable income for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, allowing the total amount of such benefits to be subtracted from such income. Under current law, up to $40,000 of military benefits may be subtracted from Virginia taxable income.
Patron - Ballard

F **HB598 Local film industry community zones.** Allows localities to establish, by ordinance, one or more zones in a film industry community, defined in the bill as a zone designated by a locality to promote a significant film industry presence 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 film industry businesses, along with related businesses that serve the needs of the film industry, looking to locate within a film industry community zone, including the 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 film industry community zone does not preclude a filmmaker from participating in the Governor's Motion Picture Opportunity Fund and the motion picture production tax credit.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB697 Income tax; credit for surviving spouse's real property taxes.** Provides, for taxable years 2026 through 2030, a nonrefundable income tax credit in an amount equal to a surviving spouse's qualifying portion of real property taxes, defined in the bill, for any qualifying residence, also defined in the bill.
The bill defines "eligible veteran" as a veteran who had been determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to have a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability. The bill defines "surviving spouse" as the surviving spouse (i) of an eligible veteran; (ii) that would have been eligible for a real property tax exemption but for the eligible veteran's death having occurred prior to January 1, 2011; and (iii) who paid real property taxes on a qualifying residence during the taxable year for which the credit is claimed. The aggregate amount of credits allowable under the provisions of the bill shall not exceed $5 million per taxable year and shall be allocated by the Department of Taxation on a first-come, first-served basis.
Patron - Kent

F **HB729 Casino gaming; marketing or advertising to persons younger than 21 years of age prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits a casino gaming operator from marketing or advertising to any person younger than 21 years of age. The bill defines to "market or advertise" as meaning the sale of any clothing, equipment, or other product that contains any statement, symbol, depiction, or reference to a casino gaming operator or any of its affiliates. Violations of this prohibition constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB734 Tax tribunal; work group convened; report.** Requires the Chairs of the House Committee on Finance and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations to convene a work group to evaluate the feasibility of establishing an independent tax tribunal in the Commonwealth for the adjudication and resolution of tax assessment disputes. The bill directs the work group to conclude its meetings by November 1, 2027, and to submit a report summarizing its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, and the Governor no later than January 1, 2028.
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB760 Income tax; energy-efficient homes tax credits.** Authorizes a nonrefundable income tax credit, during taxable years 2026 through 2030, in an amount equal to $2,500 for the construction of an energy-efficient home or $1,000 for the purchase of such home. The bill also authorizes a nonrefundable income tax credit, during taxable years 2026 through 2030, in an amount equal to $5,000 for the construction of an extra-efficient home or $2,000 for the purchase of such home. The bill clarifies that either an eligible contractor or an eligible purchaser, but not both, shall be able to claim the credit for any single energy-efficient or extra-efficient home, as applicable, and establishes a maximum credit amount that an eligible purchaser or eligible contractor may claim per taxable year of $250,000.
Patron - Runion

F **HB784 Retail sales and use tax; commercial and industrial exemptions; disclosure of data center operator exemption.** Requires the Department of Taxation to annually publish a report including the name of all data center operators receiving a retail sales and use tax exemption, and for each such data center operator, (i) the amount of exemption claimed, (ii) whether the required job creation and capital investments goals set by a data center operator's memorandum of understanding have been met, and (iii) its employment levels and average annual wages paid to its employees.
Patron - Anderson

F **HB805 Land preservation tax credit; maximum amount increase.** Increases from $75 million to $100 million, beginning in calendar year 2026, the maximum amount of land preservation tax credits that may be issued in a calendar year.
Patron - Carr

F **HB897 Retail sales and use tax; exemption for data centers.** Requires a data center operator, in order to be eligible for the existing data center sales and use tax exemption, to (i) beginning July 1, 2027, not use co-located generating facilities that emit carbon dioxide, other than backup generators; (ii) beginning July 1, 2029, contract for a certain percentage of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates from clean energy resources, as evidenced by a certification from the State Corporation Commission, or contracts and service agreements; (iii) utilize only non-carbon dioxide-emitting backup power sources, such as energy storage resources, beginning on a date dependent on the data center's initial service date; and (iv) demonstrate, for any new data center issued a final certificate of occupancy or its equivalent on or after January 1, 2030, or for any data center operator seeking an amended memorandum of understanding, sufficient investment in environmental management and energy efficiency measures to provide system-wide benefits, as defined in the bill. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Sullivan

F **HB956 License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts.** Provides that, for purposes of the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts, such receipts shall be determined based upon the facts and circumstances of the taxpayer's business operation, without regard to the amount of income, receipts, or revenue ultimately computed as taxable under the methodology used by the state or country to which such receipts are attributable. The bill defines "income or other tax based upon income" as a net income tax, as defined in federal law, or, if the state or country to which such receipts are attributable does not have a net income tax as defined in federal law, a business activity tax such state or country does have, the measure of which is based in whole or in part on gross or net income or receipts.
Patron - Watts

F **HB959 Taxable income; subtractions; retirement income of certain federal employees.** Establishes, beginning in taxable year 2026, an individual income tax subtraction for 20 percent of the retirement income of retirees covered under the federal Civil Service Retirement System.
Patron - Watts

F **HB961 Retail sales and use tax; commercial and industrial exemptions; data centers.** Limits, beginning July 1, 2026, the retail sales and use tax exemption for computer equipment or enabling software to (i) the purchase or lease of equipment or enabling software for use in a data center, provided that such purchase or lease takes place prior to the start of operations for such data center, or (ii) the purchase or

lease of equipment or enabling software as part of a refresh cycle of an existing data center. The bill defines "refresh cycle" to mean purchases or leases made to replace, repair, or upgrade the equipment or enabling software that improve the energy efficiency of such equipment or software.
Patron - Watts

F **HB977 Conformity of the tax laws of the Commonwealth to the Internal Revenue Code.** Repeals rolling conformity and reestablishes fixed date conformity with the Internal Revenue Code as it existed on December 31, 2024, for Virginia income tax purposes beginning with taxable year 2025.
Under current law, Virginia conforms to federal tax changes as soon as they are enacted by Congress, with certain exceptions. Virginia deconforms from any amendment that would increase or decrease general fund revenues by more than $15 million in the fiscal year in which the amendment was enacted or any of the succeeding four fiscal years. The $15 million threshold is adjusted for inflation annually beginning in 2024. Virginia also deconforms from all amendments occurring between adjournment sine die of the previous regular session and the first day of the subsequent regular session if the cumulative impact of such amendments would increase or decrease general fund revenues by more than $75 million in the fiscal year in which the amendments were enacted or any of the succeeding four fiscal years. Deconformity under rolling conformity does not apply to any federal tax changes that the General Assembly subsequently adopts or to any federal tax extender.
However, the twelfth enactment of the 2025 Appropriation Act temporarily paused rolling conformity generally for any federal tax changes enacted on or after January 1, 2025, but before January 1, 2027, and thereby still required Virginia to conform to any federal tax changes that the General Assembly subsequently adopts and to any federal tax extenders.
Patron - Watts

F **HB991 Virginia taxable income; subtractions; volunteer firefighters and volunteer emergency medical services personnel.** Provides, beginning in taxable year 2027, a state income tax subtraction of $2,000 for individuals who rendered qualifying services as bona fide volunteers, defined in the bill. The bill defines "qualifying services" as volunteer firefighting and fire prevention services, emergency medical services, auxiliary police officer services, and emergency rescue services performed for nonprofit organizations that operate exclusively for the benefit of the general public. Such services include all training and training-related activities required by law to perform such services.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1001 Commonwealth Savers Plan; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; Virginia College Access and Affordability Scholarship Fund established; work group; report.** Directs the transfer of actuarial surplus defined benefit prepaid tuition contract funds from the Commonwealth Savers Plan (the Plan) Fund into a DB529 Fund established by the bill to be deposited into the Virginia College Access and Affordability Scholarship Fund (the Access Fund) established by the bill. Under the bill, the DB529 Fund and the Access Fund operate as subfunds of the Commonwealth Savers Plan Fund.
The bill further provides that the Plan shall initially deposit $500 million from the DB529 Fund into the Access Fund to be invested and managed by the Plan. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall no less than biennially complete an independent evaluation and risk assessment of the Plan's risk assessment model, assumptions, and other measures employed by the Plan related to the DB529 Fund and the Access Fund.
Funds in the Access Fund shall be used to establish a scholarship program that is managed and administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (the Council). The scholarship program provides scholarship awards to students enrolled in an eligible education program, defined in the bill, and a portion of the funds are to be devoted to college access resources or programs to assist low-income students, first generation college students, students from underrepresented communities, or other at-risk students with their introduction to the higher education system in Virginia, college applications, financial aid applications, and resources assisting with a successful transition from high school to college. The Council is required to report on the Access Fund and scholarship program no later than December 31 of each year.
Finally, the bill (i) directs the Council to establish a work group of higher education stakeholders to make recommendations on allocations of funds available through the Access Fund and scholarship program and directs the work group to report to the House Committees on Education and Appropriations and Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations no later than November 1, 2026, and (ii) prohibits the Plan from implementing or taking part in any initiatives relating to the aforementioned college access programs on or after July 1, 2026, except for existing access programs related to a prepaid tuition contract entered into on or before June 30, 2026, and existing program offerings made available for SOAR Virginia and GEAR UP Virginia.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1004 Child tax credit; Virginia adjusted gross income.** Creates a one-time tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 for taxpayers whose households include dependents younger than 13 years of age and whose family Virginia adjusted gross income, defined in the bill, does not exceed $100,000. Such credit shall be in an amount equal to $300 for each such dependent and only one credit may be claimed for each such dependent. The bill provides that if the taxpayer is a resident of the Commonwealth for the full taxable year, the credit is refundable. Otherwise, the credit is nonrefundable.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1051 Income tax; real property tax relief credit.** Provides a refundable income tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 to eligible taxpayers, defined in the bill, who incur real property taxes in an amount equal to or greater than four percent of their federal adjusted gross income for up to $500 for single individuals and $1000 for married persons filing jointly.
Patron - Phillips

F **HB1080 Department of Taxation; memorandum of lien for collection of taxes; time to process requested information.** Provides that no memorandum of lien shall be filed until at least 60 days after the Department of Taxation has requested any information from the taxpayer that would otherwise alleviate the need for collection of past due taxes or fees, including penalties and interest. The bill also provides that no memorandum of lien shall be filed until the Department has fully processed all of such requested information received by the Department regarding such taxpayer.
Patron - Webert

F **HB1094 Firearms; excise tax on manufacturers.** Imposes a firearm and ammunition tax equal to 11 percent of the gross receipts from the sale and distribution of any firearm or ammunition by a firearms or ammunition manufacturer, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill provides that pro-

ceeds from such tax shall be distributed to the Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund.
Patron - Laufer

F **HB1123 Income tax; credit for certain health care providers.** Provides, for taxable years 2026 through 2030, a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for eligible health care providers, defined in the bill, who provide health care in an underserved community during the taxable year. The bill defines "underserved community" as an area within the Commonwealth identified by the Board of Health as medically underserved.
The amount of the credit shall equal $5,000 if the eligible health care provider provided at least 1,600 hours of health care in an underserved community during the taxable year or $2,500 if the eligible health care provider provided at least 800 hours of health care in an underserved community during the taxable year. The bill provides that such providers shall only be allowed to claim such credit for two taxable years. The aggregate amount of credits allowable under the provisions of the bill shall not exceed $5 million per taxable year.
Patron - Thornton

F **HB1135 Income tax; credit for affordable housing projects.** Provides, for taxable years 2026 through 2030, a nonrefundable income tax credit for qualifying taxpayers, defined in the bill as taxpayers that, during the taxable year, own a direct or indirect interest through one or more pass-through entities, in an affordable housing project, also defined in the bill. The credit amount shall be equal to the product of (i) the portion of such taxpayer's ownership in such affordable housing project and (ii) the sum of 50 percent of the difference between the fair market value of each unit rented to a qualifying tenant and the rent actually charged to such tenant for the unit, computed for that portion of the taxable year in which the unit was rented to such tenant. The bill defines a qualifying tenant as a tenant with a Virginia adjusted gross income less than 120 percent of the area median income, adjusted for family size. The aggregate amount of credits allowable under the provisions of the bill shall not exceed $5 million per taxable year.
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB1155 Income tax subtraction; broadband grant fund awards.** Establishes an individual and corporate income tax subtraction for any amount of public grant awards received in the taxable year for the exclusive purpose of planning, constructing, expanding, or improving upon broadband infrastructure and services in the Commonwealth beginning in taxable year 2025.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1156 Additional local sales and use tax to support schools; referendum.** Authorizes all localities to impose an additional local sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed one percent with the revenue used only for public school capital projects, as defined in the bill, 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.
Patron - Hodges

F **HB1179 Transportation funding.** Changes various provisions of existing transportation funds, including the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital Fund, and creates new funds for the Northern Virginia Transportation District and the localities embraced by the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission for regional transit purposes. The bill imposes a regional sales and use tax for certain localities, a tax on transportation network companies, a tax on retail deliveries, and a tax on regional commercial parking. The bill also imposes a regional highway use fee on all vehicles in the Commonwealth that are subject to the existing highway use fee.
Patron - Tran

F **HB1199 Local license taxes; authority to exempt; businesses regulated by boards within the Department of Health Professions.** Authorizes localities to exempt any businesses, trades, professions, and occupations regulated by boards within the Department of Health Professions from the license tax.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1210 Individual income tax subtraction; long-term capital gains from sale of principal residence.** Provides an individual income tax subtraction in taxable years 2025 through 2029 for income that is (i) taxed as a long-term capital gain for federal income tax purposes, (ii) attributable to the sale of property that served as the taxpayer's principal residence for at least two of the five years preceding such sale, and (iii) in excess of federal limitations only allowing an exclusion from gross income for up to $250,000, or $500,000, for joint filers, of gain from such a sale.
Patron - Sewell

F **HB1211 Individual income tax; first-time homebuyer tax credit.** Creates a one-time, nonrefundable individual income tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 for the purchase of a principal residence by a first-time homebuyer, as such terms are defined in the bill, in an amount equal to $5,000. The bill requires that any credits be repaid if the principal residence is sold or no longer serves as the first-time homebuyer's principal residence within three years from the purchase date of such property.
Patron - Sewell

F **HB1258 Pass-through limitation tax credit; report; penalty.** Establishes, for taxable years 2026 through 2030, a tax credit for owners of qualified rental property, as defined by the bill, in an amount equal to a percentage of any qualifying tax increase in real property tax on such qualified rental property. The bill requires a taxpayer to certify that there are limitations on rent increases for any qualified rental property to be eligible for the credit. Under the bill, the Department of Taxation is required to develop guidelines for the administration of the credit, including an application process for the credit. The bill requires the Department to audit no less than five percent of the qualified rental properties for which a credit is claimed in a taxable year. If, in the process of such audit, the Department determines that the owner of a qualified rental property that claimed a credit falsely certified compliance with any of the credit eligibility requirements, the credit is subject to recapture. The bill provides that any owner of a qualified rental property that knowingly makes a false statement in an application for the credit is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. The bill instructs the Department to report on the utilization of the credit by November 1 of each year to the House Committee on Appropriations, House Committee on Finance, and Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations.
Patron - Scott, P.A.

F **HB1351 Income tax; subtraction; retirement income of certain federal employees.** Establishes, beginning in taxable year 2026, an individual income tax subtraction for

20 percent of the retirement income of retirees covered under the federal Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).
Patron - Leftwich

F **HB1362 Sales and use tax; sales through vending machines.** Provides that, beginning January 1, 2027, only a one percent local sales and use tax shall be applied to sales through vending machines of food purchased for human consumption or essential personal hygiene products. Under current law, the rate applicable to such sales is 5.3 percent or six percent, as applicable depending on the locality, plus the one percent local sales and use tax.
Patron - McNamara

F **HB1412 Child day-care facility investment and child day-care expense reimbursement tax credits.** Reinstates, beginning January 1, 2027, the day-care facility investment tax credit previously deemed obsolete. The bill allows a taxpayer to claim a nonrefundable income tax credit for 25 percent of amounts incurred for eligible child day-care expenses of the taxpayer's employees that are either paid directly by the taxpayer or reimbursed by such taxpayer to the taxpayer's employees during the taxable year. The bill also increases from $25,000 to $50,000 the amount a taxpayer may claim a credit for establishing a child day-care facility in taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2027. Finally, the bill provides that approval of applications for the credits shall be limited to those that are assumed to result in no more than $5 million of credits in any fiscal year. Under current law, such limit is $100,000.
Patron - Wilt

F **HB1422 Tax credit; solar energy equipment.** Establishes a nonrefundable income tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for individuals who incur allowable expenses, as defined in the bill, for the purchase and installation of solar energy equipment, also defined in the bill. An individual who properly claims this credit shall be allowed a credit in the amount of 15 percent of the cost of such equipment and allowable expenses, up to $1,000. The aggregate amount of credits allowable under the provisions of the bill shall not exceed $5 million per taxable year.
Patron - McGuire

F **HB1449 Local tax authority; nicotine vapor products.** Authorizes localities by ordinance to impose a sales and use tax on nicotine vapor products and includes directives for the administration and enforcement of any such ordinance. The bill states that any tax so imposed may exceed the rate of tax imposed on such products otherwise provided by relevant law. The bill also directs the Department of Taxation to consult with localities, the Virginia Association of Counties, and the Virginia Municipal League in implementing and administering such local taxation of nicotine vapor products.
Patron - Pope Adams

F **HB1454 Individual income tax; subtractions; Segal AmeriCorps Education Award.** Provides that, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, any amounts received as income from or otherwise pursuant to the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, as described in the bill, shall be subtracted from an individual's Virginia taxable income.
Patron - Bulova

F **HB1461 Microchip and semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain tax credits; Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority evaluation; report.** Creates a series of individual and corporate income tax credits for companies engaged in the microchip and semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain business that between January 1, 2026, and December 31, 2036, (i) invest at least $400 million, (ii) create at least 100 new jobs, (iii) pay an average prevailing wage salary, and (iv) submit a plan for use of and committing $50 million of community investments.

The bill creates three refundable tax credits in taxable years 2026 through 2030 in amounts equal to (a) five percent of capital investment expenditures incurred during the year, (b) six percent of child care services expenditures incurred during the year, and (c) 7.5 percent of gross wages paid for each new job created during the year.
Patron - Franklin, M.A.

F **HB1474 Virginia aircraft sales and use tax; exception for dealers.** Provides that the tax levied and imposed upon the retail sale of every aircraft sold in the Commonwealth and upon the use in the Commonwealth of any aircraft required to be licensed by the Department of Aviation under the Virginia Aircraft Sales and Use Tax Act shall not apply to such sale or use by a dealer, defined under law as any person owning five or more aircraft during the calendar year who the Tax Commissioner finds is in the regular business of selling aircraft. The bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - O'Quinn

F **HB1527 Sports betting; NCAA Division I sports.** Creates an exception to the prohibition on placing or accepting bets on Virginia college sports by allowing such bets to be placed or accepted on Virginia colleges participating in an NCAA Division I competition for a given sport. The bill also imposes a tax of 50 percent on permit holders for bets placed on NCAA Division I sports played at Virginia colleges and universities and directs the Virginia Lottery to allocate 100 percent of such tax revenue to the NCAA Division I Sports Betting Fund, created in the bill, for the purpose of supporting NCAA Division I college and university athletic programs in the Commonwealth. The bill's effective date is contingent upon the enactment of legislation by the General Assembly that establishes a Virginia Gaming Commission or other similar agency for the purposes of overseeing legal forms of gaming in the Commonwealth.
Patron - McGuire

F **SB66 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 public school capital projects, defined in the bill, 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 a recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.
Patron - McPike

F **SB96 Income tax credit; braille labeling program.** Creates a nonrefundable individual and corporate income tax credit, as applicable, for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for up to $50,000 of expenditures incurred in the development and implementation of a braille labeling program on products, items, or packages sold in or shipped within the Commonwealth. The bill specifies that the aggregate amount of such credits allowed for all taxpayers in a taxable year is $500,000 and that any credit not usable for the taxable year in

which it is first allowed shall not be carried over for credit in any succeeding taxable year.
Patron - Roem

F **SB118 Virginia Lottery; casinos; internet gaming authorized; penalties.** Authorizes internet gaming in the Commonwealth to be regulated by the Virginia Lottery Board. The bill permits the Board to issue an internet gaming operator license to a casino gaming operator that submits an application on forms approved by the Board, meets certain qualifications, and pays an initial licensing fee of $500,000. The tax rate is set at 20 percent of an internet gaming operator's adjusted gross internet gaming revenue with three percent allocated to the Gaming Regulatory Fund, two percent allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, and 95 percent allocated to the Modern Public Education Fund.
Patron - Locke

F **SB224 Tax administration; award for tax underpayment detection assistance.** Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to award monetary compensation to individuals who provide information that assists the Department of Taxation in the successful collection of delinquent state taxes owed by other individual or business taxpayers. The bill provides that such awards may be given only if (i) the underpaying individual taxpayer's gross income exceeds $100,000 or the underpaying business taxpayer's gross income exceeds $500,000 and (ii) the amount in question exceeds $50,000.
Patron - Surovell

F **SB465 Sales and use tax exemption; data centers.** 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 have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or, 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) by January 1, 2028, it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources.
Patron - Deeds

F **SB572 Retail sales and use tax; exemptions for tangible personal property used for public improvements.** Exempts from retail sales and use tax any tangible personal property reasonably necessary for use or consumption by a contractor in connection with a contract with the Commonwealth, any political subdivision of the Commonwealth, or the United States to make public improvements to real property owned by such governmental entity or real property to which title shall pass to the governmental entity upon completion of such contract.
Patron - Reeves

F **SB607 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 - Lucas

F **SB609 Virginia Lottery and Gaming Authority established.** Establishes the Virginia Lottery and Gaming Authority to oversee and regulate all forms of legal gambling in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Lucas

F **SB662 Taxation and revenues of the Commonwealth.** Extends the sunset from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2029, for the standard deduction amounts of $8,750 for single individuals and $17,500 for married individuals filing jointly. Under current law, the standard deduction is scheduled to revert to $3,000 for single individuals and $6,000 for married individuals filing jointly after taxable year 2026.

The bill also extends the sunset from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2029, for the increase in Virginia's refundable earned income tax credit from 15 percent to 20 percent of the allowable federal earned income tax credit. Under current law, the Virginia refundable earned income tax credit expires in taxable year 2027 and Virginia's nonrefundable earned income tax credit, which has no expiration date, is equal to 20 percent of the federal credit.
Patron - Lucas

F **SB664 Conformity of the tax laws of the Commonwealth to the Internal Revenue Code and state taxation.** Provides that Virginia will deconform from certain provisions of the Internal Revenue Code for state income tax purposes, including the suspension of the overall limitation on itemized deductions, the bonus depreciation allowance for certain assets, the limitation on the election to expense certain depreciable business assets, the deduction for domestic research or experimental expenditures, and the modification of the limitation on business interest.

The bill also provides that Virginia will not conform to (i) any amendment of the Internal Revenue Code enacted on or after January 1, 2026, with a projected impact that would increase or decrease general fund revenues by any amount in the fiscal year in which the amendment was enacted or any of the succeeding four fiscal years and (ii) all amendments enacted on or after January 1, 2026, if the cumulative projected impact of such amendments would increase or decrease general fund revenues by any amount in the fiscal year in which the amendments were enacted or any of the succeeding four fiscal years, but Virginia will still conform to any federal tax changes that the General Assembly subsequently adopts and to any federal tax extenders.

Under current law, Virginia conforms to federal tax changes as soon as they are enacted by Congress, with certain exceptions. However, the twelfth enactment of the 2025 Appropriation Act temporarily paused rolling conformity generally for any federal tax changes enacted on or after January 1, 2025, but before January 1, 2027, and thereby still required Virginia to conform to any federal tax changes that the General Assembly subsequently adopts and to any federal tax extenders.
Patron - Lucas

F **SB676 Income tax; standard deduction and earned income tax credit.** Removes the sunset from and makes permanent the standard deduction amounts of $8,750 for single individuals and $17,500 for married individuals filing jointly. Under current law, the standard deduction is scheduled to revert to $3,000 for single individuals and $6,000 for married individuals filing jointly after taxable year 2026. The bill also removes the sunset from and makes permanent the increase in Virginia's refundable earned income tax credit from 15 percent to 20 percent of the allowable federal earned income tax credit. Under current law, the Virginia refundable earned income tax credit expires in taxable year 2027 and Vir-

ginia's nonrefundable earned income tax credit, which has no expiration date, is equal to 20 percent of the federal credit.
Patron - Rouse

F **SB696 Corporate income tax rate; reduction.** Reduces the corporate income tax rate by 1.25 percent each taxable year from the current six percent rate until the rate equals 2.25 percent for taxable year 2028 and thereafter.
Patron - Jordan

F **SB697 Sales and use tax; dealer discount.** Provides that the state retail sales and use tax dealer discount percentages allowed from the first three percent of such tax imposed shall be (i) eight percent for monthly taxable sales between $0 and $30,000; (ii) four percent for monthly taxable sales between $30,001 and $62,500; (iii) 1.2 percent for monthly taxable sales between $62,501 and $208,000; and (iv) 0.8 percent for monthly taxable sales of $208,001 and above.
Under current statutory law, such dealer discount percentages are (a) four percent for monthly taxable sales between $0 and $62,500; (b) three percent for monthly taxable sales between $62,501 and $208,000; and (c) two percent for monthly taxable sales of $208,001 and above. However, superseding budgetary provisions (1) limit such dealer discount percentages to (A) 1.6 percent for monthly taxable sales between $0 and $62,500; (B) 1.2 percent for monthly taxable sales between $62,501 to $208,000; and (C) 0.8 percent for monthly taxable sales of $208,001 and above and (2) suspend the discount entirely for dealers subject to the electronic funds transfer requirement in relevant law.
Patron - Mulchi

F **SB712 Tobacco products tax; local tax authority; nicotine vapor products.**
Patron - Stuart

F **SB732 Income tax; nonpublic and public school tax credits.** Creates a refundable nonpublic school and a refundable public school tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for (i) up to $5,000 in qualifying expenses, defined in the bill, incurred by the parent or legal guardian of an eligible student domiciled within Planning District 15 and enrolled in home education or attending a private school or (ii) up to $1,500 in qualifying expenses incurred by the parent or legal guardian of an eligible student domiciled within Planning District 15 and enrolled in a public school. However, the bill limits such amounts that may be used for qualifying expenses incurred for computer expenses, internet access expenses, or transportation-related purposes to $2,000 and $600 for such taxpayers, respectively.
If the taxpayer's family Virginia adjusted gross income does not exceed 300 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the taxpayer may claim an additional $2,500 refundable tax credit and may use up to an additional $1,000 for qualifying expenses incurred for computer expenses, internet access expenses, or transportation-related purposes. The bill allows the taxpayer one credit for one eligible student per year and requires the taxpayer to submit purchase receipts to verify qualifying expenses for each credit.
The aggregate amount of credits allowable for each credit is limited to $25 million per taxable year. In the event that the aggregate amount of credits claimed in a single taxable year is greater than 90 percent of such amount, such aggregate credit cap amount shall be increased in the immediately succeeding taxable year by 10 percent.
Patron - Sturtevant

F **SB766 Retail sales and use tax; penalty and interest for certain dealers.** Provides that any dealer that (i) is an operator of an event venue that neither provides nor offers overnight stays, (ii) fails to make any sales and use tax return and pay the full amount of such tax for those transactions that include both items that are taxable and nontaxable, and (iii) has demonstrated no willful intent to defraud the Commonwealth shall only be liable for penalty and interest amounts calculated upon the amount of such unpaid tax rather than the amount of the lump sum of the subject transactions.
Patron - Peake

F **SB774 Financial institutions; processing fee on taxes prohibited; civil penalty.** Prohibits any payment card network from imposing or receiving any processing fee on the portion of any transaction comprising sales and use tax on any electronic payment transaction, defined in the bill as any transaction in which a person uses a debit card, credit card, or other payment code or device issued or approved through a payment card network to debit a deposit account or use a line of credit, whether authorization is based on a signature, personal identification number, or other means. The bill imposes a civil penalty of $1,000 per violation and requires any such fees to be refunded to the merchant. Such penalties are to be collected by the State Corporation Commission and deposited into the state treasury. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.
Patron - Mulchi

F **SB799 Tangible personal property tax relief; rate of taxation.** Removes the $950 million cap, beginning in tax year 2027 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 2027 and all tax years thereafter, each county, city, or town to reduce its local tax rate on qualifying vehicles to no greater than $0.00000001 per $100 of assessed value of the qualifying vehicle.
Patron - Durant

F **SB819 Virginia Lottery; powers of the Virginia Lottery Board; advertising restrictions; age verification.** Directs the Virginia Lottery to study the feasibility of furthering responsible gaming as it relates to the lottery, casino gaming, and sports betting, and to develop an implementation plan to require all lottery terminals to possess proper age verification software to ensure that a consumer is 18 years of age or older. The Director of the Virginia Lottery shall report any findings to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology by October 1, 2026.
Patron - Suetterlein

F **SB828 Motion picture production tax credit; sunset.**
Patron - Bagby

Carried Over

C **HB13 Sales and use tax; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products.** Eliminates the remaining one percent local sales and use tax that is imposed on food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products beginning on July 1, 2026. Under current law, no other sales and use tax is applied to such products. The bill requires an equivalent amount of revenue to be distributed to cities and counties on a monthly basis in compensation for the lost tax revenue.
Patron - McNamara

C **HB68 Local taxation of real property; effect on rate when assessment results in tax increase; consideration of inflation.** Provides that, in determining a locality's total real

property tax levies for purposes of determining the rate of levy that the locality shall impose upon such properties in order to produce no more than 101 percent of the previous year's real property tax levies, such real property assessed value shall be reduced by the greater of (i) the change in the United States Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the U.S. Department of Labor, since the fiscal year of the last assessment or (ii) zero.

Patron - McNamara

C **HB175 Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty.** Authorizes localities by ordinance to provide a total exemption from real property taxes regardless of assessed value beginning in taxable year 2026 for surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty. Under current law, a total exemption is only allowed for such surviving spouses for those dwellings in the locality with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential.

Patron - Feggans

C **HB183 First-time home buyer savings plan; townhouses; principal limits.** Includes townhouses in the definition of single-family residence for purposes of the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Plan Act. The bill also increases (i) the aggregate amount of principal that can be contributed to a first-time home buyer savings account from $50,000 to $100,000 and (ii) the limit on the amount of principal and interest or other income on the principal that may be retained in such an account from $150,000 to $200,000. The bill defines first-time home buyer, and includes that term in the definition of qualified beneficiary.

Patron - Reid

C **HB243 Corporate welfare tax.** Imposes on large employers, as defined in the bill, a corporate welfare tax equal to 100 percent of the qualified employee benefits received by any employees of such large employer residing in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department of Taxation to obtain identifying data for individuals receiving qualified federal benefits, as defined by the bill, from the Department of Social Services pursuant to an interagency agreement and to compare such data to employment rosters received quarterly from large employers to determine the amount of qualified federal benefits received by employees of such large employers. The bill also prohibits an employer, in connection with the selection or referral of applicants or candidates for employment, to make inquiries or otherwise seek information relating to whether such applicant receives qualified federal benefits.

Patron - Cole, J.G.

C **HB334 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.

Patron - Rasoul

C **HB372 Earned income tax credit.** Removes the sunset from and makes permanent the increase in Virginia's refundable earned income tax credit from 15 percent to 20 percent of the allowable federal earned income tax credit. Under current law, the Virginia refundable earned income tax credit expires in taxable year 2027, and Virginia's nonrefundable earned income tax credit, which has no expiration date, is equal to 20 percent of the federal credit.

Patron - Price

C **HB504 Income tax; tax credit for certain small businesses.** Establishes a one-time, nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for eligible small businesses, as defined in the bill, equal to $2,500. The bill limits the total aggregate amount of small business credits claimed to $5 million per taxable year.

Patron - McAuliff

C **HB563 Personal property taxation; classifications; major energy consumer equipment upgrades.** Establishes a special classification for generating equipment purchased on and after July 1, 2026, for the purpose of upgrading the backup or standby power systems of a major energy consumer (i) from equipment that does not meet Tier 2 emission standards to selective catalytic reduction generators that meet or exceed Tier 4 emission standards or (ii) to meet New Source Performance Standards as enforced by the Department of Environmental Quality, as applicable. The bill provides that such equipment may be taxed at a lower rate than is applied to other tangible personal property.

Patron - Reid

C **HB609 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 2027.

Patron - McNamara

C **HB641 Virginia's Great Outdoors Act established; data center land conservation tax; land preservation distributions and appropriations.** Creates a data center land preservation tax on and after January 1, 2027, in an amount equal to $3 per square foot of each data center facility footprint, as defined in the bill, and directs no less than $250 million of revenues from the tax to be distributed for various land protection and preservation purposes, including into the Virginia Tribal Commitment Fund, as created in the bill.

The bill also repeals provisions requiring the Governor to include in the budget bill or in his amendments to the general appropriation act a recommended appropriation from the general fund, up to $20 million, for land preservation as follows: (i) 80 percent of the unissued credits to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, of which at least 50 percent must be used for acquisitions with public access; (ii) 10 percent to the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund; and (iii) 10 percent to the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund.

Patron - Krizek

C **HB703 Sales and use tax; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products.** Eliminates the remaining one percent local sales and use tax that is imposed on food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Under current law, no other sales and use tax is applied to such products. The bill requires an equivalent amount of revenue to be distributed to cities and counties on a monthly basis in compensation for the

lost tax revenue. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Tata

C HB720 Tax on electronic distribution of material harmful to minors. Creates a tax at the rate of 10 percent of the gross receipts of any commercial entity operating an adult website, defined in the bill, for all sales, distributions, memberships, and other content amounting to material harmful to minors, defined in the bill, that is produced, sold, filmed, generated, or otherwise based in the Commonwealth. The bill provides that the revenues generated by this tax shall be deposited into the Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Trust Fund.
Patron - Zehr

C HB900 Sales and use tax on taxable services and digital personal property; taxes levied in certain transportation districts; funding for transportation. Decreases the retail sales and use tax from 4.3 percent to four percent and expands such tax to taxable services, defined in the bill, and digital personal property, also defined in the bill, beginning on January 1, 2027.
Additionally, the bill imposes (i) an additional retail sales and use tax in any county or city that is a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.385 percent; any county or city that is embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority but that is not a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.615 percent; and any county or city that is a member of the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.2 percent; (ii) a retail delivery fee in the amount of 20 cents upon each retail delivery, defined in the bill, made in any county or city located within the Northern Virginia Transportation District or the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission; and (iii) a regional highway use fee on all vehicles in the Commonwealth that are subject to the existing highway use fee.
Patron - Sullivan

C HB919 Firearm and ammunition tax. Imposes a firearm and ammunition tax equal to 11 percent of the gross receipts from the retail sale of any firearm or ammunition by a dealer in firearms, firearms manufacturer, or ammunition vendor, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill provides that proceeds from such tax shall be distributed to the Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund.
Patron - Lopez

C HB946 Income tax credit; affordable rental housing tax credit. Establishes a nonrefundable tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for eligible landlords equal to $750 per affordable dwelling unit, as certified by the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill limits the (i) total amount of such credits available to an eligible landlord to $15,000 per taxable year and (ii) aggregate amount of such credits claimed to $5 million per taxable year.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

C HB958 Corporate income tax; taxable income; net operating loss. Provides that, beginning in taxable year 2027, for purposes of calculating the Virginia taxable income of corporations, federal income means any income taxable to the corporation under federal law for such year excluding net operating loss deductions under federal tax law.
The bill also creates a Virginia corporate income tax net operating loss deduction, beginning in taxable year 2027, in an amount equal to the aggregate Virginia net operating losses for such taxable year, plus any transitional net operating loss deduction, pursuant to a calculation in the bill, and subject to certain other adjustments in the bill. The bill also prohibits a corporation's Virginia taxable income, after all other adjustments, allocation, and apportionment, from being reduced below zero by a Virginia net operating loss deduction. The bill also includes particular procedures for corporate income tax returns prepared on a consolidated or a combined basis.
Finally, the bill directs the Department of Taxation to issue preliminary guidelines implementing the provisions of the bill and to cooperate with and seek counsel from interested stakeholders before issuing its final guidelines.
The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Watts

C HB960 Personal property taxes; valuation. Requires that tangible personal property employed in a trade or business, other than such property set out for different valuation in current law, shall be valued by means of a percentage or percentages of original cost to the taxpayer. Current law requires such property to be valued only by means of a percentage or percentages of original cost. The provisions of this bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Watts

C HB978 Taxation in the Commonwealth. 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 digital services. Digital services are defined in the bill as the following: software application services, computer-related services, website hosting and design, data storage, and digital subscription services. The services taxed under the bill include any transaction for digital services where the purchaser or consumer of the service is a business but do not include any service otherwise exempt under law.
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 as follows: first, (i) revenue generated by the imposition of such tax on delivery services in the Northern Virginia Transportation District shall be distributed to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and (ii) all other revenues generated by the imposition of such tax on delivery services shall be distributed to the Commonwealth Transportation Fund. Of the remaining revenues, (a) 60 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of school-age population and (b) 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 (1) automatically certified for free school meals because of participation in social services programs, (2) participants in a program of special education, or (3) 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.

Finally, the bill exempts food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products from all state, local, and regional sales taxes on and after July 1, 2026. Under current law, food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products are subject only to the one percent local option sales tax.

Patron - Watts

C **HB979** **Taxation provisions.** Increases the standard deduction to $10,000 for single individuals, $15,000 for individuals eligible to claim head of household for federal tax purposes, and $20,000 for married individuals beginning in taxable year 2027 and indexes such deduction amount for inflation beginning in taxable year 2028. The bill also removes the aggregate amount of housing opportunity tax credits that may be claimed for qualified projects across all calendar years and exempts food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products from the local sales tax. The bill establishes two new tax brackets beginning on and after January 1, 2027, that tax income in excess of $600,000 but not in excess of $1,000,000 at a rate of eight percent and income in excess of $1,000,000 at a rate of 10 percent. Finally, the bill provides that 50 percent of revenues generated by the new tax brackets will be dedicated to localities for maintenance, operation, capital outlays, debt and interest payments, or other expenses incurred in the operation of public schools.

Patron - Watts

C **HB1008** **Motor vehicle sales and use tax; exemption.** Exempts from the retail sales and use tax imposed on motor vehicles in Virginia, any electric vehicle, defined in the bill, being registered for the first time in the Commonwealth if the applicant holds a valid, assignable title or registration issued to him by another state or a branch of the United States Armed Forces and such applicant has owned the vehicle for less than 12 months and provides evidence of purchasing the vehicle while a resident of another state. Current law provides such first-time registration exemption only if the vehicle has been owned by the applicant for longer than 12 months or less than 12 months if such applicant provides evidence of such sales tax payment made to another state.

Patron - Tran

C **HB1074** **State taxation in the Commonwealth.** Makes numerous changes to the Commonwealth's tax structure. The bill creates a new income tax bracket for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, for income in excess of $1,000,000, which is to be taxed at 7.75 percent. The bill increases the standard deduction to $10,000 for single individuals and $20,000 for married individuals beginning in taxable year 2026. The bill also increases the income tax subtraction available for military benefits from $40,000 to $60,000 for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, but before January 1, 2027. For taxable years on and after January 1, 2027, such $60,000 amount shall be adjusted annually for inflation. Under the bill, eligible low-income taxpayers may claim a refundable income tax credit equal to 25 percent of the federal earned income tax credit claimed by the taxpayer for the same taxable year. Current law allows such a taxpayer to claim a tax credit equal to 20 percent of the federal credit claimed by the taxpayer in the same year.

The bill establishes a refundable income tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for taxpayers (i) with a Virginia adjusted gross income equal to or less than 250 percent of the poverty guidelines and (ii) eligible for a tax credit pursuant to § 36B of the Internal Revenue Code in an amount equal to 100 percent of such taxpayer's enhanced premium credit, defined in the bill. The total amount of credits allowed does not exceed $50 million per taxable year, but no credit is allowed during any taxable year in which § 36B of the Internal Revenue Code is in effect.

The bill also creates a one-time tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 for taxpayers whose households include dependents younger than 6 years of age and whose family Virginia adjusted gross income, defined in the bill, does not exceed $100,000. Such credit is in an amount equal to $400 for each such dependent and only one credit may be claimed for each such dependent. The bill provides that, if the taxpayer is a resident of the Commonwealth for the full taxable year, the credit is refundable and requires the Department of Taxation to develop a process allowing taxpayers to elect to receive any such refund in multiple payments. Otherwise, the credit is nonrefundable.

Patron - Hernandez

C **HB1132** **Data center tax revenue; local residential renewable energy incentive program; tangible personal property tax reimbursement; penalty.** Authorizes the governing body of any county, city, or town that collects real or personal property taxes for any real or personal property owned by a data center to create a local residential renewable energy incentive program, through which funds shall be used to reduce existing utility bills for residential customers, to reduce reliance upon fossil fuel power generation facilities, to reduce the need for construction and placement of new transmission lines, and to minimize future electricity costs for residential customers. The bill provides that 15 percent of new data center revenue, defined in the bill, shall be spent toward residential solar and battery storage investment and 15 percent of new data center revenue shall be spent toward providing pro rata reimbursements for residents' tangible personal property tax assessments for any qualifying vehicle.

Finally, the bill provides that if any locality violates the requirements for such incentive program, the local treasurer shall immediately transfer any remaining funds directly to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall direct such remaining funds to be used for authorized purposes and thereafter such locality's incentive fund shall be dissolved. The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for a local treasurer to violate such requirement.

Patron - Reid

C **HB1230** **Income tax; sustainable aviation fuel production tax credit.** Provides, for taxable years 2026 through 2030, a nonrefundable tax credit against individual and corporate income taxes for eligible producers of sustainable aviation fuel, as such terms are defined in the bill. The amount of the credit is the lesser of (i) $0.75 per gallon of sustainable aviation fuel produced in the taxable year or (ii) $5 million. The aggregate amount of credits allowable under this bill shall not exceed $20 million per taxable year.

Patron - Sewell

C **HJ15** **Study; Department of Taxation; impact of repealing the individual income tax; report.** Requests the Department of Taxation, in cooperation with the Secretary of Finance, to study the impact of repealing the individual income tax. In conducting its study, the Department shall consider and assess potential reforms to the Commonwealth's tax structure which would be necessary to eliminate individual income tax liability in the Commonwealth. The Department shall complete

its meetings by November 30, 2026, and submit a report of its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly for publication as a House or Senate Document no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Griffin

C **HJ34** **Study; Department of Taxation; options for abolishing the personal property taxation of certain qualifying vehicles; report.** Directs the Department of Taxation to study options for abolishing the personal property taxation of certain qualifying vehicles and to evaluate alternative local revenue sources in order to account for the shortfall in local tax revenues that will result from the abolition of such tax.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

C **SB7** **Income tax; standard deduction and earned income tax credit.** Removes the sunset from and makes permanent the standard deduction amounts of $8,750 for single individuals and $17,500 for married individuals filing jointly. Under current law, the standard deduction is scheduled to revert to $3,000 for single individuals and $6,000 for married individuals filing jointly after taxable year 2026. The bill also removes the sunset from and makes permanent the increase in Virginia's refundable earned income tax credit from 15 percent to 20 percent of the allowable federal earned income tax credit. Under current law, the Virginia refundable earned income tax credit expires in taxable year 2027 and Virginia's nonrefundable earned income tax credit, which has no expiration date, is equal to 20 percent of the federal credit.
Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB8** **Real property tax exemption; surviving spouses of members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty.** Authorizes localities to provide, for tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2026, up to a total exemption from real property taxes for dwellings owned by surviving spouses of members of the armed forces that are situated on property zoned as single family residential. Under current law, a total exemption is only allowed for such dwellings with assessed values in the most recently ended tax year that are not in excess of the average assessed value for such year of a dwelling situated on property that is zoned as single family residential.
Patron - DeSteph

C **SB9** **Sales and use tax; food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products.** Eliminates the remaining one percent local sales and use tax that is imposed on food purchased for human consumption and essential personal hygiene products. Under current law, no other sales and use tax is applied to such products. The bill requires an equivalent amount of revenue to be distributed to cities and counties on a monthly basis in compensation for the lost tax revenue. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Suetterlein

C **SB93** **Bank franchise tax; retail sales and use tax; tangible personal property tax; data centers.** Provides that on and after July 1, 2026, if any tenant of a data center is a bank, then the retail sales and use tax exemption for data center computer equipment shall not apply to the data center operator and any tenants of the data center.

The bill also adds computer equipment and peripherals of all banks used in a data center to personal property that is taxable for banks subject to the bank franchise tax in lieu of most other taxes.
Patron - Roem

C **SB139** **Individual income tax subtraction; long-term capital gains from sale of principal residence.** Provides an individual income tax subtraction in taxable years 2025 through 2029 for income that is (i) taxed as a long-term capital gain for federal income tax purposes, (ii) attributable to the sale of property that served as the taxpayer's principal residence for at least two of the five years preceding such sale, and (iii) in excess of federal limitations only allowing an exclusion from gross income for up to $250,000, or $500,000, for joint filers, of gain from such a sale.
Patron - McPike

C **SB143** **Individual income tax subtractions; overtime.** Establishes an individual income tax subtraction for income attributable to overtime in an amount equal to (i) 25 percent of the federal overtime deduction for taxable year 2026 and (ii) 50 percent of the federal overtime deduction for taxable year 2027 and thereafter.
Patron - McDougle

C **SB148** **Income tax subtraction; military retirement benefits; uniformed services.** Expands the military benefits income tax subtraction to include 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 - McPike

C **SB187** **Sales tax exemption; vital baby products.** Creates a retail sales and use tax exemption for vital 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, (v) strollers meant for transporting children from infancy to 36 months of age, and (vi) food represented for dietary use solely as a food for infants.
Patron - Williams Graves

C **SB211** **Income tax subtraction; incentive stock options.** Establishes an income tax subtraction for any income received as gains from exercising incentive stock options, as defined by the bill, that were previously taxed in another state.
Patron - DeSteph

C **SB236** **Newborn and stillborn tax credit.** Establishes a refundable income tax credit for taxable years 2026 through 2030 for married individuals in an amount equal to $2,000 per eligible birth so long as such eligible birth is not also the birth of a child by a surrogate. The bill also allows individuals and married individuals filing jointly to claim a refundable income tax credit in an amount equal to $2,000 per stillborn birth so long as such stillborn birth is not also the birth of a child by a surrogate. The bill specifies that only one tax credit may be claimed for each eligible birth or stillborn birth.
Patron - Head

C **SB268** **Individual income tax; child tax credit.** Creates a refundable individual income tax credit in taxable years 2027 through 2031 in an amount equal to that allowed for the corresponding federal child tax credit. Only one credit may be claimed for each qualifying child, as defined in the bill.
Patron - Craig

C **SB304** **Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.** Allows local gov-

ernments 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, 2027, 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, 2027, in addition to service earned on or after that date. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Jordan

C **SB380 Income tax subtraction; broadband grant fund awards.** Establishes an individual and corporate income tax subtraction for any amount of public grant awards received in the taxable year for the exclusive purpose of planning, constructing, expanding, or improving upon broadband infrastructure and services in the Commonwealth beginning in taxable year 2026.
Patron - Boysko

C **SB393 Virginia's Great Outdoors Act established; land preservation distributions and appropriations.** Creates a data center land preservation tax on and after January 1, 2027, in an amount equal to $3 per square foot of each data center facility footprint, as defined in the bill, and directs no less than $250 million of revenues from the tax to be distributed for various land protection and preservation purposes, including into the Virginia Tribal Commitment Fund, as created in the bill.
The bill also repeals provisions requiring the Governor to include in the budget bill or in his amendments to the general appropriation act a recommended appropriation from the general fund, up to $20 million, for land preservation as follows: (i) 80 percent of the unissued credits to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, of which at least 50 percent must be used for acquisitions with public access; (ii) 10 percent to the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund; and (iii) 10 percent to the Virginia Farmland and Forestland Preservation Fund.
Patron - Perry

C **SB481 Department of Emergency Management; emergency services and disaster preparedness programs; inclusion of federally recognized tribes.** Requires the Department of Emergency Management to administer certain emergency services in coordination with federally recognized tribes that the Department has entered into a contract or memorandum of understanding with for assistance regarding such emergency services. This bill is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.
Patron - Marsden

C **SB674 Individual income tax; first-time homebuyer tax credit.** Creates a one-time, nonrefundable individual income tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 for expenses incurred by a first-time homebuyer for the purchase of direct ownership in residential real property in an amount equal to five percent of the purchase price value of such property detailed on the purchase agreement up to $10,000. The bill requires that any credits be repaid in the event that the residential real property for which first-time homebuyer expenses were incurred and such credit was claimed is sold within three years from the purchase date of such property.
Patron - Rouse

C **SB694 Individual income tax subtractions; tips.** Establishes an individual income tax subtraction for income attributable to tips in an amount equal to (i) 25 percent of the federal tip income deduction for taxable year 2026 and (ii) 50 percent of the federal tip income deduction in taxable year 2027 and thereafter.
Patron - Jordan

C **SB702 Individual income tax; brackets, deductions, and exemptions; inflation indexing.** Adjusts annually the amount of the income tax brackets, standard deduction, personal and other individual exemptions and deductions, and filing threshold to the annual change in the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U). The bill directs the Department of Taxation to annually publish on its website the individual income tax inflation adjustments. This bill contains technical amendments.
Patron - Srinivasan

C **SB710 Virginia taxable income; standard deduction; sunset.**
Patron - Stuart

C **SB730 Sales and use tax on taxable services and digital personal property; taxes levied in certain transportation districts; funding for transportation.** Decreases the retail sales and use tax from 4.3 percent to four percent and expands such tax to taxable services, defined in the bill, and digital personal property, also defined in the bill, beginning on January 1, 2027.
Additionally, the bill imposes (i) an additional retail sales and use tax in any county or city that is a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.385 percent; any county or city that is embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority but that is not a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.615 percent; and any county or city that is a member of the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission at the rate of 0.2 percent; (ii) a retail delivery fee in the amount of 20 cents upon each retail delivery, defined in the bill, made in any county or city located within the Northern Virginia Transportation District or the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission; and (iii) a regional highway use fee on all vehicles in the Commonwealth that are subject to the existing highway use fee.
Patron - Surovell

C **SB747 Individual income tax; first-time homebuyer tax credit.** Creates a one-time, nonrefundable individual income tax credit in taxable years 2026 through 2030 for the purchase of a principal residence by a first-time homebuyer, as such terms are defined in the bill, in an amount equal to $5,000. The bill requires that any credits be repaid if the principal residence is sold or no longer serves as the first-time homebuyer's principal residence within three years from the purchase date of such property.
Patron - Pillion

C **SB763 Retail sales and use tax; firearm and ammunition tax.** Imposes a firearm and ammunition tax equal to 11 percent of the gross receipts from the sale and distribution of any firearm or ammunition by a firearms or ammunition manufacturer, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill provides that proceeds from such tax shall be distributed to the general fund with the intent that such proceeds are used for gun violence prevention efforts and community safety in the Commonwealth. The bill contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Williams Graves

C **SB786 Microchip and semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain tax credits; Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority evaluation; report.** Creates a series of individual and corporate income tax credits

for companies engaged in the microchip and semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain business that between January 1, 2026, and December 31, 2036, (i) invest at least $400 million, (ii) create at least 100 new jobs, (iii) pay an average prevailing wage salary, and (iv) submit a plan for use of and committing $50 million of community investments.

The bill creates three refundable tax credits in taxable years 2026 through 2030 in amounts equal to (a) five percent of capital investment expenditures incurred during the year, (b) six percent of child care services expenditures incurred during the year, and (c) 7.5 percent of gross wages paid for each new job created during the year.

The bill also requires the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, in collaboration with the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Department of Taxation, to evaluate the benefits and impacts of new economic development incentives for companies engaging in the microchip, semiconductor, and related equipment and material supplies sector. A report on such evaluation is due by November 30, 2026.

Patron - Carroll Foy

C **SB829** **Real property tax bills; disclosure; resource protection area.**

Patron - Surovell

C **SR6** **Study; Department of Taxation; options for abolishing the personal property taxation of certain qualifying vehicles; report.** Requests the Department of Taxation to study options for abolishing the personal property taxation of certain qualifying vehicles and to evaluate alternative local revenue sources in order to account for the shortfall in local tax revenues that will result from the abolition of such tax.

Patron - Marsden

Trade and Commerce

Passed

P **HB21** **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; (iv) prevent the installation and use of an auto sear on firearm-related products; and (v) 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 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, city, or town 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. The bill also allows the Attorney General to issue a civil investigative demand if he has reasonable cause to believe that any person has engaged in, is engaging in, or is about to engage in any violation of such standards of responsible conduct.

Patron - Helmer

P **HB122** **Manufacturing or sale of cosmetic products with certain ingredients prohibited.** Prohibits any person from manufacturing, selling, delivering, offering for sale, or using in connection with a consumer transaction any cosmetic product that contains certain ingredients that are listed in the bill. The bill exempts retailers that do not (i) manufacture cosmetics containing prohibited ingredients or (ii) knowingly sell or offer for sale cosmetics containing prohibited ingredients. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act and specifies that its provisions do not apply to or restrict the continued sale by a retailer of cosmetics in existing inventory before July 1, 2026. This bill incorporates HB 864.

Patron - Keys-Gamarra

P **HB145** **Fantasy contests; regulation and taxation.** Imposes (i) a 10 percent tax on a fantasy contest operator's fantasy contest revenue, with 2.5 percent of the tax revenue being allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund and the remaining 97.5 percent being allocated to the general fund, and (ii) a 2.6 percent fee on a fantasy contests operator's fantasy contest revenue to be utilized by the Virginia Lottery to cover the costs of administration and regulation of fantasy contests in the Commonwealth. The bill also limits the definition of "fantasy contest" and requires fantasy contest operators to apply to the Virginia Lottery for a permit before offering any fantasy contest in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to SB 129.

Patron - Krizek

P **HB308** **Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority; permitting of retail tobacco product retailers; purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; penalties; report.** Transitions and provides a more comprehensive structure for the current licensing and enforcement responsibilities related to liquid nicotine and retail tobacco products from the Department of Taxation to a permitting system administered by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage and Control Authority to conduct an unannounced buyer operation at least once every 24 months to verify a permittee, defined in the bill, is not selling retail tobacco products to persons under 21 years of age. Portions of the bill have a delayed effective date of October 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 620. This bill received Governor's recommendations.

Patron - Hope

P **HB312** **Motor vehicle glass repair and replacement; emissions inspection; penalties.** Establishes various notice requirements for motor vehicle glass repair shops, defined in the bill, and provides that a violation of such requirements is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill permits a motor vehicle to qualify for an emissions inspection waiver if such vehicle has failed an inspection and the vehicle's onboard diagnostic system is in a not-ready condition to be tested when presented for reinspec-

tion. This bill is identical to SB 767. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Carnegie

P HB398 Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act; prohibited practices; penalties. Creates the Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act to regulate the practices of persons seeking to receive compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual regarding any veterans' benefits matter, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to SB 315.
Patron - Herring

P HB518 Streaming advertisement volume control; civil penalty. Requires a video streaming service, social media video service, or third-party advertising manager, as defined in the bill, that serves consumers residing in the Commonwealth to exercise reasonable care to normalize the audio of short-form content, as defined in the bill, so that such audio is not transmitted at a louder volume than the long-form content, also defined in the bill, it accompanies, consistent with the regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the federal Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation (CALM) Act for television broadcast stations, cable operators, and other multichannel video programming distributors. The bill provides that the Office of the Attorney General shall enforce the provisions of the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Martinez

P HB677 Residential property owners; insurance policies; roofing services by contractors; prohibited practices and consumer protection. Prohibits insurers from refusing coverage or canceling, refusing to renew, or increasing the premiums of a policy written to insure an owner-occupied dwelling solely based on the age or condition of the asphalt shingle roof, except in certain circumstances. The bill also contains provisions related to consumer protection in the context of contractors providing roofing services for residential property owners. The bill prohibits certain advertisements and conduct by contractors in such context. The bill includes contract terms that must be included by contractors in such context, and permits a residential property owner to cancel a contract for roofing services in the case of a declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor applicable to the geographic area where the property is located. Provisions of the bill related to prohibited conduct and requirements for contractors providing roofing services are subject to the enforcement provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to SB 402.
Patron - Maldonado

P HB799 Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund. Establishes the Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2035, in an amount not to exceed $4.6 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $29.4 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of power transformers, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $457,157,000 and create and maintain at least 825 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to SB 403.
Patron - Torian

P HB800 Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Manufacturing Grant Fund. Establishes the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2045, in an amount not to exceed $15 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $130 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of pharmaceutical substances, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $2,148,793,019 and create and maintain at least 468 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to SB 404.
Patron - Torian

P HB1022 Consumer protection; automatic renewal or continuous service offers; disclosure and cancellation. Amends certain definitions related to automatic renewal or continuous service offers, including the definition of "clear and conspicuous" as it relates to seller disclosures and requirements to provide a simple cancellation mechanism. The bill replaces the term "supplier" in current provisions with "seller" and provides a definition for such term. The bill requires sellers to provide a cancellation mechanism that is at least as easy to use as the mechanism used to initiate the automatic renewal or continuous service offer, and includes additional requirements for providing such cancellation mechanism. Under the bill, certain businesses are no longer exempt from disclosure and cancellation requirements for automatic renewal or continuous service offers, and a violation of the provision constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to SB 493.
Patron - Reaser

P HB1076 Pharmaceutical Substance Manufacturing Grant Fund. Establishes the Pharmaceutical Substance Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2045, in an amount not to exceed $34 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $191,255,000, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of pharmaceutical substances, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $4 billion and create and maintain at least 500 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to SB 527.
Patron - Laufer

P HB1178 Authorized septic system inspectors; scope of services and requirements. Provides that system components are not considered readily accessible if access requires removal of surface material exceeding 30 inches in depth to uncover septic tank access lids, distribution devices, or other inspection ports. The bill specifies that an authorized septic system inspector shall submit a written report to the client within 10 business days from the start of the inspection, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties, which shall also indicate whether the system is operating as intended. The bill removes the requirement that authorized septic system inspectors report the advertised bedroom count or design capacity as listed in the multiple listing service or written statement by the property owner. This bill is identical to SB 401.
Patron - Pope Adams

P HB1262 Notaries; prohibition on certain advertising; investigation by Attorney General; civil penalties. Provides that the Attorney General may issue a civil investigative demand whenever he has reasonable cause to believe that any notary public has, in violation of law, (i) offered or provided legal advice on immigration or other legal matters or represented any person in immigration proceedings or (ii) has assumed, used, or advertised the title "notario," "notario publico," or "licenciado," or other term in a language other than English that indicates that such notary is authorized or licensed to practice law. The bill increases the civil penalties

for a violation of clause (ii) from up to $500 to up to $2,500 for a first violation and from up to $1,000 to up to $5,000 for a second or subsequent violation. The bill also provides that the Attorney General may seek to enjoin any such violation and may recover restitution, reasonable expenses, and reasonable attorney fees.
Patron - Glass

P **HB1300 Purchase of handguns or other weapons of certain officers; Department of State Police.** Provides that the Department of State Police may allow the immediate survivor of any law-enforcement officer formerly employed by the Department who had at least 10 years of service with the Department and who died while receiving long-term disability payments to purchase his service handgun, with the approval of the Superintendent of State Police, at a price of $1. This bill is identical to SB 86.
Patron - Cornett

P **HB1530 Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund.** Establishes the Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2041, in an amount not to exceed $5.1 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $60 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of electrical transformers, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $301 million and create and maintain at least 1,185 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to SB 836.
Patron - Torian

P **HB1531 Solid Rocket Motor Manufacturing Grant Fund.** Establishes the Solid Rocket Motor Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2046, in an amount not to exceed $6 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $97,723,000 to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of solid rocket motors, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $537,570,000 and create and maintain at least 1,546 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to SB 835.
Patron - Torian

P **SB27 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; (iv) prevent the installation and use of an auto sear on firearm-related products; and (v) 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 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, city, or town 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. The bill also allows the Attorney General to issue a civil investigative demand if he has reasonable cause to believe that any person has engaged in, is engaging in, or is about to engage in any violation of such standards of responsible conduct.
Patron - Carroll Foy

P **SB86 Purchase of handguns or other weapons of certain officers; Department of State Police.** Provides that the Department of State Police may allow the immediate survivor of any law-enforcement officer formerly employed by the Department who had at least 10 years of service with the Department and who died while receiving long-term disability payments to purchase his service handgun, with the approval of the Superintendent of State Police, at a price of $1. This bill is identical to HB 1300.
Patron - Stanley

P **SB129 Fantasy contests; regulation and taxation.** Imposes (i) a 10 percent tax on a fantasy contest operator's fantasy contest revenue, with 2.5 percent of the tax revenue being allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund and the remaining 97.5 percent being allocated to the general fund, and (ii) a 2.6 percent fee on a fantasy contests operator's fantasy contest revenue to be utilized by the Virginia Lottery to cover the costs of administration and regulation of fantasy contests in the Commonwealth. The bill also limits the definition of "fantasy contest" and requires fantasy contest operators to apply to the Virginia Lottery for a permit before offering any fantasy contest in the Commonwealth. This bill is identical to HB 145.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB184 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; shipping goods without certain information.** Provides that it is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act for a supplier to ship goods to a consumer in the Commonwealth in accordance with an automatic renewal or continuous service offer without including a shipping invoice stating (i) the amount the consumer was charged for shipping, if any; (ii) information on how to return the goods, if returns are accepted by the supplier; and (iii) information on how to cancel the automatic renewal or continuous service offer. The bill exempts any supplier that provides such information to a consumer by a timely electronic confirmation of purchase or by otherwise making such information readily available.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB189 Consumer debt collection proceedings; signing of pleadings, motions, and other papers.** Requires the attorney of record in any civil action to collect or enforce a consumer debt, as defined in the bill, to include in the initial pleading or any subsequent filing such attorney's (i) full name; (ii) business address; and (iii) business telephone number. The bill provides that any such pleading, motion, or other paper not in compliance with such provisions is defective and provides that if such defect is not properly cured within 21 days after it is brought to the attention of the pleader or movant, such pleading, motion, or other paper is invalid and shall be stricken. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Williams Graves

P **SB245 School boards; use of social media platforms as sole means of certain communications prohibited.** Provides that each school board shall prohibit public elementary and secondary schools, school board employees, and school volunteers from using a social media platform as the sole means of communication with students for the facilitation of school-related extracurricular activities. The bill clarifies that the foregoing prohibition shall not be construed to prohibit the use of school division-approved communication or messaging applications. The bill provides an exception to such prohibition when such use is required to meet an objective that cannot be reasonably achieved without such use, provided that the division superintendent or his designee (i) provides clear, written instructions on such use and (ii) may revoke such exception at any time.
Patron - Head

P **SB315 Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act; prohibited practices; penalties.** Creates the Safeguarding American Veteran Empowerment Act to regulate the practices of persons seeking to receive compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual regarding any veterans' benefits matter, as defined in the bill. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to HB 398.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SB338 Consumer Data Protection Act; data controller responsibilities; precise geolocation data.** Provides that, for purposes of the Consumer Data Protection Act, a controller of personal data shall not sell or offer for sale precise geolocation data concerning a consumer.
Patron - Perry

P **SB401 Authorized septic system inspectors; scope of services and requirements.** Provides that system components are not considered readily accessible if access requires removal of surface material exceeding 30 inches in depth to uncover septic tank access lids, distribution devices, or other inspection ports. The bill specifies that an authorized septic system inspector shall submit a written report to the client within 10 business days from the start of the inspection, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties, which shall also indicate whether the system is operating as intended. The bill removes the requirement that authorized septic system inspectors report the advertised bedroom count or design capacity as listed in the multiple listing service or written statement by the property owner. This bill is identical to HB 1178.
Patron - Jordan

P **SB402 Residential property owners; insurance policies; roofing services by contractors; prohibited practices and consumer protection.** Prohibits insurers from refusing coverage or canceling, refusing to renew, or increasing the premiums of a policy written to insure an owner-occupied dwelling solely based on the age or condition of the asphalt shingle roof, except in certain circumstances. The bill also contains provisions related to consumer protection in the context of contractors providing roofing services for residential property owners. The bill prohibits certain advertisements and conduct by contractors in such context. The bill includes contract terms that must be included by contractors in such context, and permits a residential property owner to cancel a contract for roofing services in the case of a declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor applicable to the geographic area where the property is located. Provisions of the bill related to prohibited conduct and requirements for contractors providing roofing services are subject to the enforcement provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and is identical to HB 677.
Patron - Surovell

P **SB403 Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund.** Establishes the Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2035, in an amount not to exceed $4.6 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $29.4 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of power transformers, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $457,157,000 and create and maintain at least 825 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to HB 799.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB404 Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Manufacturing Grant Fund.** Establishes the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2045, in an amount not to exceed $15 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $130 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of pharmaceutical substances, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $2,148,793,019 and create and maintain at least 468 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to HB 800.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB407 Transportation electrification; integrated resource planning; fast-charging stations; cost recovery by electric utilities.** Permits Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company to file a proposed tariff with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission) to provide utility owned and operated electrical distribution infrastructure to support electric vehicle charging stations. The bill requires Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company to file transportation electrification plans with the Commission by February 1, 2028, and every three years thereafter, and includes requirements for information to include in such plans. Under the bill, Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company are required to seek recovery of necessary and appropriate expenditures for transportation electrification only through their rates for generation and distribution services.
The bill prohibits Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company from petitioning for approval of expenditures to own and operate electric vehicle fast-charging stations unless such stations are located at or beyond a radial distance as determined by the Commission relative to the location of any privately owned fast charging station. The bill also directs the Commission to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to determine the appropriate radial distance for such utility-owned fast-charging stations from privately-owned fast charging stations, to enter its final rule in such proceeding no later than December 31, 2027, and to review such final rule by December 31, 2029. Provisions of the bill restricting the radial distance of utility owned and operated fast-charging stations expire on July 1, 2031.
This bill is identical to HB 1225.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB459 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; liquefied petroleum gas fitters; service disconnection requirements; civil penalties.** Requires a liquefied petroleum gas fitter, within 14 days after receiving a customer's request to discontinue liquefied petroleum gas delivery service, to offer in writing to remove any remaining liquefied petroleum gas from such customer's storage tank and reimburse the customer for

the cost of the removed liquefied petroleum gas at the prevailing rate, as defined in the bill. Under the bill, if a customer accepts such offer, the liquefied petroleum gas fitter shall carry out such removal and reimbursement within 30 days after such acceptance. A violation of the bill's provisions constitutes a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Stuart

P **SB493 Consumer protection; automatic renewal or continuous service offers; disclosure and cancellation.** Amends certain definitions related to automatic renewal or continuous service offers, including the definition of "clear and conspicuous" as it relates to seller disclosures and requirements to provide a simple cancellation mechanism. The bill replaces the term "supplier" in current provisions with "seller" and provides a definition for such term. The bill requires sellers to provide a cancellation mechanism that is at least as easy to use as the mechanism used to initiate the automatic renewal or continuous service offer, and includes additional requirements for providing such cancellation mechanism. Under the bill, certain businesses are no longer exempt from disclosure and cancellation requirements for automatic renewal or continuous service offers, and a violation of the provision constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. This bill is identical to HB 1022.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB527 Pharmaceutical Substance Manufacturing Grant Fund.** Establishes the Pharmaceutical Substance Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2045, in an amount not to exceed $34 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $191,255,000, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of pharmaceutical substances, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $4 billion and create and maintain at least 500 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to HB 1076.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB767 Motor vehicle glass repair and replacement; emissions inspection; penalties.** Establishes various notice requirements for motor vehicle glass repair shops, defined in the bill, and provides that a violation of such requirements is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill permits a motor vehicle to qualify for an emissions inspection waiver if such vehicle has failed an inspection and the vehicle's onboard diagnostic system is in a not-ready condition to be tested when presented for reinspection. This bill is identical to HB 312. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Cifers

P **SB835 Solid Rocket Motor Manufacturing Grant Fund.** Establishes the Solid Rocket Motor Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2046, in an amount not to exceed $6 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $97,723,000 to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of solid rocket motors, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $537,570,000 and create and maintain at least 1,546 new full-time jobs. This bill is identical to HB 1531.
Patron - Lucas

P **SB836 Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund.** Establishes the Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund to provide grant installment awards between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2041, in an amount not to exceed $5.1 million per fiscal year and in an aggregate amount not to exceed $60 million, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of electrical transformers, (ii) executes a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth, and (iii) is expected to make a capital investment of at least $301 million and create and maintain at least 1,185 new full-time jobs.
Patron - Lucas

Failed

F **HB408 Enterprise Zone Housing Availability Grant Program.** Establishes the Enterprise Zone Housing Availability Grant Program. The bill provides that, to be eligible to receive a grant under the Program, a qualified zone developer, as defined by the bill, must rent or sell, subject to certain affordability restrictions, any residential property for which costs were incurred to construct, expand, or rehabilitate such property to a household that earns 80 percent or more of the area median income (AMI) of the locality in which the property is located, but less than 120 percent of such AMI. The bill further requires that such affordability restrictions remain in force for 10 years following the original execution of the lease or deed of sale for the property for which such costs were incurred. The bill authorizes grant awards based on a percentage of costs incurred to construct, expand, or rehabilitate the property.
The bill directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to determine guidelines for the allocation of grants awarded, which must include a process for (i) certifying the income of the households renting or purchasing the residential property and (ii) monitoring compliance with ongoing affordability restrictions.
Patron - Reid

F **HB654 Consumer Data Protection Act; definition of "biometric data"; consent required for processing biometric data.** Provides that, under the Consumer Data Protection Act, no consumer, controller, processor, or affiliate of the controller or processor shall process biometric data, defined separately in the bill, concerning an individual without obtaining the individual's consent, or, in the case of the processing of biometric data concerning a known child, without processing such data in accordance with the federal Children's Online Privacy Protection Act.
Patron - Maldonado

F **HB713 Fostering Access, Innovation, and Responsibility in Artificial Intelligence Act established.** Establishes the Fostering Access, Innovation, and Responsibility in Artificial Intelligence Act (FAIR AI Act) that requires a developer of a base artificial intelligence model, as defined in the bill, to clearly and conspicuously disclose, in a manner that is appropriate for the medium of the content and is easily accessible to the user of such model, in the terms of service governing the use of such model, certain elements related to the artificial intelligence system. The bill creates the FAIR AI Enforcement Fund for the purpose of supporting agency enforcement of artificial intelligence system misuse, bias, and workforce disruption. Finally, the bill limits the defenses available in any criminal or civil action against a defendant that is alleged to have developed, modified, or deployed an artificial intelligence system that caused harm to a plaintiff. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Thomas

F **HB738 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; kratom products.** Prohibits the selling or offering for sale of (i) any kratom product containing any syn-

thesized material, semi-synthetic alkaloid, or synthetic kratom-like compound; (ii) any kratom product containing 7-hydroxymitragynine in an alkaloid fraction exceeding two percent of total alkaloids in the container or providing more than one milligram of 7-hydroxymitragynine per serving; (iii) any kratom product adulterated with any dangerous, poisonous, or otherwise deleterious non-kratom ingredient, including any substance listed as a controlled substance under state or federal law; (iv) any kratom product that is combustible or intended for vaporization or injection; (v) any kratom product that is manufactured, packaged, or marketed in a manner attractive to children; or (vi) any kratom extract product containing residual solvent levels exceeding applicable statutory or pharmacopeial limits.
Patron - Williams

F **HB743 Virginia Telephone Privacy Protection Act; voice service providers; duty of care; caller identification authentication; civil penalties.** Provides that a voice service provider, defined in the bill, owes an affirmative duty of care to take reasonable and effective measures to prevent the origination, transmission, and completion of unlawful calls. The bill requires voice service providers to implement caller identification authentication technology consistent with the Secure Telephone Identity Revisited and Secure Handling of Asserted information using toKENs (STIR/SHAKEN) authentication framework, defined in the bill, in all internet protocol network segments under its control and shall implement functionally equivalent authentication, verification, or mitigation measures in non-internet protocol network segments to the extent technically feasible. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Williams

F **HB758 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act established; prohibited practices; penalties.** Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act to require that deployers that operate or distribute a chatbot in the Commonwealth (i) ensure that any chatbot operated or distributed by the deployer does not make human-like features, defined in the bill, available to minors to use, interact with, purchase, or converse with and (ii) implement reasonable age verification systems to ensure that chatbots with human-like features are not made available to minors. The bill also requires deployers operating or distributing a chatbot that is a social artificial intelligence companion, defined in the bill, to ensure such chatbot is not available to minors. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Runion

F **HB765 Rental home marketplace guarantees; penalty.** Provides for the regulation of rental home marketplace guarantees, defined in the bill, by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The bill establishes requirements for the registration of rental home marketplace guarantee providers, authorizes the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services to prescribe regulations, and authorizes the Commissioner to investigate violations. The bill includes requirements for the production of records, insurance, and consumer disclosures. The bill provides that rental home marketplace guarantees are not insurance. The bill adds transactions involving the advertisement, sale, lease, or license of rental home marketplace guarantees to the definition of a consumer transaction for the purpose of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. A seller who knowingly and willfully violates the requirements of the bill is in violation of such Act and is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. The bill's registration requirements have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. The Board is required to promulgate its initial implementing regulations by January 1, 2027. The bill provides that any rental home marketplace guarantees issued prior to January 1, 2027, are subject to oversight of the Commissioner.
Patron - Hayes

F **HB825 Ticket resale limitations; requirements; review of event ticket marketplace by the Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Section.** Requires each primary ticket provider, internet ticketing platform, or reseller operating in the Commonwealth, on the listing for a ticket and in each step of a transaction to purchase a ticket, to clearly and conspicuously disclose the total price of the ticket offered for sale, provide an itemized listing of charges that comprise the total price of the ticket, and identify the seat number and zone or section of the ticket to the extent applicable to the seat and venue. The bill includes limitations for the sale of speculative tickets and requires a full refund of the total amount paid for a ticket under certain circumstances.
The bill also directs the Consumer Protection Section of the Office of the Attorney General to conduct a review of the event ticket market in the Commonwealth and submit a report to the General Assembly of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2026.
Patron - Hayes

F **HB864 Manufacturing or sale of cosmetic products with certain ingredients prohibited.** Prohibits any person from manufacturing, selling, delivering, offering for sale, or using in connection with a consumer transaction any cosmetic product that contains certain ingredients that are listed in the bill. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Cousins

F **HB984 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; cash payments; discrimination prohibited; penalty.** Prohibits a supplier from discriminating against cash as a payment for a retail sale, including by refusing to accept cash as a form of payment, posting signs on business premises that cash payment is not accepted, or charging a higher price to consumers who pay with cash. The bill includes certain exceptions to such prohibition and provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Garrett

F **HB1248 Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program established.** 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 **HB1251 Digital Right to Repair Act; access to diagnostics, tools, service documentation, and firmware; penalties.** Requires an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of digital electronic equipment to make available to owners of such equipment and to independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, documentation, parts, and tools for purposes of diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of such equipment. The bill requires, for digital electronic equipment that contains an electronic security lock or other security-related function, OEMs to make available to the owners of such equipment and to independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, any special documentation, parts, and

tools needed to disable such lock or function and to reset it when disabled. A violation of the bill's provisions is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Glass

F **HB1368 Consumer Data Protection Act; individual action for damages or penalty; social media platforms.** Allows a parent or minor who suffers loss as the result of a violation of Consumer Data Protection Act provisions relating to social media platforms to initiate an action against a controller or processor in violation of such provisions. The bill requires a parent or minor to provide a controller or processor 30 days' written notice and an opportunity for the controller or processor to cure the noticed violation prior to initiating such an action.
Patron - Thomas

F **HB1431 Gift certificates; redeemable cash value; Virginia Consumer Protection Act.** Requires that any gift certificate with a cash value of less than $10 be redeemable by the holder of the certificate for its cash value from the issuing merchant. A violation of the provisions of the bill is a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Griffin

F **SB85 Consumer Data Protection Act; social media platforms and operators; interoperability interfaces.** Requires social media platforms and operators, defined in the bill, to implement third-party interoperability interfaces to allow users to share social graph data, defined in the bill, and contextual data associated with artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, as the user designates. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - VanValkenburg

F **SB201 Consumer Data Protection Act; protections for children; definitions.** Requires a controller or processor, as such terms are defined in relevant law, to obtain verifiable parental consent, defined in the bill, prior to registering any child younger than 18 years of age with the controller's or processor's product or service or before collecting, using, or disclosing such child's personal data.
Patron - Suetterlein

F **SB789 Liquid nicotine and nicotine vapor products; certification.** Changes the date from December 31, 2025, to July 1, 2027, by which every manufacturer of liquid nicotine or nicotine vapor products that are sold for retail sale in the Commonwealth must certify to the Attorney General that the manufacturer has met certain statutory requirements.
Patron - Reeves

Carried Over

C **HB49 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 and in addition to the current distribution required under law, 0.0125 percent each shall be distributed to the Shenandoah County Agricultural Foundation and the Great Meadow Foundation to support the promotion, education, maintenance, and safety of horse racing at such facilities.
Patron - Reid

C **HB121 Surveillance pricing; prohibited; civil penalties.** Prohibits the use of surveillance pricing in connection with a consumer transaction. The bill defines "surveillance pricing" as the selling or offering for sale of a good or service at a customized price for a specific consumer or group of consumers that is based, in whole or in part, on personal data that is collected through electronic surveillance technology, regardless of whether the seller collected or purchased the personal data. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

C **HB635 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots Act established; prohibited practices; penalties.** Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots Act, which prohibits an operator from making a companion chatbot, as those terms are defined in the bill, available to a user in the Commonwealth unless the companion chatbot is incapable of certain actions specified in the bill. The bill also requires an operator of a companion chatbot to include a disclaimer to users of all ages that a companion chatbot is not a human via a static, persistent disclosure and notify a user via a pop-up that he is not engaging with a human counterpart at specified intervals. The bill makes it unlawful for any operator of a companion chatbot to operate or provide a companion chatbot to a user unless such companion chatbot contains a protocol to take reasonable efforts for detecting and addressing expressions of suicidal ideation or self-harm by a user to the companion chatbot. The bill also includes certain data privacy and transparency requirements. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Maldonado

C **HB638 Regulation of data brokers; civil penalties.** Prohibits a person from acquiring personally identifiable information, defined in the bill, through fraudulent means or acquiring and using such information for the purpose of (i) stalking or harassing another person; (ii) committing a fraud, including identity theft, financial fraud, or email fraud; or (iii) engaging in unlawful discrimination, including employment discrimination or housing discrimination. The bill requires a data broker, defined in the bill, to develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive information security program that includes certain features and technical elements. The bill also requires a data broker operating in the Commonwealth, beginning on December 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, to register with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Maldonado

C **HB689 Gift certificates; international transactions; fraud reports.** Amends the definition of "gift certificate" and prohibits merchants from selling a gift certificate as part of an international transaction without first implementing a 24-hour hold on the activation of such gift certificate. The bill also requires local law enforcement to communicate reports of gift certificate fraud to the Internet Crime Complaint Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Patron - Zehr

C **HB757 App Store Accountability Act; civil penalties; civil action.** Requires an app store provider, defined in the bill, to verify the age category of an account holder, obtain verifiable parental consent for a minor account holder, and share such age category and consent information with the developer of an app, defined in the bill. The bill requires a developer to verify the age category of an account holder with a developer's app and notify app store providers of any significant change to a developer's app. The bill also requires a devel-

oper to provide a parental consent disclosure for each of its apps to each app store provider that makes the developer's app available on its app store, and such provider shall provide such disclosure on its app store. The bill allows the Attorney General and any minor or parent of a minor who suffers harm by reason of a violation of this bill to initiate an action. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Runion

C **HB1268 Veterans' Services Protection Act; prohibited practices; penalty.** Creates the Veterans' Services Protection Act to prohibit any person from receiving compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual regarding any veterans' benefits matter, as defined in the bill, except as permitted under federal law. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.
Patron - Laufer

C **HB1324 Farm Equipment Right to Repair Act; Virginia Consumer Protection Act; penalties; civil action.** Requires an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of agricultural equipment, or parts for such equipment, to make available to owners of such equipment and to independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, documentation, parts, and tools for purposes of diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of such equipment. The bill requires, for agricultural equipment that contains an electronic security lock or other security-related function, OEMs to make available to the owners of such equipment and to independent repair providers, on fair and reasonable terms, any special documentation, parts, and tools needed to disable such lock or function and to reset it when disabled. A violation of the bill's provisions is a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. Any person who suffers a loss as the result of a violation of the bill's provisions shall be entitled to initiate an action for an injunction to enforce such provisions. The bill applies with respect to agricultural equipment sold or in use in the Commonwealth on or after January 1, 2027.
Patron - Franklin, L.V.

C **HB1521 Digital innovation and infrastructure; establishing rights in digital property and technology resources; requiring risk management policies for critical infrastructure facilities controlled by critical artificial intelligence systems; providing safe harbors; preempting local regulation; and providing for enforcement and remedies.**
Patron - Williams

C **SB159 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 and in addition to the current distribution required under law, 0.025 percent each shall be distributed to the Shenandoah County Agricultural Foundation and the Great Meadow Foundation to support the promotion, education, maintenance, and safety of horse racing at such facilities. The bill also increases the distribution percentage provided from the amount that a horse racing licensee retains from wagering on historical horse racing pools to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund from 0.01 percent to 0.025 percent.
Patron - Perry

C **SB232 Consumer Data Protection Act; prohibitions and duties relating to minors.** Prohibits a controller of an online service, product, or feature from entering into certain agreements with a known minor, unless such controller obtains verified consent from the minor's parent as specified in the bill. The bill imposes certain duties on a controller of an online service, product, or feature related to advertising, algorithm use, and reasonable care toward known minors. The bill expands the consumer rights of a parent to minors and adds a provision allowing a parent to obtain a copy of the minor's data. Current law offers certain consumer rights to the parents of children younger than age 13. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Head

C **SB237 App Store Accountability Act; civil penalties; civil action.** Requires an app store provider, defined in the bill, to verify the age category of an account holder, obtain verifiable parental consent for a minor account holder, and share such age category and consent information with the developer of an app, defined in the bill. The bill requires a developer to verify the age category of an account holder with a developer's app and notify app store providers of any significant change to a developer's app. The bill also requires a developer to provide a parental consent disclosure for each of its apps to each app store provider that makes the developer's app available on its app store, and such provider shall provide such disclosure on its app store. The bill allows the Attorney General and any minor or parent of a minor who suffers harm by reason of a violation of this bill to initiate an action. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Head

C **SB365 Fostering Access, Innovation, and Responsibility in Artificial Intelligence Act established.** Establishes the Fostering Access, Innovation, and Responsibility in Artificial Intelligence Act (FAIR AI Act) that requires a developer of a base artificial intelligence model, as defined in the bill, to clearly and conspicuously disclose, in a manner that is appropriate for the medium of the content and is easily accessible to the user of such model, in the terms of service governing the use of such model, certain elements related to the artificial intelligence system. The bill creates the FAIR AI Enforcement Fund for the purpose of supporting agency enforcement of artificial intelligence system misuse, bias, and workforce disruption. Finally, the bill limits the defenses available in any criminal or civil action against a defendant that is alleged to have developed, modified, or deployed an artificial intelligence system that caused harm to a plaintiff. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Pekarsky

C **SB417 Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund; reclaimed water usage.** Requires data center operators applying for grant payments from the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund to utilize reclaimed water, defined in the bill, for water-dependent cooling processes at data center and cloud computing cluster operations facilities. The bill gradually increases the reclaimed water utilization requirement at such facilities from 60 percent of all water-dependent cooling processes beginning on July 1, 2027, to 100 percent on and after July 1, 2031.
Patron - Stuart

C **SB615 Consumer Data Protection Act; online device pricing; prohibition.** Provides that no controller or processor shall, in connection with a consumer transaction, generate, in whole or in part, a price offered to a consumer through the consumer's online device based on (i) the hardware or hardware state of the online device, as those terms are defined in the bill, (ii) the presence or absence of any software on the online device, or (iii) precise geolocation data of the online device when used to set a price based on inferences

about the consumer made from such data. The bill provides for exemptions in certain instances.
Patron - Pekarsky

C **SB709 Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund; performance agreement.**
Patron - Stuart

C **SB796 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act established; enforcement; civil penalties; individual action.** Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act to require a covered entity, defined in the bill, to (i) implement certain reasonable systems and processes, (ii) make reasonable efforts to notify appropriate emergency services or law enforcement if it obtains knowledge that a user faces an imminent risk of death or serious physical injury, and (iii) submit a report to the Attorney General after obtaining knowledge of certain covered incidents, defined in the bill, connected to one or more of its chatbots. The bill also requires an operator, defined in the bill, to disclose the non-human nature of the chatbot to users at certain intervals. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to initiate an action to seek an injunction and civil penalties for violations and also provides an individual civil action for any person harmed by a violation or the parent or legal guardian of a minor harmed by a violation.
Patron - Durant

Unemployment Compensation

Passed

P **HB1207 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 April 1, 2028. 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 April 1, 2028. The bill provides that the amount of a benefit is 80 percent of the employee's average weekly net earnings, not to exceed 100 percent of the statewide average weekly net earnings, 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. This bill is identical to SB 2. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Sewell

P **HB1320 Unemployment benefits; increase weekly benefit amount.** Provides that, for unemployment compensation claims effective on or after July 1, 2026, an eligible individual's weekly benefit amount shall be $48 higher than the current weekly benefit amount, as denoted in the table in the printed bill. This bill is identical to SB 759.
Patron - Martinez

P **SB2 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 April 1, 2028. 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 April 1, 2028. The bill provides that the amount of a benefit is 80 percent of the employee's average weekly net earnings, not to exceed 100 percent of the statewide average weekly net earnings, 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. This bill is identical to HB 1207. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB433 Unemployment insurance; benefit eligibility conditions; lockout exception to labor dispute disqualification.** Amends the Virginia Unemployment Compensation Act's labor dispute disqualification provision 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 locked-out 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.
Patron - Bagby

P **SB759 Unemployment benefits; increase weekly benefit amount.** Provides that, for unemployment compensation claims effective on or after July 1, 2026, an eligible individual's weekly benefit amount shall be $48 higher than the current weekly benefit amount, as denoted in the table in the printed bill. This bill is identical to HB 1320.
Patron - Ebbin

Carried Over

C **HB1319 Unemployment benefits; maximum duration.** Provides that, beginning July 1, 2026, for claims effective on or after July 1, 2026, an eligible individual's weekly unemployment compensation benefit amount shall be paid for a maximum duration of 26 weeks.
Patron - Martinez

C **SB760 Unemployment benefits; maximum duration.** Provides that, beginning July 1, 2026, for claims effective on or after July 1, 2026, an eligible individual's weekly unemployment compensation benefit amount shall be paid for a maximum duration of 26 weeks.
Patron - Ebbin

Waters of the State, Ports and Harbors

Passed

P **HB747 Impaired waters clean-up plan report; consolidation of the agricultural commitments in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan annual report.** Consolidates the report on the implementation of the Commonwealth's agricultural commitments in the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan into the impaired waters clean-up plan report

submitted annually by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources.
Patron - Runion

P **HB938 Department of Environmental Quality; industrial wastewater; publicly owned treatment works; PFAS monitoring.** Directs every publicly owned treatment works (POTW) to require certain new or industrial users of such POTW to perform and report to such POTW no later than 30 days after receipt from a laboratory the results as received of quarterly discharge monitoring for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for an initial characterization period of one year, provided, however, that such POTW may discontinue remaining quarterly monitoring by an industrial user with proper monitoring results that are below the method detection level for the first two quarters. If an industrial user detects PFAS in any amount above the detection method limit in its initial year of quarterly monitoring, the bill requires such industrial user to continue to perform and report to the POTW no later than 30 days after receipt from the laboratory the results as received of quarterly discharge monitoring for PFAS. The bill requires a POTW that receives PFAS monitoring results to report such results to the Department of Environmental Quality on a quarterly basis. Finally, the bill directs any POTW to notify an owner or operator of an industrial user subject to the monitoring requirements of the bill of the requirement to submit the initial quarterly monitoring results for PFAS within 30 days of the effective date of the bill. This bill is identical to SB 138.
Patron - Clark

P **HB952 Department of Environmental Quality; Chesapeake Bay Watershed Nutrient Credit Exchange Program; certain industrial stormwater permits; nutrient credits.** Provides that for the purposes of the industrial stormwater general permit nutrient reduction compliance for calendar years 2025 and 2026, the term "nutrient credit"; shall include nutrient credits generated by point sources in accordance with the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Nutrient Credit Exchange Program, subject to certain conditions. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality to (i) prioritize timely and appropriate enforcement actions in the case of any industrial stormwater permittee that fails to comply for calendar years 2025 and 2026 by achieving sufficient onsite nutrient reductions or acquiring sufficient point or nonpoint source nutrient credits and (ii) convene a work group to evaluate and recommend conditions and requirements to most effectively address industrial stormwater general permit nutrient reduction compliance in future calendar years and submit a report summarizing such evaluation and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than November 1, 2026. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Lopez

P **HB1072 Local authority to test and monitor the land application of sewage sludge within its political boundaries.** Allows a locality to provide for testing and monitoring for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, as defined in relevant law, of the land application of sewage sludge within its political boundaries using an applicable test method established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The bill prohibits any expenses from such testing and monitoring from being eligible for reimbursement from the Sludge Management Fund.
Patron - Laufer

P **HB1350 Department of Environmental Quality; special orders; Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program; civil penalties.** Increases the maximum civil penalty amount that the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality may assess for any special order to a person to comply with certain related laws, regulations, permits, and certifications from $10,000 to $32,500. The bill increases from $1,000 to $32,500 the maximum civil penalty that a locality authorized to administer a Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program is able to collect for any one violation of certain regulations, orders, ordinances, program provisions, conditions of land-disturbance approvals, and provisions of state law. The bill also provides, however, that for a land-disturbing activity that (i) disturbs an area measuring at least 10,000 square feet but less than one acre in an area not designated as a Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area and (ii) is not part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturbs one or more acres of land, the civil penalty shall not exceed $5,000 for each violation, and a series of violations arising from the same set of facts shall not exceed $50,000.
Patron - Kent

P **HB1443 Owners of sewage treatment works; land application, marketing, or distribution of sewage sludge; perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances; testing requirements.** Directs any owner of a sewage treatment works land applying, marketing, or distributing sewage sludge in the Commonwealth, beginning January 1, 2027, to collect representative samples of the sewage sludge intended to be land applied, marketed, or distributed and have such samples analyzed by an accredited laboratory for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The bill mandates certain outcomes for the land application of such sewage sludge depending on the concentration of PFAS in such sewage sludge. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality to modify all Virginia Pollution Abatement permits for the land application of sewage sludge and Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for sewage treatment works that include sewage sludge prepared for land application, marketing, or distribution as soon as practicable. The bill requires the Department to utilize the PFAS Expert Advisory Committee (PEAC) or convene a work group to study and recommend approaches to reduce the occurrence of PFAS in sewage sludge intended for land application within the Commonwealth. The Department is required to report the recommendations of the PEAC or work group to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by November 1, 2027. This bill is identical to SB 386.
Patron - Lopez

P **SB138 Department of Environmental Quality; industrial wastewater; publicly owned treatment works; PFAS monitoring.** Directs every publicly owned treatment works (POTW) to require certain new or industrial users of such POTW to perform and report to such POTW no later than 30 days after receipt from a laboratory the results as received of quarterly discharge monitoring for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for an initial characterization period of one year, provided, however, that such POTW may discontinue remaining quarterly monitoring by an industrial user with proper monitoring results that are below the method detection level for the first two quarters. If an industrial user detects PFAS in any amount above the detection method limit in its initial year of quarterly monitoring, the bill requires such industrial user to continue to perform and report to the POTW no later than 30 days after receipt from the laboratory the results as received of quarterly discharge monitoring for PFAS. The bill requires a POTW that receives PFAS monitoring results to report such results to the Department of Environmental Quality on a quarterly basis. Finally, the bill directs any

POTW to notify an owner or operator of an industrial user subject to the monitoring requirements of the bill of the requirement to submit the initial quarterly monitoring results for PFAS within 30 days of the effective date of the bill. This bill is identical to HB 938.
Patron - McPike

P **SB386 Owners of sewage treatment works; land application, marketing, or distribution of sewage sludge; perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances; testing requirements.** Directs any owner of a sewage treatment works land applying, marketing, or distributing sewage sludge in the Commonwealth, beginning January 1, 2027, to collect representative samples of the sewage sludge intended to be land applied, marketed, or distributed and have such samples analyzed by an accredited laboratory for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The bill mandates certain outcomes for the land application of such sewage sludge depending on the concentration of PFAS in such sewage sludge. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality to modify all Virginia Pollution Abatement permits for the land application of sewage sludge and Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for sewage treatment works that include sewage sludge prepared for land application, marketing, or distribution as soon as practicable. The bill requires the Department to utilize the PFAS Expert Advisory Committee (PEAC) or convene a work group to study and recommend approaches to reduce the occurrence of PFAS in sewage sludge intended for land application within the Commonwealth. The Department is required to report the recommendations of the PEAC or work group to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by November 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 1443.
Patron - Stuart

P **SB553 Certain data from water users; water use consumption for domestic, commercial, and industrial purposes and from data centers.** Requires any water user required to register water withdrawal and use data to the State Water Control Board that provides water to another person offsite to include in its report, submitted on its regular reporting schedule, the total volume of potable water and, reported separately, the total volume of reclaimed water, as defined in the bill, provided during each month for each of the following categories: (i) a data center with an air permit issued by the Department of Environmental Quality and (ii) to the extent available without utility billing system modifications, (a) domestic purposes, (b) commercial and industrial purposes, separately or combined as available, and (c) all other non-categorized purposes. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. This bill is identical to HB 496.
Patron - Srinivasan

Failed

F **HB386 Chesapeake Bay Pay for Outcomes Fund established.** Establishes the Chesapeake Bay Pay for Outcomes Fund to provide outcome-based payments for verified reductions in nutrient and sediment pollution from nonpoint sources within the Chesapeake Bay watershed of the Commonwealth. The Department of Environmental Quality is directed to administer the Fund and to establish a competitive solicitation process for awarding payments from the Fund.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB387 Occoquan Reservoir; low-flow protections for drinking water safe yield.** Requires any Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit issued after July 1, 2026, authorizing the diversion of sewage or reclaimed water from a publicly owned treatment works for reuse that would otherwise discharge into the Occoquan Reservoir, the Occoquan River, Bull Run, or any of their tributaries above the Occoquan Reservoir to incorporate certain low-flow protection requirements for drinking water safe yield if the total diversion amount allowed by the permit exceeds 500,000 gallons per day. The bill also prohibits the issuance of any Virginia Water Protection Permit after July 1, 2026, authorizing the withdrawal of water for consumptive uses from the Occoquan Reservoir, the Occoquan River, Bull Run, or any of their tributaries above the Occoquan Reservoir for any purpose other than agricultural or irrigation purposes or for continued operation, expansion, or relocation of existing public water supply withdrawals.
Patron - Krizek

F **HB501 Study; Department of Environmental Quality; groundwater supply in western Loudoun and Fauquier Counties; report.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to study the threats and challenges to the groundwater supply in western Loudoun and Fauquier Counties, to complete its meetings by November 30, 2026, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than December 31, 2026.
Patron - McAuliff

F **HB589 Certain data from water users; water use consumption of data centers.** Requires any water user that provides water to a data center, as defined in the bill, and is required to register certain water withdrawal and use data with the State Water Control Board to report to the Board, on a monthly basis or as frequent a basis as practicable, the total volume of water, including the portion that is reclaimed water, provided to such data center during the reporting period.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB880 Department of Environmental Quality; monitoring requirements for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in biosolids.** Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to amend its regulations to require an owner of a sewage treatment works to sample and test sewage sludge for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), defined in the bill, once a month. The bill requires the results from such sampling to be subject to all existing reporting, compliance, and enforcement provisions.
Patron - Kent

F **HB1519 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Nutrient Credit.**
Patron - Runion

F **SB499 Chesapeake Bay Pay for Outcomes Fund established; report.** Establishes the Chesapeake Bay Pay for Outcomes Fund to provide outcome-based payments for verified reductions in nutrient and sediment pollution from nonpoint sources within the Chesapeake Bay watershed of the Commonwealth. The Department of Environmental Quality is directed to (i) administer the Fund; (ii) establish a competitive solicitation process for awarding payments from the Fund; and (iii) submit an annual report detailing the projects approved for funding, obligations from the Fund, and outcomes to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Finance and Appropriations and the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Appropriations by October 1 each year.
Patron - Marsden

Carried Over

C **HB1356** **Precipitation design standards; non-stationary precipitation; climate-adjusted rainfall.** Requires the State Water Control Board to serve as the lead agency responsible for establishing and maintaining precipitation design standards to be used by all state agencies, localities, and other political subdivisions and in transportation projects. The bill requires such precipitation design standards to include the most recent precipitation frequency estimates published in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration national precipitation frequency atlas to account for observed and projected increases in precipitation intensity, frequency, and duration. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Transportation, and any other state agency to update any relevant manuals and design standards consistent with the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2027. The bill also allows the State Water Control Board and the Department of Transportation to adopt interim guidance or regulations implementing the provisions of the bill consistent with the Administrative Process Act, ensuring that updated precipitation design standards take effect no later than July 1, 2027. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

C **HB1436** **Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program authority; right of entry; performance bond.** Removes the requirement for a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) authority to have a performance bond with surety, cash escrow, letter of credit, any combination thereof, or such other legal arrangement in order to enter any establishment or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of initiating or maintaining appropriate actions that are required by conditions imposed by the VESMP authority on a land-disturbing activity when an owner, after proper notice, has failed to take acceptable action within the time specified.
Patron - Cole, N.T.

C **SB473** **Occoquan Reservoir; low-flow protections for drinking water safe yield.** Requires any Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit issued after July 1, 2026, authorizing the diversion of sewage or reclaimed water from a publicly owned treatment works for reuse that would otherwise discharge into the Occoquan Reservoir, the Occoquan River, Bull Run, or any of their tributaries above the Occoquan Reservoir to incorporate certain low-flow protection requirements for drinking water safe yield if the total diversion amount allowed by the permit exceeds 500,000 gallons per day. The bill also prohibits the issuance of any Virginia Water Protection Permit after July 1, 2026, authorizing the withdrawal of water for consumptive uses from the Occoquan Reservoir, the Occoquan River, Bull Run, or any of their tributaries above the Occoquan Reservoir for any purpose other than agricultural or irrigation purposes or for continued operation, expansion, or relocation of existing public water supply withdrawals.
Patron - Marsden

C **SB617** **Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program authority; right of entry; performance bond.** Removes the requirement for a Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) authority to have a performance bond with surety, cash escrow, letter of credit, any combination thereof, or such other legal arrangement in order to enter any establishment or upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of initiating or maintaining appropriate actions that are required by conditions imposed by the VESMP authority on a land-disturbing activity when an owner, after proper notice, has failed to take acceptable action within the time specified.
Patron - Durant

C **SB814** **Virginia Conservation Easement Act; demographic information on certain conservation easement owners; report.** Requires the Department of Conservation and Recreation to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly containing demographic information about each owner of a conservation easement in the Commonwealth that is funded with public funds. The bill requires such information to include (i) the owner's age, gender, ethnicity, household income, and geographic location; (ii) the type of conservation entity the owner formed under the laws of the Commonwealth; and (iii) if an owner is a part of a Indian tribe, the identity of such tribe. The bill requires the Department to submit the initial report by November 1, 2026, and annually by November 1 of each year thereafter.
Patron - Stuart

Welfare (Social Services)

Passed

P **HB283** **Child abuse or neglect; prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed.** Clarifies that a pregnant woman's prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed by such woman's health care provider for opioid addiction recovery shall not solely be a reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected.
Patron - Gardner

P **HB301** **Adult adoptees; access to vital records.** Requires the State Registrar to provide adult adoptees access to their birth certificate upon request, provided that the requester submits an application, proof of identification, and payment and that the original birth certificate is not the certificate of birth in use, subject to amendment, or used by an individual for legal purposes. The bill directs the State Registrar to make a contact preference form available to birth parents that allows them to indicate their preference for contact by the adopted person, to be stored with the adopted person's birth certificate and provided upon the adopted person's request for the birth certificate. This bill incorporates HB 664.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB632** **Kinship foster care; barrier crime waiver; report.** Establishes a process by which a local department of social services may apply for a barrier crime waiver on behalf of an individual who has been convicted of a Virginia barrier crime that (i) is not (a) included on the list of federal barrier crimes; (b) a violent felony offense; or (c) an offense requiring registration under the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry Act and (ii) does not otherwise fall under a barrier crime exception for foster or adoptive homes for the purpose of approval of the individual's home as a kinship foster home. The bill creates a process by which such a local department of social services may apply to the Department of Social Services for a waiver and for the Department to conduct an assessment of such application. The bill also requires the Department of Social Services to file an annual report by December 1 of each year detailing the specifics of the waiver process to the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services and the House Committee on Health and Human Services. This bill is identical to SB 305.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB652** **Department of Social Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Department of Health; prenatal and postnatal substance use; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Social Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and Department of Health to convene a work group to evaluate the Commonwealth's response to parental prenatal and postnatal substance use, the services available to address such substance use, and the effects of such substance use on newborns and children. The bill requires the work group to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Rehabilitation and Social Services and the House Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 2026. This bill is identical to SB 133.
Patron - Hayes

P **HB727** **Local boards of social services; appointments; terms of office.** Changes the limit on consecutive terms of office from two consecutive full terms to three consecutive full terms for appointed members of local boards of social services.
Patron - Davis

P **HB879** **Department of Social Services; requests for records or information concerning applicants for and recipients of public assistance; public notice required.** Requires the Commissioner of Social Services to make a public notice available on the Department of Social Services' website within 10 days of receiving a request for a record or information concerning 25 or more applicants for or recipients of public assistance or child support for a purpose not directly connected to the administration of such programs. If a local department of social services receives a request for information that meets the requirements of the bill, such local department of social services is required to notify the Commissioner of such request. The bill establishes the form of such public notice and requires such notice to be made available (i) regardless of whether such information has been previously been shared; (ii) regardless of the identity of the requestor, unless such request is permitted under existing law; and (iii) even when a request is made in compliance with state and federal law and regulation.
Patron - Shin

P **HB1060** **Foster and adoptive homes; barrier crimes; exceptions.** Consolidates existing barrier crime exceptions for foster or adoptive homes, including kinship foster homes, and establishes new barrier crime exceptions for certain drug offenses.
Patron - Callsen

P **HB1222** **Local departments of social services; child abuse and neglect; recorded interviews.** Requires local departments of social services, unless otherwise demonstrated by good cause shown, to record any child welfare interview, defined in the bill. Under the bill, any person may record any communications between themselves and child-protective services personnel that take place during the course of an investigation or family assessment. Under current law, only a person who is suspected of abuse or neglect of a child and who is the subject of an investigation or family assessment may record such communications. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Delaney

P **HB1366** **Department of Social Services; corrective action plans and assumption of temporary control of local boards and local departments.** Grants the Commissioner of Social Services the authority to create and enforce a corrective action plan for any local board of social services or local department of social services that (i) fails to administer public assistance and social services programs in accordance with applicable laws and regulations or (ii) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child or adult. The bill permits similar authority for any local board of social services that (a) fails to provide child welfare services in accordance with applicable law or regulations or (b) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child. Under the bill, if a local board or department fails to comply with a corrective action plan, the Commissioner has the authority to temporarily assume control of all or part of the local board's operations. The bill also provides that, when a local board of social services or local department of social services requests assistance, the Commissioner has the authority to utilize staff of the Department of Social Services or contract with private entities to provide public assistance and social services programs in the locality served by the local board or department. The bill also adds adult services to the definition of "social services" for purposes of Title 63.2 (Welfare (Social Services)).
Patron - Callsen

P **HB1405** **Local departments of social services; payment of reasonable funeral expenses.** Permits the State Board of Social Services to promulgate regulations allowing local departments of social services to pay the reasonable funeral expenses of a decedent who was a recipient of social services or Supplemental Security Income.
Patron - McClure

P **HB1414** **Requirement that certain injuries to children be reported by physicians, nurses, teachers, etc.; penalties for failure to report.** Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person required to file a report, pursuant to relevant law, who fails to do so as soon as possible, but not longer than 24 hours after having reason to suspect a reportable offense of child abuse or neglect where such reportable offense is alleged to have occurred at a private or state-operated hospital, institution, or facility to which children have been committed or where children have been placed for care and treatment. The bill also provides that a second or subsequent conviction is a Class 6 felony.
The bill further expands the mandatory reporting requirements for certain enumerated persons in their professional or official capacities to include certain offenses related to children and certain obscenity and related offenses and applies all such mandatory reporting requirements to all public and private school athletics program coaches, directors, and adult volunteers, including those associated with interscholastic teams and clubs. Under current law, the mandatory reporting requirements apply to such enumerated persons who suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child and to public or private sports organization or team athletic coaches, directors, or adult volunteers.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HB1490** **Department of Social Services; centralized intake system for reports or complaints of child abuse or neglect; response to complaints within 24 hours for children under three years of age.** Establishes a centralized hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish and maintain a hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and specifies that the Department shall determine the validity of such reports and complaints. The bill eliminates the requirement that local departments must be capable of receiving and responding to reports and complaints

of abuse or neglect and instead requires that any complaint of child abuse or neglect received by a local department shall be immediately forwarded to the Department's child abuse and neglect hotline. Such provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
The bill also directs the Department of Social Services to (i) promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2027, and (ii) contract with a third party by August 1, 2026, to conduct a comprehensive study and review of the screening process used for child protective services complaints across Virginia.
Patron - Tran

P **SB133** **Department of Social Services; Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; Department of Health; prenatal and postnatal substance use; work group; report.** Directs the Department of Social Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and Department of Health to convene a work group to evaluate the Commonwealth's response to parental prenatal and postnatal substance use, the services available to address such substance use, and the effects of such substance use on newborns and children. The bill requires the work group to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Rehabilitation and Social Services and the House Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 2026. This bill is identical to HB 652.
Patron - Locke

P **SB305** **Kinship foster care; barrier crime waiver; report.** Establishes a process by which a local department of social services may apply for a barrier crime waiver on behalf of an individual who has been convicted of a Virginia barrier crime that (i) is not (a) included on the list of federal barrier crimes; (b) a violent felony offense; or (c) an offense requiring registration under the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry Act and (ii) does not otherwise fall under a barrier crime exception for foster or adoptive homes for the purpose of approval of the individual's home as a kinship foster home. The bill creates a process by which such a local department of social services may apply to the Department of Social Services for a waiver and for the Department to conduct an assessment of such application. The bill also requires the Department of Social Services to file an annual report by December 1 of each year detailing the specifics of the waiver process to the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services and the House Committee on Health and Human Services. This bill is identical to HB 632.
Patron - Pekarsky

P **SB409** **Assisted living facilities; electronic monitoring in resident rooms.** Permits residents of assisted living facilities to have electronic monitoring devices placed in their rooms. The bill defines "electronic monitoring" as the use of a surveillance device with a fixed position video camera or audio recording device, or combination thereof, that is installed in a resident's room and broadcasts or records activities or sounds occurring within the confines of the room. The bill contains several provisions establishing the requirements for the placement and utilization of any such electronic monitoring device in any resident's room, including requirements relating to ensuring that residents or their legal representatives and residents' roommates or their legal representatives consent to the placement and utilization of electronic monitoring devices in their rooms. The bill directs the Virginia Department of Social Services to promulgate regulations consistent with the bill, and the provisions of the bill become effective when such regulations become effective.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB640** **Department of Social Services; corrective action plans; centralized hotline for reports or complaints of child abuse or neglect.** Establishes a centralized hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and grants the Commissioner of Social Services the authority to create and enforce a corrective action plan for any local board of social services or local department of social services that (i) fails to administer public assistance and social services programs in accordance with applicable laws and regulations or (ii) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child or adult. The bill permits similar authority for any local board of social services that (a) fails to provide child welfare services in accordance with applicable law or regulations or (b) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child. Under the bill, if a local board or department fails to comply with a corrective action plan, the Commissioner has the authority to temporarily assume control of all or part of the local board's operations. The bill also provides that, when a local board of social services or local department of social services requests assistance, the Commissioner has the authority to utilize staff of the Department of Social Services or contract with private entities to provide public assistance and social services programs in the locality served by the local board or department.
The bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish and maintain a hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and specifies that the Department shall determine the validity of such reports and complaints. The bill eliminates the requirement that local departments must be capable of receiving and responding to reports and complaints of abuse or neglect and instead requires that any complaint of child abuse or neglect received by a local department shall be immediately forwarded to the Department's child abuse and neglect hotline. The bill also adds adult services to the definition of "social services" for purposes of Title 63.2 (Welfare (Social Services)).
The bill directs the Department of Social Services to (1) promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and (2) contract with a third party by August 1, 2026, to conduct a comprehensive study and review of the screening process used for child protective services complaints across Virginia. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a Social Services Task Force to develop a comprehensive improvement plan to address changes needed within the State Department of Social Services and the local departments of social services.
The provisions of the bill related to centralized intake have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.
Patron - Pillion

Failed

F **HB76** **Department of Social Services; foster care; new luggage; report.** Directs the Department of Social Services to establish and maintain a decentralized supply of new luggage to be used to transport the personal belongings of a child in foster care. The bill requires the Department to provide new luggage to a child who is entering or exiting foster care or moving from one foster care placement to another and prohibits the Department from using disposable bags or trash bags to transport any items for a child in foster care. The bill requires the Commissioner of Social Services to report certain information related to new luggage to the General Assembly by no later than December 1 of each year.
Patron - Keys-Gamarra

F **HB266** **Department of Social Services; centralized intake and validity determination for child abuse and**

neglect. Creates a centralized system for intake for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect. The bill directs the Department of Social Services to be the agency responsible for the intake of reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and specifies that the Department shall determine the validity of such reports and complaints. Under current law, local departments of social services are the agency responsible for the intake of reports and complaints of child abuse and it determines the validity of such reports and complaints. The bill eliminates the requirement that local departments must be capable of receiving and responding to reports and complaints of abuse or neglect and instead requires that any complaint of child abuse or neglect received by a local department shall be immediately forwarded to the Department's child abuse and neglect intake system.
Patron - Tata

F **HB578 Foster care; federal benefits; representative payees.** Requires local departments of social services to screen any child in foster care for eligibility for certain federal benefits and to apply for such benefits for which the child may be eligible. Under the bill, local departments are required to review existing representative payees to ensure that the representative payee is adequately representing the child's best interests and take appropriate actions necessary to appoint a different representative payee if necessary. The bill specifies that a local department shall only serve as representative payee when no other suitable candidate is available. The bill places limitations on the use of such federal benefits by local departments. Under the bill, if the local department serves as representative payee, it is required to provide an annual accounting detailing the use of such benefits to the child and certain individuals. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to develop and provide training sessions for (i) representative payees serving children in foster care regarding fiduciary obligations associated with serving as a representative payee and (ii) children in foster care who are age 14 and older regarding accessing, managing, and using certain federal benefits.
Patron - Glass

F **HB651 Department of Social Services; Child Protective Services; family assessments; face-to-face interviews with victim children.** Directs the Department of Social Services to amend its regulations to require that face-to-face interviews with victim children younger than three years of age conducted as part of a family assessment occur within 24 hours of receiving the report that triggers such family assessment. Under current law, the requirement that such interview be conducted within 24 hours applies to children younger than two years of age.
Patron - Kent

F **HB775 Removal hearings; foster care; termination of parental rights; status as an Indian child; reasonable efforts; definition; services to families.** Adds a definition of reasonable efforts for the purposes of hearings relating to the foster care of and petitions for the termination of parental rights over those children who are not determined to be a member of a Virginia-recognized or federally recognized tribe. The bill further requires that, at a preliminary removal hearing, or as soon as possible thereafter, and prior to any adjudicatory hearing, the court shall make a finding as to whether diligent efforts have been made to determine whether the child is an Indian child as defined in the Indian Child Welfare Act or a member of, or eligible for membership in, a tribe recognized by the Commonwealth. Under the bill, any such children would receive the protections of the Indian Child Welfare Act, including the federal standard of active efforts. The bill further directs the Department of Social Services to promulgate new regulations defining types of abuse and neglect, specifying that in situations where neglect is the result of family poverty and there are no outside resources available to the family, the parent or caretaker shall not be determined to have neglected the child, but the local department of social services shall provide appropriate and timely services to the family.
Patron - Thornton

F **HB1024 Department of Social Services; Community Services Block Grant Program; funding allocation formula; work group.** Directs the Department of Social Services to convene a work group to evaluate and make recommendations on revising the allocation formula for the Community Services Block Grant Program. The bill directs the work group to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2026.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1088 Assisted living facilities; involuntary discharge; notice.** Requires that regulations of the Board of Social Services regarding involuntary discharges of residents from assisted living facilities provide residents, the Department of Social Services, and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman with a 45-day notice prior to an involuntary discharge. Under current law, a 30-day notice is required prior to involuntary discharge.
Patron - Walker

F **HB1174 Department of Social Services; children in foster care; supplemental clothing allowance rate increase.** Directs the Virginia Department of Social Services to increase the supplemental clothing allowance rate for children in foster care by 30 percent.
Patron - Carroll

F **HB1297 Adult protective services; adult abuse, neglect and exploitation central registry.** 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, 2028.
Patron - Carroll

F **HB1511 Fatherhood Initiative; fatherhood needs assessment; Fatherhood Initiative Grants Program and Fund established.** Requires the Virginia Department of Social Services to develop and implement the Fatherhood Initiative for the purpose of focusing on the recognition of fathers as essential partners in child and family well-being, addressing a critical gap in family support services, and promoting positive father involvement linked to improved maternal, child, and family outcomes. Under the bill, each local board of social services shall undertake a needs assessment to ensure that the local department of social services is addressing the unique needs of the fathers of children served by the local department. The bill also establishes the Fatherhood Initiative Grants Pro-

gram and Fund, which awards grants to community-based organizations to address the needs of fathers.
Patron - Feggans

F **SB36 Child abuse or neglect; prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed.** Clarifies that a pregnant woman's prenatal use of a controlled substance or drug as prescribed by such woman's health care provider shall not solely be a reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected.
Patron - Favola

F **SB556 Child abuse and neglect; obscenity and related offenses; mandatory reporting for certain persons in their professional or official capacities; public and private school athletics program coaches, directors, and adult volunteers; penalty.** Expands the mandatory reporting requirements for certain enumerated persons in their professional or official capacities to include certain offenses related to children and certain obscenity and related offenses and applies all such mandatory reporting requirements to all public and private school athletics program coaches, directors, and adult volunteers, including those associated with interscholastic teams and clubs. Under current law, the mandatory reporting requirements apply to such enumerated persons who suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child and to public or private sports organization or team athletic coaches, directors, or adult volunteers.
Patron - Perry

Carried Over

C **HB297 Assisted living facilities; resident referral agencies; required disclosures; referral fee limitations; civil penalty.** Sets forth requirements for resident referral agencies, defined in the bill as any individual or entity that receives compensation from an assisted living facility, a third party, or a prospective resident for providing resident referrals to an assisted living facility, including required disclosures, referral fee limitations, enforcement, and civil penalties. The bill provides that assisted living facilities and residents are not obligated to participate with any resident referral agency and specifies that residents may opt out at any time in writing. The bill also specifies the minimum services a resident referral agency must provide before becoming eligible to receive a referral fee.
Patron - Seibold

C **HB1346 Noncustodial Parent Employment and Child Support Pilot Program established; report; work group; sunset.** Establishes the Noncustodial Parent Employment and Child Support Pilot Program within the Department of Social Services to assist noncustodial parents who are in arrears on child support payments or unemployed or underemployed with referrals to various resources, including employment referrals, employment skills training, education classes, parenting classes, and other forms of case management in lieu of or in addition to any available remedy available to enforce or collect child support payments. The bill directs the Department to report annually by December 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly data and information about the Program, including the number of parents participating in the Program, any reduction in the use of enforcement remedies to collect child support payments, and the amount of child support payments paid on time by parent participants. The bill also directs the Department to convene a work group to advise the Department on the design of and criteria for participation in the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2031.
Patron - Clark

C **SB243 Adult protective services; adult abuse, neglect and exploitation central registry.** 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, 2028.
Patron - Head

C **SB564 Department of Social Services; unlicensed care homes; registration.** Requires every person that constitutes, or that operates or maintains, an unlicensed care home, defined in the bill, to register such home with the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services.
Patron - Sturtevant

C **SB791 Assisted living facilities; resident referral agencies; required disclosures; referral fee limitations; civil penalty.** Sets forth requirements for resident referral agencies, defined in the bill as any individual or entity that receives compensation from an assisted living facility, a third party, or a prospective resident for providing resident referrals to an assisted living facility, including required disclosures, referral fee limitations, enforcement, and civil penalties. The bill provides that assisted living facilities and residents are not obligated to participate with any resident referral agency and specifies that residents may opt out at any time in writing. The bill also specifies the minimum services a resident referral agency must provide before becoming eligible to receive a referral fee.
Patron - McDougle

Wildlife, Inland Fisheries and Boating

Passed

P **HB112 Department of Wildlife Resources; premature separation and hybridization of mammalian wildlife prohibited; exceptions.** Makes it unlawful to prematurely separate any mammalian wildlife offspring born in captivity from the mother prior to the offspring turning four months of age, except that wildlife offspring may be prematurely separated if a medical necessity exists pursuant to a written order from a veterinarian with appropriate species-specific experience and expertise licensed to practice in the Commonwealth. The bill excludes the following from its provisions: (i) agricultural animals; (ii) noncommercial transfers or trades between accredited zoological facilities; (iii) an accredited zoological facility, as defined in the bill, that retains the mammalian wildlife offspring separated by such zoological facility; (iv) the Department of Wildlife Resources, a person operating under a wildlife rehabilitator, scientific collection, or endangered and threatened species permit approved by the Department, or a

person operating under a species recovery plan approved by the Department; (v) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; or (vi) any person rendering emergency neonatal aide, including the temporary separation of up to 72 hours until a licensed veterinarian can be engaged for assessment and treatment. The bill also makes it unlawful to intentionally and for commercial purposes propagate mammalian wildlife of different species, also known as hybridization. This bill is identical to SB 344. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Laufer

P **HB129 Killing of deer damaging residential plants and certain property.** Allows the Director of the Department of Wildlife Resources or his designee to issue a permit to kill a limited number of antlered deer when such deer cause damage to residential plants and the Director or his designee determines, upon inspection, that there is clear and convincing evidence that the damage was done by antlered deer. Upon a landowner or lessee's request, the bill also requires the Director or his designee to issue a permit to kill antlerless deer on commercial agricultural production lands when such deer cause damage to fruit trees, Christmas trees, crops, horticultural plants, or personal property utilized for commercial agricultural production within the Commonwealth. When such damage is caused by antlered deer, the bill requires the Director or his designee to issue a permit to kill a limited number of antlered deer if the Director or his designee determines that there is clear and convincing evidence that the damage was done by antlered deer. The bill also changes the extent to which a person can assist in hunting when his hunting license has been revoked or suspended in the Commonwealth by prohibiting such person from assisting in hunting until the hunting restriction has been lifted. Current law allows such a person to assist in hunting after a certain period of time.
Patron - Cornett

P **HB291 Department of Wildlife Resources; fishing tackle recycling and disposal; educational webpage.** Directs the Department of Wildlife Resources to (i) develop, publish, and maintain a dedicated webpage on its website to educate the recreational fishing community and the general public about the importance of responsible recycling and disposal of fishing tackle, as defined in the bill, and (ii) periodically update such webpage to ensure that educational materials are current, relevant, and effective in promoting responsible fishing practices. The bill directs the Department to update the webpage at least every three years in consultation with relevant state agencies and stakeholders.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB597 Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund established; voluntary contributions; 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 Director of the Department of Wildlife Resources shall administer the Fund in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Forestry, and the Department of Transportation. The Director of the Department of Wildlife Resources shall submit a report to the General Assembly by November 1 of each odd-numbered year concerning the amount of public and private funding received by the Fund, the awarding of grants from the Fund, and the progress of funded projects, including data on the use of project infrastructure by wildlife. The bill also provides mechanisms for individuals to make voluntary contributions to the Fund through a Department of Motor Vehicles electronic transaction and an individual income tax return.
Patron - Simonds

P **HB759 Conveyance of easement.** Authorizes the Department of Wildlife Resources to grant and convey an appurtenant and non-exclusive easement and right-of-way at the Highland Wildlife Management Area (the WMA) to A1 Land LLC to allow vehicular ingress and egress along Davis Run Road to access the grantee's property. The bill also authorizes the Department to accept a similar easement from A1 Land LLC to allow vehicular ingress and egress over the LLC's property to access the WMA.
Patron - Runion

P **HB1365 Fishing license requirements; exemptions; free fishing days.** Increases from three to six days the maximum number of free fishing days, during which a person is allowed to fish without a fishing license, that the Board of Wildlife Resources may designate for inland waters in the Commonwealth and the Commissioner of Marine Resources may designate for saltwater recreational fishing in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Fowler

P **SB344 Department of Wildlife Resources; premature separation and hybridization of mammalian wildlife prohibited; exceptions.** Makes it unlawful to prematurely separate any mammalian wildlife offspring born in captivity from the mother prior to the offspring turning four months of age, except that wildlife offspring may be prematurely separated if a medical necessity exists pursuant to a written order from a veterinarian with appropriate species-specific experience and expertise licensed to practice in the Commonwealth. The bill excludes the following from its provisions: (i) agricultural animals; (ii) noncommercial transfers or trades between accredited zoological facilities; (iii) an accredited zoological facility, as defined in the bill, that retains the mammalian wildlife offspring separated by such zoological facility; (iv) the Department of Wildlife Resources, a person operating under a wildlife rehabilitator, scientific collection, or endangered and threatened species permit approved by the Department, or a person operating under a species recovery plan approved by the Department; (v) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; or (vi) any person rendering emergency neonatal aide, including the temporary separation of up to 72 hours until a licensed veterinarian can be engaged for assessment and treatment. The bill also makes it unlawful to intentionally and for commercial purposes propagate mammalian wildlife of different species, also known as hybridization. This bill is identical to HB 112. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Boysko

Failed

F **HB45 Department of Wildlife Resources; free or partially discounted fees to hunt, fish, and trap; reimbursement.** Requires the Department of Wildlife Resources to maintain an annual accounting of revenue that would have been received by the Department from license exemptions or free or partially discounted fees to hunt, fish, or trap that are established by the General Assembly on or after July 1, 2026, and to submit such accounting to the Department of Accounts by August 1 of each year. The bill requires the Department of Accounts to pay the actual amount of such revenue within 30 days into the Game Protection Fund and also allows the accounting required by the bill and any other records relating to such accounting to be subject to audit by the State Comptroller.
Patron - Fowler

F **HB596 Wildlife Corridor Action Plan; interagency implementation group; report.** Directs the Secretary

of Natural and Historic Resources to, in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation, convene an Interagency Implementation Group to advance projects, policies, and priorities identified under the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan. The bill requires the Group to (i) facilitate the development of a statewide memorandum of understanding among participating state agencies to formalize roles, data-sharing practices, and collaborative processes; (ii) facilitate sharing of wildlife vehicle collision data; (iii) support local level connectivity planning; (iv) develop and offer training to state agencies, localities, and metropolitan planning organizations relating to wildlife crossings and habitat connectivity strategies; (v) coordinate and prioritize projects identified in the Plan; and (vi) assist state agencies and political subdivisions, and by request any federal agency, in considering and incorporating wildlife corridors and the recommendations of the Plan when developing any governmental strategic plan, map, or action. The bill requires the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to jointly submit a report of the Group's progress in advancing the Plan to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and Transportation and the House Committees on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and Transportation by September 1 of each year.
Patron - Simonds

F **HB767** **Board of Wildlife Resources; prescribing seasons and bag limits for taking wild birds, animals, and fish.** Provides that when an investigation of the Board of Wildlife Resources shows, for any species of wild bird, animal, or fish within the jurisdiction of the Board, that there is an unusual scarcity of such wild bird, animal, or fish or a risk that the population of such wild bird, animal, or fish in any city or county could be eliminated, the Board shall prescribe the seasons and bag limits for such wild bird, animal, or fish in such city or county accordingly to promote the recovery and stabilization of such wild bird, animal, or fish population.
Patron - Zehr

F **HB1126** **Protection of native migratory fish; work group report.** Directs the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to address the decline in Virginia's native migratory fish in the James River and Chesapeake Bay. The bill requires the work group to (i) evaluate the cumulative ecological impacts of surface water withdrawals excluded from the Virginia Water Protection Permit requirements on aquatic organisms and freshwater systems; (ii) review and identify how state agencies address particular needs of fish that are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal endangered species list or the Virginia Species of Greatest Conservation Need; and (iii) develop recommendations for (a) updating the regulations regarding surface water intakes excluded from permitting requirements to meet protective standards, (b) reviewing a statewide inventory of unpermitted intake structures, and (c) assessing the feasibility of installing measures to reduce aquatic organism mortality. The bill requires the Secretary to submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the work group to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by October 1, 2027.
Patron - Clark

F **SB471** **Releasing of hunting dogs; state or local roadway; hunting, fishing, and trapping special license; penalty.** Creates a Class 3 misdemeanor for the release of hunting dogs on or within 15 feet of the edge of a roadway owned or maintained by the Department of Transportation or a locality and provides that a second or subsequent offense is a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill allows a court to prohibit any person who released hunting dogs on or within 15 feet of the edge of a roadway owned or maintained by the Department or locality from hunting, trapping, or fishing in the Commonwealth for a period of up to five years. The bill 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. The bill allows certain people such as a landowner and other people associated with such landowner, stockholder, tenant, or guest of the landowner in certain circumstances, to apply for a special license to hunt, fish, and trap exclusively on a landowner's property in lieu of other hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses required by state law.
Patron - Marsden

F **SB807** **Hunting within certain areas of Monroe Bay prohibited; Westmoreland County.** Makes it unlawful for any person to take, attempt to take, or pursue wildlife within the waters and shoreline of Monroe Bay in Westmoreland County, except when fishing.
Patron - Stuart

Carried Over

C **HB1396** **Department of Wildlife Resources; permits; use of dogs in hunting game animals, fur-bearing animals, and nuisance species; civil penalties.** Directs the Department of Wildlife Resources to establish a permit for persons and a permit for organizations that hunt game animals, fur-bearing animals, or nuisance species with the aid of dogs and makes it unlawful for any person to (i) release a dog to hunt, pursue, or chase any game animal, fur-bearing animal, or nuisance species on any tract of real property or (ii) engage in hunting for any game animal, fur-bearing animal, or nuisance species with the aid of any dog unless such person has been issued a permit to hunt with dogs by the Department. The bill exempts from permitting requirements any person or organization (a) engaged in mounted fox hunting or hunting waterfowl, migratory birds, or upland game birds; (b) using a tracking dog to retrieve a wounded or dead bear, turkey, or deer; (c) whose dog remains in the immediate visual presence and control of such person or organization; or (d) on public lands where hunting is allowed. Finally the bill subjects any person who violates the provisions of the bill to a civil penalty of no more than $50 for a first violation and no less than $100 but no more than $250 for a second or subsequent violation within three years.
Patron - Martinez

Wills, Trusts, and Fiduciaries

Passed

P **HB100** **Payment or delivery of small asset by affidavit; Office of the Executive Secretary to prepare form.** Provides that an affidavit presented by any person having possession of a small asset to the designated successor of a decedent shall be on a form prepared by the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia.
Patron - Ballard

P **HB306** **Wills and estates; claims to exempt property and allowances; title to real estate of a bona fide purchaser.** Directs that any election to take a family allowance, exempt property, or homestead allowance be made one year after the (i) time of admission of a decedent's will to probate or (ii) qualification of an administrator of the decedent's

intestate estate, whichever is later. Current law requires such election of exempt property or allowances to be made within one year of the decedent's death. The bill also provides that the title to real estate of a bona fide purchaser acquired without notice of such election shall not be affected by such election unless such election is recorded in the appropriate circuit court clerk's office within one year after the decedent's death.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB307 Administration of estates; claims against decedent or estate.** Creates a procedure by which the personal representative of an estate may provide notice to all persons having a claim against a decedent or decedent's estate.
Patron - Carnegie

P **HB510 Uniform Power of Attorney Act; agent's duty of disclosure.** Creates a process by which the principal of a power of attorney may relieve an agent of such power of attorney from the agent's required duties of disclosure for powers of attorney created on or after July 1, 2026.
Patron - McAuliff

P **HB1014 Incapacitated persons; finding of lack of capacity to understand act of voting.** Provides that a finding that a person is incapacitated in a proceeding for guardianship or conservatorship shall not be synonymous with a finding that such person lacks the capacity to understand the act of voting and therefore is not qualified to vote in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Virginia. The bill provides that no person shall be deemed disqualified to vote due to a lack of capacity for the purposes of the Constitution of Virginia unless a court makes a specific finding by clear and convincing evidence that such person lacks the capacity to understand the act of voting. This bill is identical to SB 34.
Patron - Tran

P **HB1119 Guardianship; copy of appointment, termination, or modification order; Department of Medical Assistance Services.** Removes the requirement of a clerk of court in a guardianship proceeding to forward a copy of an order appointing a guardian and a copy of the certificate of qualification to the Department of Medical Assistance Services. The bill further removes such a forwarding requirement when a guardianship is terminated or otherwise modified. This bill is identical to SB 216.
Patron - Nivar

P **HB1510 Actions for personal injury or death by wrongful act against or on behalf of a decedent's estate; appeal of appointment of administrator.** Creates a process by which a person interested in the administration of an estate or the appointment of an administrator in an action brought for personal injury or death by wrongful act against or on behalf of a decedent's estate may appeal an order from the clerk of a circuit court that appoints an administrator in such matter. This bill is a recommendation of the Boyd-Graves Conference.
Patron - Leftwich

P **HB1513 Qualified self-settled spendthrift trusts; disbursements; powers of trustee.** Provides that a trustee may reimburse a settlor of a trust from the income or principal of such trust for various forms of tax liability in certain circumstances and in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code except as the terms of the trust provide otherwise. The bill also provides that a trustee shall not have the power to make such a reimbursement under certain conditions unless the terms of the trust expressly provide otherwise. The bill also removes redundant language governing the order in which a new qualified trustee may be appointed in the case of a vacancy.
Patron - Leftwich

P **SB34 Incapacitated persons; finding of lack of capacity to understand act of voting.** Provides that a finding that a person is incapacitated in a proceeding for guardianship or conservatorship shall not be synonymous with a finding that such person lacks the capacity to understand the act of voting and therefore is not qualified to vote in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of Virginia. The bill provides that no person shall be deemed disqualified to vote due to a lack of capacity for the purposes of the Constitution of Virginia unless a court makes a specific finding by clear and convincing evidence that such person lacks the capacity to understand the act of voting. This bill is identical to HB 1014.
Patron - Favola,

P **SB216 Guardianship; copy of appointment, termination, or modification order; Department of Medical Assistance Services.** Removes the requirement of a clerk of court in a guardianship proceeding to forward a copy of an order appointing a guardian and a copy of the certificate of qualification to the Department of Medical Assistance Services. The bill further removes such a forwarding requirement when a guardianship is terminated or otherwise modified. This bill is identical to HB 1119.
Patron - Boysko

Failed

F **HB133 Electronic execution of estate planning documents; Uniform Electronic Wills Act.** Permits 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.
Patron - Simon

F **HB467 Office of the Executive Secretary of Virginia; collaboration to review certain conservator annual accounting reports; report.** Directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of Virginia to collaborate with the Standing Committee on Commissioners of Accounts of the Judicial Council of Virginia and the Conference of Commissioners of Accounts to contract with a third party to review a subset of conservator annual accounting reports.
The bill provides that a report of the findings of the review shall be submitted to the chief circuit court judge and commissioner of accounts in each locality included in such review by December 1, 2026. The bill provides that such report shall be used to inform the development and refinement of guidance for commissioners of accounts and training for newly appointed conservators.
Patron - Cohen

Carried Over

C **HB929 Uniform Power of Attorney Act; acknowledged power of attorney; definition.** Amends the definition of "acknowledged" as it relates to a power of attorney under the Uniform Power of Attorney Act to mean purportedly verified before a notary public or other individual authorized to take acknowledgements. Under current law, "acknowledged" as it relates to a power of attorney under the Act means verified before a notary public or other individual authorized to take acknowledgements. The bill further eliminates the provisions of the Act prohibiting a person relying in

good faith upon an acknowledged power of attorney that is invalid when such power of attorney contains a forged signature of a principal.
Patron - Simon

C **SB345 Guardianship or conservatorship of incapacitated adult; right to request counsel; right to a jury trial.** Provides that, upon the filing of a petition for the appointment of a guardian or conservator for an incapacitated person and where the incapacitated person is unable to communicate verbally, in writing, or with the assistance of any device to the extent that he is unable to request that he be represented by counsel or to have a jury trial, either an immediate family member of the incapacitated person or an agent under a power of attorney authorized to act on behalf of such incapacitated person, provided that such immediate family member or agent has become a party to the proceedings, may make such request on behalf of the incapacitated person.
Patron - Roem

Workers' Compensation

Passed

P **HB426 Workers' compensation; employer's offset in event of recovery.** Amends provisions related to an employer's offset for recovery in certain actions brought under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act. The bill requires that lifetime medical award benefits and ongoing indemnity award benefits shall remain in full force and effect if the claimant is under such an award at the time that recovery is effected, subject to the employer offset provisions. Under the bill, an employer's credit shall be applied as a continuing, pro rata reduction to benefits otherwise payable under an existing award until the employer's required credit is exhausted. The bill also removes language limiting an employee's entitlement to compensation and expenses for medical, surgical, and hospital attention and funeral expenses.
Patron - LeVere Bolling

P **HB572 Uninsured Employer's Fund; administrative expenses.** Provides that the costs of administering the Uninsured Employer's Fund, which is administered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, are paid out of such fund. This bill is identical to SB 520.
Patron - Ward

P **HB1313 Workers' compensation.** Provides that, for the purposes of workers' compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder incurred by a law-enforcement officer or firefighter, an incident or exposure without any accompanying physical injury occurring in the line of duty on or after January 1, 2027, is a qualifying event, as defined in the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Callsen

P **SB520 Uninsured Employer's Fund; administrative expenses.** Provides that the costs of administering the Uninsured Employer's Fund, which is administered by the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, are paid out of such fund. This bill is identical to HB 572.
Patron - Deeds

P **SB771 Workers' compensation; burial expenses; annual adjustment.** Increases from $10,000 to $15,000 the amount required to be paid by an employer under workers' compensation provisions for burial expenses. The bill directs the Commissioner of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission to adjust the amount of burial expenses and reasonable transportation expenses required to be paid by an employer by a percentage equivalent to the percentage increase of the United States Average Consumer Price Index published by the U.S. Department of Labor beginning January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter.
Patron - McPike

Failed

F **HB130 Workers' compensation; presumption for certain cancers; sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.** Expands the workers' compensation presumption of compensability for certain cancers causing the death or disability of certain employees who have completed five years of service in their position to include sheriffs or deputy sheriffs.
Patron - Cornett

Carried Over

C **HB406 Workers' compensation; disability of law-enforcement officer; spousal wage replacement; report.** Requires the employer of a law-enforcement officer who sustains a line of duty injury, as defined in the bill, to pay or cause to be paid to the spouse of such law-enforcement officer 66 percent of such spouse's average weekly wage during the previous three years, up to 80 percent of the average weekly wage of the Commonwealth, provided that certain requirements are met. The bill directs the Workers' Compensation Commission to establish an application review process for claims for spousal wage replacement pursuant to the bill's provisions by January 1, 2027. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
Patron - Reid

C **HB865 Workers' compensation; presumption of compensability for certain cancers.** Expands the workers' compensation presumption of compensability for certain cancers causing the death or disability of certain employees who have completed five years of service in their position to include lung cancer and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma for any individual diagnosed with such a condition on or after July 1, 2027.
Patron - Cousins

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Passed

P **HB612 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); marriage between two adult persons; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election to approve or reject an amendment that requires the equal treatment under the law of a lawful marriage between two adult persons regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The amendment also repeals the current provision that defines marriage as only a union between one man and one woman. This bill is identical to SB 311.
Patron - Cohen

P **HB781 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); fundamental right to reproductive freedom.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, election to

approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia relating to the right to make one's own decisions related to reproductive health care, including access to abortion. The amendment protects patients and their doctors and nurses from being punished for making such decisions. The amendment allows the state to place restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's life or physical or mental health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive. This bill is identical to SB 449.

Patron - Herring

P **HB963 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election to approve or reject an amendment that would provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. This bill is identical to SB 6.

Patron - Price

P **HB1384 Constitutional amendment; April 21, 2026 special election; voter referendum; appropriations.**

Patron - Torian

P **HJ1 Constitutional amendment (second reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom.** Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that such right shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest, as defined in the amendment, and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment specifies that, notwithstanding the other provisions of the amendment, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable.

Patron - Herring

P **HJ2 Constitutional amendment (second reference); qualifications of voters and the right to vote; persons not entitled to vote.** Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution 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 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

P **HJ3 Constitutional amendment (second reference); marriage between two adult persons; 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 prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.

Patron - Sickles

P **HJ4 Constitutional amendment (second reference); apportionment; congressional districts; limited authority of the General Assembly to modify.** Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia related to the establishment of congressional districts. The amendment provides explicit authority for the General Assembly to modify one or more congressional districts, outside of the standard decennial redistricting cycle, in the event that any other state conducts a redistricting of the state's congressional districts outside of the standard decennial redistricting cycle or for any purpose other than complying with a state or federal court order to remedy an unlawful or unconstitutional district map. Additionally, an amendment to the Schedule of the Constitution of Virginia is proposed to specify the period of time to which such authorization is limited.

Patron - Willett

P **SB6 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election to approve or reject an amendment that would provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. This bill is identical to HB 963.

Patron - Locke

P **SB311 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); marriage between two adult persons; repeal of same-sex marriage prohibition.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election to approve or reject an amendment that requires the equal treatment under the law of a lawful marriage between two adult persons regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The amendment also repeals the current provision that defines marriage as only a union between one man and one woman. This bill is identical to HB 612.

Patron - Ebbin

P **SB449 Constitutional amendment (voter referendum); fundamental right to reproductive freedom.** Provides for a referendum at the November 3, 2026, election to approve or reject an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia relating to the right to make one's own decisions related to

reproductive health care, including access to abortion. The amendment protects patients and their doctors and nurses from being punished for making such decisions. The amendment allows the state to place restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's life or physical or mental health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive. This bill is identical to HB 781.
Patron - Boysko

P **SJ1** **Constitutional amendment (second reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom.** Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that such right shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest, as defined in the amendment, and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment specifies that, notwithstanding the other provisions of the amendment, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable.
Patron - Boysko

P **SJ2** **Constitutional amendment (second reference); qualifications of voters and the right to vote; persons not entitled to vote.** Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution 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 provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished.
Patron - Locke

P **SJ3** **Constitutional amendment (second reference); marriage between two adult persons; 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 prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons.
Patron - Ebbin

P **SJ60** **Confirming Governor's appointments; January 21. Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Abigail D. Spanberger and communicated to the General Assembly January 21, 2026.** Confirming Governor's appointments; January 21. Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Abigail D. Spanberger and communicated to the General Assembly January 21, 2026.
Patron - Rouse

Failed

F **SB769** **Constitutional amendment; April 21, 2026 special election; voter referendum; appropriations.**
Patron - Lucas

F **SJ27** **Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; United States citizenship.** Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia to clarify that a person who has not obtained United States citizenship either at birth or through naturalization is not qualified to vote.
Patron - Cifers

Carried Over

C **HJ14** **Constitutional amendment (first reference); personal property tax; exemption for motor vehicles owned for personal, noncommercial use.** Exempts one motor vehicle used for personal, noncommercial purposes from state and local taxes. The amendment specifies that such exemption is only applicable (i) for automobiles, motorcycles, and pickup trucks and (ii) on and after the date the motor vehicle is acquired or the effective date of the amendment, whichever is later, and is not applicable for any period of time prior to the effective date of the amendment.
Patron - Griffin

C **HJ45** **Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; 16-year-olds permitted to vote.** Provides that, notwithstanding the requirement that a voter shall be 18 years of age, any person who is 16 years of age or older and is otherwise qualified to vote shall be permitted to register to vote and to vote in local elections.
Patron - Glass

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

Passed

P **HJ18** **The Honorable Yvonne Bond Miller; portrait.** Authorizes the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission to contract for, have painted, and have appropriately framed and placed in the Capitol a portrait of the Honorable Yvonne Bond Miller. This resolution is a recommendation of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HJ23** **Make-A-Will Month.** Designates August, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Make-A-Will Month in Virginia.
Patron - Price

P **HJ24** **Immunization Awareness Month.** Designates August, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Immunization Awareness Month in Virginia.
Patron - Price

P **HJ25** **Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week.** Designates the third full week of October, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Invisible Disabilities Awareness Week in Virginia.
Patron - Price

P **HJ33** **Myocarditis Awareness Month.** Designates April, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Myocarditis Awareness Month in Virginia.
Patron - Hayes

P **HJ36** **Internet Safety and Online Predator Awareness Day.** Designates August 1, in 2026 and each succeeding year, as Internet Safety and Online Predator Awareness Day in Virginia.
Patron - Walker

P **HJ47** **Eliza Kortright Monroe Hay Day.** Designates May 21, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Eliza Kortright Monroe Hay Day in Virginia.
Patron - Tata

P **HJ77** **Nowruz; Persian New Year.** Designates the day of the spring equinox, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Nowruz in Virginia.
Patron - Reaser

P **HJ78** **Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month.** Designates September, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month in Virginia.
Patron - Cousins

P **HJ87** **Day of Remembrance for Victims of Lynching in Virginia.** Designates April 13, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as a Day of Remembrance for Victims of Lynching in Virginia. This resolution is a recommendation of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission.
Patron - McQuinn

P **HJ89** **Long QT Syndrome Awareness Day.** Designates May 9, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Long QT Syndrome Awareness Day in Virginia.
Patron - Phillips

P **HJ116** **Confirming appointment of the Director of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems.** Confirms the appointment by the House and Senate Committees on Rules of Fritz Sassine as Director of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems.
Patron - Herring

P **HJ203** **First Virginia General Assembly; 250th anniversary; Williamsburg commemorative planning.** Directs the Joint Rules Committee to develop plans for a special commemorative session or event involving the members of the General Assembly to be held in Williamsburg on October 7, 2026, in recognition of the 250th anniversary of the First Virginia General Assembly meeting in regular session following independence.
Patron - Austin

P **HR4** **Crisis Recovery Support Network; expressing support.** Expresses support for participation by Virginia in the Southern Regional Education Board's Crisis Recovery Support Network.
Patron - Cherry

P **HR139** **United States Navy; F-35C home base.** Encourages the United States Navy to select Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach as the home base for new squadrons of F-35C Lightning II stealth strike fighters.
Patron - Feggans

P **SJ12** **The Honorable Yvonne Bond Miller; portrait.** Authorizes the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission, in consultation with the Clerks of the Senate of Virginia and the House of Delegates, to contract for, have painted, and have appropriately framed and placed in the Capitol a portrait of the Honorable Yvonne Bond Miller. As introduced, this resolution was a recommendation of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission.
Patron - Locke

P **SJ56** **Black Midwives Day.** Designates March 14, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Black Midwives Day in Virginia.
Patron - Locke

P **SJ59** **National Day of Prayer.** Designating the first Thursday in May, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as the National Day of Prayer in Virginia.
Patron - Head

P **SJ69** **Confirming Governor's appointments; October 1.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly October 1, 2025.
Patron - Rouse

P **SJ70** **Confirming Governor's appointments; August 13.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly August 13, 2025.
Patron - Rouse

P **SJ71** **Confirming Governor's appointments; January 12.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly January 12, 2026.
Patron - Rouse

P **SJ73** **Confirming Governor's appointments; December 1.** Confirms appointments of certain persons made by Governor Glenn Youngkin and communicated to the General Assembly December 1, 2025.
Patron - Rouse

P **SJ141** **Colonial Capitol in the City of Williamsburg; Commemorative Session.**
Patron - Locke

Failed

F **HR3** **Memorializing Congress; National Infrastructure Bank.** Urges the Congress of the United States to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects.
Patron - Reid

F **HR5** **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 language of the proposed amendment 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 after complete extraction or expulsion from the mother so long as the umbilical cord is attached.
Patron - Zehr

F **SJ48** **United States Navy; ship naming.** Encourages the United States Secretary of the Navy to name an active ship or submarine USS Yorktown by 2031.
Patron - Diggs

Carried Over

C **HJ17** **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

C **HJ22** **Birthplace of American Cuisine Day.** Designates April 27, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Birthplace of American Cuisine Day in Virginia.
Patron - Tata

C **HJ46** **Winter Salt Week.** Designates the week of the fourth Monday in January, in 2027 and in each succeeding year, as Winter Salt Week in Virginia.
Patron - Tran

C **HJ73** **Christian Heritage Week.** Designates April 24 to April 30, in 2026 and in each succeeding year, as Christian Heritage Week in Virginia.
Patron - Fowler

MISCELLANEOUS (INCLUDING BUDGET AND BONDS)

Passed

P **HB29** **Budget Bill.** Amends and reenacts Chapter 725 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025, which appropriates the public revenues for two years ending, respectively, on June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026.
Patron - Torian

Failed

F **SB29** **Budget Bill.** Amends and reenacts Chapter 725 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025, which appropriates the public revenues for two years ending, respectively, on June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026.
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, Code of Virginia, and to provide a portion of the revenues for the two years ending respectively on the thirtieth day of June, 2027, and the thirtieth day of June, 2028.
Patron - Lucas

Carried Over

C **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 2027 and the thirtieth day of June 2028.
Patron - Torian

CHARTERS

Passed

P **HB62** **Charter; Town of Tazewell.** Amends the charter for the Town of Tazewell in Tazewell County to remove the strict residency requirement for the town manager. The bill provides that the town manager is encouraged to reside within the town limits and may reside within a reasonable distance outside the town limits upon majority approval of town council. This bill is identical to SB 153.
Patron - Morefield

P **HB98** **Charter; Town of Glen Lyn; repeal.** Repeals the charter for the Town of Glen Lyn in Giles County in accordance with the results of a voter referendum and an order of the circuit court for Giles County that annulled the town's charter as of February 1, 2025.
Patron - Ballard

P **HB187** **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 SB 681 and contains an emergency clause. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HB552** **Charter; City of Williamsburg.** Amends the charter for the City of Williamsburg to reflect the change of municipal elections from May to November as required by general law. The bill also replaces numerous references to "director of finance" with "chief financial officer" and clarifies language related to the transfer of unencumbered appropriated balances between funds. This bill is identical to SB 179.
Patron - Anderson

P **HB657** **Charter; Town of Louisa.** Establishes a new charter for the Town of Louisa in Louisa County and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1972. The new charter sets out the organization of the town's government and contains powers typically granted to towns. This bill is identical to SB 462.
Patron - Fowler

P **HB792** **Charter; City of Lexington.** Amends the charter for the City of Lexington by deleting outdated provisions related to a formerly appointed school board and by updating or clarifying several other provisions of the charter.
Patron - Austin

P **HB887** **Charter; Town of Herndon.** Updates the charter for the Town of Herndon in Fairfax County to permit greater flexibility for the town council to contract with the town manager regarding the location of his residence, clarifies the duties of the town manager relative to employees, clarifies

that the town council has the authority to appoint two officers: the town manager and town attorney, and establishes that the town manager has the authority to employ any deputies or assistants for the two appointed offices. The bill also removes outdated or duplicative provisions that occur as a result of the changes to the town manager's duties and authority and an obsolete reference to a Town of Herndon school board. This bill is identical to SB 343.
Patron - Shin

P **HB940 Charter; City of Suffolk.** Corrects an error in the existing charter of the City of Suffolk to clarify that the city council shall consist of eight members to reflect the addition of the directly elected mayor to the city council. The bill also removes obsolete language to clarify the appointment process and responsibilities of the city clerk. Finally, the bill updates language to reflect the city manager's direct responsibility for the department directors, consistent with the City of Suffolk's established management and reporting structure. This bill is identical to SB 303.
Patron - Clark

P **HB1050 Charter; Town of Chatham.** Amends the charter for the Town of Chatham in Pittsylvania County by updating or removing outdated provisions. This bill is identical to SB 127.
Patron - Phillips

P **HB1342 Charter; City of Fairfax; financial powers; elections; compensation for members of boards or commissions.** Amends the charter for the City of Fairfax by replacing a cap on the transient occupancy tax with a reference to general law. The bill also amends the charter to align it with current law requiring municipal elections to be held at the November general election. Finally, the bill removes the limit of $50 per meeting for compensation of members of boards and commissions and provides that such compensation is in such amounts as established by the City Council. This bill is identical to SB 581.
Patron - Bulova

P **HB1477 Charter; City of Norfolk.** Amends the charter for the City of Norfolk to require, on any property where there is a substantial negative impact on public health, safety, and welfare, conformity with the city's zoning ordinance within a reasonable time, to be specified by ordinance, but never less than two years. This bill is identical to SB 806.
Patron - Askew

P **SB123 Charter; City of Poquoson.** Amends the charter for the City of Poquoson to clarify the name and appointment process for the City's school board. The bill changes the term length from three years to four years, alters the composition of the school board from two members of each district and one at-large member to seven at-large members, and prohibits school board appointees from serving on any other city board, committee, or commission.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB127 Charter; Town of Chatham.** Amends the charter for the Town of Chatham in Pittsylvania County by updating or removing outdated provisions. This bill is identical to HB 1050.
Patron - Mulchi

P **SB153 Charter; Town of Tazewell.** Amends the charter for the Town of Tazewell in Tazewell County to remove the strict residency requirement for the town manager. The bill provides that the town manager is encouraged to reside within the town limits and may reside within a reasonable distance outside the town limits upon majority approval of town council. This bill is identical to HB 62.
Patron - Hackworth

P **SB179 Charter; City of Williamsburg.** Amends the charter for the City of Williamsburg to reflect the change of municipal elections from May to November as required by general law. The bill also replaces numerous references to "director of finance" with "chief financial officer" and clarifies language related to the transfer of unencumbered appropriated balances between funds. This bill is identical to HB 552.
Patron - Diggs

P **SB281 Charter; Town of Waverly; emergency.** Amends the charter for the Town of Waverly in Sussex County by transitioning the town from a strong mayor form of government to a council-manager form of government. Additional changes to the charter in the bill include (i) shifting town council elections from May to November, (ii) appointing a town manager, (iii) shifting certain duties from an elected mayor to a town manager, and (iv) repealing numerous outdated provisions. The bill contains an emergency clause.
Patron - Aird

P **SB289 Charter; City of Hopewell; Hopewell Water Renewal Commission.** Changes the membership makeup of the Hopewell Water Renewal Commission (the Commission) by providing that up to seven members shall be selected from nominees submitted by users, with each user being permitted to nominate one member. The bill specifies that each new nominating user shall provide a reasonable, market-based capital contribution based on expected facility usage and consistent with the net present value of the existing users' prior capital contributions. The bill also establishes that, in order for actions or decisions made by the Commission to be effective, they must be agreed to by (i) a majority of its members and (ii) either the city manager or the member of the city council serving on the Commission. Finally, the bill removes the city council's authority to overrule actions of the Commission and to prescribe further duties to the Commission.
Patron - Aird

P **SB303 Charter; City of Suffolk.** Corrects an error in the existing charter of the City of Suffolk to clarify that the city council shall consist of eight members to reflect the addition of the directly elected mayor to the city council. The bill also removes obsolete language to clarify the appointment process and responsibilities of the city clerk. Finally, the bill updates language to reflect the city manager's direct responsibility for the department directors, consistent with the City of Suffolk's established management and reporting structure. This bill is identical to HB 940.
Patron - Jordan

P **SB343 Charter; Town of Herndon.** Updates the charter for the Town of Herndon in Fairfax County to permit greater flexibility for the town council to contract with the town manager regarding the location of his residence, clarifies the duties of the town manager relative to employees, clarifies that the town council has the authority to appoint two officers: the town manager and town attorney, and establishes that the town manager has the authority to employ any deputies or assistants for the two appointed offices. The bill also removes outdated or duplicative provisions that occur as a result of the changes to the town manager's duties and authority and an obsolete reference to a Town of Herndon school board. This bill is identical to HB 887.
Patron - Boysko

P **SB385 Charter; Town of Front Royal.** Amends the charter for the Town of Front Royal in Warren County by eliminating the requirement that the town manager reside in the town.
Patron - French

P **SB462 Charter; Town of Louisa.** Establishes a new charter for the Town of Louisa in Louisa County and repeals the current charter, which was created in 1972. The new charter sets out the organization of the town's government and contains powers typically granted to towns. This bill is identical to HB 657.
Patron - Cifers

P **SB581 Charter; City of Fairfax; financial powers; elections; compensation for members of boards or commissions.** Amends the charter for the City of Fairfax by replacing a cap on the transient occupancy tax with a reference to general law. The bill also amends the charter to align it with current law requiring municipal elections to be held at the November general election. Finally, the bill removes the limit of $50 per meeting for compensation of members of boards and commissions and provides that such compensation is in such amounts as established by the City Council. This bill is identical to HB 1342.
Patron - Salim

P **SB681 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 187 and contains an emergency clause. This bill received Governor's recommendations.
Patron - Rouse

P **SB806 Charter; City of Norfolk.** Amends the charter for the City of Norfolk to require, on any property where there is a substantial negative impact on public health, safety, and welfare, conformity with the city's zoning ordinance within a reasonable time, to be specified by ordinance, but never less than two years. This bill is identical to HB 1477.
Patron - Williams Graves

Failed

F **HB144 Charter; Town of Waverly; emergency.** Amends the charter for the Town of Waverly in Sussex County by transitioning the town from a strong mayor form of government to a council-manager form of government. Additional changes to the charter in the bill include (i) shifting town council elections from May to November, (ii) appointing a town manager, (iii) shifting certain duties from an elected mayor to a town manager, and (iv) repealing numerous outdated provisions. The bill contains an emergency clause.
Patron - Wachsmann

F **HB732 Charter; Town of Rocky Mount.** Provides a new charter for the Town of Rocky Mount in Franklin County and repeals the town's current charter, which was enacted in 2000. The charter contains powers typically granted to towns. An untypical provision in the new charter includes term limits for members of town council.
Patron - Davis

F **HB810 Charter; City of Newport News.** Amends the charter for the City of Newport News by requiring the establishment of a citizen compensation committee that shall perform a detailed analysis and provide salary recommendations for members of city council prior to the city council approving any salary increase.
Patron - Downey

F **HB1328 Charter; City of Virginia Beach; certain land use approvals.** Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach by providing that no application to rezone property to a higher density or a more intense zoning district south of the blue line, as defined in the bill, shall be approved except by a recorded affirmative vote of three-fourths of all of the members elected to the city council. The bill further provides that no extension of public water and sanitary sewer shall extend south of the blue line absent a public hearing and specific findings by the city council.
Patron - Tata

F **HB1341 Charter; City of Fairfax; financial powers.** Amends the charter for the City of Fairfax by replacing a cap on the transient occupancy tax with a reference to general law.
Patron - Bulova

F **SB387 Charter; City of Virginia Beach; certain land use approvals.** Amends the charter for the City of Virginia Beach by providing that no application to rezone property to a higher density or a more intense zoning district south of the blue line, as defined in the bill, shall be approved except by a recorded affirmative vote of three-fourths of all of the members elected to the city council. The bill further provides that no extension of public water and sanitary sewer shall extend south of the blue line absent a public hearing and specific findings by the city council.
Patron - Craig

STUDY RESOLUTIONS

Passed

P **HJ16 Study; continuing the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding; report.** Continues the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding for an additional year, through the 2027 interim. This joint resolution is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding.
Patron - Convirs-Fowler

P **HJ28 Study; joint subcommittee; public transit in Hampton Roads; report.** Creates a 13-member joint subcommittee for a two-year study on options for providing long-term, sustainable, and dedicated operations and capital funding with cost-containment controls to ensure that the public transit systems that serve Hampton Roads, including all modes of Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) service, local and express bus, light rail, passenger ferry, paratransit, on-demand microtransit, and seasonal trolley and shuttle services, other ridesharing and commuter programs, and any future modes of public transportation or mobility services that may be developed to serve the Hampton Roads region, meet the growing public transit needs of the region.
Patron - Askew

P **HJ32 Study; Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; artificial intelligence use policies in place at institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the artificial intelligence use policies in place at institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and evaluate each policy in terms of how it

addresses academic integrity, data privacy, equity and access, transparency, and faculty autonomy and instructional agency. JLARC is further directed to develop a model policy for AI use in institutions of higher education, as well as to make recommendations for AI tools, curricula, and other resources for inclusion in a statewide clearinghouse for educators, students, and the public at large.
Patron - Laufer

P **SJ23** **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

P **SJ26** **Study; JLARC; expansion of discretionary parole eligibility; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to consult with all relevant stakeholders to study the potential impacts of expanded discretionary parole eligibility. The resolution directs JLARC to complete its first year of meetings by September 1, 2026, and to submit an interim report by March 1, 2027. Additionally, JLARC is directed to complete its second year of meetings and submit its findings and recommendations no later than December 1, 2027.
Patron - Marsden

Failed

F **HJ6** **Study; Department of Transportation; needs and capacity for expanded tractor-trailer parking near and along the I-66 and I-95 corridors; report.** Requests the Department of Transportation to study the needs and capacity for expanded tractor-trailer parking near and along the I-66 and I-95 corridors.
Patron - Henson

F **HJ7** **Study; Department of Workforce Development and Advancement; high school graduates; optional service year program; report.** Requests the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement, in collaboration with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, to determine the feasibility of creating an optional service year program for recent high school graduates in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Helmer

F **HJ8** **Study; Judicial Council of Virginia; boundary of the 15th Judicial Circuit; report.** Requests the Judicial Council of Virginia to study the current boundary of the 15th Judicial Circuit and determine if the City of Fredericksburg and Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties should be removed from the current judicial circuit boundary lines and a new judicial circuit composed of those localities established.
Patron - Cole, J.G.

F **HJ9** **Study; State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; offering reduced rate in-state tuition at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth to dependents of public elementary and secondary school teachers 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 elementary and secondary school teachers 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 teachers in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Helmer

F **HJ19** **Study; JLARC to update its 2016 study of the impact of regulations on Virginia's manufacturing sector; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to update its 2016 study of the impact of regulations on Virginia's manufacturing sector. This bill is a recommendation of the Manufacturing Development Commission.
Patron - Helmer

F **HJ26** **Study; Department of Rail and Public Transportation; feasibility of light rail extension; report.** Requests the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, in collaboration with Hampton Roads Transit and the City of Virginia Beach, to complete a two-year study of the feasibility of extending light rail operations to the Virginia Beach Oceanfront and to evaluate potential funding options for construction and future maintenance of the light rail.
Patron - Askew

F **HJ37** **JLARC; study and review of Virginia's entitlement programs.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study and review Virginia's entitlement programs, including Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, in order to identify deficiencies and vulnerabilities in such programs that may allow for waste, fraud, and abuse.
Patron - Wilt

F **HJ39** **Study; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and Secretary of Health and Human Resources; law-enforcement offices; execution of emergency custody orders and temporary detention orders; fiscal and operational challenges; report.** Requests the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, to study financial and operational challenges faced by law-enforcement offices designated to execute emergency custody orders and temporary detention orders.
Patron - Phillips

F **HJ40** **Study; JLARC; Standards of Quality compliance; accuracy of data; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the accuracy of Standards of Quality compliance data annually provided by each local school board and provide recommendations to improve the accuracy of such data.
Patron - Webert

F **HJ42** **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 watershed.
Patron - O'Quinn

F **HJ43** **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

F **HJ44** **Study; Division of Public Utility Regulation; undergrounding of electrical transmission lines; report.** Requests the State Corporation Commission's Division of Public Utility Regulation to study the undergrounding of electrical transmission lines. The study requires the Division to submit its report no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.
Patron - Singh

F **HJ48** **Study; Commission on Local Government; authority granted to local governing body; cities and towns; requirement of dedicated land for sidewalk, curb, and gutter improvements; report.** Requests the Commission on Local Government to study the feasibility and necessity of providing all cities and towns in the Commonwealth with the authority to require dedication of land for sidewalk, curb, and gutter improvements and to evaluate the impacts of requiring the dedication of land for such improvements.
Patron - McLaughlin

F **HJ49** **Study; SCHEV; public institutions of higher education; inclusive postsecondary education programs; report.** Requests the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to study inclusive postsecondary education programs at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth that allow students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities the opportunity to enroll in higher education programs alongside peers. The resolution directs SCHEV to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than December 1, 2026.
Patron - Cohen

F **HJ50** **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 **HJ51** **Requesting the Department of Housing and Community Development convene a Stakeholder Advisory Group to determine whether there should be visual contrast policies for commercial stairways.**
Patron - Simon

F **HR9** **Study; JLARC; adequacy, equity, and workforce impacts of the Virginia Retirement System's retirement plans; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to perform a two-year comprehensive evaluation of the Virginia Retirement System's retirement plans, including Plan 1, Plan 2, and the Hybrid Retirement Plan, with particular attention to benefit adequacy, employee affordability, and impacts on workforce recruitment and retention.
Patron - Maldonado

F **SJ21** **Study; Joint Commission on Health Care; reporting system for medical errors; report.** Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to study options for establishing a non-punitive, protected reporting system for unintended medical errors in the Commonwealth.
Patron - Favola

F **SJ22** **Study; JLARC to update its 2016 study of the impact of regulations on Virginia's manufacturing sector; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to update its 2016 study of the impact of regulations on Virginia's manufacturing sector. This bill is a recommendation of the Manufacturing Development Commission.
Patron - Williams Graves

F **SJ28** **Study; Department of Conservation and Recreation; methods to mitigate flooding in Prince Edward County; report.** Requests the Department of Conservation and Recreation to work in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to study methods to mitigate flooding in Prince Edward County. The resolution specifies that the study focus on flooding mitigation for the Town of Farmville and its surrounding areas stemming from the Appomattox River and its tributaries.
Patron - Cifers

F **SJ38** **Directing the Virginia Department of Taxation to prepare a report on local taxation of the craft beer industry in the Commonwealth and report its findings.**
Patron - Durant

Carried Over

C **HJ20** **Study; JLARC; non-federal sponsor contributions to conduct legacy property managed retreat studies; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology for determining the monetary contributions by localities or other non-federal sponsors to the total cost of legacy property managed retreat studies, as those terms are defined in the resolution. The study also directs JLARC to determine whether a stand-alone fund shall be established to support and manage cost-share requests from non-federal sponsors to provide relief to legacy property owners threatened by sea level rise.
Patron - Glass

C **HJ41** **Study; JLARC; housing projects; zoning restrictions and permitting and approval processes; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study local zoning ordinances and permitting and approval processes for housing projects. The resolution additionally directs JLARC to provide recommendations to address regulations, ordinances, and processes that inhibit the approval and construction of multi-family or smaller square-footage housing projects in order to improve access to more affordable housing for residents of the Commonwealth.
Patron - Singh

C **HJ56** **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 - Pope Adams

C **SB482** **Study; Virginia Department of Transportation; alternatives to use of Sodium Chloride to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather; report.** Directs the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to conduct a study on safe and environmentally sensitive alternatives to using Sodium Chloride, or rock salt, to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather. Such study shall measure the impact of current treatment and pretreatment substances on infrastructure and the environment and their corrosive effects on personal property and compare such impacts with those of potential alternatives, including nonchemical substances and new technologies. VDOT is directed to submit a report to the chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation

by November 15, 2026, on its findings and include in such report an accounting of the annual spending by the state and local governments since 2020 on treating and pretreating activities and the amounts budgeted for 2026-2028.
Patron - Roem

2026
SESSION STATISTICS

	Introduced	Passed	Incorporated	Carried Over	Failed
House Bills	1,530	727	54	255	494
House Joint Resolutions	317	286	0	12	19
House Resolutions	486	477	0	0	9
House Total	2,333	1,490	54	267	522
Senate Bills	836	429	32	174	201
Senate Joint Resolutions	296	289	0	1	6
Senate Resolutions	172	171	0	1	0
Senate Total	1,304	889	32	176	207
General Assembly Total	3,637	2,379	86	443	729

Appendix B: 2026 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The *2026 Session Highlights* summarizes significant legislation considered by the 2026 Session of the General Assembly as selected by the staff of the Virginia Division of Legislative Services. The brief overview of the 2026 Session covers legislative actions through sine die on Saturday, March 14, 2026. 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.

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Agriculture/Natural Resources

Passed

HB 397/SB 802 Clean energy and community flood preparedness; market-based trading program. Directs the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Air Pollution Control Board to establish and maintain a market-based trading program consistent with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative program, as defined in existing law, to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generating units in the Commonwealth.

HB 402 Cottage food laws; sale of certain food over phone and internet; work group; report. Expands the exemption from state inspection requirements for private homes where the resident processes and prepares certain food products, including pickles and other acidified vegetables, to allow for such person to sell such products at any location, through the internet, or by telephone to an individual in the Commonwealth for his own consumption and deliver such products in person, by mail, or by delivery service subject to certain restrictions. Current law only allows for the sale to take place in person at the private home, a temporary event, or a farmer's market. The bill also directs the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to convene a work group to examine the structural, equipment, and facility standards for private homes in the Commonwealth producing products that do not meet the cottage food law exemptions. The bill requires the work group to complete its meetings by November 1, 2026, and report its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HB 1443/SB 386 Owners of sewage treatment works; land application, marketing, or distribution of sewage sludge; perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances;

testing requirements. Directs any owner of a sewage treatment works land applying, marketing, or distributing sewage sludge in the Commonwealth, beginning January 1, 2027, to collect representative samples of the sewage sludge intended to be land applied, marketed, or distributed and have such samples analyzed by an accredited laboratory for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The bill mandates certain outcomes for the land application of such sewage sludge depending on the concentration of PFAS in such sewage sludge. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Quality to modify all Virginia Pollution Abatement permits for the land application of sewage sludge and Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for sewage treatment works that include sewage sludge prepared for land application, marketing, or distribution as soon as practicable. The bill requires the Department to utilize the PFAS Expert Advisory Committee (PEAC) or convene a work group to study and recommend approaches to reduce the occurrence of PFAS in sewage sludge intended for land application within the Commonwealth. The Department is required to report the recommendations of the PEAC or work group to the Governor and the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by November 1, 2027.

Failed

HB 1013 Marine Resources Commission; Chesapeake Bay; diamondback terrapin protection areas; use of bycatch reduction devices on crab traps; penalty. Requires the Marine Resources Commission, in collaboration with the Crab Management Advisory Committee and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, to develop and establish by December 1, 2027, diamondback terrapin protection areas in those portions of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries where interactions may occur between diamondback terrapins and any nets, traps, pots, or other fishing devices or gear. The bill directs the Commission to require by regulation bycatch reduction devices, as defined in the bill, on all recreational crab pots placed within any such diamondback terrapin protection area established by the Commission. A violation of such regulation is a Class 3 misdemeanor.

HB 1396 Department of Wildlife Resources; permits; use of dogs in hunting game animals, fur-bearing animals, and nuisance species; civil penalties. Directs the Department of Wildlife Resources to establish a permit for persons and a permit for organizations that hunt game animals, fur-bearing animals, or nuisance species with the aid of dogs and makes it unlawful for any person to (i) release a dog to hunt, pursue, or chase any game animal, fur-bearing animal, or nuisance species on any tract of real property or (ii) engage in hunting for any game animal, fur-bearing animal, or nuisance species with the aid of any dog unless such person has been issued a permit to hunt with dogs by the Department. The bill exempts from permitting requirements any person or organization (a) engaged in mounted fox hunting or hunting waterfowl, migratory birds, or upland game birds; (b) using a tracking dog to retrieve a wounded or dead bear, turkey, or deer; (c) whose dog remains in the immediate visual presence and control of such person or organization; or (d) on public lands where hunting is allowed. Finally the bill subjects any person who violates the provisions of the bill to a civil penalty of no more than $50 for a first violation and no less than $100 but no more than $250 for a second or subsequent violation within three years.

Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

Passed

HB 308/SB 620 Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority; permitting of retail tobacco product retailers; purchase, possession, and sale of retail tobacco products; penalties. Transitions and provides a more comprehensive structure for the current licensing and enforcement responsibilities related to liquid nicotine and retail tobacco products from the Department of Taxation to a permitting system administered by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to conduct an unannounced underage buyer operation at least once every 24 months to verify a permittee, defined in the bill, is not selling retail tobacco products to persons under 21 years of age. Portions of the bill have a delayed effective date of October 1, 2026.

HB 642/SB 542 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 provides that no retail sales may occur prior to January 1, 2027. Effective January 1, 2027, the bill also moves oversight of the retail sale of certain regulated hemp products from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority.

HB 975 Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio; report. 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 averaging at least $48,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall not apply; (ii) for such licensees with monthly food sales averaging at least $25,000 but less than $48,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 30 percent; and (iii) for such licensees with monthly food sales averaging at least $4,000, but less than $25,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 45 percent, except that for any licensee with monthly food sales averaging less than $25,000 with a seating capacity of less than 30 seats and an occupancy permit for less than 60 people total, the food-to-beverage ratio shall meet or exceed 30 percent. The bill also requires that restaurants have at least as many seats at tables as at counters.

The bill requires the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to collect data regarding the compliance of mixed beverage licensees with the provisions of the bill and the impact of the change to the food-to-beverage ratio on the gross amount of food consumed on a licensee's premises. The bill requires the Authority to report such data to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2027.

SB 424 Alcoholic beverage control; government stores; distiller's licensees as agents of the Board; sale of alcoholic beverages. Allows certain holders of a distiller's license appointed as agents of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to sell spirits, beer, wine, or cider for on-premises or off-premises consumption, provided that the spirits, beer, wine, or cider are manufactured within the same licensed premises or on contiguous premises of such agent licensed as a distillery, brewery, or winery. Under current law, such agents of the Board are permitted to give samples of such alcoholic beverages.

The bill also increases the amount of spirits such distiller's licensees may give or sell to any person per day from three ounces to six ounces and requires such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available at all times when spirits are served. The bill provides that such food may be provided by food trucks, patrons providing their own food, or the agent of the Board and specifies that failure of such distiller's licensees to have food reasonably available may result in the Board's reconsideration of the agency agreement appointing such holder of a distiller's license or its officers and employees as agents of the Board.

The bill requires the Authority to collect data regarding the compliance of distiller's licensees with the provisions of this bill and report such data to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services by November 1, 2026, and again by November 1, 2027. The bill also requires the Authority to convene a stakeholders group to review the manufacturer event licenses and off-site sales privileges granted to manufacturing licensees and report its findings and any recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services no later than December 1, 2026. The bill sunsets on July 1, 2028.

SB 543 Marijuana and hemp products; enforcement. Amends various provisions of law to increase enforcement and penalties related to the illegal sale of marijuana or marijuana products by persons licensed by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, and the Virginia Cannabis Control Authority (CCA). The bill also requires the Board of Directors of the CCA to create and require a decal for retail marijuana store licensees to prominently display on the premises of such store that allows consumers to electronically verify the validity of such store's license from the Board. The bill requires such decal to be displayed by licensees, with a civil penalty of $10,000 for each day that such decal is not displayed in the establishment. The bill also creates a $10,000 civil penalty for creating or falsifying such decal.

The bill allows the Board to issue a notice of violation and order to cease unlicensed activity to any person who is engaged in the cultivation, processing, distribution, or selling of marijuana or marijuana products in violation of current law, and if the Board issues such notice and order, the bill allows the Board to also order the seizure of such marijuana or marijuana products. Any person who intentionally removes such notice and order or sticker without authorization of the Board is subject to a civil penalty prescribed by the Board, not to exceed $5,000. The bill also

specifies that the Chief Executive Officer of the Board or investigators appointed by him shall be sworn to enforce the provisions of the Cannabis Control Act and Board regulations and have the authority to investigate violations of the statutes and regulations the CCA is required to enforce.

The bill also revises certain provisions related to the assessment of civil penalties against manufacturers and sellers of certain industrial hemp extracts and foods containing industrial hemp extracts and makes it a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to sell or offer for sale a substance intended for human consumption, orally or by inhalation, that (i) contains more than 0.3 percent total tetrahydrocannabinol or (ii) contains more than two milligrams of total tetrahydrocannabinol per package.

Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to analyze the current efforts in the Commonwealth to combat the sale of illicit cannabis products and requires such work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations, on General Laws, and for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations, on General Laws and Technology, on Rehabilitation and Social Services, and for Courts of Justice by October 1, 2026.

Failed

HB 384 Alcoholic beverage control; advertising materials; purchase and display of barrels. Allows a retail licensee to elect to receive the physical barrel or lid in addition to purchasing the bottled contents of a distilled spirits barrel from a manufacturer through a barrel purchase agreement supplied to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill provides that such physical barrel or lid shall not be considered a gift and may be displayed on the retail licensee's premises.

HB 980 Alcoholic beverage control; voluntary no-buy program; court-ordered inclusion on list of excluded persons. Requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to establish and implement a voluntary no-buy program that allows a person to agree to refrain from purchasing any alcoholic beverage for a chosen period of two years, five years, or a lifetime. The bill provides that the name of a person participating in the program shall be included on a list of excluded persons and that the personal information of the participants shall be confidential, with dissemination by the Board limited to persons authorized to sell alcoholic beverages, law-enforcement officers acting in the performance of their official duties, and any other parties the Board deems necessary for purposes of enforcement.

The bill also provides that a court may order any person be placed on the list of excluded persons as a condition of probation or suspension of sentence or upon a conviction of certain enumerated alcohol-related offenses.

HB 1484 Alcoholic beverage control; designated outdoor refreshment areas. Allows up to two permitted breweries or wineries to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption in an area designated for the designated outdoor refreshment area during an event held by the designated outdoor refreshment area licensee. The bill allows designated outdoor refreshment area licensees that are nonprofit organizations to sell tickets or charge for wristbands for an event to cover expenses of the event and also only requires such licensee to provide adequate security for an event as deemed appropriate by the local law-enforcement agency.

The bill also provides that a designated outdoor refreshment area licensee that is a nonprofit organization shall be permitted to receive in-kind and financial sponsorships and donations from a manufacturer and may collect participation fees from breweries, wineries, and retail licensees for events held under a designated outdoor refreshment area license.

Lastly, the bill allows (i) a designated outdoor refreshment area licensee that is a nonprofit organization to obtain a banquet special event license or a mixed beverage special event license and (ii) a brewery, winery, cidery, or distillery to obtain a manufacturer's beer or wine event license for an event to be held within the boundaries of the designated outdoor refreshment area, including an event hosted by the designated outdoor area licensee that is a nonprofit organization, as long as any such event held pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) is not held at the same time as an event utilizing the designated outdoor refreshment area license. The bill provides that any such event held pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) shall not count toward the 16 events per-year limit for designated outdoor refreshment area licenses.

Constitutional Amendments

Passed

HJ 1/SJ 1 Constitutional amendment (second reference); fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Provides that every individual has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom and that such right shall not be, directly or indirectly, denied, burdened, or infringed upon unless justified by a compelling state interest, as defined in the amendment, and achieved by the least restrictive means. The amendment specifies that, notwithstanding the other provisions of the amendment, the Commonwealth may regulate the provision of abortion care in the third trimester, provided that in no circumstance shall the Commonwealth prohibit an abortion (i) that in the professional judgment of a physician is medically indicated to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant individual or (ii) when in the professional judgment of a physician the fetus is not viable. See HB 781/SB 449 for legislation enabling a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election.

HJ 2/SJ 2 Constitutional amendment (second reference); qualifications of voters and the right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution 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 provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished. See HB 963/SB 6 for legislation enabling a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election.

HJ 3/SJ 3 Constitutional amendment (second reference); marriage between two adult persons; 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 prohibits the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions from denying the issuance of a marriage license to two adult persons seeking a lawful marriage on the basis of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. The Commonwealth and its political subdivisions are required to recognize any lawful marriage between two adult persons and to treat such marriages equally under the law, regardless of the sex, gender, or race of such persons. See HB 612/SB 311 for legislation enabling a referendum at the November 3, 2026, general election.

HJ 4 Constitutional amendment (second reference); apportionment; congressional districts; limited authority of the General Assembly to modify. Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia related to the establishment of congressional districts. The amendment provides explicit authority for the General Assembly to modify one or more congressional districts, outside of the standard decennial redistricting cycle, in the event that any other state conducts a redistricting of the state's congressional districts outside of the standard decennial redistricting cycle or for any purpose other than complying with a state or federal court order to remedy an unlawful or unconstitutional district map. Additionally, an amendment to the Schedule of the Constitution of Virginia is proposed to specify the period of time to which such authorization is limited. See HB 1384 for legislation enabling a referendum at a special election on April 21, 2026.

Corrections

Passed

HB 173/SB 276 State correctional facilities; visitation policies; work group. Sets additional visitation standards for visitors to state correctional facilities. The bill requires the Department of Corrections to provide extended or additional visitation access for long-distance visitors. The bill provides that each in-person visit shall last a minimum of two hours unless shortened at the request of either the visitor or the incarcerated individual, or in response to an active

security event. The bill also provides that visitation privileges may be suspended only for conduct occurring during visitation that presents a direct and substantial threat to the physical safety of participants or the security of the correctional facility. The bill provides a timeline and process for appealing any suspension of visitation rights. Finally, the bill directs the Department to convene a work group to consider and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations regarding visitation. The work group is required to report its findings and specific legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2026.

HB 296 State correctional facilities; visitation policies; report. Requires the Department of Corrections to establish and publicly post on its website and in the lobby of each state correctional facility an objective dress code for individuals visiting a state correctional facility and specifies certain requirements for and limitations on what such dress code may include. The bill prohibits any state correctional facility from enforcing a dress code that is more restrictive than the dress code posted by the Department.

The bill also prohibits any individual from being denied in-person visitation unless such individual is in clear violation of visitation rules or policies. Prior to denying entry to a visitor, the bill requires the reasoning to be (i) reviewed in person by the facility administrative duty officer and (ii) approved by a regional administrator or superior. The bill requires the Department to submit a report annually on or before November 1 to the General Assembly and the Governor with information on visitors denied entry to state correctional facilities, including the following information disaggregated by facility and by month: (a) the number of visitors denied entry and (b) the reasoning for such denials, including the specific rules or policies such visitors were alleged to have violated.

The bill requires the Department to convene a work group consisting of relevant stakeholders to consider goals and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations related to facilitating visitation within state correctional facilities and requires the work group to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026.

HB 318/SB 60 Virginia Parole Board; powers and duties; juvenile offenders; parole procedures and considerations. Increases the members of the Virginia Parole Board (the Board) from up to five to at least 11 members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor within 60 days of inauguration, three of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates within 60 days of a new House being sworn in during a Senate election year, and three of whom shall be appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules within 60 days of a new Senate being sworn in after an election, and all of whom shall be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, if in session when such appointment is made, and if not in session, then at its next succeeding session. The bill specifies that all members of the Board shall have significant professional experience working in criminal law, corrections, reentry and community services, or victim services and that the Board members appointed by the Governor shall include (i) an attorney with significant experience in criminal prosecution; (ii) an attorney with significant experience in criminal defense; (iii) a qualified mental health professional with relevant background in adolescent development, trauma responses, psychology, and decision-making; and (iv) a representative of a crime victims organization or a victim of crime. These provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.

The bill also requires the Board to provide a meaningful opportunity for release to certain juvenile offenders eligible for parole and specifies various factors the Board shall give substantial weight to when making a determination on whether to grant parole to such juvenile offender. The bill allows a juvenile offender to request for reconsideration or appeal of a decision by the Board not to grant parole based on (a) the Board's failure to give substantial weight to such juvenile offender's age and its related mitigating circumstances as required by the bill or (b) the Board's overreliance on static factors such as the nature and circumstances of the offense and failure to ground its decision in evidence of maturity, rehabilitation, and a lack of present danger to public safety. The bill requires the Board to provide individualized reasons for the grant or denial of parole upon reconsideration or appeal.

The bill also requires that if parole is denied for any such juvenile offender, each Board member shall identify his reasoning for such decision at the time such member's vote is cast, including any youth-related factor and evidence of maturity and rehabilitation that was considered. The bill requires that the Board provide to such prisoner for whom parole is denied recommendations to demonstrate commitment to rehabilitation, and at the next hearing, the Board is required to consider whether the prisoner has

followed such recommendations. The bill also requires the Board to annually review the cases of such juvenile offenders eligible for parole.

HB 1030 Discretionary parole eligibility guidelines. Requires the Virginia Parole Board to complete discretionary parole criteria guidelines, described in the bill, for each prisoner eligible for parole.

Failed

SB 209 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.

Carried Over

HB 35 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 two business days 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 reasons administrative officials believe isolated confinement remains necessary, and give the incarcerated person an opportunity to respond to those reasons. Under the bill, a formal ruling shall be provided to the incarcerated individual within 24 hours.

SB 222 Parole; eligibility; youthful offenders. Expands the eligibility requirements for juvenile parole to include (i) any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was 20 years of age or younger and who has served at least 20 years of such sentence and (ii) any person who has active sentences that total more than 20 years for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was 20 years of age or younger and who has served at least 20 years of such sentence. Under current law, only a person who was a juvenile when he committed any such offense is eligible for juvenile parole.

Courts/Civil Law

Passed

HB 449/SB 229 Civil actions filed on behalf of multiple persons; class actions; violations of Virginia Consumer Protection Act; award of damages. 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 is impracticable, (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 also applies the procedure by which an individual may be awarded damages in an action for a violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act to a class action. Finally, the bill permits the Court of Appeals to permit an appeal to be taken from an order certifying a class in accordance with the provisions of the bill or any other order that is not a final order of the circuit court in a class action. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

HB 601/SB 301 Exemptions from garnishment; minimum protected account balance; certain benefit payments; procedure for financial institutions. Requires certain financial institutions to automatically exempt from garnishment (i) a minimum protected account balance, defined in the bill as the combined total of not more than $1,000 in a judgment debtor's account or across multiple accounts in the same financial institution, and (ii) a protected amount of certain benefit payments, defined in the bill, that

have been deposited into the account via direct deposit or electronic deposit within the two months immediately preceding the day before a financial institution commences an account review. The bill describes an account review as a process of examining an account of a judgment conducted by a financial institution upon such financial institution's receipt of a garnishment summons to determine if any eligible benefit payments have been deposited within the applicable time period and, if so, to calculate the total sum of such benefit payments and establish the total as a protected amount that shall be automatically exempt from garnishment. The bill provides that such procedure to automatically exempt such funds shall not apply if the debt arises from a child support or spousal support obligation or if an exemption is otherwise prohibited by law.

The bill further provides that a judgment debtor is not required to claim nor request a hearing for such automatic exemptions. Finally, the bill makes updates to the relevant provisions governing garnishment proceedings, notices to the garnishee and judgment debtor, and the form of a garnishment summons consistent with the provisions of the bill.

SB 536 Medical malpractice information disclosures; report. Requires insurers that issue medical malpractice liability insurance policies covering health care providers in the Commonwealth to disclose, for the preceding calendar year, information regarding (i) premiums, (ii) claims activity, (iii) claim payments and litigation costs, and (iv) insurer financial condition. The bill further requires every hospital or health system licensed in the Commonwealth that maintains self-insurance, captive insurance, risk retention arrangements, or other retained financial risk for medical malpractice liability to disclose information regarding (a) the number of physicians and health care providers covered under the malpractice liability program, (b) claims activity, (c) malpractice expenditures, and (d) the total malpractice liability expenditures for the reporting year. The bill further requires such insurers, hospitals, and health care systems to provide a list of verdicts during the reporting year in medical malpractice actions in which the jury verdict exceeded the medical malpractice limitation on recovery. The bill provides that such disclosures and information be submitted to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice and to the ranking Delegate and Senator of the minority party serving on such Committees on or before September 1, 2026, for the 2025 calendar year and on or before March 31 of each year thereafter for the preceding calendar year.

Failed

HB 133 Electronic execution of estate planning documents; Uniform Electronic Wills Act. Permits 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.

Courts/Criminal Justice

Passed

HB 43 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, 2027, 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, 2026, to the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.

HB 331 Payment of costs when proceedings deferred. Provides that for any deferral entered into on or after July 1, 2026, pursuant to relevant law, the court shall not require the defendant to pay such costs or other fees imposed pursuant to relevant law as a term or condition of his deferral. The bill states that upon fulfillment of all other terms and conditions, the court shall adjudicate the matter consistent with the agreement of the parties or, if none, by conviction of an alternative charge or dismissal of the case. The bill specifies that such costs and other fees shall remain due until paid, and all methods of payment and collection already available at law to satisfy or collect any outstanding costs or other fees shall remain available to such court after the underlying case against the defendant has been adjudicated or dismissed.

HB 637 Possession of residue of a controlled substance; penalties; exceptions. Creates the offense of possession of residue of a controlled substance with a tiered system of punishment. Currently, possession of any amount of a controlled substance has a tiered system of punishment if there is a usable amount of such controlled substance.

HB 650/SB 351 Prohibiting certain acts in furtherance of federal immigration enforcement in certain protected areas; exceptions; penalties. Prohibits certain federal civil immigration enforcement activities in certain protected areas, including in any courthouse, within 40 feet of any polling place or building used as a meeting place for the local electoral board while the electoral board meets to ascertain the results of an election, and in any place or facility owned by the Commonwealth that is a hospital or other health care facility, a school or public institution of higher education, or an office of the attorney for the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits any civil arrest in a courthouse pursuant to a civil administrative warrant, subject to certain exceptions such as service or enforcement of an order for failure to pay child support or for any arrest occurring in connection with a court proceeding that is taking place or is scheduled to take place. The bill provides that such provisions shall not apply when such arrest is authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial subpoena.

The bill also authorizes a local school board to include in its written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan a procedure for notifying school board employees and parents of enrolled students of the presence of certain individuals on school property for immigration investigation or enforcement purposes. The bill requires each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy that requires an individual present on campus to investigate compliance with, enforce, or assist in an investigation or enforcement of any federal immigration law to present a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena before accessing any nonpublic area of the campus.

SB 18 Children; adjudication of delinquency; penalty. Specifies that "delinquent child" means 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 child younger than 11 years of age is found to have committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older, the child shall not be proceeded upon as delinquent and the court shall (i) dismiss any petition alleging such child has committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older and (ii) order that the court records pertaining to such petition be expunged pursuant to relevant law. The bill allows the attorney for the Commonwealth to file a petition alleging that such child is in need of services, and if such child is found to be in need of services, the bill provides that the court may make any orders of disposition authorized under relevant law. The bill also provides that any funding that is available to provide services to a child 11 years of age or older who is proceeded upon as delinquent shall also be made available to a child younger than 11 years of age who is found to have committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older in order to provide such child with the same services. The bill includes in the definition of "child in need of services" a child younger than 11 years of age who has committed an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older.

The bill adds that a child may be taken into immediate custody when such child is alleged to be in need of services or supervision and there is a clear and substantial danger to the safety of the child's family or the safety of the public. Currently, a child may be taken into immediate custody when such child is alleged to be in need of services or supervision and there is a clear and substantial danger to the child's life or health. 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 (a) causes a child younger than 11 years of age to commit an act that would be delinquent if committed by a child 11 years of age or older or (b) causes any child to participate in or become a member of a criminal street gang in violation of existing law. Under the bill, any person who commits such offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

SB 776 Requiring fines, costs, restitution for damages, support, or community services from probationer; failure to pay. Provides that a failure of the defendant to pay any fines or costs imposed on him at the time of being placed on probation as a condition of his probation shall not, by itself, be deemed a breach of such probation unless the court finds, after notice to the defendant and his counsel and a hearing, that the defendant has willfully refused to pay. The bill provides that in assessing such failure to pay, the court shall presume that a defendant who is indigent pursuant to relevant law, or who has been deemed indigent during the pendency of a criminal or traffic case, is unable to pay such fines and costs. The bill requires the court to dismiss any alleged breach of probation, absent any specific finding to the contrary. However, the bill also provides that such fines and costs shall remain due until paid and that all methods of payment and collection already in place to satisfy or collect

any outstanding fines or costs shall remain available to the court after such dismissal.

SB 778 Display of obscene material to a minor unlawful; penalty. Makes it a Class 6 felony for any person 18 years of age or older to display obscene material to a minor younger than 13 years of age with lascivious intent. Current law only prohibits the display of child pornography or a grooming video or materials to a child younger than 13 years of age by a person 18 years of age or older.

Failed

HB 927 Human trafficking digital identification and reporting platforms; duties of Human Trafficking Response Coordinator; quarterly reports. Creates a process for the use of digital identification and reporting platforms, defined in the bill, to report suspected instances of human trafficking. The bill requires the Human Trafficking Response Coordinator to certify such platforms and requires the administering organization, defined in the bill, of such platform to submit quarterly performance reports to the Coordinator and the General Assembly on certain data. The bill expands the use of funds from the existing Virginia Prevention of Sex Trafficking Fund to be utilized for such programs. Lastly, the bill states that the provisions of the bill are subject to the availability of funds appropriated for such purposes.

Carried Over

HB 863 Elimination of mandatory minimum sentences for certain offenses. Eliminates the mandatory minimum term of confinement for certain crimes.

HB 885 Court Date Reminder Program established; work group; report. Establishes a Court Date Reminder Program, to be developed or procured by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia, for the purpose of reminding criminal defendants to appear at each of their scheduled court appearances. The bill directs the Program to send a text message notification to any defendant with a criminal case in general district court or circuit court for whom the court has a telephone number prior to any scheduled hearing that requires his appearance and allows a defendant to opt out of participating in the Program. The provisions of the bill establishing the Program have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Executive Secretary to convene a work group to advise on the implementation and expansion of the Program and directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Supreme Court of Virginia and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice by December 1, 2026.

HB 1299 Rules of construction; use of "shall." Provides that "shall," as used in the Code of Virginia, establishes a mandatory requirement and is not merely directory, unless the statute explicitly provides otherwise. The bill responds to the holding in Henderson v. Commonwealth, 77 Va. App. 250 (2023), in which the Court of Appeals held that when the General Assembly uses "shall" in a statute commanding action by a public official or public body such usage is directory and not mandatory. The foregoing provisions of the bill do not become effective unless reenacted by the 2027 Session of the General Assembly. The bill requires, effective in due course, the Virginia Code Commission to review the bill's provisions and evaluate the bill's effect on the Code of Virginia and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than December 1, 2026.

Education

Passed

HB 836/SB 491 Public schools; right to free public elementary and secondary education; discrimination based on immigration status prohibited; civil cause of action. Prohibits any child in the Commonwealth from being denied a free public education through secondary school on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents, in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia and consistent with the requirements of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The bill also, among other things, prohibits any school board, public elementary or secondary school, school resource officer employed by a local law-enforcement agency in any public elementary or secondary school, or any individual who is an employee, contractor, or agent of a school board from engaging in certain enumerated actions and practices that involve or result in the denial of a free public education, or denial of the benefits or exclusion from participation in any program or activity thereof, of a child on the basis of the actual or perceived immigration or citizenship status of the child or the child's parents. The bill establishes a civil cause of action for violations of the foregoing prohibitions.

HB 1283/SB 724 High school graduation requirements and diploma pathways; application. Provides that, in the event that the Board of Education establishes or modifies any graduation requirements or diploma pathways, the Board shall only apply such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways to students who enter ninth grade at the beginning of or after the first school year of implementation of such new or modified graduation requirements or diploma pathways. The bill is applicable beginning with students who enter the ninth grade on or after the beginning of the 2027–2028 school year.

HB 1385/SB 494 Public institutions of higher education; governing boards; membership and duties; work groups. Revises the membership and duties of the governing board of each public institution of higher education by, among other things, increasing from four years to six years the terms of each member of the governing board and requiring the governing board to adopt policies defining and implementing shared governance among the components of the institution's organizational structure. The bill also directs the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to convene work groups for the purpose of developing model shared governance policies, in accordance with the provisions of the bill, and for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on (i) institutional structures and processes relating to legal counsel; (ii) the current selection and use of outside legal counsel by public institutions of higher education; (iii) a process by which (a) the governing board of any public institution of higher education, the Governor, or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility, upon determining that the legal counsel of a public institution of higher education is not acting in the best interests of the institution, including due to a conflict of interest, failure to defend the lawful authority of the public institution of higher education, or failure to comply with state law, may request the Attorney General to review the adequacy of such legal representation and (b) upon a determination by the Attorney General or the General Assembly or a committee thereof with relevant oversight responsibility that such institution is not receiving adequate legal representation, the governing board of any public institution of higher education may request additional representation or approve alternate counsel as necessary to protect the interests of the institution; and (iv) policies for requiring any individual member of a governing board of a public institution of higher education to recuse himself from or not participate in any vote or decision of the governing board on any matter in which he has a personal or pecuniary interest or any partisan or ideological interest that would compromise his ability to vote or act objectively and in accordance with the primary duties set forth in relevant law.

HB 1455/SB 815 School boards; opening of the school year; certain alternative schedules and schedule flexibility permitted. Extends from no earlier than 14 days before Labor Day to no earlier than 14 days before September 1 of each year the requirement relating to the earliest date that each school board is permitted to schedule as the first day on which students are required to attend school each year.

HJ 32 Study; Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; artificial intelligence use policies in place at institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the artificial intelligence use policies in place at institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and evaluate each policy in terms of how it addresses academic integrity, data privacy, equity and access, transparency, and faculty autonomy and instructional agency. JLARC is further directed to develop a model policy for AI use in institutions of higher education, as well as to make recommendations for AI tools, curricula, and other resources for inclusion in a statewide clearinghouse for educators, students, and the public at large.

Failed

HB 877 Public high school students; opportunity to earn transferable meta-major associate degree during high school to reduce college debt. Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in cooperation with the Virginia Community College System and each associate-degree-granting public institution of higher education and each baccalaureate public institution of higher education, to establish a program by which qualified high school students earn an associate degree in a meta-major through dual enrollment, independent dual enrollment, as defined in the bill, or a combination thereof, that (i) is fully transferable to any baccalaureate public institution of higher education that offers a program of study in such meta-major and (ii) to the extent possible, and as determined by the applicable baccalaureate public institution of higher education, satisfies discipline-specific degree requirements in the student's preferred program of study. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Carried Over

SB 678 Department of Education; special education and related services; educational rights, protections, and duties relating to the education of children with disabilities; requirements. Updates several provisions relating to the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE), as defined by the bill, including special education and related services, to children with disabilities in the Commonwealth to ensure such provisions are current and consistent with applicable federal law and regulations, including by (i) updating several relevant definitions to bring such definitions up to date and (ii) amending several provisions of current law relating to the duties of the Board of Education, the Department of Education, and each school board in ensuring the provision of FAPE, including special education and related services, to children with disabilities in accordance with federal law and regulation. The bill also codifies several provisions of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementing regulations, including provisions relating to (a) the educational rights of children with disabilities and their parents and the corresponding duties of the Board, Department, and school boards to protect such rights; (b) the evaluation, eligibility determination, and reevaluation of children for special education and related services; (c) the development, review, and revision of the individualized education plan of each child with disabilities; and (d) the procedural safeguards guaranteed to children with disabilities and their parents with respect to receiving a FAPE.

The bill also codifies certain protections for qualified students with disabilities, as defined by the bill, from discrimination on the basis of disability in a public school setting, in accordance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations. The provisions of the bill relating to protections for qualified students with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of disability in a public school setting shall not become effective unless and until any provision of § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and any of its implementing regulations has been repealed or declared invalid or nullified by the final judgment of a federal court applicable to the Commonwealth or by executive or administrative action, including any action of the federal or judicial branch that nullifies the effectiveness of such law and regulations in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability in federally funded programs or activities.

Finally, the bill repeals certain provisions and makes several technical amendments as necessary in order to update and bring into conformity with applicable federal law and regulation provisions of current law relating to the provision of special education and related services to children with disabilities.

Firearms

Passed

HB 217/SB 749 Purchase, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalties. 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 with some exceptions, 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, or is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action. 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, transfers, or purchases a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

HB 1524 Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited; penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles, pistols, and shotguns or any firearm modified to be operable as an assault firearm 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 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. A violation of this prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

HB 1525/ SB 643 Possession or transportation of certain firearms by certain persons; penalty. Prohibits persons younger than 18 years of age from possessing or transporting handguns or assault firearms anywhere in the

Commonwealth, with certain exceptions. Current law prohibits persons younger than 18 years of age from possessing or transporting handguns or assault firearms. The bill also prohibits persons younger than 21 years of age from purchasing a handgun or assault firearm anywhere in the Commonwealth, with certain exceptions.

Failed

HB 1359 Firearm purchase requirements; penalties. Requires any person selling a firearm to obtain verification from the Department of State Police that the prospective purchaser is not prohibited under state or federal law or a criminal history record check from possessing a firearm. The bill requires any person purchasing a firearm from a firearms dealer to present a valid firearm purchaser license 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; or (iv) 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. The bill provides that such firearm purchaser license is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

General Laws

Passed

HB 15/SB 48 Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; landlord remedies; noncompliance with rental agreement; mandatory waiting period. Increases the mandatory waiting period for a landlord to pursue remedies for termination of the rental agreement from five days to 14 days. The waiting period begins 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.

HB 61 Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program established. Establishes the Small SWaM Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 42 percent of certified small SWaM business, as such term is defined in the bill, 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 rates by three percent per year until reaching the 42-percent target or, if unable to do so, to implement achievable goals to increase their utilization rates. 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 between $10,000 and $200,000 be set aside for award to certified small SWaM businesses, and a microbusiness set-aside for such purchases, requiring that such purchases up to $10,000 be set aside for award to microbusinesses.

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, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, 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 Director of the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity to conduct, or contract with an independent entity to conduct, a disparity study every five years, with the next disparity study due no later than January 1, 2031. The bill specifies that such 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.

HB 95 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. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

HB 145/SB 129 Fantasy contests; regulation and taxation. Imposes (i) a 10 percent tax on a fantasy contest operator's fantasy contest revenue, with 2.5 percent of the tax revenue being allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund and the remaining 97.5 percent being allocated to the general fund, and (ii) a 2.6 percent fee on a fantasy contests operator's fantasy contest revenue to be utilized by the Virginia Lottery to cover the costs of administration and regulation of fantasy contests in the Commonwealth. The bill also limits the definition of "fantasy contest" and requires fantasy contest operators to apply to the Virginia Lottery for a permit before offering any fantasy contest in the Commonwealth.

HB 218 Casino gaming; consideration of service permit application. Provides that the Virginia Lottery (the Department) may only consider the criminal record information of an applicant for a service permit for the eight years immediately preceding the date of the application. The bill also directs the Department to issue or deny any service permit within 30 business days of receipt; requires service permits to be renewed by the Virginia Lottery Board every 10 years; requires service permit application forms to include additional space for an applicant to include a written narrative detailing important facts regarding his application; and makes the service permit application fee refundable.

HB 286/SB 337 Virginia National Guard; reports to the General Assembly; state militias; work group; report. Requires the Adjutant General to submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing federal and state deployments of the Virginia National Guard and other matters relating to retention, readiness, funding, and resources. The bill prohibits the Governor from calling forth the Virginia National Guard for the purpose of intimidating, threatening, or coercing, or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, a person in giving his vote or ballot or to deter or prevent such person from voting. The bill additionally prohibits armed militia from another state, territory, or district from entering the Commonwealth for the purpose of active military duty over the objection of the Governor without meeting certain conditions. The bill allows certain members of the General Assembly to request that the Attorney General assess the legality of the deployment of the (i) National Guard of another state within the Commonwealth or (ii) Virginia National Guard. Finally, directs the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs to convene a work group to assess the most appropriate manner and process by which the Governor and members of the General Assembly should respond to deployments of the Virginia National Guard.

HB 360 Virginia Consumer Protection Act; prohibited practices; kratom products. Prohibits selling or offering for sale (i) any kratom product to a person younger than 21 years of age; (ii) any kratom product that does not include a label listing all ingredients and the required disclosure; (iii) any kratom product not stored in an area that is not directly accessible to consumers, including behind a retail counter or in a locked display case, except for kratom products required to be refrigerated which may be stored, in accordance with relevant Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority regulations, in the same beverage cooler or refrigerator as wine and beer; (iv) any kratom product containing any synthesized material, semi-synthetic alkaloid, or synthetic kratom-like compound; (v) any kratom product containing 7-hydroxymitragynine in an alkaloid fraction exceeding one

percent of total alkaloids in the container or providing more than one milligram of 7-hydroxymitragynine per serving; (vi) any kratom product adulterated with any dangerous, poisonous, or otherwise deleterious non-kratom ingredient, including any substance listed as a controlled substance under state or federal law; (vii) any kratom product that is combustible or intended for vaporization or injection; (viii) any kratom product that is manufactured, packaged, or marketed in a manner attractive to children; or (ix) any kratom extract product containing residual solvent levels exceeding applicable statutory or pharmacopeial limits.

HB 396 Charitable gaming; Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. Increases from 18 years of age to 21 years of age the minimum age an individual must be to participate in Texas Hold'em poker tournaments. The bill provides that no qualified organization may conduct Texas Hold'em poker tournaments (i) at a location outside of the county, city, or town in which its principal office, as registered with the State Corporation Commission, is located or in an adjoining county, city, or town or (ii) at an establishment that has been granted a retail alcoholic beverage control license unless such license is held by the qualified organization. The bill also allows unlimited rebuys during the first two hours of tournament play or until the first break, whichever occurs first, and permits one add-on at the end of the rebuy period before play resumes at the end of the first break.

HB 515 Sports betting; prohibition on use of credit cards. Prohibits the Director of the Virginia Lottery from approving the use of credit cards as a method for sports bettors to fund sports betting accounts. The bill also requires a permit holder to take reasonable measures to prohibit the acceptance of credit cards to fund sports betting accounts on its sports betting platform.

SB 258 Virginia Human Rights Act; menopause or perimenopause; discrimination prohibited; report. Prohibits discrimination under the Virginia Human Rights Act on the basis of menopause or perimenopause for purposes of nondiscrimination in government programs, public accommodation, employment hiring, and reasonable employer accommodation. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, to conduct a study on menopause in the workforce, menopause accommodations in employment environments, and the scope of existing menopause-related policies and to develop best practices related to menopause accommodations in employment environments. The bill directs the Commissioners to submit such report to the Governor and General Assembly by July 1, 2028, and to post such report on the Department of Labor and Industry's website.

Failed

HB 161/SB 118 Virginia Lottery; casinos; internet gaming authorized; penalties. Authorizes internet gaming in the Commonwealth to be regulated by the Virginia Lottery Board. The bill requires a casino gaming operator that intends to conduct internet gaming to submit a separate notice of intent to the Director of the Virginia Lottery for each internet gaming platform that it intends to offer accompanied by a $2 million platform fee that is to be deposited into the Internet Gaming Platform Fee Holding Fund for the purpose of funding start-up costs and other costs associated with the implementation and creation of a gaming commission. The bill permits the Board to issue an internet gaming operator license to a casino gaming operator that submits an application on forms approved by the Board, meets certain qualifications, and pays an initial licensing fee of $500,000. The tax rate is set at 20 percent of an internet gaming operator's adjusted gross internet gaming revenue with five percent allocated to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, six percent allocated to the Internet Lottery Hold Harmless Fund until January 1, 2037 and the remaining 89 percent before January 1, 2037, and 95 percent after January 1, 2037, allocated to the general fund.

SB 547 Single-Family Homebuyer Protection Act established; civil penalty. Establishes the Single-Family Homebuyer Protection Act for the purpose of prohibiting a covered entity from acquiring an interest in more than five single-family homes within the same county, city, or town in the Commonwealth on or after July 1, 2026. The bill provides that no seller of a single-family home shall enter into an agreement with a covered entity for acquisition of such home before publicly marketing such home to natural persons residing in the Commonwealth and first-time homebuyers for at least 10 calendar days. The bill allows the Department of Housing and Community Development to publish aggregated information using existing data, including (i) the number and percentage of single-family homes owned by covered entities, broken down by locality, zip code, and census tract, and (ii) identified trends in the concentration of covered entity interests in single-family homes. The bill allows the Attorney General to seek an injunction and a civil penalty to restrain any violation of its provisions.

SB 566 Virginia Workforce Housing Assistance Program; report. Establishes the Virginia Workforce Housing Assistance Program to provide grants to eligible employers, defined in the bill, that set up housing down payment assistance programs for employees in amounts equal to the lesser of 15 percent of housing down payment assistance expenses incurred by an eligible employer during the fiscal year or $25,000. The bill specifies that an eligible employer may only receive grants in the aggregate of up to $150,000 across all fiscal years or $250,000 for housing down payment assistance expenses incurred for employees in certain fiscally stressed localities. The bill requires weighting grants according to the household income of participating employees, as measured against the area median income (AMI) for the locality in which the dwelling is located. Any participating employee shall have an annual household income at or below 120 percent of the AMI for the locality in which the employee's dwelling is located and have never owned or purchased under contract for deed, either individually or jointly, a single-family residence in the Commonwealth or outside of the Commonwealth. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.

SB 585 Virginia Fair Housing Law; Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; personalized algorithmic pricing disclosures; prohibitions; civil penalties; civil actions. Prohibits, for purposes of the Virginia Fair Housing Law and the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act (VRLTA), certain discriminatory uses of protected class data, defined in the bill, in the sale or rental of a dwelling. The bill requires, when applicable, disclosure of the use of personalized algorithmic pricing, defined in the bill, for purposes of the Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act and the VRLTA.

Under the VRLTA, the bill prohibits a landlord from facilitating an agreement between or among two or more landlords to not compete with respect to any dwelling unit, including by operating or licensing software, a data analytics service, or an algorithmic device that performs a coordinating function, defined in the bill, on behalf of or between and among such landlords. The bill also prohibits a landlord and a multiple listing service, defined in the bill, from setting or adjusting rent prices, rental agreement terms, occupancy levels, or other rental agreement terms and conditions in one or more of his dwelling units based on recommendations from software, a data analytics service, or an algorithmic device performing a coordinating function.

The bill allows the Attorney General to seek an injunction and civil penalties to restrain certain violations of the bill and allows any injured individual to bring a civil action to recover the greater of actual or statutory damages and reasonable attorney fees.

SB 636 Department of General Services; removal of Confederate monuments and memorials. Directs the Department of General Services to remove all Confederate monuments and memorials from Capitol Square. The bill directs the Department to store such monuments and memorials until such time as the General Assembly determines their final disposition. The bill also requires the Department, in coordination with the Department of Historic Resources, to review the most appropriate options for the final disposition of all monuments, memorials, and artifacts in its possession and report its findings to the Joint Committee on Rules by October 15, 2026.

Carried Over

HB 271 Virginia Gaming Commission established; penalties. Establishes the Virginia Gaming Commission as an independent agency of the Commonwealth, exclusive of the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of government, to oversee and regulate all forms of legal gambling in the Commonwealth except for the state lottery. The bill sets eligibility requirements for the appointment of a Commissioner and Virginia Gaming Commission Board members, provides powers and duties of such Commissioner and Board members, and provides for the transfer of current employees of relevant state agencies to the Commission. The bill contains numerous technical amendments.

Health

Passed

HB 6/SB 596 Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as such terms are defined in the bill. The bill clarifies that none of its provisions shall be construed to permit or sanction the performance of any sterilization procedure without a patient's voluntary and informed consent. The bill creates a cause of

action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right.

HB 656/SB 524 Mental health and substance abuse disorders; network adequacy standards; comparative analyses; report; emergency regulations. Directs the Department of Health to issue regulations that include quantitative network adequacy standards for timely access to care, travel time, and geographical distance that are at least as stringent as those imposed for qualified health plans and qualified dental plans. The bill amends the definitions of "mental health services" and "substance abuse services" for the purposes of health insurance coverage.

The bill requires health carriers to submit all comparative analyses prepared pursuant to federal law to the Bureau of Insurance on the date and frequency as specified by the Bureau and includes additional information to include in such submission. Under the bill, the Bureau may impose a penalty not to exceed $100,000 for a noncompliant or insufficient comparative analysis or require a carrier to remove, revise, or remedy noncompliant treatment limitations. The bill also amends the contents of the annual report submitted by the Bureau to the General Assembly to cover enforcement efforts with respect to the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

The bill authorizes the Bureau to promulgate regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and directs the Department of Health to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill directs the Department of Human Resource Management to evaluate the impact of the proposed changes to the provisions of the bill related to health insurance. The provisions of the bill related to health insurance have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

HB 681 Retired law-enforcement officers; emergency and temporary detention admissions. Clarifies that the term "law-enforcement officer" as used in relevant law relating to emergency and involuntary civil admissions includes retired law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, for the purposes of laws related to emergency custody and involuntary temporary detention.

HB 976 Transportation of person in the temporary detention process. Provides that an alternative transportation provider shall be deemed to be able to provide transportation of a person in the temporary detention process in a safe manner if the alternative transportation provider is (i) an employee of, or the person providing services pursuant to a contract with, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or (ii) an employee of a private or state hospital within the confines of the Commonwealth. The bill also provides further requirements for an alternative transportation provider to be deemed available to provide transportation for a minor in the temporary detention process in a safe manner. The bill also permits law-enforcement agencies or alternative transportation providers to transfer custody of a minor to a facility or location where the minor is awaiting transport if such facility or location (a) agrees to accept custody of the minor and (b) is capable of providing the level of security necessary to protect the minor and others from harm. Finally, the bill provides restrictions on the use of restraint related to the transportation of a minor for the purposes outlined in the bill.

HB 1391/SB 813 Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network established. Directs the State Health Commissioner, in coordination with the Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Authority, to establish and maintain the Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network to provide health care providers in the Commonwealth with real-time consultation and support from sickle cell specialists. The bill has a partial delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

The bill directs the State Health Commissioner, in conjunction with the Secretary of Health and Human Resources or his designee, the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, and any other relevant stakeholders, to develop recommendations on establishing and maintaining the Sickle Cell Coordinated Access Network. The Commissioner shall report his recommendations 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, 2026.

SB 22 Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing; continuing education; bias reduction training. Directs the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to require certain licensees to complete continuing learning activities on implicit and explicit bias reduction in health care as part of their continuing education and continuing competency requirements for licensure and authorizes the Board of Nursing to require certain continuing learning activities or courses in a specific subject area. Under current law, the Board of Medicine has such authority.

SB 75 Emergency and temporary detention transportation. Clarifies that the term "law-enforcement officer" as used in relevant law relating to emergency and involuntary civil transportation includes retired law-enforcement officers, defined in the bill, for the purposes of laws related to emergency custody and involuntary temporary detention. The bill also permits an alternative transportation provider to provide transportation of a person in the temporary detention process in a safe manner if the alternative transportation provider is (i) an employee of, or the person providing services pursuant to a contract with, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or (ii) an employee of a private or state hospital within the confines of the Commonwealth.

The bill provides that, for purposes of transporting a minor during the temporary detention process, an alternative transportation provider is deemed available if it states it is available to take custody from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider. The bill also provides the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody from the time custody is transferred by the primary law-enforcement agency until custody is transferred to the temporary detention facility, including while awaiting transport and during transport.

The bill also specifies when a law-enforcement agency or alternative transportation provider providing transportation of a minor in the temporary detention process may transfer custody of such minor to a facility or location where the minor is awaiting transport. When a bed becomes available at the temporary detention facility, the bill provides that that facility or location shall notify the law-enforcement agency or alternative transportation provider specified on the order, which shall then return to transport the minor to the facility of temporary detention.

SB 418 Therapeutic interchange and adaptation. Authorizes pharmacists to perform therapeutic interchanges by substituting a drug with another drug in the same therapeutic class when such substitution lowers the cost or is cost-neutral to the patient or the prescribed drug is in a drug shortage and the substitution conforms to Board of Pharmacy regulations. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy to determine which therapeutic classes of drugs shall be eligible for therapeutic interchange and which classes shall be prohibited. The bill also authorizes pharmacists to adapt prescriptions by changing the dosage form or quantity of a medication or by completing missing information on a prescription when there is evidence to support such change.

SB 429 Department of Health; State Health Commissioner; nursing homes; periodic medical visits and resident assessments; oversight and accountability. Requires all nursing homes to notify the resident of a nursing home, the resident's family, and the Department of Health if a federally required physician visit does not take place. The bill also requires each nursing home to conduct a comprehensive assessment on an annual basis to determine each resident's needs and describe each resident's capability to perform daily life functions. Such assessments must be reviewed at least once every 92 days, and more frequently in the event of a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition.

The bill directs the Department of Health and State Health Commissioner to take steps to improve care quality, protect residents, and strengthen oversight and accountability of nursing homes in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Department to enhance recruitment efforts and expand workforce capacity in the Office of Licensure and Certification, accelerate training and onboarding initiatives, and explore measures to reduce administrative burdens. The bill requires the Commissioner to submit an annual report with recommendations for continuing improvement of nursing home quality and oversight.

Failed

SB 359 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 self-administered aid in dying medication for the purpose of ending the patient's life. The bill requires that a patient's request for self-administered aid in dying medication to end his life 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 self-administered aid in dying medication 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 self-administered aid in dying medication 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 self-administered aid in dying medication 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 self-administered aid in dying medication to a patient for the purpose of ending the patient's life.

Carried Over

HB 855 Department of Medical Assistance Services; Medicaid estate recoveries. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) to limit the operation of its estate recovery program to the recovery of only federally required costs. The bill directs the Department to make information on estate recovery available on its website in multiple languages. The bill directs the Department to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Labor and Commerce

Passed

HB 1/SB 1 Minimum wage. Increases the minimum wage incrementally to $15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028. The bill codifies the adjusted state hourly minimum wage of $12.77 per hour that is effective January 1, 2026, and increases the minimum wage to $13.75 per hour effective January 1, 2027, and to $15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2028. Effective January 1, 2029, and annually thereafter, the bill requires the minimum wage to be adjusted to reflect increases in the consumer price index.

HB 5/SB 199 Employment; paid sick leave; civil penalties; civil actions. Requires one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked for all employees of private employers and state and local governments, with certain exceptions. The bill requires that employees who are employed and compensated on a fee-for-service 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 paid sick leave under any successor employer. The bill allows employers to provide a more generous paid sick leave policy than prescribed by its provisions and specifies that 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 to seek or obtain certain services or to relocate or secure an existing home due to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The bill requires the Commissioner to promulgate regulations for the implementation and enforcement of the bill's provisions by July 1, 2027.

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 or Attorney General may commence administrative proceedings or bring a civil action to enforce the bill's provisions. Additionally, the bill authorizes an aggrieved employee 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. Certain provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

HB 1207/SB 2 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 April 1, 2028. 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 April 1, 2028. The bill provides that the amount of a benefit is 80 percent of the employee's average weekly net earnings, not to exceed 100 percent of the statewide average weekly net earnings, 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.

HB 1263/SB 378 Collective bargaining by public employees; individual home care providers; Virginia Home Care Council established; Public Employee Relations Board established; exclusive bargaining representatives. 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 establishes the Virginia Home Care Council within the Department of Medical Assistance Services to promote the stability of the individual provider workforce in the Commonwealth and tasks the Council with serving as the public employer of individual providers, as defined in the bill, for purposes of collective bargaining pursuant to the bill's provisions. 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. The bill directs the Department of Labor and Industry to promulgate any regulations necessary to effectuate the bill's provisions by July 1, 2028, and provides that upon the establishment of the Public Employee Relations Board, such regulations shall be transferred to the Board. The bill provides that until such regulations are adopted, no petitions or elections shall take place pursuant to the bill's provisions except pursuant to an ordinance or resolution adopted under current law.

Carried Over

SB 782 Corporations; limited liability decentralized autonomous organizations (LLDs). Creates the Limited Liability Decentralized Autonomous Organization (LLD) Act, which establishes requirements for an LLD, defined as a distinct legal entity that operates through decentralized governance using blockchain technology and smart contracts that execute decentralized decision-making mechanisms. The bill permits the formation of an LLD by filing articles of formation with the State Corporation Commission (the Commission), and, if certain requirements are met, the Commission may issue a certificate of formation. The bill includes requirements for amending an LLD's articles of formation and also includes requirements for LLD bylaws, operating agreements, underlying smart contracts, and participant interests and management of the LLD. Under the bill, an LLD and its participants have limited liability for debts, obligations, and liabilities of the LLD. The bill also includes provisions related to recordkeeping, transferring interests, withdrawal of participants, and dissolution of the LLD. The bill directs the Commission to adopt emergency regulations to implement certain provisions of the bill. Except for the emergency rulemaking, the provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

Local Government

Passed

HB 153/SB 94 Siting of data centers; site assessment; high energy use facility. Provides that, prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception application, or special use permit for the siting of a new high energy use facility (HEUF), as defined in the bill, a locality shall require that an applicant perform and submit a site assessment to examine the sound profile of the HEUF on residential units and schools located within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. The bill also allows a locality to require that a site assessment examine the effect of the proposed facility on (i) ground and surface water resources, (ii) agricultural resources, (iii) parks, (iv) registered historic sites, and (v) forestland on the HEUF site or immediately contiguous land. The provisions of the bill do not apply to a site with an existing legislative or administrative approval where an applicant is seeking an expansion or modification of an already existing or approved facility and such expansion does not exceed an additional 100 megawatts or more of electrical power. Finally, the bill provides that its provisions shall not be construed to prohibit, limit, or otherwise supersede existing local zoning authority.

HB 867/SB 74 Affordable housing; local zoning ordinance authority. 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. In addition to optional increases in density, the bill provides that such program may include certain additional implementation measures including lot size reductions and accessory housing unit allowances. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

HB 1279/SB 388 Affordable housing; religious organizations and other nonprofit tax-exempt properties. Allows for the administrative approval of development and construction of housing on land owned by property tax-exempt religious organizations or certain property tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and provides that zoning

ordinances shall allow the by-right development and construction of housing on real property owned by such organizations, subject to various conditions and limitations. The bill provides that the review of such developments be completed pursuant to general law and states that localities shall not require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, rezoning, or any discretionary review or approval process. The bill requires that at least 60 percent of the housing development's total units be for affordable housing and that the housing development remain affordable for at least 30 years. The bill also provides that all such housing is subject to local real property taxation following completion, unless explicitly exempted by the locality. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027, and expires on January 1, 2031.

SB 531 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 $500 or less. The bill prohibits the locality from requiring (i) setbacks for the ADU that are greater than the setback required for the primary dwelling or the setback required for accessory structures on the residential lot, whichever is less; (ii) conditions for ADUs that are more restrictive than those for single-family dwellings within the same zoning area with regard to height, rear, or side setbacks, lot size or coverage, or building frontage; or (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Failed

HB 804/SB 488 Statewide housing targets for localities. Requires localities to increase their total housing stock by at least 7.5 percent over the five-year period beginning January 1, 2028. The bill provides that in order to meet such 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality while meeting the growth target rates. The bill provides that such plan may include any strategy deemed appropriate by the locality; however, for purposes of demonstrating a good faith effort to meet growth targets, a locality shall include modeling that demonstrates that the plan will result in the permitting of the required number of units and either (i) a zoning ordinance that includes provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses or (ii) at least three of the housing growth strategies enumerated in the bill. The bill further provides that after January 1, 2033, an applicant that seeks local government approval for a residential development site plan or rezoning that will have the effect of increasing the supply of housing in a locality and has that application rejected may, in addition to other remedies, appeal such decision to the board of zoning appeals.

HB 816 Zoning; by-right multifamily development. Requires a locality to include provisions in its zoning ordinance allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses and mixed-use developments that include both residential and commercial uses on at least 75 percent of all land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications, including any land contained in commercial or business zoning district classifications that allow for the by-right development and construction of single-family residential uses. The bill provides that such provisions shall not (i) apply in underdeveloped areas that are covered by a tree canopy of at least 60 percent; (ii) impose more stringent land use requirements for such development than would otherwise be required; (iii) require that a special exception, special use, or conditional use permit be obtained for such development; (iv) require a lower height than the greater of the height of the tallest existing building within 500 feet or the height that would otherwise be allowed; (v) require more than one parking space per unit; (vi) require larger setbacks than the existing building in the locality with the smallest setbacks; or (vii) require more costly amenities or design features than would otherwise be required for multifamily or mixed-use buildings.

The bill also (a) stipulates that the review and approval of such development shall be done administratively by the locality's staff; (b) requires that the zoning ordinance provisions must exempt any proposed development that converts an existing building to a multifamily residential use from any setback, height, or frontage requirements; (c) requires the zoning ordinance provisions to require any proposed development to dedicate some or all of its ground

floor space to commercial uses; and (d) provides that any proposed residential development that dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to affordable housing may be offered application incentives by the locality. The bill also prohibits localities from approving any commercial or business use on a property adjacent to the approved multifamily residential development that is different from the use that had been established at the time the multifamily residential development was approved.

Social Services

Passed

HB 301 Adult adoptees; access to vital records. Requires the State Registrar to provide adult adoptees access to their birth certificate upon request, provided that the requester submits an application, proof of identification, and payment and that the original birth certificate is not the certificate of birth in use, subject to amendment, or used by an individual for legal purposes. The bill directs the State Registrar to make a contact preference form available to birth parents that allows them to indicate their preference for contact by the adopted person, to be stored with the adopted person's birth certificate and provided upon the adopted person's request for the birth certificate.

HB 931/SB 270 Recovery residences; regulations. Establishes certain requirements for recovery residences and directs the State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Board) to promulgate regulations to establish minimum certification standards for recovery residences. The bill also requires that the regulations promulgated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) related to the certification of recovery residences include provisions that no recovery residence, or operator, employee, or agent of a recovery residence, may require a resident to participate in medical or psychological services, including clinical substance use treatment, that such recovery residence receives financial benefit from, either directly or indirectly, as a condition of entering or continuing residence at such recovery residence. The bill requires the Department to monitor credentialing agencies providing credentials to recovery residences to ensure criteria related to certification comply with regulations and specifies that no such credentialing agency shall provide credentials to a recovery residence that is owned or operated by an individual who is employed by or in a position of authority at such credentialing agency, or an immediate family member of any such individual. The bill also requires that referrals to recovery residences made by the Department, any agency of the Commonwealth, or by a court may only be made to recovery residences that are certified.

Under the bill, the Department and the Virginia Housing Commission are directed to study and make recommendations for establishing regulations for licensed providers of clinical substance use treatment services that offer housing as a benefit for individuals participating in treatment services but are not licensed or certified as a recovery residence. The bill also directs the Board to promulgate regulations to authorize the Department to expand data reporting requirements for certified and conditionally certified recovery residences and directs the Department to promulgate regulations regarding sharing of data related to recovery residences with the public. Finally, the bill continues the work group established in 2025 by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to make recommendations regarding oversight and transparency for recovery residences and requires the Department to administer the work group. The provisions of the bill related to promulgation of regulations have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

HB 1366 Department of Social Services; corrective action plans and assumption of temporary control of local boards and local departments. Grants the Commissioner of Social Services the authority to create and enforce a corrective action plan for any local board of social services or local department of social services that (i) fails to administer public assistance and social services programs in accordance with applicable laws and regulations or (ii) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child or adult. The bill permits similar authority for any local board of social services that (a) fails to provide child welfare services in accordance with applicable law or regulations or (b) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child. Under the bill, if a local board or department fails to comply with a corrective action plan, the Commissioner has the authority to temporarily assume control of all or part of the local board's operations. The bill also provides that, when a local board of social services or local department of social services requests assistance, the Commissioner has the authority to utilize staff of the Department of Social Services or contract with private entities to provide public assistance and social services

programs in the locality served by the local board or department. The bill also adds adult services to the definition of "social services" for purposes of Title 63.2 (Welfare (Social Services)).

HB 1490 Department of Social Services; centralized intake system for reports or complaints of child abuse or neglect; response to complaints within 24 hours for children under three years of age. Establishes a centralized hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect. The bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish and maintain a hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and specifies that the Department shall determine the validity of such reports and complaints. The bill eliminates the requirement that local departments must be capable of receiving and responding to reports and complaints of abuse or neglect and instead requires that any complaint of child abuse or neglect received by a local department shall be immediately forwarded to the Department's child abuse and neglect hotline. Such provisions of the bill have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

The bill also directs the Department of Social Services to (i) promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill by July 1, 2027, and (ii) contract with a third party by August 1, 2026, to conduct a comprehensive study and review of the screening process used for child protective services complaints across Virginia.

SB 640 Department of Social Services; corrective action plans; centralized hotline for reports or complaints of child abuse or neglect. Establishes a centralized hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and grants the Commissioner of Social Services the authority to create and enforce a corrective action plan for any local board of social services or local department of social services that (i) fails to administer public assistance and social services programs in accordance with applicable laws and regulations or (ii) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child or adult. The bill permits similar authority for any local board of social services that (a) fails to provide child welfare services in accordance with applicable law or regulations or (b) takes any action or fails to act in a manner that poses a substantial risk to the health, safety, or well-being of a child. Under the bill, if a local board or department fails to comply with a corrective action plan, the Commissioner has the authority to temporarily assume control of all or part of the local board's operations. The bill also provides that, when a local board of social services or local department of social services requests assistance, the Commissioner has the authority to utilize staff of the Department of Social Services or contract with private entities to provide public assistance and social services programs in the locality served by the local board or department.

The bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish and maintain a hotline for reports and complaints of child abuse or neglect and specifies that the Department shall determine the validity of such reports and complaints. The bill eliminates the requirement that local departments must be capable of receiving and responding to reports and complaints of abuse or neglect and instead requires that any complaint of child abuse or neglect received by a local department shall be immediately forwarded to the Department's child abuse and neglect hotline. The bill also adds adult services to the definition of "social services" for purposes of Title 63.2 (Welfare (Social Services)).

The bill directs the Department of Social Services to (1) promulgate regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and (2) contract with a third party by August 1, 2026, to conduct a comprehensive study and review of the screening process used for child protective services complaints across Virginia. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a Social Services Task Force to develop a comprehensive improvement plan to address changes needed within the State Department of Social Services and the local departments of social services.

The provisions of the bill related to centralized intake have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

Speed Cameras

Passed

HB 994 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation. Authorizes the governing body of any locality in Planning District 8 to provide by ordinance for the placement and operation of a photo speed monitoring device by a law-enforcement agency in a safety red zone, defined in the bill, for the purpose of recording vehicle speed violations in such safety red zone. The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations

captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons.

The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation.

The bill directs the Commissioner of Highways to develop criteria for designating a highway segment as a high-risk pedestrian corridor for purposes of identifying safety red zones. The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.

HB 1220 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation. Directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons.

The bill provides that any person against whom an enforcement action is carried out by a locality or law-enforcement agency, pursuant to the authority granted for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, where the enforcement action was based upon a willful disregard for applicable law, shall be entitled to an award of compensatory damages and to an order remanding the matter to the locality with a direction to carry out any further enforcement in a manner consistent with the law and may be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and court costs. The bill also provides that if a locality fails to comply with such an order, the court may order that the locality shall be ineligible to receive any funds collected from enforcement using photo speed monitoring devices, in excess of those used for its photo speed monitoring device program, and that the court shall order that any such excess funds be deposited in the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program until the locality comes into compliance with such order.

The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation.

The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.

SB 84 Photo speed monitoring devices, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring systems, and stop sign violation monitoring systems; placement and operation; violation enforcement; civil penalties. Authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to place and operate pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems in school crossing zones, highway work zones, and high-risk speed corridors for purposes of recording pedestrian crossing and stop sign violations, as those terms are defined in the bill. The bill requires local law-enforcement agencies implementing or expanding the use of pedestrian crossing violation and stop sign violation monitoring systems, prior to the implementation or expansion of such systems, to conduct a public awareness program for such implementation or expansion.

The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and violations captured by the other devices authorized by this bill and requires summonses issued for such violations captured by such devices to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of these devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of such devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons. .

The bill also limits the use of such devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device, pedestrian crossing violation monitoring system, or stop sign violation monitoring system, respectively, provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the violation.

SB 219 Photo speed monitoring devices; placement and operation; summons. Requires a second summons for a vehicle speed violation captured by a photo speed monitoring device to be mailed if a summoned person fails to appear on the date of return set out in the first summons mailed. If the summoned person fails to appear after the second summons, the bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles to refuse to issue or renew the vehicle registration certificate or the license plate issued for such vehicle until the required civil penalties and any administrative fees have been paid and any applicable reinstatement processes required by the Department of Motor Vehicles have been completed.

The bill directs the Supreme Court of Virginia to develop a summons for vehicle speed violations captured by photo speed monitoring devices and requires summonses issued for such vehicle speed violations to be such summons. The bill makes various changes to the requirements for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, including the use of funds from collected civil penalties, signage, data retention and storage, photo speed monitoring device calibration, making certain information available to the public, requirements for private vendors, and reporting. The bill establishes civil penalties for violations of requirements and provides that, for any summons issued, failure to comply with the requirements for the operation of photo speed monitoring devices renders such summons invalid and requires courts to dismiss such summons.

The bill provides that any person against whom an enforcement action is carried out by a locality or law-enforcement agency, pursuant to the authority granted for the use of photo speed monitoring devices, where the enforcement action was based upon a willful disregard for applicable law, shall be entitled to an award of compensatory damages and to an order remanding the matter to the locality with a direction to carry out any further enforcement in a manner consistent with the law and may be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and court costs. The bill also provides that if a locality fails to comply with such an order, the court may order that the locality shall be ineligible to receive any funds collected from enforcement using photo speed monitoring devices, in excess of those used for its photo speed monitoring device program, and that the court shall order that any such excess funds be deposited in the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program until the locality comes into compliance with such order.

The bill also limits the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones to when workers are present, as defined in the bill, and provides that a certificate sworn to or affirmed by a law-enforcement officer or a retired sworn law-enforcement officer is not prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein for a photo speed monitoring device placed in a highway work zone unless the operator of the photo speed monitoring device provides a sworn certification verifying that workers were present at the time of the vehicle speed violation. The bill contains delayed effective dates for certain provisions.

Carried Over

SB 564 Department of Social Services; unlicensed care homes; registration. Requires every person that constitutes, or that operates or maintains, an unlicensed care home, defined in the bill, to register such home with the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services.

Taxation

Passed

HB 167 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, the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Incorporated, the Virginia Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and the J.E.B. Stuart Birthplace Preservation Trust, Inc. The bill contains technical amendments.

HB 954 Rounding procedures. Provides for rounding procedures in certain cash transactions and authorizes the governing body of a locality to by ordinance set temporary procedures for the adjustment of bills and account balances for taxes and other charges due to the locality to account for the cessation of production of the penny coin by the United States Mint until July 1, 2027. The bill also directs the Department of Taxation to evaluate options and recommend a uniform procedure for such adjustments and balances for all localities of the Commonwealth and report its findings and recommendations no later than November 1, 2026.

HB 1180/SB 591 Department of Taxation; free tax filing program for individuals. Directs the Tax Commissioner to develop and offer a free individual state income tax filing program, effective beginning in taxable year 2028, that is similar to the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Direct File Program as it existed during the 2025 tax filing season. The bill contains technical amendments that remove obsolete language regarding fillable forms.

Failed

HB 897 Retail sales and use tax; exemption for data centers. Requires a data center operator, in order to be eligible for the existing data center sales and use tax exemption, to (i) beginning July 1, 2027, not use co-located generating facilities that emit carbon dioxide, other than backup generators; (ii) beginning July 1, 2029, contract for a certain percentage of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates from clean energy resources, as evidenced by a certification from the State Corporation Commission, or contracts and service agreements; (iii) utilize only non-carbon dioxide-emitting backup power sources, such as energy storage resources, beginning on a date dependent on the data center's initial service date; and (iv) demonstrate, for any new data center issued a final certificate of occupancy or its equivalent on or after January 1, 2030, or for any data center operator seeking an amended memorandum of understanding, sufficient investment in environmental management and energy efficiency measures to provide system-wide benefits, as defined in the bill. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.

SB 224 Tax administration; award for tax underpayment detection assistance. Authorizes the Tax Commissioner to award monetary compensation to individuals who provide information that assists the Department of Taxation in the successful collection of delinquent state taxes owed by other individual or business taxpayers. The bill provides that such awards may be given only if (i) the underpaying individual taxpayer's gross income exceeds $100,000 or the underpaying business taxpayer's gross income exceeds $500,000 and (ii) the amount in question exceeds $50,000.

Technology

Passed

HB 665/SB 489 Financial institutions and services; virtual currency kiosk operators; license required; penalties. Establishes requirements for the operation of virtual currency kiosks, as defined in the bill, including a requirement that a virtual currency kiosk operator obtain licensure with the State Corporation Commission. The bill requires operators to file annual and quarterly reports, provide certain disclosures, and take reasonable steps to detect and prevent fraud and money laundering. The bill prohibits operators from accepting transactions above specified daily and monthly limits and establishes a maximum transaction charge of 18 percent of the value of such transaction. A person who violates the bill's provisions is subject to a fine of up to $1,000 per violation as well as the existing enforcement provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

HB 797/SB 384 Joint Commission on Technology and Science; artificial intelligence; independent verification organizations. Directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) to evaluate the feasibility and impact of developing a framework for any person or entity seeking

to act as an independent verification organization that assesses artificial intelligence models' or applications' adherence to standards reflecting best practices for the prevention of personal injury and property damage. The bill directs JCOTS to submit a report with its recommendations and any findings to the Chairs of the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and General Laws and Technology and the House Committees on Appropriations and Communications, Technology and Innovation by November 1, 2026.

SB 338 Consumer Data Protection Act; data controller responsibilities; precise geolocation data. Provides that, for purposes of the Consumer Data Protection Act, a controller of personal data shall not sell or offer for sale precise geolocation data concerning a consumer.

Failed

HB 758 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act established; prohibited practices; penalties. Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act to require that deployers that operate or distribute a chatbot in the Commonwealth (i) ensure that any chatbot operated or distributed by the deployer does not make human-like features, defined in the bill, available to minors to use, interact with, purchase, or converse with and (ii) implement reasonable age verification systems to ensure that chatbots with human-like features are not made available to minors. The bill also requires deployers operating or distributing a chatbot that is a social artificial intelligence companion, defined in the bill, to ensure such chatbot is not available to minors. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

Carried Over

HB 635 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots Act established; prohibited practices; penalties. Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots Act, which prohibits an operator from making a companion chatbot, as those terms are defined in the bill, available to a user in the Commonwealth unless the companion chatbot is incapable of certain actions specified in the bill. The bill also requires an operator of a companion chatbot to include a disclaimer to users of all ages that a companion chatbot is not a human via a static, persistent disclosure and notify a user via a pop-up that he is not engaging with a human counterpart at specified intervals. The bill makes it unlawful for any operator of a companion chatbot to operate or provide a companion chatbot to a user unless such companion chatbot contains a protocol to take reasonable efforts for detecting and addressing expressions of suicidal ideation or self-harm by a user to the companion chatbot. The bill also includes certain data privacy and transparency requirements. The bill provides that a violation of its provisions constitutes a prohibited practice under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act.

SB 796 Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act established; enforcement; civil penalties; individual action. Creates the Artificial Intelligence Chatbots and Minors Act to require a covered entity, defined in the bill, to (i) implement certain reasonable systems and processes, (ii) make reasonable efforts to notify appropriate emergency services or law enforcement if it obtains knowledge that a user faces an imminent risk of death or serious physical injury, and (iii) submit a report to the Attorney General after obtaining knowledge of certain covered incidents, defined in the bill, connected to one or more of its chatbots. The bill also requires an operator, defined in the bill, to disclose the non-human nature of the chatbot to users at certain intervals. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to initiate an action to seek an injunction and civil penalties for violations and also provides an individual civil action for any person harmed by a violation or the parent or legal guardian of a minor harmed by a violation.

Transportation/Motor Vehicles

Passed

HB 55 Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties. Authorizes counties and cities in Planning Districts 8, 9, and 15 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, on any highway located in the locality for the purpose of recording and enforcing exhaust system violations, also defined in the bill. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed $100, but the violation shall not be reported on the driver's operating record or to the driver's insurance agency. The bill provides that a locality may exempt from enforcement by noise abatement monitoring systems vehicles used for agricultural, horticultural, or forestry purposes as demonstrated by vehicle license plates. Under the bill, the civil penalty will be paid to the locality in which the violation occurred to be used for the cost of administering the noise abatement monitoring system

program and for transportation safety initiatives. The bill contains the same data privacy and storage requirements as are in current law for photo speed monitoring devices. The bill requires any locality that places and operates such a noise abatement monitoring system to report on its public website by January 15 of each year on the number of traffic violations prosecuted, the number of successful prosecutions, and the total amount of monetary civil penalties collected. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2028.

HB 564/SB 583 Parking, stopping, and standing enforcement; bus obstruction monitoring systems. Allows localities to authorize the use of bus obstruction monitoring systems by a public transit agency operating within the locality for the purpose of enforcing local ordinances related to parking, stopping, or standing in bus stop zones or in lanes reserved for transit buses during posted times.

HB 911/SB 446 Limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards and permits, and identification privilege cards; 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 aligns requirements for eligibility for limited-duration commercial driver's licenses and permits and REAL ID-compliant limited-duration commercial driver's licenses with federal requirements and clarifies the validity periods for such documents. The bill directs the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement the extended validity periods for limited-duration licenses, driver privilege cards, or permits upon renewal or reissuance.

HB 1270/SB 550 Transportation network companies; publishing and disclosure requirements. Requires a transportation network company (TNC) to (i) issue a confidential 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; (ii) disclose to TNC partners information about the deactivation process; (iii) 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; and (iv) provide an itemized receipt within 24 hours of the completion of each ride. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.

Carried Over

SB 670 Commercial use of fully autonomous vehicles. Provides requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles operated to transport property or passengers in furtherance of a commercial enterprise. The bill requires persons operating such fully autonomous vehicles to receive autonomous operation licenses prior to such operation in the Commonwealth.

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