Specific Legislation and Legislation for Discussion

Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee

January 17, 2025

County Initiatives

Public Safety

HB 2036 (Bulova). Reckless driving; street takeover and exhibition driving; penalties. Expands reckless driving to include street takeovers and exhibition driving, defined in the bill. The bill prohibits (i) slowing or stopping traffic for a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; (ii) riding as a passenger on or in an area of a motor vehicle that is not designed or intended for passenger transportation during a race, street takeover, or exhibition driving; or (iii) participating in any such event as a spectator or aiding or abetting a street takeover or exhibition driving. The bill establishes penalties for violations and establishes a process for impounding or immobilizing motor vehicles driven by persons arrested for street takeovers or exhibition driving. (25104526D)

Transportation

HB 2550 (Sullivan). Noise abatement monitoring systems; local authority; civil penalties. Authorizes counties in Planning District 8 to place and operate noise abatement monitoring systems, defined in the bill, 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. 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 has an expiration date of July 1, 2027. (25103227D)

Historical Positions of the Board

SUPPORT

Constitutional Amendment - Right to Vote

HJ 2 (Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker)/**SJ 248** (Mamie E. Locke). Constitutional amendment (first reference); qualifications of voters; right to vote; persons not entitled to vote. Provides that every person who meets the qualifications of voters set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall have the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth and that such right shall not be abridged by law, except for persons who have been convicted of a felony and persons who have been adjudicated to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting. A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be entitled to vote during any period of incarceration for such felony conviction, but upon release from incarceration for that felony conviction and without further action required of him, such person shall be invested with all political rights, including the right to vote. Currently, in order to be qualified to vote a person convicted of a felony must have his civil rights restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. The amendment also provides that a person adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction as lacking the capacity to understand the act of voting shall not be entitled to vote during this period of incapacity until his capacity has been reestablished as prescribed by law. Currently, the Constitution of Virginia provides that a person who has been adjudicated to be mentally incompetent is not qualified to vote until his competency is reestablished. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (24101042D, 25101531D)

Firearms

HB 1597 (Miel B. Feggans). Secure storage of firearms; penalties. Creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm on any premises where such person knows, or reasonably should know, that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is, or is likely to be, present. The bill increases the penalty to a Class 1 misdemeanor if a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm obtains such firearm and to a Class 5 felony if such possession of the firearm results in a crime or injury. The bill includes certain exceptions and requires firearms dealers to post a notice stating firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. The bill also creates a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person who fails to securely store a firearm in an unattended vehicle, a Class 1 misdemeanor if another person obtains such firearm, and a Class 5 felony if such possession results in injury to the person obtaining the firearm or to another. Finally, the bill requires the Superintendent of State Police, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Health, to create a public awareness campaign on the importance of the secure storage of firearms by January 1, 2026. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25103182D)

HB 1607 (Dan I. Helmer). Purse, 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, purses, or transfers an assault firearm, as that term is defined in the bill, and prohibits a person who has been convicted of such violation from pursing, possessing, or transporting a firearm for a period of three years from the date of conviction. The bill provides that an assault firearm does not include any firearm that is an antique firearm, has been rendered permanently inoperable, is manually operated by bolt, pump, lever, or slide action, or was manufactured before July 1, 2025. 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) purses an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports,

sells, barters, or transfers a large capacity ammunition feeding device is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The bill also makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person younger than 21 years of age to import, sell, manufacture, purse, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm. Recommend support; Board has historically supported (25100326D)

HB 1608 (Dan I. Helmer). 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 purser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm themselves or unlawfully harm another or of unlawfully possessing or using a firearm-related product; (ii) prevent the loss of a firearm-related product or theft of a firearm-related product from a firearm industry member; (iii) ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all provisions of state and federal law and does not otherwise promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing, or use of a firearm-related product; and (iv) ensure that the firearm industry member does not engage in an act or practice in violation of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. The bill also provides that a firearm industry member may not knowingly or recklessly create, maintain, or contribute to a public nuisance, as defined in the bill, through the sale, manufacturing, importing, or marketing of a firearm-related product. The bill creates a civil cause of action for the Attorney General or a local county or city attorney to enforce the provisions of the bill or for any person who has been injured as a result of a firearm industry member's violation to seek an injunction and to recover costs and damages. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25100327D)

HB 1622 (Amy J. Laufer). Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty. Provides that no person shall leave, place, or store a handgun in an unattended motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such unattended motor vehicle. The bill provides that any person violating such prohibition is subject to a civil penalty of no more than $500 and that such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal for safekeeping. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25101585D)

SB 848 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Purse of certain firearms; age requirement; penalty. Prohibits any person under 21 years of age from pursing an assault firearm, with exceptions for the purse of an assault firearm by a law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, jail officer, or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the Virginia National Guard, or the National Guard of any other state. Accordingly, the bill prohibits a licensed dealer from selling, renting, trading, or transferring from his inventory an assault firearm to any person under 21 years of age. A violation of either prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The bill also expands the definition of assault firearm as the term applies to criminal history record information checks. Recommend support; Board has historically supported (25101315D)

SB 880 (Adam P. Ebbin). Carrying assault firearms in public areas prohibited, penalty. Prohibits the carrying of certain semi-automatic center-fire rifles and shotguns on any public street, road, alley, sidewalk, or public right-of-way or in any public park or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public, with certain exceptions. Under current law, the current prohibition on carrying certain shotguns and semi-automatic center-fire rifles and pistols applies to a narrower range of firearms, only in

certain localities, and only when such firearms are loaded. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25100408D)

SB 881 (Adam P. Ebbin). 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, purses, sells, transfers, or possesses any firearm that, after removal of all parts other than a major component, as defined in the bill, is not detectable as a firearm when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices, including X-ray machines, commonly used at airports, government buildings, schools, correctional facilities, and other locations for security screening. The bill updates language regarding the types of detection devices that are used at such locations for detecting plastic firearms. Under current law, it is unlawful to manufacture, import, sell, transfer, or possess any plastic firearm and a violation is punishable as a Class 5 felony. The bill also creates a Class 1 misdemeanor, which is punishable as a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent offense, making it unlawful for any person to knowingly possess a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number or to knowingly import, purse, 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, making it unlawful for any person to manufacture or assemble, cause to be manufactured or assembled, import, purse, sell, offer for sale, or transfer ownership of any firearm that is not imprinted with a valid serial number. The portions of the bill prohibiting unfinished frames or receivers and unserialized firearms have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026; however, the portions of the bill prohibiting the knowing possession of a firearm or any completed or unfinished frame or receiver that is not imprinted with a valid serial number have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25100407D)

SB 883 (Russet Perry). Purse, possession, or transportation of firearm; assault and battery of a family or household member or intimate partner; penalties. Adds to the existing definition of "family or household member" a person's intimate partner, defined in the bill as an individual who, within the previous 12 months, was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the person. The bill also provides that any person who knowingly and intentionally purses, possesses, or transports any firearm following a misdemeanor conviction for an offense that occurred on or after July 1, 2025, 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. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25100381D)

SB 886 (Russet Perry). Trigger activator definition; penalty. Defines "trigger activator" as a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device designed to alter the rate of fire of a semi-automatic firearm to mimic automatic weapon fire or used to increase the rate of fire to a rate faster than that possible for a person to fire such semi-automatic firearm unassisted by a conversion kit, tool, accessory, or device. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25101931D)

SB 891 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Purse of firearms; waiting period; penalty. Provides that no person shall sell a firearm unless at least five days have elapsed from the time the prospective purser completes the written consent form to have a licensed dealer obtain criminal history record information, with exceptions enumerated in relevant law. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25101316D)

SB 1134 (Jennifer B. Boysko). Storage of firearms in a residence where a minor or person prohibited from possessing a firearm is present, penalty. Requires any person who possesses a firearm in a residence where such person knows that a minor or a person who is prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is present to store such firearm and the ammunition for such firearm in a locked container, compartment, or cabinet that is inaccessible to such minor or prohibited person. The bill provides that a violation is a Class 4 misdemeanor. The bill exempts (i) any person in lawful possession of a firearm who carries such firearm on or about his person and (ii) the storage of antique firearms and provides that the lawful authorization of a minor to access a firearm is not a violation of the bill's provisions. The bill also requires firearm dealers to post a notice stating such firearm storage requirements and the penalty for improperly storing such firearms. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25103145D)

Health and Human Services

HB 1710 (Debra D. Gardner). Department of Medical Assistance Services; reimbursement rates for Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities; work group; report. Directs the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group of relevant stakeholders to assess and make recommendations related to reimbursement rates for the federal Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities. The bill requires the work group to report its recommendations to the irmen of the House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2025. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25102530D)

HB 1716 (Marcia S. "Cia" Price)/**SB 1105** (Ghazala F. Hashmi). Contraception; right to contraception; applicability; enforcement. Establishes a right to obtain contraceptives and engage in contraception, as defined in the bill. The bill creates a cause of action that may be instituted against anyone who infringes on such right. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25101990D, 25100261D)

HB 2109 (rniele L. Herring). Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures; report. Directs the State Health Commissioner to reestablish the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures for the purpose of evaluating maternal health data collection processes to guide policies in the Commonwealth to improve maternal care, quality, and outcomes for all birthing people in the Commonwealth. The bill directs the Task Force to report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1 of each year regarding its activities. The bill directs the Task Force to conclude its work by December 1, 2026. This bill reestablishes the Task Force on Maternal Health Data and Quality Measures that concluded on December 1, 2023. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25102833D)

HB 2485 (Paul E. Krizek)/**SB 970** (Aaron R. Rouse). 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, 2025, but provides that no retail sales may occur prior to May 1, 2026. Recommend support with amendment; Board has historically supported with amendment. Support strong local government land use and taxation authority in any retail marijuana legalization legislation. (25101954D, 25102567D)

OPPOSE

Elections

SB 764 (Ryan T. McDougle). 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. Recommend oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25101753D)

SB 856 (Timmy F. French). Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election. Recommend oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102326D)

SB 1070 (Mark J. Peake). 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. Recommend oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102275D)

SB 1072 (Mark J. Peake). Absentee voting in person; available beginning 14 days prior to election. Limits the availability of absentee voting in person to beginning 14 days prior to any election. Under current law, absentee voting in person is available beginning 45 days prior to any election. Recommend oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102274D)

SB 1073. (Mark J. Peake). Requires the general registrar to verify that the name, date of birth, and social security number provided by an applicant on the voter registration application match the information on file in the Social Security Administration database or any other database approved by the State Board of Elections before registering such applicant. The bill specifies that if the information provided by the applicant does not match the information on file in such database, the applicant (i) is provisionally registered to vote and notified as to what steps are needed to be fully registered to vote and (ii) is permitted to vote by provisional ballot but such ballot shall not be counted until the voter presents certain information. The bill also requires the general registrar to verify annually no later than August 1 that the name, date of birth, and social security number in the registration record of each registered voter in the registrar's jurisdiction match the information on file with the Social Security Administration or any other database approved by the State Board and, in accordance with current law, to initiate the cancellation of the registration of any voter whose registration record information does not match such database information. The State Board is authorized by the bill to approve the use of any government database to the extent required to enable each general registrar to carry out the provisions of the bill and to promulgate rules for the use of such database. The bill requires the Department of Elections to provide each general registrar access to the Social Security Administration database and any other database approved by the State Board and to enter into any agreement with any federal or state agency to facilitate such access. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. Recommend oppose; Board has historically opposed. (25102276D)

AMEND

Information Technology

HB 2541 (Kathy K.L. Tran). Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility. Makes numerous organizational nges to the Information Technology Access Act. The bill defines "information and communications technology" as it relates to digital accessibility, defined in the bill, for all persons with disabilities. The bill permits the head of each covered entity, defined in the bill, to designate an employee to serve as such covered entity's digital accessibility coordinator and provides that such digital accessibility coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing such covered entity's digital accessibility policy. The bill has delayed effective dates of April 24, 2026, and April 26, 2027, for specific covered entities according to population size. Recommend amend; Board has historically recommended amendment. (25104578D)

MONITOR

Health and Human Services

HB 2353 (Tony O. Wilt)/**SB 1143** (Mark D. Obenshain). Disrge plans; copies to public elementary and secondary schools. Provides that, prior to the disrge of any minor admitted to inpatient treatment (i) who is a student at a public elementary or secondary school and (ii) for whom the facility deems (a) such disrge poses a threat of violence or physical harm to self and others or (b) additional educational services are needed, such facility is required to provide to the school's mental health professional or school counselor the portions of such disrge plan relevant to the threat of violence or harm or the necessary additional educational services. The bill requires such facility to, prior to providing any such portions of any minor's disrge plan, provide to the parent of such minor student reasonable notice of the types of information that would be included in any portions of the disrge plan being provided and of the parent's right to, upon written request, refuse the provision of any such information. Recommend monitor; Board has historically monitored. (25102442D)

New Bills

HB 1557 (R. Lee Ware). Short-term rentals; registration; civil penalty. Directs the Department of Taxation to establish a registry of short-term rental properties and require accommodations providers and intermediaries to register. Under the bill, an accommodations provider shall provide to the Department its name and the address of each property it offers for short-term rental. The bill states that the Department shall issue each such accommodations provider a unique numerical identifier for each such property. An accommodations intermediary shall provide the Department its name and the contact information for the individual responsible for liaising with state and local officials regarding noncompliant short-term rental listings. The bill states that as a condition of listing a short-term rental on its platform, an accommodations intermediary shall require each accommodations provider to provide such provider's name and the unique numerical identifier and specific address for each short term-rental offered. Under the bill, such information, as well as information regarding receipts and taxes paid, shall be provided to the Department by the accommodation's intermediary on a quarterly basis. However, an accommodations intermediary shall not be required to provide such information to the Department if the intermediary provides monthly reports of property addresses and gross receipts for all accommodations facilitated by the accommodation's intermediary to each locality in which an accommodation is located. Such monthly reports are a compliance requirement imposed by law for the payment of transient occupancy taxes. The bill states that the Department shall provide the commissioner of the revenue for each locality with access to the registry and information contained therein. The commissioner of the revenue shall notify an accommodations intermediary of any short-term rental on its platform that is not lawfully authorized to be offered on its platform, and the accommodations intermediary shall remove any such listing from its platform. Under the bill, any accommodations intermediary who does not remove such a listing from its platform shall be subject to a civil penalty of $1,000, to be paid into the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. Finally, the bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Recommend support. (25100268D)

HB 1570 (Bill Wiley). Virginia Public Procurement Act; project labor agreements. Repeals the provision of the Virginia Public Procurement Act that authorizes any public body, including any state or local government, when engaged in procuring products or services or letting contracts for construction, manufacture, maintenance, or operation of public works, to require bidders to enter into or adhere to project labor agreements on the public works projects. Recommend oppose. (25101701D)

HB 1941 (Holly M. Seibold). Invasive plant species; retail sales. Requires, for the retail sale of certain invasive plant species for outdoor use, a retail establishment to post in a conspicuous manner on the property located in proximity to each invasive plant signage identifying such plant as invasive, educating consumers regarding invasive plant species, and encouraging consumers to ask about alternatives. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to designate the format, size, and content of such signage no later than October 1, 2025, and requires the Commissioner to issue a stop sale order and mark or tag a plant in a conspicuous manner when an invasive plant is for sale at a retail establishment without appropriate signage. In such case, the bill requires the Commissioner to give written notice of a finding made to the owner, tenant, or person in rge of such retail establishment and requires the stop sale order issued to remain in effect until the required signage is posted. Recommend support. (25103898D)

Courts

SJ 259 (Scott A. Surovell). Study; JLARC; methodology used to determine judicial allocations; report. Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the methodology used to determine judicial allocations to state courts within the Commonwealth. JLARC is directed to submit its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Recommend support. (25104574D)

Data Centers

SB 960 (Russet Perry). Electric utilities; data center cost allocation. Directs the State Corporation Commission to initiate proceedings to determine if the current allocation of costs among different customer classifications of electric utilities requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers. If the Commission determines that the current allocation of costs requires customers that are not data centers to unreasonably subsidize the costs of customers that are data centers, the bill directs the Commission to promulgate such rules as necessary to eliminate or minimize such unreasonable subsidies to the maximum possible extent. The bill directs the Commission to complete such proceedings prior to January 1, 2026.Recommend support. (25103266D)

Early Childhood

HB 2538 (David L. Bulova)/**SB 756** (Mamie E. Locke). Public education; early childhood care and education; funding formula calculations; Early Childhood Care and Education Fund established; report. Requires the Department of Education to (i) establish and maintain a funding formula for the provision of early childhood care and education services that establishes the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium for such providers based on a cost of quality rate per child, actual data from the prior year, unserved waitlists, and a multiplier based on enrollment and parent demand growth in prior biennia; (ii) make disbursements from the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund (the Fund), established in the bill, to support the provision of early childhood care and education services in accordance with the funding formula set forth in the bill; (iii) make certain funding calculations, in consultation with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, to be included in the funding formula, for the purpose of determining the number of slots to be added to support local or regional economic development efforts; and (iv) submit to the Commission on Early Childhood Care and Education a report on the status of the Fund, including the data used to calculate the minimum funding and number of slots per biennium established pursuant to the funding formula. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit to the Generally Assembly by November 1 of each year a report on Fund revenues, distributions, and balances. Recommend support with amendment. Support with amendment to ensure state childcare funding is increased and provided equitably to localities throughout the Commonwealth (the bill currently includes language related to prioritizing childcare deserts). (25104342D, 25101269D)

Housing

HB 1706 (David L. Bulova). Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and pursers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its

website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25102167D)

HB 1832 (Shelly A. Simonds)/**SB 932** (Saddam Azlan Salim). 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) dedicated parking for the ADU except in densely developed neighborhoods; (ii) setbacks for the ADU greater than that of the primary dwelling; and (iii) consanguinity or affinity between the occupants of the ADU and the primary dwelling. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Recommend oppose. (25102648D)

SB 1210 (Stella G. Pekarsky). Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for buyer to beware; aircraft noise. Requires that the owner of a residential real property include in the residential property disclosure statement provided to a potential purser of such residential real property a statement that the owner makes no representations with respect to whether the property is located in or near an airport noise overlay zone, and pursers are advised to exercise whatever due diligence they deem necessary to determine whether the property is located in or near such a zone, including (i) reviewing Noise Exposure Maps developed by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, (ii) visiting the Virginia Department of Aviation's website where such maps are accessible, and (iii) reviewing local ordinances and zoning maps that have adopted such zones. The bill also requires the Department of Aviation to make available on its website such Noise Exposure Maps and requires the Real Estate Board to include the Department of Aviation's website address where such maps can be found on the form for signature by the parties stating that the purser has been advised of the disclosures listed in the residential property disclosure statement. This bill is a recommendation of the Virginia Housing Commission. Recommend support; Board has historically supported. (25103621D)

SB 773 (Barbara A. Favola). Foster care; housing services; housing plan; report. Requires local departments of social services to develop housing plans for individuals leaving foster care due to age that includes a description of housing options being pursued. The bill requires the Commissioner of Social Services to provide reports to the Governor and General Assembly on housing services for individuals aging out of foster care on or before October 1 of each year. The bill also directs the Virginia Department of Social Services to enter into a memorandum of understanding with local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to secure federal Family Unification Program Housing Choice Vouchers for individuals leaving foster care within 90 days and certain individuals who have left foster care within the past five years. The bill also directs local public housing authorities and local departments of social services to take any action required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to administer the Foster Youth to Independence Initiative. Recommend amend; amend to encourage local housing authorities and departments of social services to seek Family Unification Program and Foster Youth to Independence vouchers, while ensuring that localities can continue existing arrangements with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to secure such vouchers. (25105189D-S1)

SB 839 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). Zoning: by-right multifamily development in areas zoned for commercial use. Requires a locality to provide in its zoning ordinance provisions allowing for the by-right development and construction of multifamily residential uses on all land contained in commercial or

business zoning district classifications. The bill provides that the review and approval of such development shall be done administratively by the locality's staff and that any residential development that dedicates a minimum of 10 percent of the total number of housing units to households with a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median income shall be granted an accelerated plan review and permit approval process by the locality's staff. Recommend oppose. (25104855A)

SB 975 (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). 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, 2026. The bill provides that, in order to meet the 7.5 percent growth target, a locality shall develop a housing growth plan that best meets the needs of the locality and may include any of various listed housing growth strategies. The bill further provides that, after January 1, 2031, an applicant who seeks local government approval for a residential development 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 Housing Approval Board, which shall be established by the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill authorizes the Housing Approval Board to overturn local decisions and approve applications under certain circumstances. However, if the Housing Approval Board determines that a locality has in good faith implemented at least three of the housing growth strategies listed in the bill and has not rejected more than 25 percent of new housing development proposals over the previous five years, the Housing Approval Board shall allow the local decision to stand. Finally, the bill provides that the Housing Approval Board shall give extra weight for increases in affordable housing and for the rehabilitation of current, underutilized housing stock. Recommend oppose. (25104261D)

SB 1256 (William M. Stanley, Jr.). Counties, cities, and towns; comprehensive plan; accessory dwelling units. Clarifies that the comprehensive plan prepared by a local planning commission and adopted by a local governing body may include the use of accessory dwelling units, defined in the bill, as part of any residential development and use designated within such plan. The bill contains technical amendments. Recommend monitor. (25101140D)

SB 1351 (Kannan Srinivasan). Affordable housing; religious organizations and other tax-exempt properties. Provides that no local ordinance shall require a special exception, special use permit, conditional use permit, or additional fee to be obtained for the development and construction of affordable housing on real property owned by a religious organization or certain nonprofit organizations that is connected to a public sewage system. 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 50 years. Recommend oppose. (25102124D)

Information Technology

HB 2046 (Bonita G. Anthony)/**SB 1214** (Lashrecse D. Aird). High-risk artificial intelligence: development, deployment, and use by public bodies; work group; report. Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, as defined in the bill, by public bodies. The bill directs the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth (CIO) to develop, publish, and maintain policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, implementation, utilization, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ high-risk artificial intelligence systems that are consistent with the requirements created by the bill. The bill also requires the CIO to compile into a publicly available registry certain required monthly reports on initial and ongoing high-risk artificial intelligence system assessments and inventories of such systems used by public bodies Under the bill, the Joint Commission on Technology and Science is required to establish an Artificial Intelligence Oversight Task Force to oversee the implementation of and compliance with the requirements for development,

deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by public bodies. Recommend monitor. (25102638D)/(25102954D)

HB 2094 (Michelle Lopes Maldonado). Creates requirements for the development, deployment, and use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems, defined in the bill, and civil penalties for noncompliance, to be enforced by the Attorney General. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Recommend monitor. (25104439D)

Solar

HB 2438 (Candi Mundon King)/**SB 1114** (Schuyler T. VanValkenburg). 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 permitted pursuant to various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities. Recommend oppose. (25102097D, 25104663D)

Taxation

HB 1560 (Joseph P. McNamara). Sales and use tax, accommodations for transients. Provides that the term "retail sale" shall include the sale of accommodations to transients for less than 30 days. Under current law, "retail sale" includes such sales to transients for less than 90 days. Recommend oppose. (25101530D)

SB 1305 (Jeremy S. McPike). Local taxes; zoning; assessments; injunctions; ordinances. Provides that for purposes of real estate subject to a special tax assessment for land preservation by local ordinance, a nge to the zoning ordinance shall only be effective following (i) the approval of the relevant modification in the zoning classification of real estate; (ii) the exhaustion of the llenge or appeal period; and (iii) if pending, the final determination of any llenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also provides that for purposes of subdivided or rezoned lots, the assessment or reassessment required by law shall only be effective following (a) the approval of a modification in the zoning classification of the subject real estate, an exception to zoning or classification of the subject real estate, or a reclassification of the subject real estate; (b) the exhaustion of the llenge or appeal period for such approvals; or (c) if pending, the final determination of any such llenge or appeal made within such period. The bill also authorizes the circuit court to issue an injunction to stay the collection of taxes during the pendency of any application to the circuit court for an assessment correction upon a showing of (1) a bona fide hardship caused by such assessment and (2) a bona fide financial inability to satisfy such assessed tax obligation. Any injunction so issued shall not remain in effect later than when a final determination is made on the merits of an assessment correction application. Under current law, no suit for the purpose of restraining the assessment or collection of any local tax shall be maintained in any court of the Commonwealth, except when the party has no adequate remedy at law. Finally, the bill provides that any zoning ordinance enacted after December 1, 2023, shall not become effective until the later of either (A) the exhaustion of the period within which a decision of the local governing body may be contested or (B) if pending, the date of final determination for all actions related to a contested decision of the local governing body. Recommend oppose. (25104325D)

Transportation

SB 852 (Christie New Craig). Photo speed monitoring devices; proof of violation; retired law-enforcement officials. Allows a retired sworn law-enforcement officer, defined in the bill, to swear to or affirm a certificate for a vehicle speed violation enforced by a photo speed monitoring device. Recommend support. (25102952D)

SB 1097 (Aaron R. Rouse). Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund; Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission. Creates a new allocation from the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund for the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission, adjusts the amounts of certain other allocations from such Fund, and removes the light rail system operated by the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads from eligibility for funds from such other allocations from such Fund. The bill requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board to withhold 20 percent of the funds from such new allocation unless the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads submits to it certain information annually. The bill directs the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, for fiscal year 2027, to reserve and utilize certain funds in amounts necessary to provide certain supplemental operating assistance to certain transit providers that would experience a reduction in allocable funds due to the reallocations in this bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. Recommend amend. Amend to reduce set aside to less than 1%, which is the amount the fiscal impact statement says the light rail has historically received. (25104237D)

Legislation Provided for Discussion

Casinos

SB 982 (Scott A. Surovell). 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. (25104309D)

Employment Issues

SB 917 (Scott A. Surovell). Collective bargaining by public employees; 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 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. (25102162D)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

SB 876 (Adam P. Ebbin). Virginia Freedom of Information Act; notice of public meetings; proposed agenda required. Requires public bodies subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to include a proposed agenda listing all items expected to be considered by the public body at its meeting. The bill allows for amendments to be made to any such proposed agenda but provides that the public body shall not take any final action on those amended or additional agenda items. (25101521D)

Housing

HB 2153 (Betsy B. Carr)/**SB 1178** (Ghazala F. Hashmi). Faith and housing; comprehensive plan; zoning; Department of Housing and Community Development. Grants authority to localities to adopt a variety of strategies intended to encourage and facilitate the development of affordable housing on property owned by religious organizations or tax-exempt nonprofit organizations. The bill allows localities to request administrative support from the Department of Housing and Community Development in the preparation of a faith and housing ordinance. (25101682D)

Taxation

HB 1743 (Vivian E. Watts). License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts. Provides that the license tax deduction for out-of-state receipts in which the taxpayer is liable for a net income tax shall also apply to any type of tax on gross receipts or other tax in lieu of an income tax. (25105038A)

Transportation

SB 776 (Scott A. Surovell). Enforcement of federal traffic violations by state and local law-enforcement officers; photo speed monitoring devices; Planning District 8. Provides that state and local law-enforcement officers may enforce federal traffic violations on any highway within Planning District 8. The bill also provides that a state or local law-enforcement agency may place and operate a photo speed monitoring device on a National Park highway, as defined in the bill, for the purposes of recording vehicle speed violations, provided that such law-enforcement agency has been authorized by the federal government or the National Park Service to place such photo speed monitoring device on such National Park highway. (25100831D)

SB 919 (Saddam Azlan Salim). Private companies providing public transportation services; employee protections. Requires the governing body or transportation district commission 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 (ii) if a county or city within such transportation district has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing collective bargaining by employees of such county or city, require such company to enter into and adhere to a collective bargaining agreement. (25100149D)

Transportation - Bicycle Operations

SB 1007 (Scott A. Surovell). Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund and Program; parking facility tax. Creates the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund, Subfund, and Program, to be administered by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, to fund bicycle, pedestrian, and safety improvements infrastructure projects that are not undertaken in conjunction with road-widening projects. The bill imposes, in counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, an annual $0.50 tax on each parking space of an off-street parking facility, defined in the bill, and allocates the revenue from such tax to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Safety Improvements Infrastructure Fund. (25104144D)