

## **A G E N D A**

### **VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY LEGISLATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**March 6, 2024  
2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**One James Center, 9th Floor – VEDP Board Room  
Richmond, Virginia**

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| <b>2:30 p.m. – 2:33 p.m.</b> | <b>Welcome/Call to Order – Marianne Radcliff, Chair</b>  |
| <b>2:33 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.</b> | <b>Public Comment Period</b>   |
| <b>2:35 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.</b> | <b>Approval of Minutes for 12/6/2023 Meeting</b>   |
| <b>2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Legislative Update – Nicole Riley</b>   |
| <b>3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Closed Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Budget Update</li><li>- Project Potter Briefing</li><li>- Update on Legislator Materials and Outreach Plan</li><li>- Open Discussion and Anticipated Topics for Next Meeting</li></ul> |
| <b>3:30 p.m.</b>             | <b>Adjournment</b>   |

**Minutes  
Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting  
Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership  
December 6, 2023  
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**901 East Cary Street  
James Center One, Katherine Johnson Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Radcliff called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

In-Person Committee Members: Chair Marianne Radcliff, Carrie Chenery, John Hewa, Nick Rush, and Steven Stone

Committee Members Absent: Nancy Howell Agee and Anne Oman

Other In-Person Board Members: Secretary Stephen Cummings, Stephen Edwards, Rick Harrell, Bill Hayter, Pace Lochte, and Secretary Caren Merrick

VEDP staff present: Stephanie Agee, Lesley Brown Greg Burkart, Star Cranston, Nicole David, Jason El Koubi, Stef Florie, Stephen Hartka, Chris Hughes Heather McKay, Nicole Riley, Vickie Tilkey, Lisa Wallmeyer, and Abigail Wescott

Virtual VEDP Staff: Blake Omohundro and Carrie Vuori

Guests present: Kendra Shifflett

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Radcliff asked if any members of the public wished to comment. There were none.

**Approval of Minutes for September 13, 2023**

Chair Radcliff requested approval of the September 13, 2023, meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Chenery and seconded by Mr. Hewa, and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

## **Election Update**

Chair Radcliff spoke about the Virginia general election in November, where all 140 General Assembly seats were up for re-election. She said the election resulted in Democrats gaining majorities in both the House and the Senate.

Chair Radcliff noted that 670 years of service was lost with this set of elections and redistricting decisions.

Chair Radcliff introduced Nicole Riley to provide an overview of the election results and changes in leadership for key committees.

Ms. Riley reviewed the following election highlights:

- Democrat control of both Chambers
  - House Chamber: Democrats 51/ Republicans 49
  - Senate Chamber: Democrats 21/Republicans 19
- Turnout was ~41% statewide, which is in line with the last off-year election
- Virginia is in its third year of allowing early voting, with ~32% of citizens casting ballots during early voting this election cycle.

### **House Leadership**

- Don Scott, House Speaker-Elect, is the first African American Speaker in Virginia.
- Charnele Herring, Majority Leader
- Todd Gilbert, Minority Leader
- Israel O'Quinn, Deputy Minority Leader

### **House Committee Leadership**

- Luke Torian, Chair of House Appropriations
- Jeion Ward, Chair of Labor and Commerce Committee
- Vivian Watts, Chair of House Finance

Secretary Merrick noted that Governor Youngkin has hosted General Assembly leadership at the Executive Mansion and is actively building relationships with this group.

### **Senate Leadership**

- Scott Surovell, Majority Leader
- Ryan McDougale, Minority Leader
- Mamie Locke, Democratic Caucus Chair
- Mark Obenshain, Republican Caucus Chair

### **Senate Committee Leadership**

- Louise Lucas, Chair of Senate Finance & Appropriations
- Creigh Deeds, Chair of Commerce & Labor
- Adam Ebbin, Chair of General Laws and Technology

Ms. Riley stated that with a lot of these new appointments there will likely be a shift in power and more focus on the Hampton Roads region.

**Closed Session:**

**Update on Budget and Legislative Proposals; Update on Legislator Materials and Outreach Plan**

A motion was made by Mr. Rush and seconded by Mr. Stone to move into a closed meeting. The members unanimously approved the motion shown below.

I move that the Legislative and Policy Committee convene a closed meeting to discuss specific strategies pursuant to Subdivision A 50 of §2.2-3711 of the Code Virginia, which allows for the discussion of activities related to the strategic plan, operational plan, and marketing plan that would reveal to the Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed by the Commonwealth.

**Back in Open Meeting, Certification of Closed Meeting – Followed by a Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Wallmeyer read the following certification and then conducted a roll call vote:

Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of FOIA were discussed in the closed meeting, and (ii) only such matters as were identified in the motion to go into the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting?

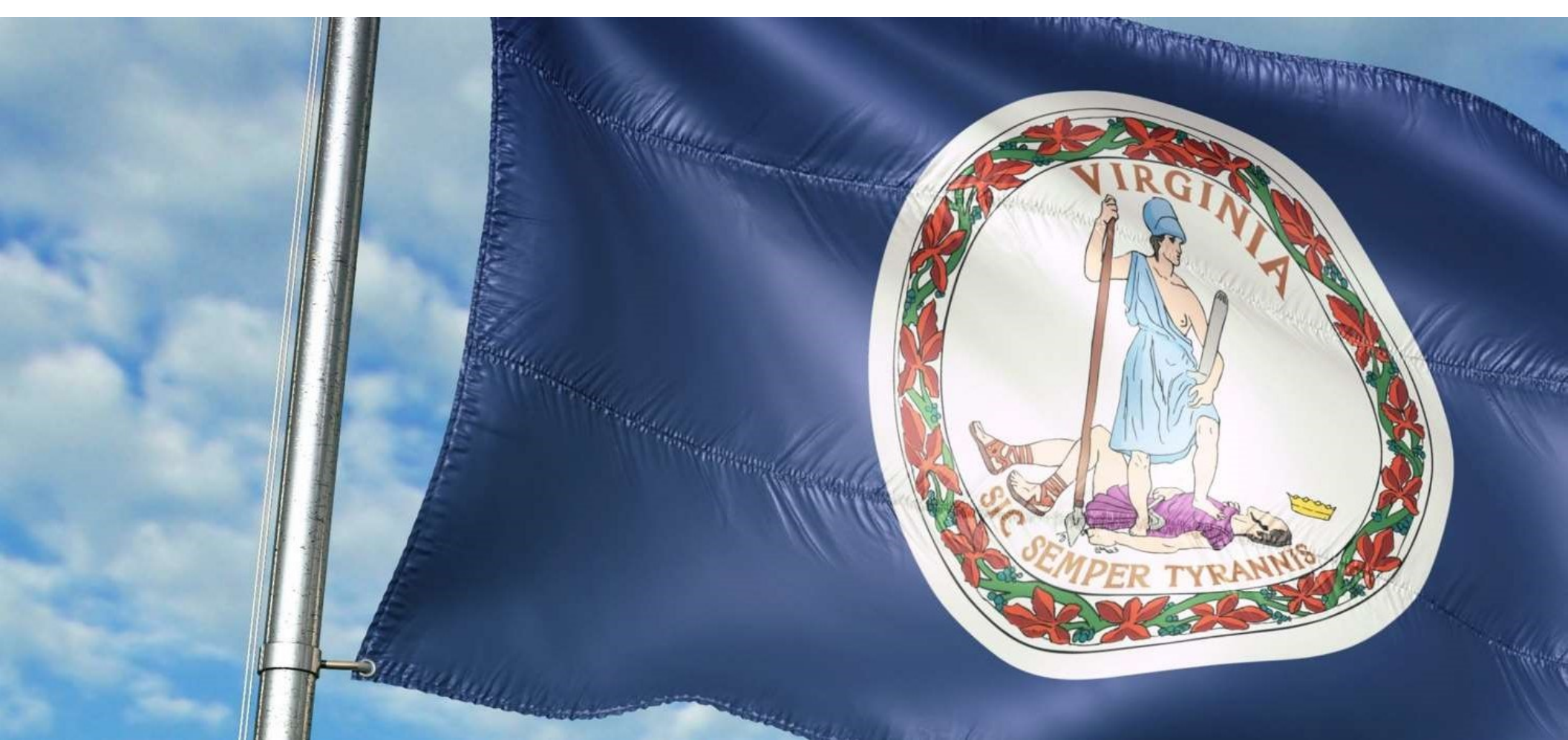
Upon the vote:	Ms. Radcliff	Aye
	Ms. Chenery	Aye
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Mr. Rush	Aye
	Mr. Stone	Aye

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Radcliff adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Brown



# LEGISLATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE

March 6, 2024

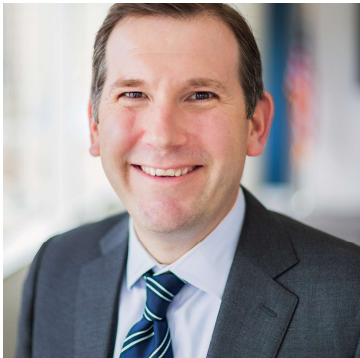
# PRESENTERS



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# AGENDA

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# 2024 SESSION RECAP AND STATISTICS

- 2024 General Assembly Regular Session convened January 10, 2024
- Each Chamber passed their budgets on February 22, 2024
- **Sine Die** – March 9, 2024
- **Reconvened Session** – scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2024

## 2024 Session Statistics

**2,400+**

Bills introduced

**6**

Agency bills

**198**

Bills tracked by  
VEDP

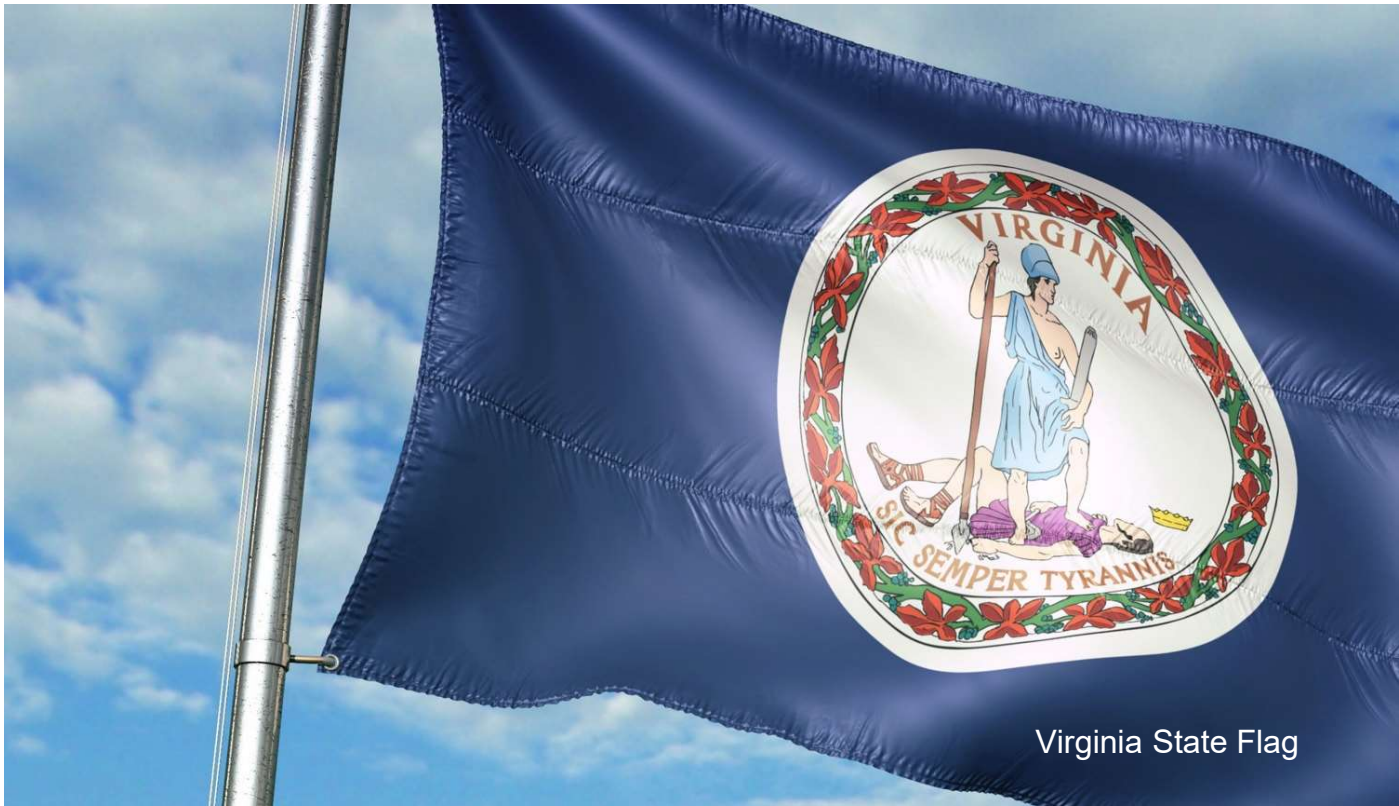
**20+**

Legislative Action  
Summaries



Virginia State Capitol





Virginia State Flag

# VEDP LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

# VEDP LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS FOR 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

Initiative	Summary	Status*
<b>HB468 (McNamara)</b> <b>SB156 (Head)</b>  Financial Services Expansion Grant Fund	Codifies the MEI approved project for Wells Fargo to make grant payments to an eligible financial services company that makes a capital investment of at least \$87 million at a facility in Roanoke County and creates at least 1,100 new full-time jobs	HB468: Passed House 92 Y – 0 N Passed Senate 39 Y – 0 N  SB156: Passed Senate 40 Y – 0 N Passed House 91 Y – 4 N
<b>HB1514 (Torian)</b> <b>SB718 (Surovell)</b>  Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority	Establishes the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority as a political subdivision charged with financing the construction of a sports and entertainment campus to include the global corporate headquarters, an industry-leading arena for both NHL and NBA, a state-of-the-art media studio, NBA practice facility, performing arts venue, and an e-sports facility	HB1514: Passed House 59 Y – 40 N Failed in Senate Committee  SB718: Failed in Senate committee  <i>Legislation included in House Budget but not in the Senate</i>
<b>HB1457 (Carr)</b> <b>SB496 (Carroll Foy)</b>  Virginia Investment Performance Grants	Reauthorizes Virginia Investment Performance (VIP) Grant administered by VEDP. Includes JLARC recommendation to move from a 3-year waiting period for 1st payment to 1 year. While Senate sets amount of payments per year to \$8 million, the House sets the cap at \$6 million. The Senate version includes additional JLARC recommendations related to GoVA to lower local match to half and adds Secretary of Labor to GoVA Board.	HB1457: Passed House 98 Y – 0 N <b>Senate TBD</b>  SB496: Passed Senate 40 Y – 0 N <b>House TBD</b>

\*As of 2/28/24



Virginia State Flag

# LEGISLATION IMPACTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (1 OF 3)

Initiative	Summary	Status*
<p><b>HB233 (Campbell)</b> <b>SB135 (Head)</b></p> <p>VBRSP; eligible site for site development grant.</p>	<p>Drops from 100 acres to 50 acres as the minimum number of contiguous acres if the smaller site meets certain criteria such as topographical or environmental factors, unique economic development project opportunity, or lack of inventory within the region for that particular unique opportunity</p>	<p>HB233: Passed House 100 Y – 0 N <b>Senate TBD</b></p> <hr/> <p>SB135: Passed Senate 38 Y – 0 N Passed House 96 Y – 0 N</p>
<p><b>HB1083 (Coyner)</b></p> <p>Virginia Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System</p>	<p>Renames the Virginia Longitudinal Data System as the Virginia Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System (the System) and shifts duty to administer the System from SCHEV to VOEE. Duties include: collaborating with the Office of Data Governance and Analytics, developing a strategic plan, overseeing compliance regarding the protection of data shared with the System, and establishing the research agenda for the System.</p> <p><i>Senate amended the legislation directing SCHEV &amp; VOEE to identify &amp; report on opportunities to improve VLDS. The report is to be in consultation with Sec of Education, Labor, relevant state agencies &amp; specific legislative committees.</i></p>	<p>HB1083: Passed House 99 Y – 0 N Passed Senate 96 Y – 0 N</p>
<p><b>HB212 (Watts)</b> <b>SB393 (Pekarsky)</b></p> <p>MEI Project Approval Commission; board-level gender and diversity requirements</p>	<p>Requires the MEI Project Approval Commission to consider two factors relating to a company’s board diversity before approving incentives for a project: (i) whether at least 30 percent of the board of the company is comprised of women and historically underrepresented groups and (ii) whether a business submits a board diversity disclosure and commits to submitting an updated disclosure each year specifying the number and percentage of diverse directors on the board of such business who are women and representatives of historically underrepresented groups.</p> <p><i>House amended their bill to remove any references to a 30% board diversity requirements – only requires companies to submit a disclosure statement of their board makeup for consideration.</i></p>	<p>HB212: Passed House 51 Y – 48 N <b>Senate TBD</b></p> <hr/> <p>SB393: Passed Senate 21 Y – 19 N Passed House 51 Y – 46 N</p>

# OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (2 OF 3)

Initiative	Summary	Status*
<p><b>HB1125 (Carr)</b> <b>SB217 (Locke)</b></p> <p>Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program</p>	<p>Allows VEDP to designate up to 2 sites and 4 projects to participate in the program. Sets timelines for agency review; protects public comment and sunsets after 3 years.</p>	<p>HB1125: Passed House 94 Y – 0 N <b>Senate TBD</b></p> <hr/> <p>SB217: Passed Senate 40 Y – 0 N Passed House 93 Y – 5 N</p>
<p><b>SB302 (DeSteph)</b></p> <p>Virginia First Manufacturing Incentive Program</p>	<p>Directs Va Manufacturing Development Commission to develop budget &amp; business plan to establish VA First Manufacturing Incentive Program in consultation with VEDP, VMA, GENEDGE &amp; others. Business plan shall identify two things: 1) existing manufacturers in VA who are potential candidates for reshoring manufacturing jobs and capital investment and 2) provide funding for companies who lose employees to an incoming manufacturer to train new employees.</p>	<p>Passed the Senate 40-Y 0-N <b>House: Carried Over to 2025</b></p>
<p><b>HB 316 ( Bulova)</b></p> <p>Virginia Recycling Development Center</p>	<p>Creates the Virginia Recycling Development Center Advisory Committee at DEQ and establishes and creates the Recycling Market Development Fund. Provides for Center to enter into agreement with VEDP to perform targeted business assistance to recycling businesses, facilitate, and identify research to stimulate new products using recycled material. The legislation is not implemented until the Advisory Committee provides a report and planning for funding the activities outlined in the legislation.</p>	<p>Passed the House 80 Y – 10 N <b>Senate: TBD</b></p>
<p><b>SB667 (Stuart)</b> Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund; performance agreement</p>	<p>Removes the authority for localities to make commitments related to permitting, property tax classifications and other issues as outlined in the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund as set forth in the AWS project.</p>	<p>Failed in Senate committee</p>
<p><b>SB669 (Stuart)</b> Local economic development commitments</p>	<p>Provides that any economic development commitments that are stated during a public meeting will be binding, reflected in any agreement with the locality, and enforceable through legal action.</p>	<p>Failed in Senate committee</p>

\*As of 2/28/24



# OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (3 OF 3)

Initiative	Summary	Status*
<b>SB668 (Stuart)</b> 5-year moratorium on groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits	Requires the Department of Environmental Quality to enforce a five-year moratorium on the issuance of any new groundwater or surface water withdrawal permits beginning July 1, 2024, except for any such permits that are for the purpose of providing drinking water for human consumption.	Stricken at request of Patron
<b>SB673 (Stuart)</b> DEQ; prioritization of water for human consumption and food production	Directs DEQ and the State Water Control Board to prioritize the preservation of drinking water in all permitting and regulatory processes related to groundwater and surface water resources.	SB673: Passed Senate 40-Y 0-N Failed in House Committee
<b>SB581 (Stuart)</b> Department of Environmental Quality; data; groundwater and surface water withdrawal permits	Authorizes DEQ to utilize and incorporate comprehensive groundwater, surface water, and aquifer data in its processes related to the issuance and renewal of groundwater withdrawal permits and surface water withdrawal permits.	SB581: Passed the Senate 40 Y – 0 N <b>House TBD</b>
<b>HB338 (Thomas)</b> Siting of data centers; site assessment	Requires a locality to perform a site assessment prior to data center siting approval by examining the effect of the data center on water and carbon emissions as well as impact on agricultural resources.	HB338: Passed the House 55 Y – 42 N <b>Senate: TBD</b>

\*As of 2/28/24