

LEGISLATIVE REPORT #5

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BILLS INTRODUCED:

HB 1557 - Del. Buddy Fowler, Hanover County – **RE: Appointed School Boards-Salaries** – to amend Section 22.1-32 to eliminate the salary caps in the Code of Virginia and to allow them to be paid no more than the salary limits for the local governing body in the Code of Virginia or as provided in the charter of the locality.

REFERRED TO HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HB 1564 - Del. Mark Cole, Spotsylvania County – **RE: Impact Fees** – to amend Sections 15.2-2328 & 2329 to allow localities to impose impact fees, to exceed 5% of the sale price of the residential property, 5% of the assessed value of the property in the event that there was a transfer without a sale, or \$10,000 whichever is less.

REFERRED TO HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

SB 939 - Sen. Dick Saslaw, Fairfax County – to authorize **Collective Bargaining for Public Employees including public school employees**. Localities would have to adopt local ordinances in order for their employees to come under these provisions. The bill would amend Sections 40.1-55, 57.2, and 57.3.

REFERRED TO SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

SB 941 - Sen. Mamie Locke, Hampton – **RE: Local Government Meetings** – to add new language to provide that at its annual meeting any political subdivision's board may fix the day or days to which a regular meeting shall be continued if the chair or mayor declares that the weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the regular meeting.

REFERRED TO SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 654 - Del. Nancy Guy, Virginia Beach – **RE: Statewide Clean Energy Financing (C-PACE) Program** – to amend Section 15.2-958.3 to enable the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy to work with a private entity to administer this financing program- low cost, long-term funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation projects.

REFERRED TO HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

Legislative Report #5
Page Two

SB 961; HB 1616 - Sen. Joe Morrissey, Richmond; Del. Carrie Coyner, Chesterfield County –
RE: Hopewell Charter – to eliminate referendum requirement for certain bonds.

REFERRED TO SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT & HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES &
TOWNS COMMITTEES

SB 962 - Sen. Frank Ruff, Mecklenburg County – **RE: Local Taxes on Public Service Corporations** – to amend **Many** Code sections to repeal existing state and local gross receipts, revenue and alternative minimum taxes on public service corporations; to remove the SCC’s authority to assess the tax value of real and personal property of public service corporations, and eliminate the Virginia Department of Taxation’s authority to assess the tax value of real and personal property of railroads and pipeline transmission companies. Localities would be required to assess and tax the real and personal property of public service corporations in accord with the existing laws governing local real and personal property taxation. Bill is 52 pages long.

REFERRED TO SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 967 - Sen. John Cosgrove, Chesapeake – **RE: Eminent Domain-Notice to File Certificate** – to amend Section 25.1-306 to require that this notice contain language stating that between 30 and 45 days from this notice, a certificate of take or certificate of deposit will be recorded in the land records of the circuit court, and upon recordation of the certificate ownership shall transfer to the condemnor and the owner has the right to take possession of the funds subject to liens or other encumbrances.

REFERRED TO SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 1590 - Del. John Avoli, Staunton – **RE: Local Regulation of Air Cannons** – to amend Section 15.2-918 to allow localities to require special exceptions or special use permits for these devices that produce high intensity sound percussions for the purpose of repelling birds.

REFERRED TO HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 1596 - Del. Kathleen Murphy, Fairfax County – **RE: Workers’ Comp** – to provide that a psychological injury from sudden shock and fright arising out of and in the course of employment shall have a compensable claim.

REFERRED TO HOUSE LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

HB 1597 - Del. William Wampler, Abingdon – **RE: GO Virginia Grants** – to allow Tobacco Commission funds to match GO Virginia grants.

Legislative Report #5
Page Three

HB 1599 - Del. Danica Roem, Manassas – to require staffing ratios for the **number of librarians required** in **each school**.

REFERRED TO HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SB 971 - Sen. Janet Howell, Fairfax County – **RE: Regulation of Electronic Gaming** – there are @ (6) bills or more in on this topic with different rates of tax on the gross profits of these licensees. This one taxes them at 10%. Some allow localities to prohibit them, license them, charge a license fee. Some provide that localities get a portion of the revenue based on what is generated in each locality. They would be regulated by the Virginia Lottery. Two bills, **HB 881** and **SB 908** would just prohibit these machines (games of skill) by declaring them to be illegal gambling.

REFERRED TO SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SB 977 - Sen. David Suetterlien, Roanoke – **RE: Local Governing Body Meetings** – to amend Section 15.2-1416 to require that localities shall provide opportunity for public comment during at least one-half of the regular meetings each year.

REFERRED TO SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 1612; SB 1090 - Del. Emily Brewer, Isle of Wight County; Sen. Tommy Norment, James City County – **RE: Surry County** – to designate a six mile segment of Gray’s Creek as a State Scenic River – from Southwark Road to its confluence of the James.

REFERRED TO HOUSE AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE & NATURAL RESOURCES & SENATE AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEES

HB 1624 - Del. Joshua Cole, Stafford County – **RE: Tree Conservation** – to amend Section 15.2-961.1 to allow any locality to, by ordinance, provide for the conservation of trees during the land development process. Currently, this law applies in Northern VA.

REFERRED TO HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

SB 1000 - Sen. Amanda Chase, Chesterfield County – **RE: Local Industrial Development Authorities** – to Require that before appropriating funds to an IDA, the governing body hold a public hearing re: the appropriation.

REFERRED TO SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 1708 - Del. Roslyn Tyler, Sussex County – **RE: Electronic Games of Skill-Cities & Towns** – to allow cities and towns to impose a tax of no more than 10% of the amount paid to an operator for the opportunity to play a gaming machine. It would also allow cities and towns to regulate these machines and limit or restrict them.

Legislative Report #5
Page Four

REFERRED TO HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB 1711 - Del. Lamont Bagby, Richmond – **RE: Virtual Virginia** – to amend Section 22.1-212.2 to require that it be made available in every public middle and high school in Virginia.

REFERRED TO HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HB 1715 - Del. Keith Hodges, Middlesex County – **RE: Erosion & Sediment Control Programs** – to amend Section 62.1-44.15:54 to provide that DEQ shall operate a Virginia Erosion & Sediment Control Program on behalf of any locality that opts out of operating such a program.

REFERRED TO HOUSE AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HB 1729 - Del. Dave LaRock, Loudoun County – **RE: Commonwealth Transportation Board** – to add 2 members, both to be designated as suburban at-large members (there are currently 2 rural and 2 urban at-large members).

REFERRED TO HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SB 1016 - Sen. Bill Stanley, Franklin County – **RE: Transportation-SMART SCALE** – to amend Section 33.2-214.1 to provide that in construction districts in which the unemployment rate is higher than the statewide average, or with localities that are classified as high fiscal stress, economic development shall be weighted at least 2 times greater than the weight given to congestion mitigation when the project is located in a corridor of statewide significance.

REFERRED TO SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 1022 - Sen. Jennifer Boysko, Fairfax County – **Collective Bargaining for Public Employees** – A Public Employee Relations Board would be established. Same as **HB 582 (Report #2)**.

REFERRED TO SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

SB 1023 - Sen. Mark Peake, Lynchburg – to add a new section to the Code which would establish **Visitation Policies for State & Local Correctional Facilities**.

REFERRED TO SENATE REHABILITATION & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

SJR 75 - Sen. Stanley – proposed Constitutional amendment to require the General Assembly to provide for a public school system with equal educational opportunities for all children and to **ensure that all school age children are provided with equal educational opportunities**.

Legislative Report #5
Page Five

REFERRED TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS

SB 1053 - Sen. Ryan McDougle, Hanover County – **RE: The Tobacco Commission** – to add to Section 3.2-3108- **Purposes**- The stimulation of access to **broadband** in tobacco dependent communities in an equitable manner throughout the Middle Peninsula, Northern Neck, Southside and Southwest regions.

REFERRED TO SENATE AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SB 1059 - Del. Chap Petersen, Fairfax – to establish the **Virginia Sports Betting Department** – Betting to be allowed only on professional sports. 50% of tax revenue to the locality in which it was generated; 45% to the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education Fund.

REFERRED TO SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SB 1080 - Sen. Joe Morrissey, Richmond – to establish the **Urban Teacher Fund** – grants to persons employed by an urban school division with teacher shortages who remain employed by that division for at least 5 years – must be used to pay college loans.

REFERRED TO SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

SB 1085 - Sen. Todd Pillion, Abington – **RE: Minimum Salary for Deputy Sheriffs** – Same as **HB 1302** in **Report #3**.

REFERRED TO SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 1087 - Sen. Pillion – to establish the **School Construction Fund** – grants to school boards that leverage federal, state and local programs and resources, such as solar incentives, Opportunity Zones, Community Facilities Programs of USDA, CDBG funds, GO Virginia, Tobacco Commission to finance new school buildings or for modernization and maintenance. Caps would be based on local composite index.

REFERRED TO SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

HB 1675 - Del. Keith Hodges, Middlesex County – **RE: Solar Projects** – to require any applicant seeking to locate a commercial solar facility on property in an Opportunity Zone to execute a siting agreement with the host locality, prior to issuance of a permit by rule or certificate of public need.

REFERRED TO HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

The deadline for the introduction of bills has passed. A few more may come in via unanimous consent.