

LEGISLATIVE REPORT #7

CROSSOVER REPORT

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HB 7; SB 97 - **RE: Virginia Fair Housing Law** – to add to Section 96.3 a subsection C. which declares it an unlawful discriminatory housing practice for any political jurisdiction to discriminate in the application of **local land use ordinances** or permitting of developments on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, elderliness, familial status or handicap, or because the housing development will contain affordable housing units, unless the development is located or proposed to be located in a census tract where more than 50% of the units serve low income families. Also, to amend Section 36-96.17 to provide that if there is discrimination as described in subsection C (described above) the matter shall be referred to the Attorney General immediately for civil action.

HB PASSED, IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
SB IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB 1663; SB 868 - **RE: Discrimination** – a 16-page comprehensive bill that prohibits discrimination in employment, adds additional grievances qualifying for grievance hearings: pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or status, status as a veteran; makes significant changes to the Virginia Human Rights Act; defines gender identity; prohibits discrimination in public accommodations; defines “age” relative to age discrimination as a person at least 40 years old. The bill also seeks to amend Code sections in Title 15.2, including 853, 854, 965, 1500.1 (Employment Discrimination-new language), 1507, 1604; add a new Section 22.2-295.2 prohibiting employment discrimination by school boards/school divisions, amends Section 22.1-306, and includes provisions from HB 7 & SB 97 re: the Virginia Fair Housing Law.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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HB 783; SB 9 - **RE: Workers' Compensation** – to amend Section 65.2-402 B. to provide that the persons listed re: hypertension or heart disease must have completed 5 years of service in their position; in subsection C. re: leukemia; pancreatic, prostate, rectal, throat, ovarian or breast cancer the current 12 years of service requirement would be reduced to 5 years; this adds to subsection C. colon, brain, testicular cancer, with language providing that the presumption shall not apply for anyone who was diagnosed before 7-1-2020. RE: local employees, subsection C. applies to volunteer & salaried firefighters. The bill would also remove the requirement that the employee had to have contact with a toxic substance in the line of duty.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 51; SB 40 - **RE: Line of Duty Act** – to amend Section 9.1-400 B. that “notwithstanding the foregoing, ‘eligible dependent’ shall also include the natural or adopted child or children of a deceased person or disabled person born as the result of a pregnancy or adoption that occurred after the time of the employee’s death or disability, but prior to 7-1-2017.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 106 - **RE: Visible Numbers Required on Buildings** – to amend Section 15.2-2024 to allow localities to impose a civil penalty of up to \$100 for violations not corrected after 15 days notice.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 108 - **RE: State Holidays** – to eliminate Lee-Jackson Day; to add Election Day.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

HB 358; SB 182 - **RE: Procurement** – includes localities- to amend Section 2.2-4321.2 B. to provide that each public body may require bidders, contractors to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements; require them to be signatories to project labor agreements.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 757 - **RE: Hiring, Employment Applications** – to add a new section to Title 15.2 to prohibit a locality from including a question asking if the person has ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any crime, unless the inquiry occurs during or after a staff interview. Does not apply to law enforcement positions, local school positions, sensitive positions defined in the bill.

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PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

HB 246 - **RE: Body-Worn Cameras** – to require the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish a model policy for the operation of body-worn camera systems; to add Section 15.2-1723.1 to provide that no law enforcement agency shall purchase or deploy such systems without an adopted and established written policy. The policy must follow the best practices and guidance in the model state policy and prior to adoption of the local policy there must be public review and comment.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 284; SB 225 - **RE: DANGEROUS Roadside Vegetation** – to add Section 15.2-2009.1 to allow localities, by ordinance, to require that owners of property adjacent to any public right-of-way maintained by VDOT remove any and all trees, limbs, shrubs, high grass that might dangerously obstruct the line of sight of a driver. The locality could after reasonable notice have the vegetation removed. The bill also seeks to amend Section 15.2-2011 to add roadside vegetation to the provisions re: encroachments.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 742 - **RE: Drones** – to amend Section 15.2-926.3 to allow political subdivisions to regulate take-off and landing of unmanned aerial system on property owned by the political subdivisions in accord with the Virginia Department of Aviation. Law to become effective on January 1, 2021.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 316 - **RE: Refunds of Erroneous Tax Assessments** – to amend Section 58.1-3981 to allow localities to authorize the Treasurer to approve and issue such refunds up to \$5,000 (current limit is \$2,500).

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

HB 321 - **RE: FOI Act** – to amend Section 2.2-3708.2 to allow a public body member to participate via electronic communication if he or she has a personal matter and specifically says what that is, or has an immediate family member with a serious medical condition. Also, to extend limit on missing a meeting and participating via electronic communication from 2 meetings/year to 10% of the meetings held/calendar year, rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

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HB 582 - **RE: Collective Bargaining for Public Employees** – This bill passed the House on Local Government Day at the Capital. A petition for an election would be required to have signatures from at least 30% of the employees in a bargaining unit. There could be NO STRIKES. Exemption: Elected officials, members of Boards, Commissions, Employees of Constitutional Officers, CAOs, CEOs, Administrators of a Division, top Deputies, 1st Assistants, Confidential Employees, Employees of the Virginia General Assembly. The Public Employee Relations Board would be appointed by the Governor: 1 a representative of Management, 1 representing Labor and 1 from the Public, who would be the chair.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

SB 939 - **RE: Collective Bargaining-Employees of Local Governments** – It is permissive- localities would decide if they want this and would have to adopt a local ordinance. Could not be applicable to employees of Constitutional officers. STRIKES Prohibited.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 342 - **RE: Meals Tax** – to amend Section 58.1-3833 to exempt from the tax sellers at local farmers markets and roadside stands when sellers' annual income from these sales does not exceed \$2,500. It was amended to require that the annual income calculation be TOTAL INCOME from sales at all local farmers' markets and stands, not just the sales occurring in the locality imposing the tax.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 255 - **RE: Prince George County** – to allow the County to increase the Lodging Tax to 7 percent.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SB 4 - **RE: Public School Assistance Fund** – to create the new Public School Assistance Fund & Program to provide grants to local school boards to be used solely for the purpose of repairing or replacing roofs of public school buildings. Any school division could apply; priority-greatest need based on a building's condition and ability to pay. An amendment was added to say that if funds are not included in the Budget, the bill does not become law.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 5 - to amend Section 22.1-138 to direct the Board of Education to prescribe by regulation **uniform minimum standards for the erection of modern school buildings** and the modernization of existing public school buildings for the purpose of promoting positive educational outcomes for each student. Also, to require every

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school board to assess and report to the Board of Education every 3 years the extent to which every school building complies with the minimum standards. If 1 or more buildings is not in compliance, a long-range plan for compliance with costs would have to go to the Board of Education. Amended to say if money is not included in the Budget, the law will not go into effect.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 7 - **RE: Minimum Wage** – Gradual Increase- January 1, 2021-\$10/hr.; \$11; '23-\$12, '24-\$13; '25-\$14; '26-\$15. For January 1, 2027 & forward it would be adjusted to reflect increases in the CPI. It would apply to employees of any public body.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 395 - **RE: Increasing the Minimum Wage** –
July 1, 2020 - \$10/hr.
July 1, 2021 - \$11.25/hr.
July 1, 2022 - \$12/hr.
July 1, 2023 - \$13/hr.
July 1, 2024 - \$14/hr.
July 1, 2025 - \$15/hr.
It will be adjusted annually.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 24 - **RE: Agritourism Activities** – to amend Section 3.2-6400 to include horseback riding.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 28 - **RE: Eminent Domain** – to amend Section 25.1-242.1 to add new language to provide that this section does not apply to condemnation actions initiated by a public service company, public service corps., railroad pursuant to power granted in Title 56, or government utility corps, per Section 1-219.1 involving easements adjudged at less than \$10,000. It would repeal Section 25.1-245.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 31 - **RE: Eminent Domain** – to amend Sections 25.1-310, 33.2-1021 & 1023 to provide that costs of filing a petition for distribution of funds due shall be taxed against the condemnor; the interest rate on funds represented by a CD from the date of filing of the certificate until the funds are paid to the court shall not be less than the judgment rate of interest.

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PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

SB 106 - **RE: Groundwater Management Areas** – to add Section 62.1-195.3 to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in any well that has been drilled through any portion of a groundwater management area declared by regulation prior to January 1, 2020.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 149 - **RE: Courthouse Security-Assessment** – to amend Section 53.1-120 to increase the assessment from \$10 to \$20 in each criminal or traffic case.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1508- **RE: Minimum Staffing Ratio for School Counselors** – to amend Section 22.1-253.13:2 to provide that effective with the 2021-2022 school year, local school boards shall employ 1 FTE school counselor per 325 students in grades K-12.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

HB 406 - **RE: Local CAFR Reports to the State Auditor** – to change the submittal deadline from November 30 to December 15.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 421 - **RE: Guns** – to allow localities to adopt ordinances governing the possession, carrying, storage, transport of firearms in the locality. Current law limiting local authority to sue firearms manufacturers would be repealed.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 422 - to establish the **Youth & Gang Violence & Prevention Grant Fund & Program** – Specifies that Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond & Roanoke would get grants.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 452; SB 650 - **RE: Procurement** – to amend Section 2.2-4303G to allow procurement as a Small Purchase goods and services other than professional services and non-transportation-related construction if cost does not exceed \$200,000 (current cap is \$100,000).

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

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HB 505 - **RE: Boards of Zoning Appeals** – to amend Section 15.2-2314 to provide that once the writ of certiorari is served, the BZA shall have 21 days to respond.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 537; SB 737 - **RE: Property in Redevelopment or Conservation Areas or Rehab Districts** – to amend Section 58.1-3219.4 to increase the max duration of a local real estate tax exemption from 15 years to 30 years.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

HB 542 - **RE: Regional Water Resource Planning** – This bill directs the SWCB to estimate the risk that each locality and region in the Commonwealth will experience water supply shortfalls, to encourage the development of cross-jurisdictional water supply projects, and to adopt regulations designating regional planning areas based primarily on river basin. It provides that each locality in a particular regional planning area shall participate in cross-jurisdictional, coordinated water resource planning, and all localities in each area shall together develop and submit a single regional water supply plan. The bill directs DEQ to facilitate the creation of the plan by ensuring that each regional plan identifies risks and proposes strategies in response. It says that this is to enhance and not supplant any regional water resource planning being done in the Commonwealth pursuant to interstate compacts or other cross-jurisdictional agreements. The bill directs that the Board and the Department prioritize the allocation of funds to localities that sufficiently participate in regional planning.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HB 558 - **RE: Procurement** – to add new language to Title 15.2 to allow localities to enact ordinances that would enhance **micro-business** participation in local government procurement. “Micro-business” is a small, women-owned or minority-owned business with up to 25 employees.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 561 - **RE: Transportation-Six Year Improvement Program** – to amend Section 33.2-214.2 to provide that when the VDOT Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment releases the recommended list of projects for inclusion in the 6-year Plan, the results of the project screenings, including whether such projects are located on a **primary evacuation route** would be part of it.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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HB 572 - **RE: Solar & Renewable Energy** – to add Section 15.2-2109.4 and it says:
Notwithstanding any provision of Section 56-594 or 56-585.1:8, any locality that is a nonjurisdictional customer of an investor-owned electric utility may (i) install solar-powered or wind-powered electric generation facilities with a rated capacity not exceeding five megawatts, whether the facilities are owned by the locality or owned and operated by a third party pursuant to a contract with the locality on any locality-owned site within the locality and (ii) credit the electricity generated at a facility described in clause (i) as directed by the governing body of the locality to any one or more of the metered accounts of buildings or other facilities of the locality or the locality’s public school division that are located within the locality, without regard to whether the buildings and facilities are located at the same site where the electric generation facility is located or at a site contiguous thereto. The amount of the credit for such electricity to the metered accounts of the locality or its public school division shall be identical, with respect to the rate structure, all retail rate components, and monthly charges, to the amount the locality or public school division would otherwise be charged for such amount of electricity under its contract with the public utility, without the assessment by the public utility of any distribution charges service charges, or fees in connection with or arising out of such crediting.

The same language as above is included in a new Section 56-585.1:12, and in this section public body is defined as any park authority, public recreational facilities authority, soil & water conservation district, community development authority or Virginia Water or Wastewater authority. In the above section in 15.2 it says “any locality”, in this section it says “any public body”.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

HB 585 - **RE: Transit Oriented Development** – As passed by the House, in this region **Chesterfield** County and the cities of **Hopewell** and **Petersburg** would be required in their Comprehensive Plans to incorporate strategies to promote transit-oriented development. Applicable to counties of 100,000+ and cities of 20,000+.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 597 - **RE: Group Homes** – to add Section 37.2-405.2 which is a list of detailed and specific information that would have to be submitted for licensure or license renewal to operate a group home or children’s residential facility in Virginia.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

HB 1442 - **RE: Handheld Photo Speed Monitoring Devices** – to add Section 46.2-882.1 to allow localities or law enforcement agencies to operate photo speed monitoring devices in **School Crossing Zones** & **Highway Work Zones**. It provides for a civil penalty not to exceed \$125 if found to be traveling at speeds of at least 10 mph above the posted limit.

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PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

HB 655; SB 870 - **RE: Solar Projects** – to add in Title 15.2 a new section providing for **conditional zoning** for solar projects of more than 5 megawatts. Proffered conditions could include: dedication of real property of substantial value; substantial cash payments for public improvements, the need for which does not have to be related to the solar project; or a rezoning.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 656 - **RE: Solar Projects** – to amend Section 15.2-2286 to provide that local zoning ordinances can incorporate generally accepted national environmental protection and product safety standards for the use of solar panels and battery technologies for solar projects.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 657 - **RE: Solar Projects** – to amend Section 15.2-2232 H. to provide that a solar facility accord with the Comprehensive Plan if it is 150 megawatts or less, and the local zoning ordinance permits these with a conditional use permit, or the locality waives the Comp. Plan review for substantial accord.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 672 - **The Climate Change Preparedness Act** – the focus is on localities' role in considering and planning so that the impacts from and causes of climate change can be minimized or prevented. It includes amendments to multiple Code sections re: the local comprehensive plan and local zoning which would require inclusion of evaluating impacts and causes of climate change, including mechanisms for minimizing or preventing impact- adapting/protection local infrastructure, services, systems, resources. Impacts from and causes of climate change would also have to be addressed in PDC regional strategic plans.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HB 726; SB 746 - **RE: Local Comprehensive Plans** – to amend Sections 15.2-2226 & 2229 to give localities 150 days to act on locality-initiated amendments for more than 25 parcels.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

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SB 333 - **RE: Safety, Security in Public Buildings** – to direct VA DHCD to convene stakeholders representing entities that enforce the Statewide Building Code, Fire Prevention Code, law enforcement organizations and local governments to develop proposals for changes to these Codes. The proposals would assist in providing safety and security measures for public buildings for active shooter or hostile threats while maintaining compliance with basic accessibility standards under the ADA. They are to look at locks, barricade devices, doors and windows.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

SB 341; HB 890 - **RE: Procurement** – to amend Section 2.2-4382 to allow local public bodies to use Design-Build or Construction Management where the project cost is expected to be less than the project cost threshold established in the procedures adopted by the Secretary of Administration.

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SB 349 - **RE: Insurance for Retirees of Political Subdivisions** – to amend Section 15.2-1517 to allow a local governing body to provide for retired employees of boards, commissions, agencies, or authorities that are political subdivisions and work in close cooperation with the locality to be eligible for group life, accident & health insurance programs.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

SB 360 - **RE: Water & Sewer Facilities** – to amend Section 15.2-2243 to allow a locality to include in the Subdivision ordinance a requirement that a subdivider/developer install reasonable and necessary w/s facilities on or outside the property limits of the land owned or controlled by the subdivider or developer that is necessitated or required, at least in part, by the utility needs of the development or subdivision, including reasonably anticipated capacity, extensions, or maintenance considerations of a utility service plan for the service area. Such subdivider or developer would be entitled to reimbursement of costs by any subsequent subdivider or developer that utilizes the installed w/s facility, except for those costs associated with the installing developer's pro rata share.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

SB 380; HB 1201 - **RE: Procurement-Competitive Sealed Bidding** – to amend Section 2.2-4302.1 to allow a locality to include in the Invitation to Bid criteria that may be used in determining whether a bidder, who is not prequalified by VDOT, is a responsible bidder. Criteria may be a history of completion of safety training programs by OSHA, participation in apprenticeship training programs, maintenance of compliance records.

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SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

HB 760 - **RE: Local Government Audits** – to amend Section 15.2-2511 to provide that if a locality hasn't completed the work and does not post the required notices or notify the public, any aggrieved person may file a petition for mandamus, supported by an affidavit showing good cause. The court could issue an order and impose a civil penalty.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 761 - **RE: Elections Administration – Pre-Clearance** – This would apply to any county, city or town that has a voting age population that contains 2 or more racial or ethnic groups each constituting at least 20 percent of its voting age population. Those localities would be required to submit changes to election districts, number of districts, other major changes, to the Circuit Court for a declaratory judgment or to the Office of the Virginia Attorney General and receive a certificate of no objection. The AG would have 60 days to object.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

HB 785 - **RE: Equal Taxing Authority for Cities & Counties** – Any county could impose an Admissions Tax. Any county may impose a Lodging Tax, but any rate in excess of 2%, but not exceeding 5% shall be used for tourism and tourism marketing. If rate is higher than 5%, funds generated above the 5% may be used as GF revenue. If there were special provisions for individual counties that were in place before 1-1-2020, they will remain. Any county may impose a meals tax without a referendum. To add any county to Section 58.1-3840 re: imposing excise taxes. **RE: Meals Taxes**, it provides that no county that held a referendum prior to 7-1-2020, that was defeated, may impose a meals tax until 6 years after the date of such referendum.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 588 - **RE: Equal Taxing Authority for Cities and Counties-Admissions Tax** – Same as **HB 785**. **Lodging Tax** – Capped at 5%; portion above 2% to be used for tourism. Localities that have higher rates that were given for specific projects remain. Any county with a County Manager form of government may impose a higher rate not to exceed 2% more. **Cigarette Tax** – Rate Capped at 2 cents/cigarette sold for Counties, and **Cities & Towns** that on January 1, 2020 had a tax below 2 cents/cigarette. If on January 1, 2020, a **city or town** had a rate above 2 cents/cigarette, then the rate on 1-1-2020 will be the cap. **Meals Tax** – For counties the rate would be capped at 6%, with no referendum required.

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If a county held a meals tax referendum after July 1, 2018, and before July 1, 2020, and it failed, the county would not be able to impose a meals tax until July 1, 2022. Effective Date of Bill- July 1, 2021.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

HB 831; SB 794 - **RE: Utility Easements-Broadband** – to amend Section 55.1-306 to declare that is in the public interest that easements for the location or use of electric and communications facilities may be used to provide broadband and other telecommunication services.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1021 - **RE: Personal Property Tax** – to amend Section 58.1-3505 so that a local government can exempt farm machinery and farm implements other than the farm machinery and farm implements described in subdivisions 8 & 10, which shall include equipment and machinery used for forest harvesting and silvicultural activities; then Section 58.1-3506 would be amended (subdivisions 8 & 10).

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

HB 1267 - **RE: Land Banks** – to amend Sections 15.2-7500, 7502, 7512 to allow PDCs to be designated by governing bodies to be land bank entities.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 1101; SB 834 - **RE: Affordable Housing** – to allow all localities to adopt **Affordable Dwelling Unit Ordinances**. The bill includes details about such ordinances. It applies to all local localities except those that fall under Section 15.2 – 2304.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 1103 - **RE: Elections for Local Governing Bodies** - to authorize Ranked Choice Voting for local governing body elections. Effective on 7-1-2021.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

HB 1106 - **RE: Health Insurance for Local Employees** – to amend Section 2.2-1204 to include **local transit company employees** to those eligible for the State health insurance program for local government employees. An amendment was added to provide that nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize participation of any

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entity in the Local Choice Health Plan that would jeopardize the status of the plan as a government plan under the federal ERISA Act.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1108 - to remove the caps in Section 15.2-1414.6 on **City Council Member Salaries**. They are set out in the Code currently by population brackets.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 1131; SB 762 - **RE: Solar Energy Projects** – to allow any locality to assess a revenue share of up to \$1,400 per megawatt on any project. To amend Section 58.1-3660 by adding a new section providing that if a locality adopts an energy revenue share ordinance, the exemption for solar projects greater than 5 megawatts shall be 100%. If a locality continues to assess Machinery & Tools Tax, the exemption for solar projects greater than 5 megawatts, for which an initial interconnection request form has been filed with an electric utility or regional transmission orgn. shall be 80% when an application is filed with the locality prior to 7-1-2030. Language was included that no revenue share shall retroactively apply for projects filed with the locality before 7-1-2020, except language provides that it could be worked out if the locality and owner agree.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

HB 1213 - **RE: Local Employees-Summons** – to allow localities to appoint and train local government employees to enforce local ordinances by issuing summonses for misdemeanor violations of local ordinances that are within the scope of the employee's employment.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SB 35 - **RE: Guns on Local Government Property** – to allow localities to prohibit firearms, ammunition, components in any building owned or used by the locality for governmental purposes; government-owned public parks; public roads, streets, public rights-of-way adjacent to a permitted event. The current limits on localities and the state suing gun manufacturers would be repealed. Firearms obtained in gun buy-back programs would have to be destroyed.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 452 - **Gas Tax increases** – 7.6 cents/gallon, to be adjusted annually based on the CPI. This is for parts of the state such as our's that is not already part of a special regional gas tax.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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HB 1255 - **RE: Redistricting-Prison Population** – to provide that persons incarcerated in federal, state or local correctional facilities whose address at the time incarcerated was located in Virginia shall be deemed to reside at such address. A person in one of these facilities whose address at the time of incarceration was outside of Virginia or whose address cannot be determined shall be deemed to reside at the correctional facility address. The Division of Legislative Services will collect the information.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

SB 561 - **RE: Workers' Comp** – to provide that **Post-Traumatic Street Disorder** incurred by a law enforcement officer or firefighter is compensable. It was amended to include additional specific training requirements for these employees.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 645 - **RE: Procurement-The Arbitration Agreement Act** – to Require that solicitations by the locality require the bidder to disclose information re: pre-dispute arbitration clauses. There is a long list of information bidders will have to provide, and a section on solicitation evaluation criteria.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 671 - **RE: VRS-Hiring Retired Employees** – to allow a political subdivision to employ full-time up to 2 people who receive a service retirement allowance, as long as there has been a break in service of one year. Retirement would not be adversely affected. An amendment was added providing that this law will not go into effect if money is not included in the new State Budget.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 703; HB 1527 - to bring under the **Conflict of Interest Act** executive directors and members of local IDAs & economic development authorities, and they would be required to file disclosure statements.

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SB 708 - **RE: Housing Authorities** - to require authorities that are required to notify HUD of demolishing, disposing of, liquidating properties to notify, 9 mos. before the application goes to HUD, the VA DHCD, the local governing body, each current tenant, and organizations that will assist tenants. Effective 1-1-2021.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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HB 1414; SB 890 - An **Overhaul of the System for Funding Transportation in VA.** It proposes a new Commonwealth Transportation Fund along with the existing Highway Maintenance & Operating Fund. Funds would be disbursed, based on codified formulas, to subfunds established to meet the needs of the different modes of transportation. The Gas Tax would be a cents-per-gallon tax, to be indexed annually. The HB has a 12 cents gas tax increase over 3 years; the SB has an 8 cents increase over 2 years. Bonds would be used for huge projects, such as I-81 and I-66. A new Passenger Rail Authority would be established.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1434 - **RE: Solar Energy Equipment** – to amend Section 58.1-3660 to change the **Local Property Tax exemption** from an 80% exemption to a step-down scale of 80%- 1st years; 70% in the 2nd 5 years; 60%- all remaining years. The exemption for solar projects greater than 20 megawatts applies only to projects for which an application has been filed with the locality before 1-1-2030.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1508; SB 880 - **RE: Required Number of School Counselors** – For 2021-2022, the requirement would be 1 FTE counselor/325 students in K-12. The SB has 250 students. The SB has an amendment that says it will not go into effect if money is not in the State Budget.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE
SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HB 1513 - **RE: Health Insurance Credit for School Division Retirees Who Are Not Teachers** – to require a monthly health insurance credit for those with at least 15 years of creditable service at \$1.50 for each full year of service. There is an additional credit for people on disability. Also, localities can choose to offer an additional \$1.00.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 826 - **RE: Water & Sewer Charges-Tenants & Lessees** – to amend Section 15.2-2119.4 to cap the property owner's responsibility at \$300.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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SB 875 - **RE: Solar Projects** – to amend Section 15.2-2286 to allow localities to include in their zoning ordinances provisions to incorporate generally accepted national standards for the use of solar panels and battery technologies for solar projects.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SJR 53 - **RE: Stormwater Local Assistance Fund** – to direct DEQ to study revised priority ranking criteria for grants from this Fund. Amended to say that if funds are not included in the State Budget, this work will not go forward.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1541 - to create the **Central VA Transportation Authority** – to impose an additional 0.7% Sales Tax and a 2.1% wholesale gas tax in every locality in Planning District 15 (includes Chesterfield & Charles City Counties).

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 971; HB 881 - **RE: Gaming** – to make the **Games of Skill** machines illegal in Virginia.

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE GENERAL LAWS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

HB 1557 - **RE: Appointed School Boards-Salaries** – to amend Section 22.1-32 to add “appointed” to provisions already in place for elected school boards by eliminating 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.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

SB 939 - 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.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 941 - **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.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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HB 654 - **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.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

SB 961; HB 1616 – **RE: Hopewell Charter** – to eliminate referendum requirement for certain bonds.

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE
HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

SB 967 - **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, the defeasible title shall transfer to the condemnor and the owner has the right to petition the court for distribution of the funds subject to liens or other encumbrances.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

HB 1597 - **RE: GO Virginia Grants** – to allow Tobacco Commission funds to match GO Virginia grants.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 977 - **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.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 1612; SB 1090 - **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.

HB PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SB PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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HB 1711 - **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, and to say that it may be made available to every public elementary school in Virginia.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE EDUCATION & HEALTH COMMITTEE

SB 142 - **RE: Virtual Virginia** – to require that it be made available to every public school in Virginia. This bill also allows the State Department of Education to charge a per student, per course fee to school divisions beyond an initial allotment of 15 such students per course, per school. It would prohibit the Dept. of Education from limiting the total number of such students by school or school division, and from charging school divisions for access to course materials.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

SB 1087 - 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.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

HB 1675 - **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.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 343 - **RE: Donations to Volunteer Organizations** – to amend Section 15.2-953 to allow localities to provide to volunteer fire or ems organizations for capital projects, assistance in preparing requests for information, bids, proposals, and budgeting services.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

HB 150 - **RE: Derelict Residential Buildings** – to amend Section 15.2-907.1 (Section applicable to localities that have a Real Estate Tax Abatement Program). It seeks to allow those localities to impose a civil penalty not exceeding \$500/month on those persons who have been notified and have not submitted a plan. The civil penalty could not exceed the cost to demolish the building.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

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HB 755 - **RE: Real Estate Taxes – Blighted & Derelict Properties** – “Qualifying Locality” defined as a locality with a score of 107 or higher on the DHCD’s FY 2017 Fiscal Stress Index (Emporia, Hopewell, Petersburg). It would declare that in a qualified locality, blighted properties and derelict structures and the land they are on, are a separate class of property for local tax purposes. A higher tax rate can be applied. The real estate assessor would determine what is blighted property or a derelict structure. It also provides that these properties that are delinquent for 6 months and the locality has incurred abatement costs that are not paid the properties can be sold.

PASSED HOUSE; IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SB 189 - **RE: Local Jail Reimbursements** – to amend Section 53.1-20.1 to require the state to compensate local jails for the actual cost of incarceration of state prisoners, as calculated in the annual jail cost report by the Compensation Board, beginning on the 61st day of incarceration. An amendment was added providing that it will not become effective unless money is included in the Budget.

PASSED SENATE; IN HOUSE _____ COMMITTEE

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BILLS CARRIED OVER

HB 40 - **RE: Requirements for Public School Buildings** – to require that every public school building maintain a Mental Health Break Space.

C.O. IN HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

SB 190 - **RE: Children’s Services Act** – to allow the State pool of funds for Community Policy & Management Teams to be used also for residential & non-residential services in a public school setting, and to provide services to children placed in public residential facilities or public special education day schools in addition to private facilities.

C.O. IN SENATE FINANCE & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

HJR 2 - Proposed Constitutional amendment to allow the General Assembly to authorize localities to fully or partially exempt affordable housing from **Real Estate Taxation**.

C.O. IN HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

HB 712 - **RE: Publication of Legal Notices** – to amend Section 8.01-324 to provide that all notices, ordinances, etc. required to be advertised in a newspaper may instead be published in an online publication and there are requirements for the publication to meet.

C.O. IN HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

HB 765 - **RE: Zoning** – to amend Section 15.2-2280 to provide in subsection 1 that a locality in its residential district classifications may include districts specifically designated for affordable housing as defined in Section 15.2-2201.

C.O. IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB 1052- **RE: Telecommunications Services** – to change the words Cable Television to Telecommunication Services in order that localities may provide telecommunications services to include broadband, CATV and Computer Services. Locality is defined to include any board, authority, district, commission, or other public body having overlapping geographic territory with a locality, or originally created by the locality, or any public body whose jurisdiction or membership includes any part of the locality. It would eliminate existing provisions that prohibit cross-subsidization, require feasibility studies, prevent a locality from charging less, and limits the types of localities, by population and whether they provide electric utility services.

C.O. IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

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SB 660 - **The VA Equal Pay Act** – to apply to public and private employers. Addresses discrimination, protected classes, wage ranges, prohibits limiting an employee’s right to discuss wages- a comprehensive bill.

C.O. IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SB 819 - **RE: Drug Courts** – to provide that permission to establish a drug court shall not be denied solely on funding it. Also, the bill says that a drug treatment court shall be available to every defendant.

C.O. IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 1599- to require staffing ratios for the **number of librarians required** in **each school**.

C.O. IN HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HB 1624- **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.

C.O. IN HOUSE COUNTIES, CITIES & TOWNS COMMITTEE

HB 1708- **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.

C.O. IN HOUSE GENERAL LAWS COMMITTEE

HB 1715- **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.

C.O. IN HOUSE AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SJR 75 - 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**.

C.O. IN SENATE PRIVILEGES & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

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HB 496 - **RE: Tourism Marketing of Casinos** – to direct VTC to develop a state and local tourism marketing model for casinos in Virginia.

C.O. IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

HB 1038- **RE: Landfills** – to prohibit permits for new or expansions that would make the capacity above 35 million tons.

C.O. IN HOUSE AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE & NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

SB 803; HB 1035 - **Overhaul of How Offices of Commonwealth’s Attorneys are Staffed and Funded.**

SB C.O. IN SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB C.O. IN HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

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DEAD BILLS

- HB 12** - to require the **Virginia Department of Education** to establish a procedure for the receipt, investigation and resolution of **student complaints alleging discrimination** on any basis that is prohibited by state or federal law, including discrimination on the basis of sex (Title 1X).
- HB 86** - **RE: Required Local Effort for Basic Aid Education Funding** – In localities which are rated “above-average fiscal stress” or high fiscal stress” by the Commission on Local Government **and** have a composite index at or below 0.2000, the school boards may spend up to 25% of the required local effort on school construction/renovation. To expire on 7-1-2032.
- HJR 20; SJR 28** - **RE: Composite Index** – to direct JLARC to study the Composite Index.
- HJR 24** - to express the sense of the General Assembly that the U. S. Census Bureau should count incarcerated persons at their address of residence, rather than the prison address.
- HB 205** - **RE: Small Renewable Energy Projects** – to amend the definition of these projects by reducing the maximum rated capacity from 150 megawatts to 100 megawatts.
- HB 226** - **RE: Home-Schooled Students** – to provide for these students to participate in public school sports.
- HB 248** - **RE: Industrial Hemp Products** – to allow any locality by ordinance to restrict the display on exterior signage of the symbol of a green cross with arms of equal length by any business that sells hemp products.
- HB 309** - **RE: Lodging Taxes-State Parks** – to allow localities to impose the lodging tax in state parks.
- SB 151** - **RE: School Nurses** – to **Require** at least one FTE School Nurse position in every elementary, middle & high school, or at least 1FTE School Nurse position per 550 students in K-12.
- SB 141** - **RE: Building Code & Fire Code Notices** – to provide that when Code provisions direct enforcement agencies to provide notice of Building Code or Fire Code violations, such notice shall be provided to the owner of the building, structure, property.
- SB 6** - to provide for a November, 2020 **Statewide Referendum** on issuance of \$3 billion in G. O. bonds for K-12 building construction, repair, modernization. The results would only be advisory, but would demonstrate citizens’ preference.

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- HB 359** - **RE: Procurement** - to allow public bodies to consider best value concepts when procuring construction services.
- HB 383** - **RE: Tuition Assistance for Law Enforcement Officers** – create a fund from which grants would go to local law-enforcement agencies to cover costs of tuition, books, and mandatory fees at public colleges for up to 2 years for any law enforcement officer who agrees to remain with the department for a period at least as long as the length of the course of study undertaken and paid for by the grant.
- HB 424** - to require a **School Resource Officer** in every school. A School Resource Officer Supplementary Fund would be created to help fund the requirement.
- HB 467; SB 418** - **RE: Joint & Cooperative Procurement** – to allow cooperative procurement for construction projects not exceeding \$200,000.
- HB 508** - **RE: Animal Control** – Overhaul of Section 3.1-6540 & 6570. One change is to **Require** that a law enforcement officer or animal control officer apply to a magistrate for a summons if they have reason to believe that a dog is a dangerous dog. There must be written notice to the owner of intent to secure a summons.
- HB 589** - **RE: State Funding Allocation Formula for Community Services Boards** – to amend Section 37.2-509 to add 2 additional factors: total population of the area served; and level of need for services provided among the population of the area.
- HB 608** - to establish the **Health Enterprise Zone Program & Fund** – it is aimed at better targeting state resources to (i) reduce racial, ethnic & geographic health disparities; (ii) improve access in underserved communities; (iii) reduce hospital admissions & readiness; and (iv) reduce costs. A locality or localities would seek designation as a zone.
- HB 619** - **RE: Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund** – to guarantee at least \$1 million annually to Fredericksburg Regional Transit.
- HB 642** - **RE: SMART SCALE** - to direct in the factors to be considered that all project or strategy benefits shall be considered relative to the cost of such project during all phases of the prioritization process; to require that in the NOVA and Hampton Roads districts congestion mitigation would be weighted at least at 55%; to direct the CTB to ensure that the selection of projects or strategies for funding pursuant to the District Grant Program & the High Priority Projects Program remain completely separate and projects selected through one do not impact project selections in the other. In the High Priority Projects Program projects selected would have to be compared to all other eligible projects. In the Highway Construction District Grant Program, projects shall receive a district-specific score and an overall score.

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- HB 649** - **RE: Workers' Compensation** – to provide that hypertension or heart disease is an occupational disease for full-time salaried police dispatchers.
- HB 679** - **RE: Real & Personal Property Tax Exemption** – to **repeal** the property tax exemptions for all nonprofits that were granted by the General Assembly by designation effective 7-1-2025. Any locality may grant property tax exemptions to any such organizations effective on or after 7-1-2025.
- HB 709** - **RE: The Tobacco Commission** –to provide for investment of up to 10% of the available balance from the taxable portion of the fund as of July 1, 2020 in Virginia Venture Capital accounts- no match required.
- SB 319** - **RE: Guns** – to require that on any property owned by Virginia, or any political subdivision, or used by any public body, where firearms have been prohibited by law, there shall be law-enforcement officers, or armed security officers on the premises to provide security.
- SB 332** - **RE: Transportation Trust Fund** – to have all of the Sales Tax revenue remitted to the state by **remote sellers** go into the TTF to be used solely for maintenance/repair of existing highways.
- SB 351; HB 1242** - **RE: Broadband** – to amend Section 15.2-1500 to allow any locality to establish any department, office... to offer Internet access, broadband, information and data transmission services.
- SB 383** - **RE: Lobbyists Working on Local Issues** – to require paid lobbyists who are working on a local action to provide notice/register to the clerk of the governing body and pay a \$25 fee.
- HB 769** - **RE: Codification of Local Ordinances** – to provide that if a person is charged for violating a local ordinance that is not codified, he or she can assert as an affirmative defense that the ordinance was not codified, thus information not accessible to the public; to allow ordinances to be codified in an on-line format.
- HB 829** - **RE: Group Homes** – to Require that all applicants for licensure provide notice to the local governing body, the public (published in newspaper), all residents living within ½ mile of the group home location. The Department of Behavioral Health would have to have a process for receiving comments from the governing body and the public- 30 day comment period before Commissioner can act on license application.
- HB 828** - **RE: Assisted Living Facilities & Group Homes** - to add language to Section 15.2-2291 to require that these facilities approved after 7-1-2020 not be located within ¼ mile of an existing residential facility, providing such enforcement is in compliance with applicable state and federal fair housing laws.

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- HB 934** - **RE: Sanctuary Localities** – to add Section 15.2-915.6 – (A) A person may lawfully possess, purchase, or transport a firearm or firearms magazine that he would otherwise be lawfully permitted to possess, purchase, or transport on January 1, 2020, while he is in a locality that has adopted or enforced any ordinance, resolution, or motion, as permitted by Section 15.2-1425, that declares such locality a sanctuary for Second Amendment rights. (B) No funds payable by the Commonwealth to a locality for any and all purposes shall be withheld from a locality solely on the basis of such locality’s adopting or enforcing any ordinance, resolution, or motion that declares such locality a sanctuary for Second Amendment rights.
- HB 948** - **RE: Local License Taxes** – to add Section 58.1-3736 to prohibit any increase in these taxes beyond rates as of 1-1-2020; to prohibit localities that do not currently levy a license tax to do so.
- HB 1302; SB 1085** - **RE: Deputy Sheriffs** – to add Section 15.2-1609.2:1 to set the **minimum salary** for all deputy sheriffs, law enforcement and non-law enforcement at the Comp Board minimum plus a 20% supplement. In above-average or high stress localities, the state would be required to pay the entire sum of the difference between the current salary paid in the locality and the Comp Board minimum + 20% supplement.
- HB 1317**- **RE: Hemp** - to require each registered grower to maintain a buffer zone of a specified depth from the property lines of any premises on which this hemp is grown; and perform odor mitigation at any such premises during peak blooming season. The Board of Agriculture would adopt regulations. It also directs that there be a signed statement indicating that the premises on which the hemp is to be grown are located more than 100 yards from any residential area, and that the owner has complied with public notice and comment requirements.
- HB 1104**- **RE: Housing** – to allow localities to establish **Inclusionary Housing Ordinances**. “Affordable” would be defined in each ordinance according to the needs of the residents of the locality. They can be applicable to new housing developments or conversions of non-residential buildings. The bill has a list of goals.
- HB 1156**- **RE: Historic Rehab Tax Credit** – to amend Section 58.1-339.2 to increase the cap from \$5 million to \$10 million.
- HB 1203**- **RE: Local Public Works Projects** – to Require contractors and subs working on public contract projects with localities to pay their workers the prevailing wage rate (Davis-Bacon).
- SB 475** - **RE: Procurement** – to allow any public body to procure construction on a Best Value procurement basis using a numerical scoring system.
- SB 509** - **RE: Hunting & Migratory Game Birds** – to amend Sections 15.2-1113.1, 1209 & 1210 that no **County East of I-95** may prohibit otherwise lawful hunting of these birds in Virginia waters.

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- HB 662** - **RE: Local Grievance Procedure** – to add provisions that are in the State Grievance Procedure providing for appeals to the circuit court.
- SB 589** - **RE: Zoning Administrators** – to require that copies of the zoning administrator’s response to a request for a decision or determination, or an affirmation of a prior decision be delivered via 1st class mail also to the agent or occupants of abutting property and property immediately across the street or road.
- SB 639** - **RE: VA Growth & Opportunity Fund** – to Require that at least 25% of grant payments received by a regional council be used to support job creation in **Qualified Opportunity Zones**.
- HB 1409**- **RE: 2nd Amendment Sanctuary Localities** – to prohibit the Legislature and executive branch from considering this status when making appropriation decisions.
- HB 1446**- **RE: Meeting Standards for School Buildings** – This bill applies to a school division under a corrective plan, or has a school under a corrective plan, or receives At-Risk-Add On payments. If such a school division is out of compliance with minimum standards for school buildings, provisions are included by which the State Board of Education could petition the Circuit Court to compel the governing body to provide necessary funds to get buildings up to the standards.
- HB 1454**- **RE: DEQ** – to direct DEQ to study changes necessary to integrate and consolidate the Erosion & Sediment Control Law, the Stormwater Management Act and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.
- HB 1474**- **RE: Short-Term Rentals** – This proposes requirements on local ordinances regulating short-term rentals notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary. These provisions would supersede any existing local authority to regulate these rentals through its general land use and zoning authority or charter.
- HB 1520**- **RE: Homestead Tax Relief Program** – to add a new section to **permit a taxpayer to defer up to 95% of taxes on his or her homestead** if the amount of the real estate tax on that homestead has increased by at least 25% since the date of purchase. The amount deferred must be paid upon transfer of the property or the owner’s death.
- HJR 125**- **RE: Stormwater Management Laws** – to have DEQ study their effectiveness.
- SB 893** - **RE: Local Comprehensive Plans-Solar Facilities** – to amend Section 15.2-2232 to exempt from a review of substantial accord solar facilities of 150 megawatts or less.
- HB 1564**- **RE: Impact Fees** – to amend Sections 15.2-2328 & 2329 to allow localities to impose impact fees, not 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.

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- SB 962** - **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.
- HB 1596**- **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.
- HB 1590**- **RE: Local Regulation of Air Cannons** – 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.
- HB 1000**- **RE: Local Industrial Development Authorities** – to Require that before appropriating funds to an IDA, the governing body hold a public hearing re: the appropriation.
- HB 1729**- **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).
- SB 1053** - **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.
- HB 364** - **RE: Transportation-SMART SCALE** – to require the CTB to evaluate 1) congestion mitigation on the basis of total traffic volumes, not just during weekdays, and 2) accessibility on the basis of the area of influence of a project for a radius of 55 miles.
- HB 480** - to add **911 dispatchers** to those eligible for enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty. Only for persons hired starting in 2021.
- HB 545** - **RE: Inclusionary Housing; Zoning** – Applicable to **Cities and Towns**. To require cities and towns to develop and promulgate housing plans that address the supply of safe, sanitary and affordable shelter for all current and anticipated residents, to be reviewed and revised every 5 years. After the plan, which has 7 components, the cities and towns can implement inclusionary housing programs.

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- HB 15** - to require all **school buses** to have seat belts and shoulder straps by 7-1-2038.
- HB 70** - to provide that a **broadband** provider shall be prohibited from offering or renewing services within a locality in which certain media is throttled, blocked, or prioritized on the basis of content, format, host address or source.
- HB 107** - **RE: Health Insurance for School Division Employees** – to allow local school boards to elect to participate in the State Employee Health Insurance Plan instead of the current state-administered local health insurance plan.
- HB 151** - **RE: Accessory Dwelling Units** – to add a new section to Title 15.2 that defines these units and would **Require** all localities to allow for the development and use of one accessory dwelling unit per single-family dwelling not withstanding any contrary provision of the zoning ordinance.
- HB 152** - to Require all localities to allow development or redevelopment of **“middle-housing” units (2-family residential units)**, such as duplexes, townhouses, cottages) on each lot zoned for S-F residential use. No special use permit could be required.
- HB 153** - to **repeal Virginia’s Right to Work Law**.
- SB 426** - The **Fair Share Fee** Bill – Right to Work.
- SB 188** - to require that all bills having a negative fiscal impact on localities be pre-filed on or before December 15.
- HB 231** - **RE: Children with Disabilities** – to provide that for students with disabilities who are in public school pursuant to his or her IEP, who are subsequently moved to a nonpublic school setting, the parents would be given the SOQ per pupil state funds, including the per pupil share of State Sales Tax funds in basic aid, and any state per pupil share of Special Ed funds for use in paying tuition and fees at the nonpublic school.
- HB 233** - **RE: Teacher Salaries** – to amend Section 22.1-289.1 to say Teachers **“shall”** be paid at or above the national average teacher salary, effective July 1, 2025, and directs that state funds will be provided incrementally to implement by 2025.
- HB 328** - to establish a **Family & Medical Leave Insurance Program**.
- HB 774** - **RE: Transportation Revenue Sharing Funds** – to raise the matching allocation to a locality from \$5 million to \$10 million and \$5 million could be used by the locality for maintenance (current cap is \$2.5 million).