



Welcome to your daily legislative update and action alert brought to you by Virginia Institute Action, co-host of the Tuesday Morning Group.

Friday, 23 February 2024

Dear Patriot,

Below you will see sections of legislation that we support or oppose, with pertinent information related to each. Each weekday of the session our legislative update from Virginia Institute Action will follow a similar format. Thank you for actively participating in government as "We the People!"

ELECTIONS

OPPOSE

SENATE FLOOR

Status: TODAY, Friday, 2/23, the following bills are on the Senate third reading calendar and are expected to receive a floor vote. These bills were on the Senate second reading calendar yesterday, Thursday, 2/22.

We **OPPOSE** HB 26 - This bill expands the list of accepted forms of identification to be presented when voting. Currently, although there is a list of accepted IDs, no ID is required to vote. Any registered voter who arrives at a polling location without an accepted form of identification, or with no ID at all, can sign a statement confirming that they are the registered voter that they say that they are, and then they are permitted to vote. This statement makes the list of acceptable IDs seem like a formality; additionally, some people are concerned that the types of IDs that this bill approves are available to noncitizens.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

We **OPPOSE** HB 441 - This bill expands the practice of curbside voting to not only individuals with a physical impairment but also those who have a mental impairment; this could significantly increase the use of curbside voting. When used at all, we believe the best practice is for curbside voting to be available only for individuals who need physical accommodations.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

We **OPPOSE** HB 1408 - This bill takes a top-down approach to determining the appropriate number of early voting locations in each Virginia city and county, by directing the Department of Elections to create guidelines for localities to utilize regarding how many early voting locations should be open for early voting. These decisions are best made at the local level, where they are currently made, by the local election administrators who know their locality best.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

We **OPPOSE** HB 1534 (similar to [SB 196](#)) - This bill would alter the procedure for challenging a voter registration. Currently, local registrars handle these cases, but this bill proposes court system oversight which would prevent any Election Day challenges. Registrars, who maintain up-to-date, accurate voter registration lists for their areas, should retain control over this process.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

Please **CALL and EMAIL** your Senator and ask them to **Vote NO on HB 26, HB 441, HB 1408 and HB 1534**. Thank you!

Contact Your Legislators!

TODAY, Friday, 2/23, the following bill is on the agenda of the House Privileges and Elections Committee. This committee meets on Friday mornings at 9AM in House Committee Room C-206, General Assembly Building.

We **OPPOSE** SB 364 - This bill proposes to create higher criminal penalties for intimidation, harassment, and other offenses against election officials and election office staff, continuing a debunked narrative that election officials frequently experience harassment and threats. Although there was an amendment to clarify that communication like politely asked questions couldn't be considered intimidation, there have been differing opinions about whether the language of the bill is clear that it would only apply to imminent harm and threats of bodily injury to election officials and couldn't be applied to benign communications. To protect citizens from inaccurate or subjective allegations, we oppose this bill.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)
- [Radio interview](#) discussing this bill

To view a full list of all the bills that will be voted on in this committee meeting [CLICK HERE](#) to see the agenda.

Please **CALL and EMAIL** these Delegates and ask them to **Vote NO on SB 364**. Thank you!

Chair: Delegate Marcia S. "Cia" Price (D)	(804) 698-1085	DelMPrice@house.virginia.gov
Vice Chair: Delegate Kelly K. Convors-Fowler (D)	(804) 698-1096	DelKConvors-Fowler@House.virginia.gov
Delegate Bonita G. Anthony (D)	(804) 698-1092	DelBAnthony@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Robert S. Bloxom, Jr. (R)	(804) 698-1000	DelRBloxom@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Destiny LeVere Bolling (D)	(804) 698-1080	DelDLeverebolling@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Mike A. Cherry (R)	(804) 698-1074	DelMCherry@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Joshua G. Cole (D)	(804) 698-1065	DelJCole@house.virginia.gov
Delegate C. Todd Gilbert (R)	(804) 698-1033	DelTGilbert@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Jackie H. Glass (D)	(804) 698-1093	DelJGlass@house.virginia.gov
Delegate W. Chad Green (R)	(804) 698-1069	DelCGreen@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Rozia A. Henson, Jr. (D)	(804) 698-1019	DelRHenson@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Paul E. Krizek (D)	(804) 698-1016	DelPKrizek@house.virginia.gov
Delegate James A. "Jay" Leftwich (R)	(804) 698-1090	DelJLeftwich@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Michelle Lopes Maldonado (D)	(804) 698-1020	DelMMaldonado@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Paul V. Milde (R)	(804) 698-1064	DelPMilde@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Israel D. O'Quinn (R)	(804) 698-1044	DelIOQuinn@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Eric Phillips (R)	(804) 698-1048	DelEPhillips@house.virginia.gov
Delegate David A. Reid (D)	(804) 698-1028	DelDReid@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Phillip A. Scott (R)	(804) 698-1063	DelPScott@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Mark D. Sickles (D)	(804) 698-1017	DelMSickles@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Kannan Srinivasan (D)	(804) 698-1026	DelKSrinivasan@house.virginia.gov
Delegate H. Otto Wachsmann, Jr. (R)	(804) 698-1083	DelOWachsmann@house.virginia.gov

HEALTHCARE

SUPPORT

TODAY, Friday, 2/23, the following bill is on the agenda of the House Studies Subcommittee. This subcommittee meets at the call of the chair and is meeting today in House North Subcommittee Room - 200, General Assembly Building.

We **SUPPORT** SB 277 - This bill would expand an expedited application and review process for Certificate of Public Need.

- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

To view a full list of all the bills that will be voted on in this committee meeting [CLICK HERE](#) to see the agenda.

Please **CALL and EMAIL** these Delegates and ask them to **Vote YES on SB 277**. Thank you!

Chair: Delegate Luke E. Torian (D)	(804) 698-1024	DelL.Torian@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Terry L. Austin (R)	(804) 698-1037	DelTAustin@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Betsy B. Carr (D)	(804) 698-1078	DelBCarr@house.virginia.gov
Delegate C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr. (D)	(804) 698-1091	DelCHayes@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Dan I. Helmer (D)	(804) 698-1010	DelDHelmer@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Israel D. O'Quinn (R)	(804) 698-1044	DelIOQuinn@house.virginia.gov
Delegate Don Scott (D)	(804) 698-1088	DelDScott@house.virginia.gov

UPDATE

EDUCATION

We **SUPPORTED** HB 659 - The original version of this bill would have established open enrollment for public schools in Virginia. After being amended, the bill directs the Department of Education to publish guidelines and best practices about open enrollment for the localities that choose to offer open enrollment within their district. It also reiterates that Virginia law already prohibits charging tuition for students participating in open enrollment. - **KILLED**

- Yesterday, Thursday, 2/22, this bill died in the Senate Education and Health Committee.
- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

ELECTIONS

We **OPPOSED** SB 246 (similar to [HB 1454](#)) - This bill eliminates identifying features used to distinguish between citizen and non-citizen state-issued driver's permits and ID cards, which could facilitate non-citizens voting. - **PASSED**

- Yesterday, Thursday, 2/22, this bill was passed in the House Transportation Committee. This bill previously passed in the Senate and will now be sent to the House floor for a vote.
- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

We **OPPOSED** HB 1454 (similar to [SB 246](#)) - This bill eliminates identifying features used to distinguish between citizen and non-citizen state-issued driver's permits and ID cards, which could facilitate non-citizens voting. - **PASSED**

- Yesterday, Thursday, 2/22, this bill was passed in the Senate Transportation Committee. Next, this bill will be sent to the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee for a vote.
- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

HEALTHCARE

We **OPPOSED** HB 570 - This bill creates a Prescription Drug Affordability Board. Under this proposed legislation, the Board will be given authority to limit drug payment amounts and reimbursements to an upper payment limit amount for state sponsored and state regulated health plans. - **VOTE DELAYED**

- Yesterday, Thursday, 2/22, this bill was on the agenda of the Senate Education and Health Committee, but did not receive a vote. Instead, the committee sent the bill to the Commerce and Labor Committee for a vote.
- To see bill text and info: [Click HERE](#)

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