

# WATCH

Bill	Title	Primary Sponsor	Summary
HB2	Assault firearms & certain ammunition, etc.; purchase, sale, transfer, etc., prohibited.	Delegate Dan I. Helmer (D)	Purchase, possession, sale, transfer, etc., of assault firearms and certain ammunition feeding devices prohibited; penalty. Creates a Class 1 misdemeanor for any person who imports, sells, manufactures, purchases, possesses, transports, 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 purchasing, 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, 2024. 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) purchases an assault firearm from another person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and that any person who imports, sells, barter, 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, purchase, possess, transport, or transfer an assault firearm regardless of the date of manufacture of such assault firearm.
HB3	State Air Pollution Control Board; motor vehicle emissions standards.	Delegate Tony O. Wilt (R)	State Air Pollution Control Board; motor vehicle emissions standards. Repeals the requirement that the State Air Pollution Control Board implement a low-emissions and zero-emissions vehicle program for motor vehicles with a model year of 2025 and later. The bill prohibits the Board from adopting or enforcing any model year standards related to control of emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines, including low-emission vehicle and zero-emission vehicle standards pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act and prohibits the Commonwealth from requiring any new motor vehicle or new motor vehicle engine to be certified as compliant with model year standards related to the control of emissions adopted by California for which a waiver has been granted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act.
HB151	Energy, Department of; building standards for certain local buildings.	Delegate Dan I. Helmer (D)	Department of Energy; building standards for certain local buildings. Requires the Department of Energy to provide technical assistance to localities, subject to available budgetary resources, as localities implement mandates related to energy and resilience standards for construction or renovation of certain public buildings. The bill also requires the Department to conduct an annual survey of localities to obtain information on related activities and to identify the needs of localities with respect to technical assistance and training. The bill also makes several technical and clarifying changes to the existing statute, in part by defining or redefining existing terms found in the statute.
HB187	Teachers and support staff; compensation at or above national average salary.	Delegate Nadarius E. Clark	Teacher and support staff compensation; at or above national average. Requires that public school teachers be compensated at a rate that is at or above the national average teacher salary. Under current law, compensation at such rate is aspirational. The bill also requires that public school instructional and noninstructional support staff be compensated at a rate that is at or above the national average salary for such staff. The bill requires state funding to be provided pursuant to the general appropriation act in a sum sufficient to fund an annual increase for public school teacher and instructional and noninstructional support staff salaries such that, no later than the 2028-2029 school year, such individuals are compensated at a rate that is at or above the respective national average salary.
HB338	Siting of data centers; locality to perform site assessment before approval.	Delegate Joshua E. Thomas (D)	Siting of data centers; site assessment. Requires a locality, prior to any approval for the siting of a data center, to perform a site assessment to examine the effect of the data center on water usage and carbon emissions as well as any impacts on agricultural resources within the locality.
HB521	Photo speed monitoring devices; locality-designated highway segments, civil penalty.	Delegate Amy J. Laufer (D)	Photo speed monitoring devices; locality-designated highway segments; civil penalty. Authorizes any locality to authorize, by ordinance, its local law-enforcement agency to place and operate photo speed monitoring devices in certain locations named in the ordinance, provided that (i) the highway has a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or greater; (ii) the ordinance identifies the locality-designated speeding offense to be enforced by the photo speed monitoring device; (iii) speeding, crash, or fatality data supports the need for stronger enforcement against speeding; and (iv) in counties and towns whose roads are subject to the control and jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation, the locality-designated highway segment is in the secondary state highway system or is designated as a Virginia byway. The bill directs the locality to also identify the speeding violations that may be enforced by photo speed monitoring device. Current law authorizes the use of photo speed monitoring devices in highway work zones and school crossing zones.
HB529	Trees; expands existing local gov't. authority to conserve or replace during development process.	Delegate Patrick A. Hope	Conservation and replacement of trees during development process. Expands existing local government authority to conserve or replace trees during the development process by allowing localities to establish higher tree canopy replacement percentages, based on density per acre, lot size, or any other measurement relevant to the practices of the locality to achieve MS4 stormwater nutrient reductions, mitigate urban heat islands, increase resilience to climate change, including reducing coastal and inland flooding, and mitigate air pollution. The bill also alters the current process for granting exceptions to a local ordinance by removing a provision that requires the granting of an exception when strict application of the ordinance would result in unnecessary or unreasonable hardship to the developer and replacing it with a determination by the locality that the strict application would be unreasonable in a specific instance. The bill makes numerous technical amendments.

HB537	Home Visiting Program; established, report.	Delegate Joshua G. Cole (D)	Home Visiting Program established; report. Establishes the Home Visiting Program within the Department of Social Services to support pregnant people and parents with young children that face greater risks and barriers to achieving positive maternal and child health outcomes. The bill directs the Department to operate in accordance with the Virginia Plan for Home Visiting established by Early Impact Virginia, a consortium of government and private entities. The purpose of the Program is to (i) promote the health and wellbeing of pregnant people and parents, (ii) improve infant and child health and development, (iii) strengthen family functioning, (iv) promote school readiness, (v) reduce child maltreatment, (vi) promote economic mobility, and (vii) cultivate strong communities. The bill requires the Department to report biennially to the Governor and the General Assembly on outcomes for Program participants.
HB599	School boards; unexpended local funds, capital reserve fund permitted.	Delegate Shelly A. Simonds	School boards; unexpended local funds; capital reserve fund permitted. Permits any school board, with the concurrence of the local governing body, to establish a capital reserve fund as a savings account into which it exclusively deposits the local operating funds that remain unexpended at the end of the year for future school division capital expenditures at no additional cost to local taxpayers, subject to certain conditions enumerated in the bill.
HB619	Military centered community zones; local designation.	Delegate Marcia S. "Cia" Price (D)	Military centered community zones; local designation. Allows localities to establish, by ordinance, one or more military centered community zones, defined in the bill as a community that has a significant presence of military personnel living or working in the designated area and where such presence drives, or has the potential to drive, significant economic activity. The bill provides that a locality, or another political subdivision acting on behalf of the locality, may offer unique benefits to businesses looking to locate within a zone for the purpose of serving the needs of the military personnel, including reduction of certain fees and taxes. In addition, the bill provides that local governing bodies are authorized to enter into agreements for the payment of economic development incentive grants to such businesses. The bill also allows a governing body to provide for certain regulatory flexibility and incentives and provides that the establishment of a military centered community zone shall not preclude the area from also being designated as an enterprise zone or from receiving support under the Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program.
HB703	Transit and school bus shelters; regulations and requirements for concrete pad construction.	Delegate Michael J. Webert (R)	Department of General Services and Department of Transportation; regulations and requirements; transit and school bus shelters; concrete pad construction. Directs the Department of General Services and the Department of Transportation to amend and conform the regulations and requirements for localities and transit agencies constructing concrete pad foundations for school bus shelters, public transit shelters, and rideshare stations.
HB863	Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; flood-related disclosures.	Delegate Phil M. Hernandez (D)	Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; flood-related disclosures. Requires the Real Estate Board to include on its repetitive risk loss disclosure form for owners of residential real property space for the disclosure of historical flood damages, flood insurance claims, and costs to such residential real property along with other related information. The bill also requires the owner of residential real property within the Commonwealth to disclose to any purchaser or renter of such property certain facts related to the flood history and risk of such property.
HB878	Affordable housing; purchase of development rights.	Delegate David L. Bulova (D)	Purchase of development rights for affordable housing. Permits any local government to purchase development rights or accept the donation of development rights in an effort to preserve and provide affordable housing. The bill grants local governments the powers necessary to carry out the purchase of such development rights. The bill prohibits the conversion or diversion of such affordable housing once the development rights are purchased unless the local government determines that such diversion is essential to the development and growth of the locality and in accordance with the locality's comprehensive plan.

HB889	Retail Sales and Use tax; levies tax on following services: admissions, charges for recreation, etc.	Delegate Vivian E. Watts (D)	<p>Sales and use tax on services. Levies the retail sales and use tax on the following services: admissions; charges for recreation, fitness, or sports facilities; nonmedical personal services or counseling; dry cleaning and laundry services; companion animal care; residential home repair or maintenance, landscaping, or cleaning services when paid for directly by a resident or homeowner; vehicle and engine repair; repairs or alterations to tangible personal property; storage of tangible personal property; delivery or shipping services; travel, event, and aesthetic planning services; and communications services that are not subject to the communications sales and use tax and are not digital personal property.</p> <p>The bill also imposes the retail sales and use tax on digital personal property, defined in the bill as a digital product delivered electronically that the purchaser owns or has the ability to continually access without having to pay an additional subscription or usage fee to the seller after paying the initial purchase price. Revenues generated by the taxes levied on services and digital personal property shall be allocated in the same manner as other sales and use taxes; however, revenues from the state portion of the sales and use tax that would be allocated to the general fund shall instead be allocated to school divisions as follows: (i) 60 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of school-age population and (ii) 40 percent shall be distributed to localities on the basis of the high-need student population in the locality. The bill clarifies that a high-need student population includes students who are (a) automatically certified for free school meals because of participation in social services programs, (b) participants in a program of special education, or (c) English language learners.</p> <p>The bill provides certain exemptions to the sales and use tax on services, including health care services that must be performed by a person licensed or certified by the Department of Health Professions, veterinary services, professional services, Internet access services, and services provided by a person who does not receive more than \$2,500 per year in gross receipts for performance of such services. The bill exempts services purchased by a nonprofit organization and services purchased by a homeowners' association or by a landlord for the benefit of his tenant. The bill also repeals the service exemptions currently provided for the sale of custom programs and modification of prewritten programs.</p> <p>The bill imposes the communications sales and use tax on prepaid calling services and on digital subscription services, defined in the bill as services for which the user pays in order to access and use software, reading materials, or other digital data or applications for a defined period of time, which products the user does not own or have permanent access to outside of such period of time.</p>
HB904	Voter registration; list maintenance activities, cancellation procedures, required record matches.	Delegate Marcia S. "Cia" Price (D)	<p>Voter registration; list maintenance activities; cancellation procedures; required record matches; required identification information; data standards. Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections for list maintenance purposes and requires the Department, upon receiving any such list, to do an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters to identify record matches. Depending on which identification information matches, the Department either transmits the information to the appropriate general registrar to initiate the cancellation process or notifies the appropriate general registrar who may then initiate the confirmation notification process. The bill prohibits the use of voter data received from another state or jurisdiction or through a list comparison for list maintenance purposes when the data file does not include a unique identifier for each individual whose information is contained in the data file. The bill requires the Department of Elections to annually audit all sources of data utilized for list maintenance activities for the purpose of determining the validity, completeness, accuracy, and reliability of the data received from each source, and to include the results of such audit in its annual report to the Committees on Privileges and Elections regarding its list maintenance activities. The bill requires the general registrars to send notice prior to cancelling a voter's record regardless of the reason for cancellation. Lastly, the bill clarifies that when a voter's registration is cancelled, a cancellation record must be created, and that such records are public in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and the National Voter Registration Act. The bill includes numerous technical amendments for organizational purposes.</p>
HB947	Local government; regulation by ordinance for locations of tobacco products, etc.	Delegate Alfonso H. Lopez (D)	<p>Comprehensive plan; vape shops near schools. Requires a locality, during any amendment to its comprehensive plan that takes place after July 1, 2024, to incorporate into its comprehensive plan strategies to limit vape shops near schools for the purpose of reducing use of nicotine vapor products by youth.</p>
HB992	Social services, local departments of; agreements with local workforce development boards.	Delegate Kathy K.L. Tran	<p>Local departments of social services; agreements with local workforce development boards; coordinated workforce development services. Directs each local department of social services (local department) to develop and enter into a written agreement with the local workforce development board serving the jurisdiction served by the local department. The bill requires that such agreement (i) provide for the coordinated provision of workforce development services to participants in the Virginia Initiative for Education and Work and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training and (ii) comply with any other requirements established by the Department of Social Services.</p>
HB1002	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Division of; powers and duties.	Delegate Bonita G. Anthony (D)	<p>Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; powers and duties. Requires the Department of Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to identify and monitor any federal grant programs, loan programs, or other opportunities for federal funding to further the Commonwealth's energy efficiency goals. The bill also requires the Division to aid businesses in the Commonwealth, industries, utilities, academic institutions, state and local governments, and private institutions in securing federal funding for energy efficiency efforts as part of its duty to encourage efforts to develop energy resources and energy conservation programs.</p>
HB1022	Law-enforcement officers, certain; universal licensure.	Delegate Tony O. Wilt (R)	<p>Universal licensure for certain law-enforcement officers. Provides that any sworn federal, state, or local law-enforcement officer with at least three years of experience whose training qualifications meet or exceed current training standards established by the Board of Criminal Justice Services and who has not had a break in service of more than three years, and is leaving the transferring agency in good standing, shall be eligible for employment within the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions.</p>

HB1072	School crossing zones; expands definition of zones to include areas surrounding schools, etc.	Delegate Betsy B. Carr	School crossing zones. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. Existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets the expanded definition.
HB1085	PFAS Advisory Committee; established, monitoring PFAS levels by publicly owned treatment works.	Delegate Sam Rasoul (D)	Department of Environmental Quality; PFAS; identification; monitoring; PFAS Advisory Committee established; report. Requires the owner or operator of a publicly owned treatment works to monitor PFAS levels, as defined in the bill, in effluent, influent, and biosolids at least quarterly and report all such monitoring data on an applicable discharge monitoring report required by federal regulations. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department), in certain circumstances, to develop a PFAS action plan to identify and address sources of certain PFAS detected in a public water system's raw water source, perform outreach efforts regarding PFAS contamination, report annually on its activities, and work with certain entities in developing its PFAS action plans. The bill requires certain facilities that manufacture or use PFAS to report the use of such chemicals to the Department and to monitor such PFAS at least quarterly unless at another frequency at the direction of the Director of the Department. The bill also directs the Department and the Virginia Department of Health to jointly establish a PFAS Advisory Committee to assist with PFAS-related activities and appoint such committee's members to include legislative members and a wide range of nonlegislative citizen members and to report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on the Committee's activities and recommendations.
HB1124	Faith in Housing for the Commonwealth Act; construction of affordable housing.	Delegate Betsy B. Carr	Faith in Housing for the Commonwealth Act. Permits a religious organization, defined in the bill, to construct affordable housing on real estate owned by such religious organization (i) on or before January 1, 2024, or for a period of not less than five years, and (ii) for which the religious organization retains a majority ownership interest.
HB1165	Persons with disabilities; adds definitions related to rights.	Delegate Mark D. Sickles	Rights of persons with disabilities; definitions. Adds definitions related to the rights of persons with disabilities to relevant law. The bill defines "path of travel," "place of public accommodation," "public entity," "private entity," and "readily achievable." The bill requires places of public accommodation to ensure that barriers to accessibility are removed when the removal is readily achievable.
HB1167	English ivy; local prohibition on sale, civil penalty.	Delegate Paul E. Krizek	Local prohibition on the sale of English ivy; civil penalty. Authorizes any locality to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the sale of English ivy, with violations punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$50 for a first violation and not to exceed \$200 for a subsequent violation within 12 months.
HB1334	Energy Innovation Program; established, report.	Delegate Michael J. Webert (R)	Energy Innovation Program; established. Establishes the Energy Innovation Program to foster the development of innovative energy projects by allowing Program participants to provide grid services or other beneficial energy measures. Under the Program, a participant, after obtaining State Corporation Commission approval, is not required to comply with specific state statutes and regulations pertaining to the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric energy for sale, except for those laws and regulations that are required for worker safety, public safety, or environmental protection, for a period of five years. The bill includes provisions for application requirements, an approval process, Program exit procedures, a test period extension process, suspension or revocation of Commission approval, consumer protections, Commission investigations, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements.
HB1376	Submetering or energy allocation equipment; billing requirements, unit owners.	Delegate David A. Reid (D)	Submetering or energy allocation equipment; billing requirements; unit owners. Provides that for the purposes of rules promulgated by the State Corporation Commission related to billing requirements and all other rules related to submetering or energy allocation equipment, those rules applicable to tenants will be applicable to residential and nonresidential unit owners.
HB1386	Firearms; workplace rules of localities.	Delegate Kelly K. Convirs-Fowler	Firearms; workplace rules of localities. Requires that any workplace rules of a locality relating to the control of firearms be consistent with related local ordinances and other rules that apply to members of the general public.
HB1395	Historic preservation; filing of a historic designation application.	Delegate Patrick A. Hope	Historic preservation. Provides that the filing of a historic designation application shall stay a locality from issuing any permit to raze or demolish a proposed historic landmark, building, or structure until 30 days after the rendering of the final decision of the governing body of the locality. The bill also specifies that the affected property owner, the applicant, or any resident of the locality who provided public input on the locality's historic district plan may appeal to the circuit court for review of any final decision of the governing body pursuant to such application.

HB1404	Small Business Procurement Enhancement Program, etc.; established, report.	Delegate Jeion A. Ward (D)	<p>Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity; Small Business Procurement Enhancement Program and Women-owned and Minority-owned Business Procurement Enhancement Program established; report. Establishes the Small Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 42 percent of certified small business utilization in all discretionary spending by state agencies and covered institutions in procurement orders, prime contracts, and subcontracts, as well as a target goal of 50 percent subcontracting to certified small businesses in instances where the prime contractor is not a small business for all new capital outlay construction solicitations that are issued. In addition, the bill provides for a small business set-aside for state agency and covered institution purchases of goods, services, and construction, requiring that purchases up to \$100,000 be set aside for award to certified small businesses and that purchases up to \$10,000 be set aside for award to microbusinesses.</p> <p>The bill also establishes the Women-owned and Minority-owned Business Procurement Enhancement Program with a statewide goal of 23.1 percent of certified women-owned and minority-owned business utilization in all discretionary spending by state agencies and covered institutions in procurement orders, prime contracts, and subcontracts. The bill creates the Division of Procurement Enhancement within the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity for purposes of collaborating with the Department of General Services, the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, the Department of Transportation, and covered institutions to further the Commonwealth's efforts to meet the goals established under the Small Business Procurement Enhancement Program and the Women-owned and Minority-owned Business Procurement Enhancement Program, as well as implementing initiatives to enhance the development of small businesses, microbusinesses, women-owned businesses, and minority-owned businesses in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>Finally, the bill amends the Virginia Public Procurement Act to permit public bodies to establish purchase procedures, if adopted in writing, not requiring competitive sealed bids or competitive negotiation for single or term contracts for the purchase or lease of goods, or for the purchase of services, insurance, or construction, if the aggregate or the sum of all phases is not expected to exceed \$125,000. Under current law, such purchase procedures may only be established for (i) goods and services other than professional services and non-transportation-related construction, if the aggregate or the sum of all phases is not expected to exceed \$200,000; (ii) transportation-related construction, if the aggregate or sum of all phases is not expected to exceed \$25,000; and (iii) professional services, provided that the aggregate or the sum of all phases is not expected to exceed \$80,000. The bill has a general delayed effective date of January 1, 2025, and delayed effective dates of July 1, 2025, for covered institutions, and July 1, 2026, for certain university hospitals and medical centers. The provisions of the bill creating the Women-owned and Minority-owned Business Procurement Enhancement Program sunset on July 1, 2031.</p>
HB1456	Solar-ready roofs for certain gov't bldgs.; net-zero energy consumption bldg. design for schools.	Delegate Betsy B. Carr	<p>Solar-ready roofs for certain government buildings; net-zero energy consumption building design for schools. Requires any executive branch agency or institution and any locality entering the design phase for the construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or the renovation of a building where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to ensure that such building includes a solar-ready, cool, or energy-efficient roof, defined in the bill. The bill also requires new public school buildings and facilities and improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building to, after notice is given to the governing body, be designed and constructed to meet net-zero energy consumption standards. The provisions of this bill only apply to projects entering the design phase on or after January 1, 2025.</p>
SB79	Solar-ready roofs for certain gov't bldgs.; net-zero energy consumption bldg. design for schools.	Senator Barbara A. Favola (D)	<p>Solar-ready roofs for certain government buildings; net-zero energy consumption building design for schools. Requires any executive branch agency or institution and any locality entering the design phase for the construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or the renovation of a building where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building, to ensure that such building includes a solar-ready, cool, or energy-efficient roof, defined in the bill. The bill also requires new public school buildings and facilities and improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities where the cost of the renovation exceeds 50 percent of the value of the building to, after notice is given to the governing body, be designed and constructed to meet net-zero energy consumption standards. The provisions of this bill only apply to projects entering the design phase on or after January 1, 2025.</p>
SB171	Zoning; enhanced civil penalties for violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses.	Senator Christie New Craig (R)	<p>Zoning; civil penalties; commercial uses. Allows enhanced civil penalties for zoning violations involving nonpermitted commercial uses. The bill also requires that for any violation involving nonpermitted commercial uses, a person who admits liability shall be required to abate or remedy the nonpermitted commercial use violation within a period of time specified by the locality that is no less than 30 days but no more than 24 months from the date of admission of liability.</p>
SB245	Energy, Department of; building standards for certain local buildings.	Senator Jeremy S. McPike	<p>Department of Energy; building standards for certain local buildings. Requires the Department of Energy to provide technical assistance to localities, subject to available budgetary resources, as localities implement mandates related to energy and resilience standards for construction or renovation of certain public buildings. The bill also requires the Department to conduct an annual survey of localities to obtain information on related activities and to identify the needs of localities with respect to technical assistance and training. The bill also makes several technical and clarifying changes to the existing statute, in part by defining or redefining existing terms found in the statute.</p>
SB535	School crossing zones; expands definition of zones to include areas surrounding schools, etc.	Senator Lamont Bagby (D)	<p>School crossing zones. Expands the definition of "school crossing zone" to include areas surrounding schools where the presence of students reasonably requires a special warning to motorists and provides that the term "school" includes public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education. Currently, the definition of "school crossing zone" includes only areas surrounding schools where the presence of children requires such warning. Existing provisions of law allowing photo speed monitoring devices to be installed in school crossing zones will apply to any location that meets the expanded definition.</p>