



State Capitol, Richmond

LEGISLATION & POLICY COMMITTEE

March 18, 2026

PRESENTERS



Lindsay Akers
Vice President, External Affairs
lbakers@vedp.org
804.516.7658



David Devan
Senior Vice President, Policy &
Strategic Partnerships
ddevan@vedp.org
804.545.5762

AGENDA

Elections Update

Congressional Redistricting

General Assembly Update

Closed Session: Business Climate Impacts

FORMER DELEGATES FILL TWO SENATE VACANCIES FROM THE NOVEMBER ELECTION AND A GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT



Sen. Mike Jones (D)

Virginia Senate, 15th District

- Parts of Chesterfield County and Richmond City



Sen. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker (D)

Virginia Senate, 39th District

- Alexandria City; Parts of Arlington County and Fairfax County

MEMBERSHIP IN KEY SENATE COMMITTEES HAS SHIFTED

Agriculture, Conservation & Natural Resources

Marsden (Chair), Obenshain, Stuart, Stanley, Suetterlein, Hackworth, Williams Graves, Perry, Pekarsky, French, Salim, Mulchi, Roem, Srinivasan, [Bennett-Parker](#)

Commerce and Labor

Deeds (Chair), Obenshain, Lucas, Marsden, Surovell, Stanley, McDougale, Locke, DeSteph, McPike, Peake, Rouse, Bagby, [Stuart](#), [Boysko](#)

Finance and Appropriations

Lucas (Chair), Deeds, Locke, McDougale, Obenshain, Stuart, Reeves, Favola, Surovell, McPike, Boysko, Pillion, Rouse, [Bagby](#), [Aird](#)

General Laws and Technology

McPike* (Chair), Locke, Reeves, Pillion, Rouse, Head, Jordan, VanValkenburg, Roem, Carroll Foy, French, Craig, Williams Graves, [Marsden](#), [Pekarsky](#)

Local Government

Aird* (Chair), Stanley, McPike, Hackworth, Sturtevant, VanValkenburg, Roem, Williams Graves, Durant, Diggs, Pekarsky, Srinivasan, Cifers, [Reeves](#), [Bennett-Parker](#)

Privileges and Elections

Rouse (Chair), Deeds, Hackworth, DeSteph, Carroll Foy, Durant, Perry, Diggs, Salim, Mulchi, Cifers, Jordan, [Jones](#), [Williams Graves](#), [Bennett-Parker](#)

Rules

Locke (Chair), Lucas, Deeds, Marsden, Favola, McPike, Surovell, Rouse, Bagby, [VanValkenburg](#), [Aird](#), McDougale, Pillion, Craig, [Suetterlein](#)

Transportation

Bagby (Chair), Marsden, DeSteph, Suetterlein, Boysko, Hackworth, Sturtevant, Aird, Roem, Diggs, Mulchi, Srinivasan, Cifers, [Jones](#), [Bennett-Parker](#)

Blue: New committee appointments

*New position on committee

SINCE WE LAST MET, A TOTAL OF 5 HOUSE SEATS HAVE BEEN FILLED THROUGH SPECIAL ELECTIONS



Del. Kirk McPike (D)
Virginia House of Delegates, 5th District

- City of Alexandria (part)



Del. Gretchen Bulova (D)
Virginia House of Delegates, 11th District

- County of Fairfax (part); City of Fairfax



Del. Garrett McGuire (D)
Virginia House of Delegates, 17th District

- County of Fairfax (part)



Del. Margaret Franklin (D)
Virginia House of Delegates, 23rd District

- Counties of Prince William (part) and Stafford (part)



Del. Charlie Schmidt (D)
Virginia House of Delegates, 77th District

- County of Chesterfield (part); City of Richmond (part)



Del. Elect Andrew Rice (R)
Virginia House of Delegates, 98th District

- City of Virginia Beach (part)

KEY HOUSE COMMITTEES SEE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES DUE TO RECENT ELECTIONS

Appropriations

Torian (Chair), Carr* (Vice Chair), McQuinn, Krizek, Hayes, Reid, Willett, Sewell, Askew, [Herring](#), [Price](#), [Tran](#), [Simonds](#), [Thomas](#), [Laufer](#), Austin, Morefield, Bloxom, Hodges, Wyatt, Wiley, McLaughlin

Communications, Technology and Innovation

Hayes (Chair), Shin (Vice Chair), Lopez, Ward, Glass, Seibold, Maldonado, Henson, Keys-Gamarra, Martinez, [Singh](#), [Dougherty](#), [Franklin](#), [Schmidt](#), [McGuire](#), McNamara, Wright, Wachsmann, [Oates](#), [Hamilton](#), [Pence](#), [Garrett](#)

Education

Rasoul (Chair), Simonds (Vice Chair), McQuinn, [Guzman](#), Sewell, Convirs-Fowler, Askew, Clark, Cousins, Reaser, Laufer, LeVere Bolling, [Anderson](#), [Dougherty](#), [Bulova](#), Cherry, Tata, Scott P., Garrett, Zehr, [Kent](#), [Whittle](#)

Finance

Watts (Chair), Hernandez* (Vice Chair), Sullivan, Anthony, Callsen, Gardner, Keys-Gamarra, [Maldonado](#), [Pope Adams](#), [Cole N](#), [Carroll](#), [Dougherty](#), [Franklin](#), [Bulova](#), [McPike](#), Ware, Fowler, McNamara, Walker, Runion, Garrett, Davis

General Laws

Krizek* (Chair), Seibold* (Vice Chair), Carr, Torian, Price, Simon, Delaney, Cole J., McClure, [Hernandez](#), [Reaser](#), [Callsen](#), [Guzman](#), [Carroll](#), [Franklin](#), Knight, Morefield, Fowler, Austin, Bloxom, Wiley, McLaughlin

Labor and Commerce

Ward (Chair), Sullivan* (Vice Chair), Lopez, Convirs-Fowler, Helmer, Maldonado, Shin, LeVere Bolling, Feggans, [Clark](#), [Cousins](#), [Anthony](#), [Cohen](#), [Singh](#), [Nivar](#), Kilgore, O'Quinn, Webert, Wilt, Runion, Ballard, Williams

Rules

Scott (Chair), Herring* (Vice Chair), Watts, Ward, Carr, Torian, Simon, Sullivan, Hayes, Tran, Helmer, [Hope](#), Kilgore, [Ware](#), Austin, Webert, O'Quinn, [McLaughlin](#)

Transportation

Delaney (Chair), Reid (Vice Chair), Ward, McQuinn, Carr, Watts, Sewell, Glass, McClure, Anthony, Feggans, [Thomas](#), [Guzman](#), [Mehta](#), [Pope Adams](#), Austin, Wyatt, Wiley, O'Quinn, Ballard, [Phillips](#)

[Blue](#): New committee appointments

*New position on committee

AGENDA

Elections Update

Congressional Redistricting

General Assembly Update

Closed Session: Business Climate Impacts

VIRGINIANS WILL BE HEADING TO THE BALLOT BOX THIS SPRING TO VOTE ON REDISTRICTING

What's happened?

- The proposed resolution allowing the constitutional amendment to be put on the ballot has passed both chambers
- There will be a statewide special referendum on April 21 (early voting began 3/6)
- Two lawsuits were filed in Tazewell County in response to this effort and were both subsequently appealed to the Supreme Court of Virginia
- The Supreme Court has allowed the referendum to proceed while it continues to consider the appeals

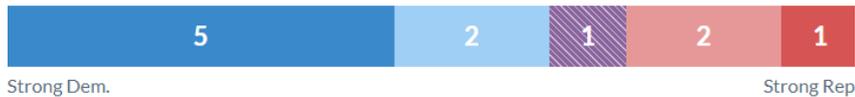
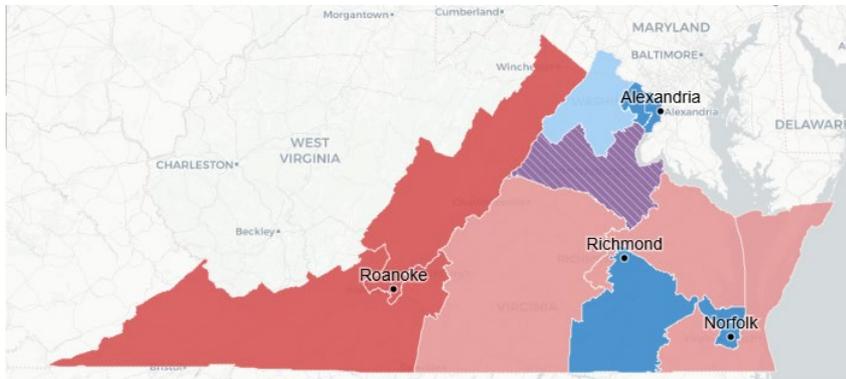
What's next?

- The Supreme Court is still hearing cases, but it is unknown when they will issue their final ruling
- The outcome of the referendum and court ruling will impact this year's mid-term Congressional elections

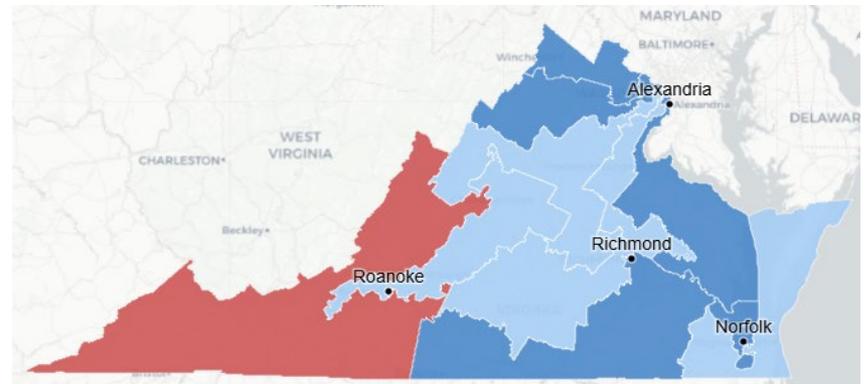


REDISTRICTING WILL CREATE A NEW CONGRESSIONAL LANDSCAPE IN VIRGINIA

Current Congressional Districts



Proposed Congressional Districts



AGENDA

Elections Update

Congressional Redistricting

General Assembly Update

Closed Session: Business Climate Impacts

A High Volume, High Impact 2026 General Assembly Session

3,000+ bills filed

1,992 budget amendments from members

~ **460** VEDP tracked bills

41 LASs submitted

22 new Delegates; 2 new Senators

16 FISs submitted

10 EBRs

8 special elections



BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST

GOVERNOR SPANBERGER SIGNED THE CABOOSE BUDGET INTO LAW IN FEBRUARY

State Employee Bonus

- State employees will receive a \$1,500 bonus payment June 10, 2026

Rejoining Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

- Language was included that directs state agencies and authorities to take necessary actions to rejoin RGGI

Congressional Redistricting

- Language was included in the budget that establishes the boundaries of Virginia's Congressional Districts for the upcoming redistricting referendum

Tax Policy Changes Impacting Businesses

- Rejecting conformity to federal expensing and amortization of research and experimental (R&E) expenditures
- Made Pass-Through Entity Tax (PTET) permanent
- Rejecting conformity to expanded federal expensing of depreciable assets

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO VEDP INCENTIVE BUDGET ITEMS

Initiative (Item)	Summary	Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
		FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
Incentives (Item 101)	Virginia Investment Performance (VIP) Grant	(2.9)	1.1	-	-	-	-
	Virginia Economic Development Incentive Grant (VEDIG)	0.7	(0.5)	-	-	-	-
	MEI Approved Custom Grant Incentive Adjustments	7.6	39.3	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.
	Virginia Business Ready Sites Acquisition Program (VBRSAAP)	-	-	Lang.	Lang.	-	-
	Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) Fund	10.0	-	-	-	Lang.	Lang.
	Remove Funding for Trade Mission Support	(0.5)	(0.5)	-	-	-	-

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO VEDP OPERATIONAL BUDGET ITEMS

		Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
Initiative (Item)		FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
Operations (Item 113)	Reduce funding related to interest earnings	(0.8)	(0.8)	-	-	-	-
	Internships VA	-	-	1.0	1.0	-	-

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (1 OF 6)

		Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
Initiative (Item)	Summary	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
VIPA (115)	UVA Institute for Biotechnology Development	35.0	-	(29.0)	-	(35.0)	-
	Virginia Artificial Intelligence Institute Creation	Lang.	Lang.	-	-	-	-
DOE (123)	Affordable Child Care Subsidy Accounts Platform	1.5	0.5	(1.5)	(0.5)	(1.5)	(0.5)
Direct Aid (126)	Employee Child Care Assistance Program	-	-	25.0	-	25.0	25.0

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (2 OF 6)

	Initiative (Item)	Summary	Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
			FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
Direct Aid (126)	Child Care Subsidy Program	Introduced budget increases state support for the Child Care Subsidy Program to provide approximately 6,745 additional slots for eligible children; House included language that authorizes unused funds in the first year to be used in the second year to address existing waitlists and to be reallocated between the Subsidy Program and Mixed Delivery Program	71.0	66.6	Lang.	Lang.	-	-
SCHEV (131)	New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program	Introduced budget provides funding in 2027 in support of a transfer to this program from VCCS balances and additional general fund appropriation in 2028; adds language for additional reporting requirements to include in the annual report on the New Economy Workforce Credential Grant Program. The Senate adds additional funds in addition to the introduced budget	13.6	13.6	-	-	9.5	2.7
NCI (237)	Address Agency Status of New College Institute	House and Senate restore funding that was removed in FY28 in the introduced budget. The House removes language that requires the Board of Directors of New College Institute to develop a sustainability plan, including a comprehensive business plan and customer recruitment and expansion strategy, and report to the Governor and money committee chairs. The Senate maintains this language	-	(3.2)	-	3.2	-	3.2

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (3 OF 6)

	Initiative (Item)	Summary	Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
			FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
IALR (238)	Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO TEC) Initiative Support	Senate defers the funding provided in the introduced budget for the administration of GO TEC to continue its expansion across Virginia middle schools; IALR is conducting a sustainability study to determine the funding structure for ongoing program administration costs	4.7	4.7	-	-	(4.7)	(4.7)
TAX (261)	Tax Rebate	Senate provides a one-time income tax rebate of \$100 for single filers and \$200 for married filers to be paid during FY27	-	-	-	-	499.0	-
VDH (278)	340B Contract Pharmacies Allowance for Health Centers	Requires drug manufacturers to ship 340B-covered drugs for up to five contract pharmacies used by Federally Qualified Health Centers. Any drug manufacturer that does not comply will be subject to a \$5,000 penalty	-	-	-	-	Lang.	Lang.
DMAS (296)	Rural Health Transformation Program Support	Provides appropriation to support the Rural Health Transformation Program pursuant to H.R. 1, 119th Congress (2025-2026). The department is authorized to hire up to 13 restricted positions that must be supported with program funds; Senate includes language that requires a report on this program	200.0	200.0	-	-	Lang.	Lang.

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (4 OF 6)

	Initiative (Item)	Summary	Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
			FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
VCSFA (421)	Assembly Integration and Testing Facility Language Transfer	Transfers existing language related to the ground lease for the Assembly Integration and Testing Facility with Rocket Lab from the Virginia Port Authority to the Virginia Space Flight Authority	Lang.	Lang.	-	-	-	-
DOAV (422)	Advanced Air Aviation Test Sites	Transfers \$1.0 million in FY27 from the COF to the DOAV to support the continued development of Advanced Air Aviation Test Sites	-	-	Lang.	Lang.	-	-
VDOT (438)	Funding for Virginia Coalfields Expressway Project	Provides \$7.0 million from the general fund the first year for the Route 460 Phase IIA Finish Grade Project	-	-	7.0	-	-	-
Port (450)	Inland Port Development	House removes \$33 million and maintains \$2 million in funding to complete the inland port project planning and design; the Introduced budget provided \$35 million to expedite 100 percent design development and necessary site improvements for an inland port at the Oak Park Center for Business and Industry in Washington County, Virginia.	35.0	0.0	(33.0)	-	-	-

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (5 OF 6)

Initiative (Item)	Summary	Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
		FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
Central Appropriations (469, 470, 471)	State Employee Pay Raise	126.7	276.2	-	-	48.8	109.0
	Federal Uncertainty Contingency Deposit	-	-	75.0	125.0	-	-
	Collective Bargaining	-	-	20.0	-	2.5	4.0

OTHER BUDGET ITEMS OF INTEREST (6 OF 6)

		Introduced (\$M)		House Amendments (\$M)		Senate Amendments (\$M)	
Initiative (Item)		FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28
Central Capital Outlay (C-35)	Workforce Development Projects	12.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
	Provides funding to support capital investment associated with bolstering technology-related education to address workforce needs. Shall be used to support the efforts of qualified institutions to increase the number of new eligible degrees and to improve the readiness of graduates to be employed in technology-related fields and fields that align with traded-sector growth opportunities identified by VEDP						
Part 4	Market-based Sourcing	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.
	Data Center Sales and Use Tax Exemption	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.	Lang.
	House and Senate budgets remove reference to market-based sourcing (MBS)						
	House amended the Data Center Sales and Use Tax (DCSUT) exemption to require data centers to meet certain environmental standards to receive the tax exemption; Senate repealed the DCSUT exemption starting January 1, 2027						

LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

VEDP'S AGENCY LEGISLATION CONSISTED MAINLY OF MEI-APPROVED CUSTOM PERFORMANCE GRANTS

Legislation	Summary	Status*
HB1076 (Laufer) / SB527 (Deeds) Pharmaceutical Substance Manufacturing Grant Fund	Codifies Custom Performance Grant for AstraZeneca	Enrolled
HB800 (Torian) / SB404 (Lucas) Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Manufacturing Grant Fund	Codifies Custom Performance Grant for Eli Lilly	Enrolled
HB799 (Torian) / SB403 (Lucas) Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund	Codifies Custom Performance Grant for Hitachi	Enrolled
HB1138 (Austin) / SB611 (Deeds) VJIP and VIP Wage Requirements	Aligns the wage requirements for VJIP and VIP with the COF	Defeated on House floor 33Y-65N / Continued to 2027
HB1530 (Torian) / SB836 (Lucas) Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund	Codifies Custom Performance Grant for Project Jolt	Passed House and Senate
HB1531 (Torian) / SB835 (Lucas) Solid Rocket Motor Manufacturing Grant Fund	Codifies Custom Performance Grant for Avio	Passed House and Senate

*As of 3.16.26

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (1 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Energy	HB155 (Thomas) / SB619 (Srinivasan) Electric utilities; certificate of operation for high-load facilities	Prohibits operation of a high-load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 25 megawatts that was not operating before July 1, 2026, without a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission	House recommended laying on the table
	HB641 (Krizek) / SB393 (Perry) Virginia's Great Outdoors Act; established, creates data center land conservation tax	Creates a data center land preservation tax on and after January 1, 2027, in an amount equal to \$3 per square foot of each data center facility footprint, as defined in the bill, and directs no less than \$250 million of revenues from the tax to be distributed for various land protection and preservation purposes, including into the Virginia Tribal Commitment Fund, as created in the bill.	House and Senate continued the bill to 2027
Data Centers	HB897 (Sullivan) Retail Sales and Use Tax; exemption for data centers	Requires a data center operator, in order to be eligible for the existing data center sales and use tax exemption, to (i) beginning July 1, 2027, not use co-located generating facilities that emit carbon dioxide, other than backup generators; (ii) beginning July 1, 2029, contract for a certain percentage of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates from clean energy resources, as evidenced by a certification from the State Corporation Commission, or contracts and service agreements; (iii) utilize only non-carbon dioxide-emitting backup power sources, such as energy storage resources, beginning on a date dependent on the data center's initial service date; and (iv) for any new data center, beginning January 1, 2030, have demonstrated sufficient investment in environmental management and energy efficiency measures to provide system-wide benefits.	Passed by indefinitely in Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
	HB153 (Thomas) / SB94 (Roem) Siting of data centers; site assessment, high energy facility	Establishes new local review requirements for siting large data centers classified as "high energy use facilities" (those expected to require 100 megawatts or more of electricity). It requires applicants seeking rezoning or special-use approvals to submit site assessments evaluating potential noise impacts on nearby homes and schools and, where practicable, effects on water resources, agriculture, parks, historic sites, and forests. Utilities serving the facility must also provide information about substations and transmission needs, and localities must use these assessments to evaluate consistency with zoning rules and comprehensive plans.	Conference Report agreed to

*As of 3/16/26

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (2 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Data Centers	SB465 (Deeds) Retail Sales and Use tax; exemption for data centers	Requires data center operators to meet certain energy efficiency standards in order to be eligible for the sales and use tax exemption for data center purchases. Under the bill, a data center operator shall be eligible for the exemption only if such operator demonstrates that (i) its facilities either have a power usage effectiveness score of no greater than 1.2 or, for data centers co-located in buildings with other commercial uses, achieve an energy efficiency level of no less than the most efficient 15 percent of similar buildings constructed in the previous five years and (ii) by January 1, 2028, it will procure carbon-free renewable energy and associated renewable energy certificates equal to 90 percent of its electricity requirements or its electricity will be otherwise derived from non-carbon-emitting, renewable sources.	Left in committee
	HB1 (Ward) / SB1 (Lucas) Minimum wage; increases incrementally to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028	Increases the minimum wage incrementally to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028. The bill codifies the adjusted state hourly minimum wage of \$12.77 per hour that is effective January 1, 2026, and increases the minimum wage to \$13.75 per hour effective January 1, 2027, and to \$15.00 per hour effective January 1, 2028. Effective January 1, 2029, and annually thereafter, the bill requires the minimum wage to be adjusted to reflect increases in the consumer price index.	Enrolled
Business Regulations	HB1207 (Sewell) / SB2 (Boysko) Paid family & med. leave insurance program; definitions, notice requirements, civil action, report	Establishes a statewide paid family and medical leave (PFML) insurance program in Virginia by January 1, 2028, creating a framework through which employees may receive wage replacement benefits when taking leave for qualifying medical or family-related reasons. The bill outlines eligibility requirements, employer and employee contribution structures, administrative oversight, benefit duration limits, and enforcement mechanisms. It also sets reporting, compliance, and recordkeeping standards for employers while defining employee rights to job-protected leave under specified circumstances.	Conference Report agreed to

*As of 3/16/26

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (3 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Business Regulations	SB32 (Carroll Foy) Denial or abridgement of the right to work; repeals certain provisions of the Code	Repeals the provisions of the Code of Virginia that, among other things, prohibit any agreement or combination between an employer and a labor union or labor organization whereby (i) nonmembers of the union or organization are denied the right to work for the employer, (ii) membership in the union or organization is made a condition of employment or continuation of employment by such employer, or (iii) the union or organization acquires an employment monopoly in any such enterprise.	Left in committee
	SB278 (Srinivasan) Drug manufacturers; permitting and registration, certain conditions related to 340B-covered drugs	Directs the Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a stakeholder work group to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of how the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program operates within the Commonwealth. Findings and recommendations must be reported by November 1, 2026.	Enrolled
Incentives	HB1376 (Bulova) / SB285 (Aird) Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment grant program; DHCD to review, etc	Directs the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to develop updated criteria and guidelines for administering the state's Urban Public-Private Partnership Redevelopment grant program. The Department must report its findings and proposed criteria by November 1, 2026.	Continued to 2027 / Passed House and Senate
	SB417 (Stuart) / SB709 (Stuart) Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund; reclaimed water usage, definitions; performance agreement	SB417 requires data center operators applying for grant payments from the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund to utilize reclaimed water, defined in the bill, for water-dependent cooling processes at data center and cloud computing cluster operations facilities. SB709 removes the provision authorizing that the same grant fund may include commitments related to accelerated permitting, property tax classifications, and other issues to which the parties agree.	Both bills continued to 2027
	HB1461 (Franklin, M.A) / SB786 (Carroll Foy) Income tax, state & corporate; microchip & semiconductor manufacturing & supply chain tax credits	Creates a series of individual and corporate income tax credits for companies engaged in the microchip and semiconductor manufacturing and supply chain business. One of the bills also requires VEDP, in collaboration with JLARC and the Department of Taxation, to evaluate the benefits and impacts of new economic development incentives for companies engaging in the microchip, semiconductor, and related equipment and material supplies sector.	Tabled by House / Continued to 2027 by Senate

*As of 3/16/26

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (4 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Incentives	HB1033 (Tran) Va. Economic Dev. Partnership Authority; Division of Incentives; due diligence for major projects	Requires the due diligence review performed by the Division of Incentives at the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority for proposed economic development projects to include whether and to what extent the business involved has executed a labor peace agreement, as defined in the bill, with its employees if the project meets the criteria for an MEI project.	Left in committee
	SB50 (Rouse) Lobbying; expands definition to include influencing/attempting to influence local government action.	Expands the definition of "lobbying" to include influencing or attempting to influence local government action, defined in the bill, or solicitation of others to influence a local government official, also defined in the bill. Current law limits such influencing to executive or legislative action and soliciting to executive or legislative officials. The bill requires the Secretary of the Commonwealth to prepare a list of the positions and names of local government officials to be revised at least semi-annually and made available to lobbyists to assist them in complying with the provisions of the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of May 1, 2027.	Tabled in committee
Local Issues	HB569 (Feggans) / SB518 (Rouse) Public works contracts; localities to ensure bid specifications are prevailing wage rate	Requires each locality, when procuring services or letting contracts for public works paid for in whole or in part by state funds, or when overseeing or administering such contracts for public works, to ensure that its bid specifications or other public contracts applicable to the public works require bidders, offerors, contractors, and subcontractors to pay wages, salaries, benefits, and other remuneration to any mechanic, laborer, or worker employed, retained, or otherwise hired to perform services in connection with the public contract for public works at the prevailing wage rate.	Conference Report agreed to
	HB1493 (Dougherty) Economic development incentives; procedures for certain acts, economic development authorities	Requires that a proposed ordinance or resolution related to certain economic development incentives comply with the notice and public hearing requirements specified in the bill prior to approval by the governing body. The bill provides that the notice and public hearing requirements also apply to any such economic development incentives to be offered pursuant to an agreement between a locality and an economic development authority or industrial development authority.	Left in committee

*As of 3/16/26

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (5 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Workforce	HB54 (Sullivan) / SB286 (Aird) State Government Internship Coordinator; Department of Human Resource Management to appoint	Requires the Department of Human Resource Management to establish and employ a State Government Internship Coordinator to attract high-quality interns to the service of the Commonwealth with the goal of developing such interns in a manner that supports their ability to compete for positions in agencies of the Commonwealth upon conclusion of their internship and completion of their educational programs. A budget amendment directs funding from VEDP to DHRM for this position.	Enrolled
	HB18 (McClure) / SB3 (Aird) Employee Child Care Assistance Program; established, annual report	Establishes the Employee Child Care Assistance Program, a state initiative designed to encourage employers to help cover child care costs for their employees by offering state matching funds when employers contribute to eligible child care providers or approved third-party administrators. The program would be administered by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation, with participation open to employers meeting specified criteria and priority encouraged for small businesses.	Enrolled
Studies / Workgroups	HB1444 (Lopez) / SB225 (Surovell) Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank; established, report	Creates the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank to finance clean energy projects, greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects, and other qualified projects through the strategic deployment of public funds in the form of grants, loans, credit enhancements, and other financing mechanisms. The Bank is governed by a 10-member Board of Directors, consisting of five nonlegislative citizen members and five ex officio members with voting privileges, who include the Director of the Department of Energy, the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, or their designees.	Conference Report agreed to
	HB323 (Sullivan) Data centers; Department of Energy shall lead efforts to accelerate use of waste heat, report	Directs the Department of Energy to lead efforts to accelerate the use of waste heat from data centers in the Commonwealth by making certain findings and recommendations and convening a work group, including VEDP, to provide expertise, assistance, and feedback on the Department's efforts. The bill requires the Department to submit a report of its efforts, findings, legislative proposals, and recommendations no later than September 1, 2026.	Enrolled

OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF INTEREST FOR 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION (6 OF 6)

	Legislation	Summary	Status*
Studies / Workgroups	HB1249 (Glass) Creative Economy Task Force; established, strategic plan, report, sunset	Establishes within the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority the Creative Economy Task Force for the purpose of developing a strategic plan to improve the creative economy, defined in the bill, in the Commonwealth. The Task Force shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations by November 1, 2027. The bill contains an expiration date of January 1, 2028.	Continued to 2027 by Senate Finance and Appropriations
	HB1188 (Thomas) / SB447 (Bagby) Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission; established, powers and duties, sunset, report	Establishes the Virginia Boys and Men Advisory Commission as an advisory commission in the legislative branch of state government for the purpose of advising the General Assembly on issues of concern, including education inequity, economic opportunities, disparity in health outcomes, and the impact of social media use, as such issues relate to boys and men in the Commonwealth.	Enrolled
VEDP Operations	HB707 (Hayes) State government; transaction of public business, prohibited website domains	Prohibits a public body, defined in the bill, from maintaining an official website for public use with a domain other than a .gov, .edu, or .museum domain. The bill provides that any email address that a public body provides to its employees shall utilize a .gov domain and directs the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2029.	Continued to 2027 by Senate General Laws
Miscellaneous	HB604 (Willett) / SB369 (Carroll Foy) Specialty civil court dockets; business and complex litigation dockets established	Creates a framework in Virginia for designating certain complex, high-value civil cases as “business litigation actions” that can be assigned to specialized judges. It allows a party or the presiding judge to request that qualifying cases, generally disputes involving at least \$1 million and complex business-related issues be reassigned by the Chief Justice to a circuit court judge designated to handle such cases. It also directs the court system to identify at least four willing circuit court judges across different regions to hear business litigation matters, with the changes scheduled to take effect July 1, 2027.	Continued to 2027 in House Courts of Justice

*As of 3/16/26