



Virginia Capital, Richmond

# LEGISLATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE

June 11, 2025

## **AGENDA**

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

**June 11, 2025  
2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

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

<b>2:30 p.m. – 2:33 p.m.</b>	<b>Welcome/Call to Order - Steven Stone</b>
<b>2:33 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.</b>	<b>Public Comment Period – Steven Stone</b>
<b>2:35 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes for 3/5/25 Meeting – Steven Stone</b>
<b>2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Legislative Updates - David Devan</b>
<b>3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.</b>	<b>Closed Session – David Devan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 2026 Proposals</li><li>- Legislator Outreach Plan</li></ul>
<b>3:20 p.m. – 3:22 p.m.</b>	<b>Return to Open Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting – Lisa Wallmeyer</b>
<b>3:22 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Open Discussion and Anticipated Topics for Next Meeting – Steven Stone</b>
<b>3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>

**Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Board of Directors of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership**  
**March 5, 2025**  
**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

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

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Chair Steven Stone called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

In-person Committee members: John Hewa, Sonya Montgomery, Nick Rush, Steven Stone

Committee members absent: Nancy Agee, Anne Oman

Other committee members present: Mimi Coles, Stephen Edwards, Rick Harrell, Bill Hayter, Todd House, Pace Lochte, Connie Loughhead, Secretary Caren Merrick

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Stone solicited public comments. There were none.

**Approval of Minutes for December 11, 2024, Meeting**

Chair Stone requested approval of the December 11, 2024, minutes. Upon motion by Mr. Rush, seconded by Ms. Montgomery, the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Legislative and Budget Update**

Abigail Wescott, Managing Director of External Affairs, provided a 2025 General Assembly Session update. All eight of VEDP's legislative proposals were adopted by the General Assembly, and are awaiting action from the Governor. Ms. Wescott also reviewed the status of various budget items that impacted VEDP and economic development. A full report of VEDP legislative and budget items are included in the Committee meeting materials.

**Closed Session**

Mr. Hewa motioned, seconded by Ms. Montgomery, to convene a closed meeting to discuss elements of VEDP's Strategic Plan, Marketing Plan, and Operational Plan pursuant to Subdivision A 50 of §2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, which allows for the discussion of such activities that would reveal to Commonwealth's competitors for economic development projects the strategies intended to be deployed, thus adversely affecting the financial interests of the Commonwealth.

The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Certification of Closed Meeting**

After the Committee reconvened in open meeting, Counsel certified the closed meeting via 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?

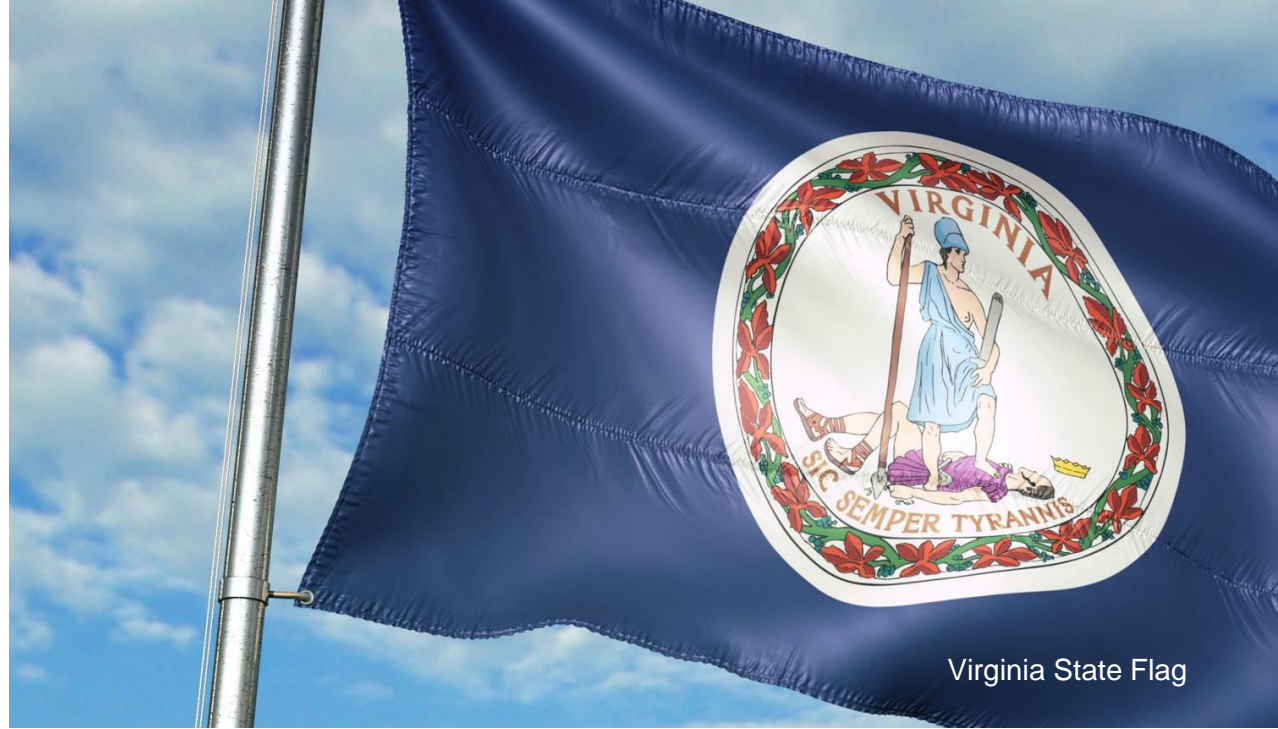
Upon the vote:	Ms. Agee	Not present
	Mr. Hewa	Aye
	Ms. Montgomery	Aye
	Ms. Oman	Not present
	Mr. Rush	Aye
	Mr. Stone	Aye

### **Legislation Impacting Economic Development**

At the conclusion of the meeting Ms. Wescott quickly reviewed other legislation tracked by VEDP because of its potential impact on economic development. A list of these bills can be found in the Committee meeting materials.

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Legislation and Policy Committee will take place on June 11, 2025. There being no further business, Chair Stone adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.



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# UPDATES ON FINALIZED BUDGET AND ADOPTED BILLS

# PRESENTERS



**Abigail Wescott**

Managing Director, External  
Affairs

[awescott@vedp.org](mailto:awescott@vedp.org)



**David Devan**

Senior Vice President, Policy  
and Strategic Partnerships

[ddevan@vedp.org](mailto:ddevan@vedp.org)



## BUDGET ITEMS IMPACTING VEDP (1 OF 2)

Item	Subject	Summary	Final Action (\$M)	
			FY25	FY26
101	Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP)	Provides additional funding for the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program, which provides competitive matching grants to localities to develop a portfolio of project-ready sites for the Commonwealth.	40	20
113.T; 132.I	Virginia Innovation Internship Program	Ownership of VTOP internship program will be transferred to VEDP from SCHEV. VEDP will receive \$6 million to support employer-related activities focused on providing college students in Virginia with paid internship opportunities.	0	6
101.S	Blue Star Project	Approximately \$3.9 million will be provided to Wythe County to reimburse infrastructure work at Progress Park tied to the Blue Star project (approved by MEI in December 2021)	3.89	0
103.AA	Pulaski County Sites Funding	Amendment allocating \$7.5 million for site development in Pulaski County (DHCD)	7.5	0
101.Y	Accomack County Sites Funding	Natural gas infrastructure expansion in Accomack	6.5	0
469	State Employee Compensation	State employees will receive a one-time 1.5% bonus, effective June 16, 2025. This is in addition to the 3% salary increase already approved in Chapter 2, effective June 10, 2025.	1.5%	-

## BUDGET ITEMS IMPACTING VEDP (2 OF 2)

Item	Subject	Summary	Final Action (\$M)	
			FY25	FY26
451.G	Wallops Island Dredging	The Virginia Port Authority may use up to \$8 million for dredging near Wallops Island to support Rocket Lab's development on the Eastern Shore. This funding will help enable the transport of rocket components by barge to their facility at Wallops	8	0
1.N.5	Data Center SUT Exemption	The Joint Subcommittee on Tax Policy has been directed to study the data center sales and use tax exemption	0	0
113.U; 114.U	Clean Energy Bank	Legislature attempted to eliminate program and revert balances to general fund	0	0
113.U	Marketing Funds	Proposed \$1.5m for targeted marketing to site consultants and executives	0	0



# ENACTED BILLS DIRECTLY IMPACTING VEDP\*

## VEDP Bills

**HB1567 (Wiley) / SB1089 (Craig)** Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority; operational plan submission

- Requires as part of annual operational plan report submission of most recent audit report from the Auditor of Public Accounts instead of audited statements for the year ending the previous June 30

**HB2179 (Clark) / SB1231 (Aird)** Virginia Investment Performance Grants; awarding of grants

- Allows VIP grants to be awarded in double distressed localities if the project pays an average wage of 85 percent of the prevailing average wage, or less if the Governor provides a written finding of justification; unlike COF, does not apply to single distressed localities

**HB2540 (Marshall) / SB1207 (Mulchi)** Lithium-ion Battery Separator Manufacturing Grant Fund

- Lithium-ion Battery Separator Manufacturing Grant Fund; Microporous Custom Performance Grant Fund

**HB2358 (Torian) / SB1208 (Lucas)** Current and Mature Semiconductor Technology Grant Fund

- Current and Mature Semiconductor Technology Grant Fund; Microporous Custom Performance Grant Fund

## Other Bills Impacting VEDP

**SB1275 (Jordan)** Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Fund

- Allows 25-acre site to be eligible, if in a locality with an area of 35 sq. miles or less (VBRSP)

**HB2163 (Carr)** Enterprise zone grant program; work group; report

- VEDP and DHCD shall convene a workgroup to study the utilization of currently designated zones and make recommendations on renewals or terminations of such zones

\*Not including 1) bills affecting procurement/FOIA requirements and 2) bills not directly affecting VEDP (data centers, energy, etc.)

# ADDITIONAL BILLS IMPACTING VEDP/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**HB2150 (Carr)** Virginia Public Procurement Act; contract terms inconsistent with Virginia law

- Provides that no public contract for information technology goods and services, as defined by the bill, may contain terms in conflict with Virginia law

**HB2152 (Carr)** Virginia Freedom of Information Act; public body's FOIA officer training

- Requires any legal counsel who is also designated as FOIA officer shall complete training session or online course offered or approved by the FOIA Council

**HB2541 (Tran)** Information Technology Access Act; digital accessibility, definitions, procurement requirements

- Requires IT vendors to certify that any product procured by a public entity conforms with accessibility requirements; applies beginning 4/26/2026

**HB2024 (Seibold) /SB1165 (Salim)** Virginia Public Procurement Act; solar photovoltaic equipment meeting national environmental protection and product safety standards.

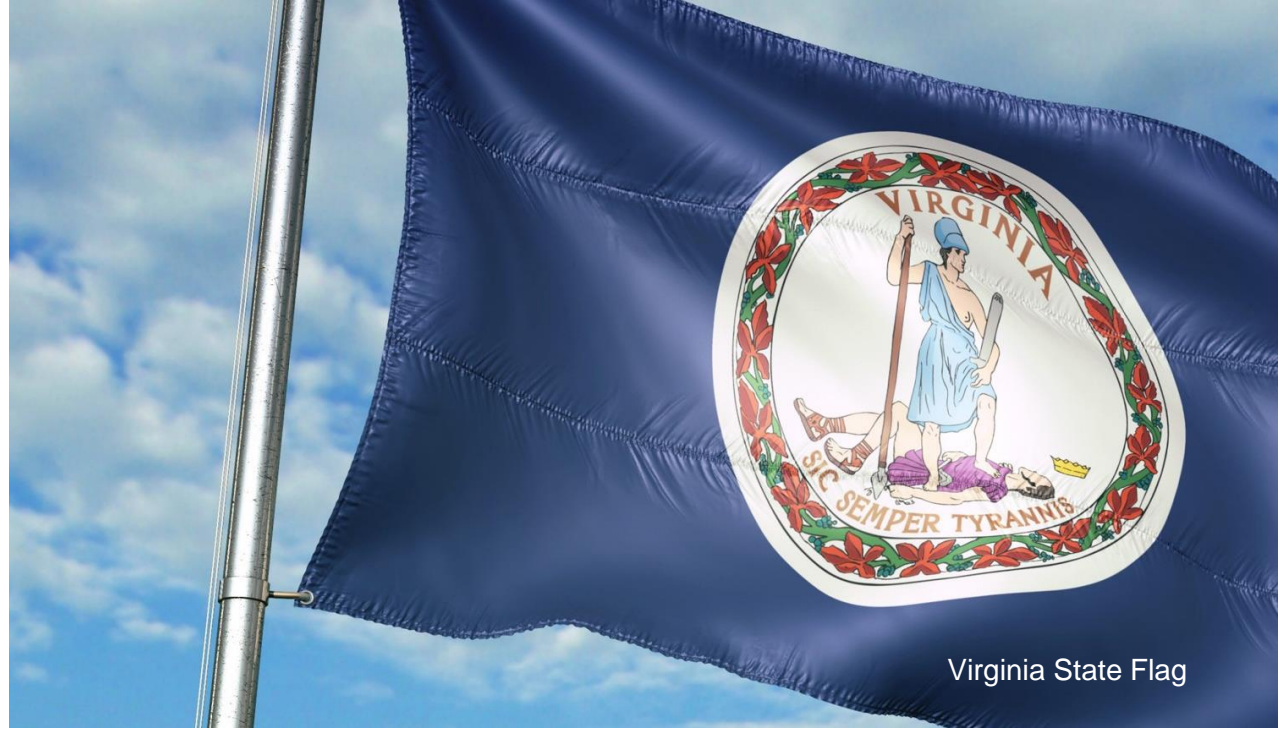
- Impacts state procurement requirements - cannot prohibit use of any materials contained in or products associated with solar photovoltaic equipment and facilities that are manufactured in the US

**HB2751 (Feggans)** Virginia Public Procurement Act; discrimination prohibited; military family-owned businesses

- Cannot discriminate against a bidder in procurement transaction because of status as a military family; all public bodies shall establish programs to facilitate participation of military family owned businesses in procurement contracts; to be included in annual progress reports as well

**SB913 (Stanley)** Virginia Public Procurement Act; procurement of imported goods; forced and indentured child labor prohibition

- Impacts state procurement requirements - any procurement contract for product on U.S. Labor Dept list of forced child labor list must have third party certification



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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

# KEY INFORMATION FOR THE STATE 2025 ELECTION

## On the ballot:

- Special Election: Congressional District 11
- Governor
- Lt. Governor
- Attorney General
- House of Delegates

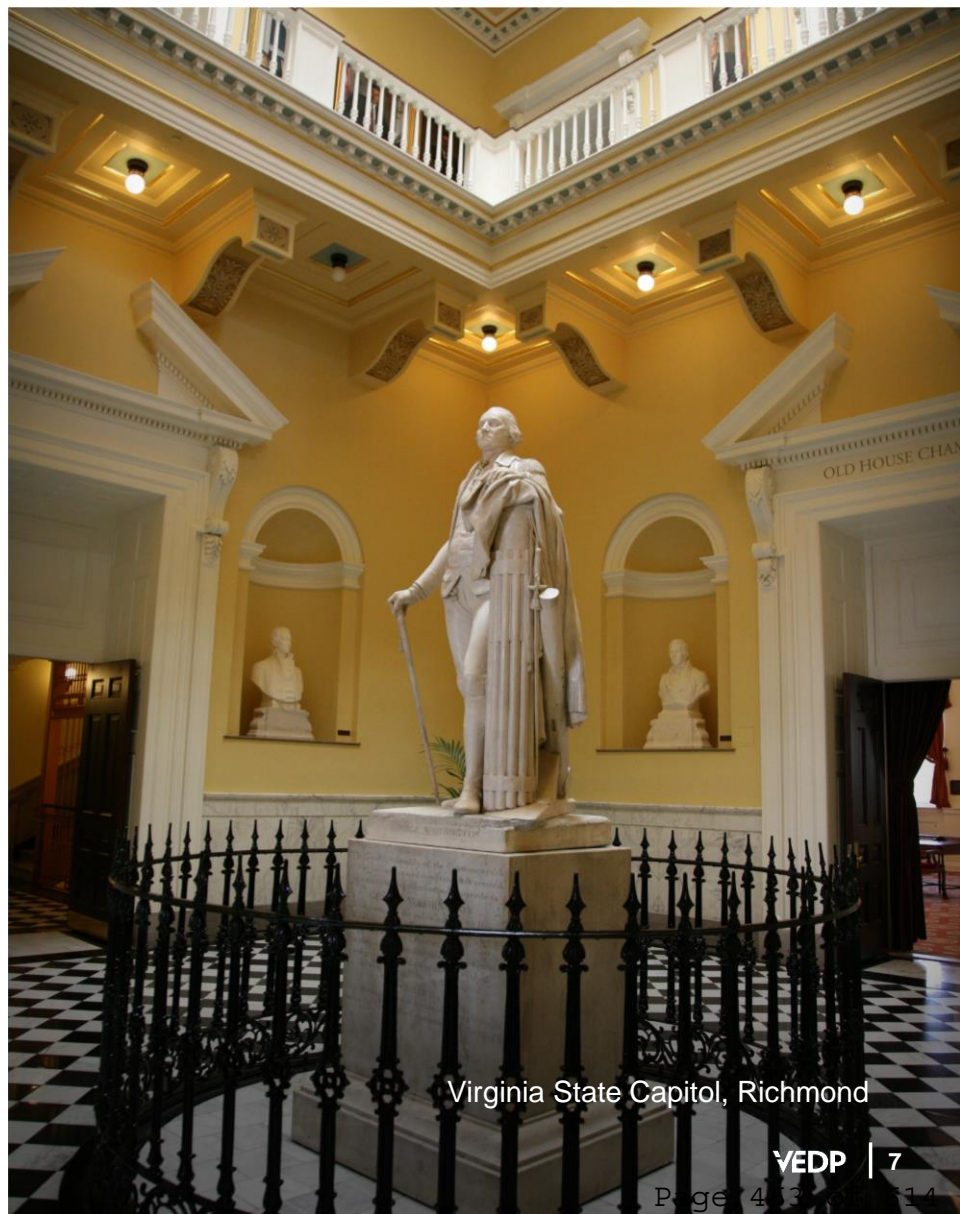
## Key dates for the upcoming General Election:

### June 17, 2025

- Primary Election Day
  - Lt. Governor
  - Attorney General
  - House of Delegates

### November 4, 2025

- Election Day – November General



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# SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 11: SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

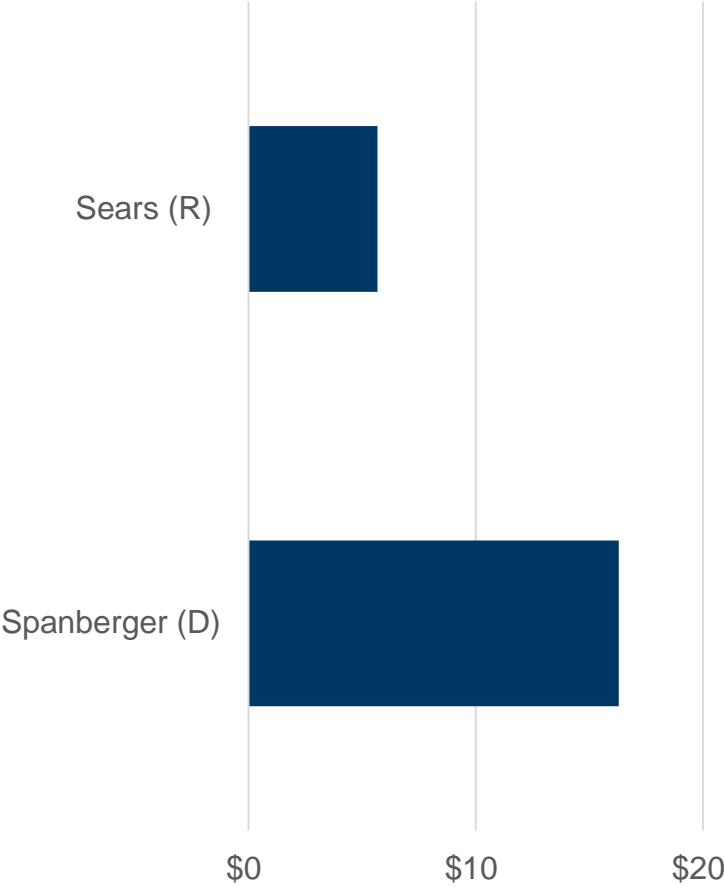
## District Background

- Covers Fairfax County (partial) and Fairfax City
- 2024 US President Election Voting Breakdown
  - Democrat – 65.38%
    - 267,119 votes
  - Republican – 31.01%
    - 126,681 votes
  - Other – 3.61%
    - 14,751 votes
- 2024 US Representative Election Voting Breakdown
  - Democrat – 66.7%
  - Republican – 32.9%

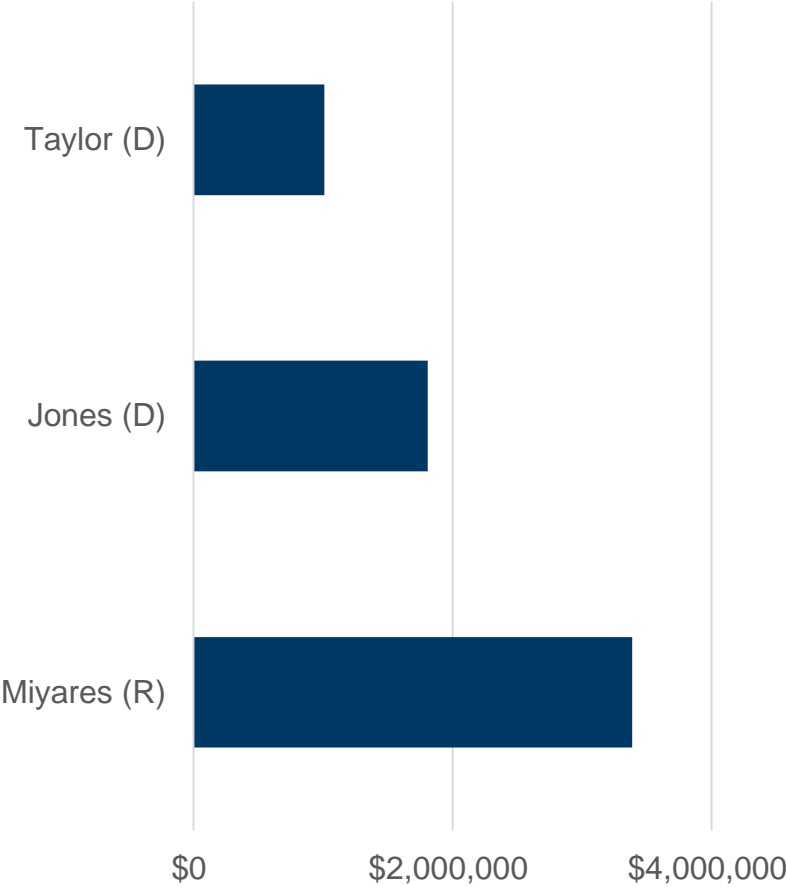
District	Democrat	Republican	Other	Insight
CD11	Joshua Aisen	Nathan Headrick	Chandra Tamirisa	
	Candice L. Bennett	Karina Lipsman		
	Leo Martinez	Mike Van Meter		
	Stella Pekarsky			Current State Senator
	Amy Roma			
	Irene Shin			Current Delegate
	James Walkinshaw			

# FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW (1 OF 3)

Governor's race spending (\$M)

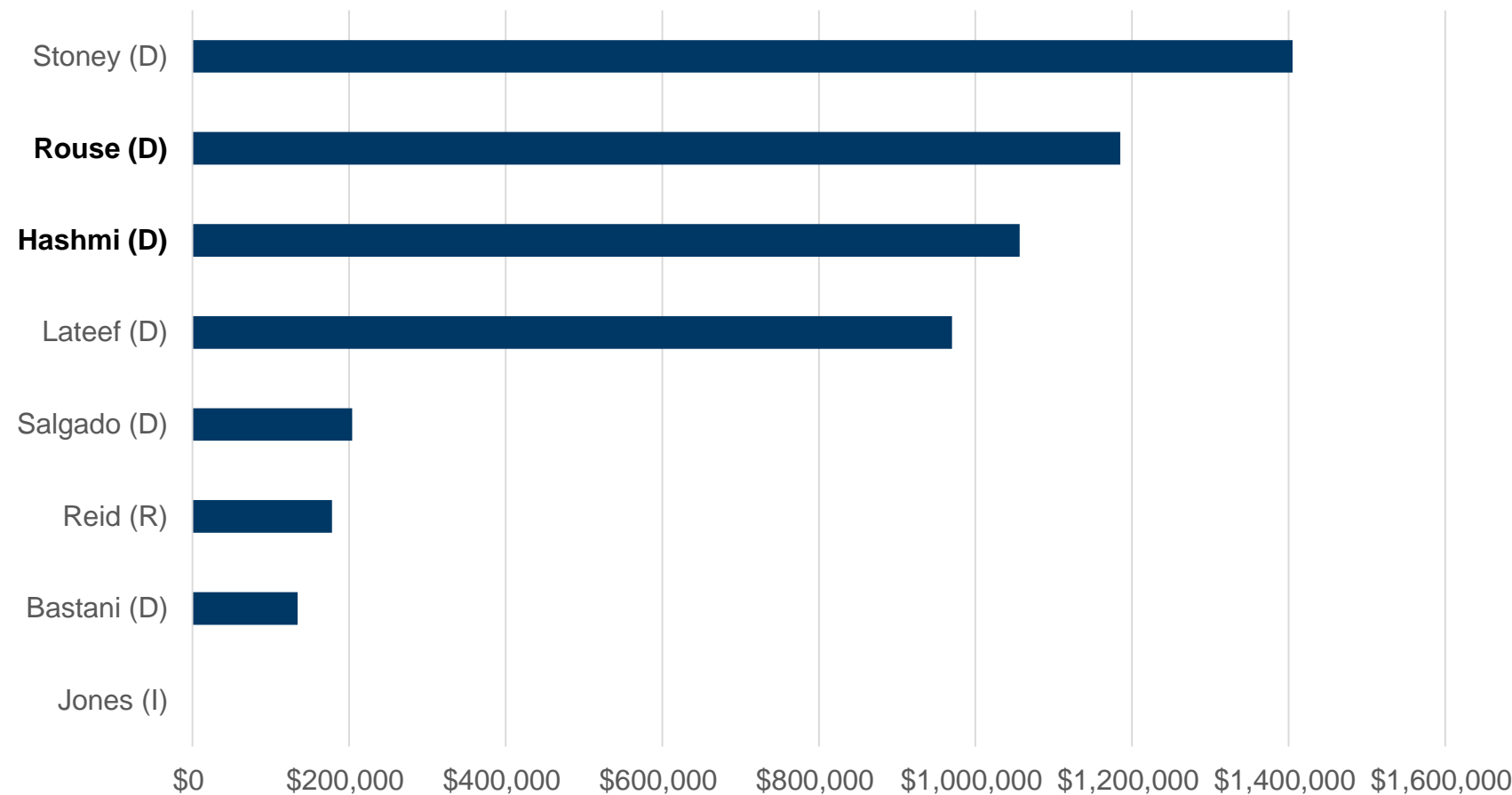


Attorney General race spending (\$M)



# FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW (2 OF 3)

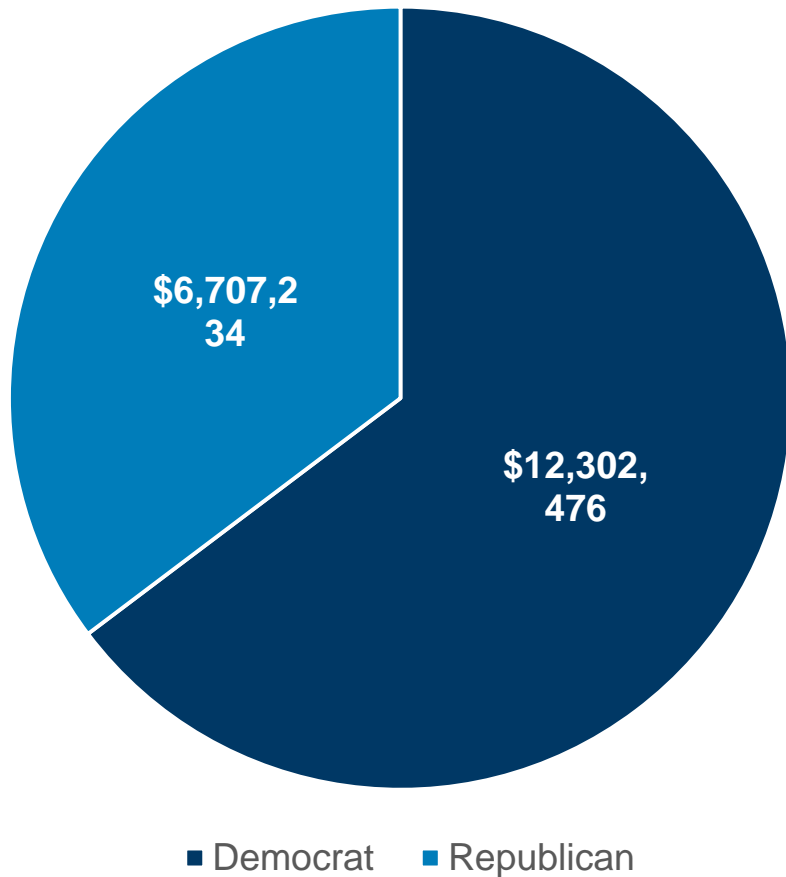
## Lt. Governor's race spending (\$M)





## FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW (3 OF 3)

### 2025 House election money raised

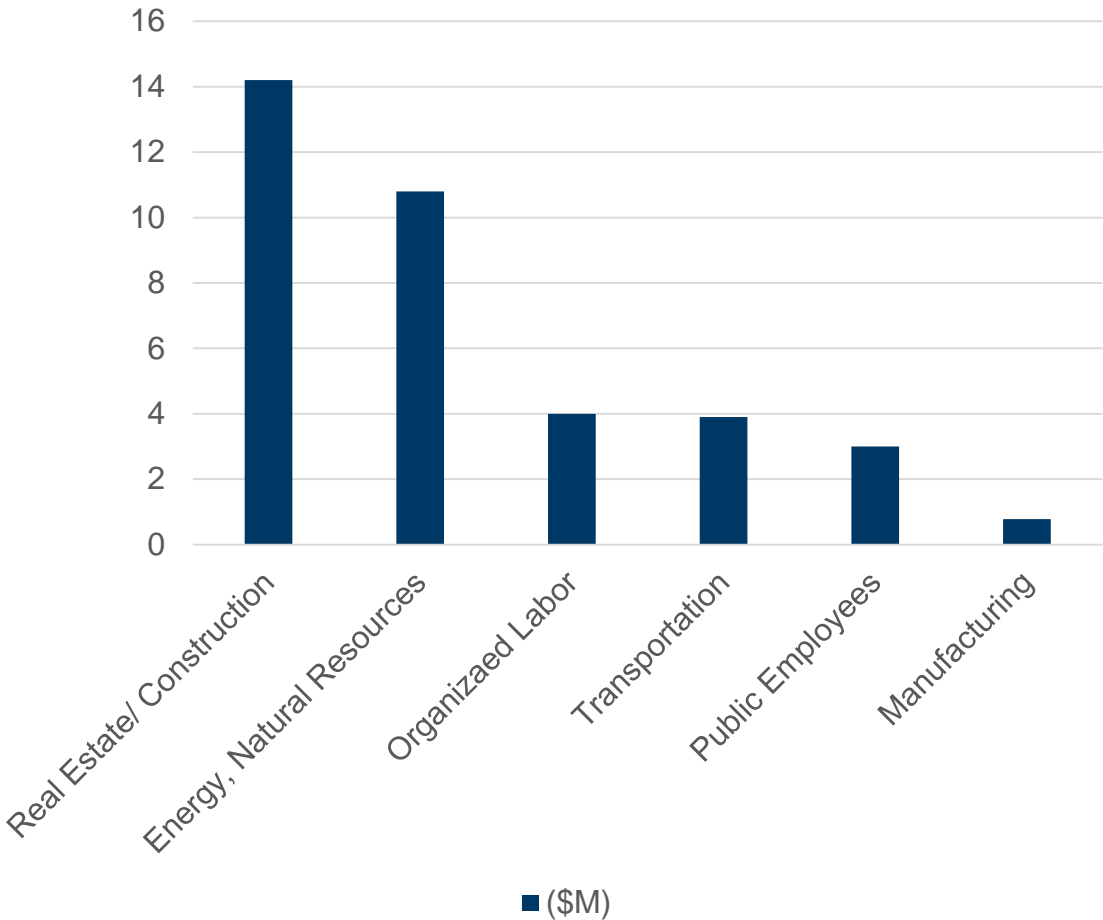


### Top Fundraising Leaders

1. Don Scott (D)
2. Luke Torian (D)
3. Todd Gilbert (R)
4. Charniele Herring (D)
5. Terry Kilgore (R)
6. JJ Singh (D)
7. Kimberly Pope Adams (D)
8. Carrie Coyner (R)
9. Jeion Ward (D)
10. Mark Sickles (D)

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOUCHING TOP DONORS

Top Donors by Industry



## Top Donors by Group

Dominion Energy

- \$3,783,888

Clean Virginia Fund

- \$800,697

Amazon

- \$204,000

Data Center Coalition

- \$122,000

American Federation of State  
County and Municipal  
Employees

- \$121,500

VA Maritime Association

- \$120,159

# PRIMARY AND CONTESTED CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION (1 OF 4)

District	Democrat	Republican	Other	Insight
<b>Governor</b>	Abigail Spanberger	Winsome Earle Sears	Donna Charles Andrew White	
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>	Alex Bastani <b>Ghazala Hashmi</b> Babur Lateef <b>Aaron Rouse</b> Victor Salgado Levar Stoney	John Reid	Marlow Jones Sr.	
<b>Attorney General</b>	Jay Jones Shannon Taylor	Jason Miyares*		
<b>HD1</b>	Sean Phillip Epstein Patrick Hope* Arjoon Srikanth			
<b>HD21</b>	Josh Thomas*	Gregory Lee Gorham Xanthe Larsen Sahar S Smith		2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thomas spent \$3,426,973</li> <li>His opponent spent \$2,407,015</li> </ul>
<b>HD30</b>	John Chilton McAuliff	Geary Higgins*		2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higgins spent \$1,019,790</li> <li>His opponent spent \$1,804,407</li> </ul>

\*Incumbent

**Current State Senator**

# PRIMARY AND CONTESTED CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION (2 OF 4)

District	Democrat	Republican	Insight
HD33	Catherine Elizabeth Rec	Todd Gilbert*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gilbert is waiting on final decision on becoming a US Attorney</li> </ul>
HD37	Sharron Burgess	Terry Austin* Austen Schwend	
HD41	Lily Franklin	Chris Obenshain*	2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obenshain spent \$593,938</li> <li>His opponent (Franklin) spent \$961,410</li> <li>50.31% Obenshain</li> <li>49.57% Franklin</li> </ul>
HD46	Jamie Ralston Hendry	Mitchell D Cornett Adam L Tolbert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jed Arnold is not returning next year, so a new member will be elected.</li> <li>Tolbert was endorsed by Arnold and the SWVA delegation</li> </ul>
HD49	Jasmine Lipscomb Gary Miller	Vanessa Reynolds Scearce Madison John Redd Whittle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Danny Marshall is retiring, and the seat is opening for the first time in 24 years</li> </ul>
HD57	May Nivar Andrew G. Schear	David Owen*	2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owen spent \$1,324,905</li> <li>His opponent spent \$1,859,559</li> <li>50.77% Owen</li> <li>48.77% Gibson</li> </ul>

\*Incumbent

# PRIMARY AND CONTESTED CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION (3 OF 4)

District	Democrat	Republican	Insight
HD58	Rodney Willett*	Milad H Mikhail	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willett spent \$1,848,590</li> <li>His opponent spent \$1,169,190</li> </ul>
HD62	Sara Ratcliffe	Karen Hamilton Clay Jackson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nick Freitas is not returning next year, so a new member will be elected.</li> <li>Hamilton was endorsed by Freitas</li> </ul>
HD65	Joshua Cole*	Sean Steinway	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cole spent \$4,194,270</li> <li>His opponent spent \$2,507,775</li> </ul>
HD71	Jessica Anderson	Amanda Batten*	2023 was a close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50.90% Batten <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18,152 votes</li> </ul> </li> <li>49.03% Anderson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17,485 votes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
HD75	Lindsey Dougherty Stephen Miller-Pitts Dustin Wade	Carrie Coyner*	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coyner spent \$715,324</li> <li>Her opponent (Miller-Pitts) spent \$957,630</li> </ul>
HD82	Kimberly Pope Adams	Kim Taylor*	2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taylor spent \$2,798,674</li> <li>Her opponent (Adams) spent \$3,037,486</li> <li>50.05% Taylor</li> <li>49.78% Adams</li> </ul>

\*Incumbent

# PRIMARY AND CONTESTED CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION (4 OF 4)

District	Democrat	Republican	Insight
HD84	Nadarius Clark*	Felisha Rose Leffler Storm	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clark spent \$2,810,631</li> <li>His opponent spent \$1,504,813</li> </ul>
HD89	Blaizen Buckshot Bloom Karen Robins Carnegie	Mike Lamonea Kristen Shannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baxter Ennis is not returning next year, so a new member will be elected.</li> <li>Lamonea was endorsed by Ennis</li> </ul> 2023 was an expensive and close race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ennis spent \$1,174,666</li> <li>His opponent spent \$1,544,342</li> <li>50.76% Ennis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14,739 votes</li> </ul> </li> <li>48.97% Jenkins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14,218 votes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
HD94	Phil Hernandez*	Andy Pittman	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hernandez spent \$1,184,105</li> <li>His opponent spent \$502,486</li> </ul>
HD97	Michael Feggans*	Tim Anderson Christina Miriam Felder	2023 was an expensive race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feggans spent \$3,553,356</li> <li>His opponent spent \$2,903,917</li> </ul>

\*Incumbent

**Q&A**



# ADJOURN