2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUMMARY



P. O. Box 1505, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Representing the Local Governments of:

Albemarle County
City of Charlottesville
Fluvanna County
Greene County
Louisa County
Nelson County

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OVERVIEW

The 2024 General Assembly finished its work on legislative bills and resolutions on March 9, approving just over 1,000 bills and adopting more than 1,200 resolutions. The governor's final deadline for bill action was May 17. This document summarizes approved legislation that impacts and/or is of interest to local governments in our region.

APPROVED LEGISLATION

Following are highlights of approved legislation in the areas of agriculture/environment, education, finance, housing, human services, land use, local government, public safety, and transportation. A number of other bill topics are included under the "Miscellaneous" section. Bills take effect July 1, unless otherwise noted. Approved studies and resolutions also are listed.

Agriculture and Environment

<u>HB 220</u> (*Orrock*) requires sewage treatment works, classified waterworks, and classified water treatment facilities to employ a licensed operator; remote monitoring of the facility by the licensed operator upon demonstration of sufficient technology to adequately monitor the facilities and manage onsite operators also is permitted.

<u>HB 870</u> (*Bulova*) directs the State Water Control Board to adopt regulations concerning procedures for addressing administrative, staging, signage, and additional on-site and alternative storage site requirements when routine and on-site storage facility capacity and holding times are anticipated to be exceeded; an advisory committee of stakeholders is to assist in developing the regulations.

<u>HB 892</u> (*Bulova*) and <u>SB 616</u> (*Pillion*) transfers the Office of Farmland Preservation to the Department of Forestry and renames it the Office of Working Lands Preservation; it also requires certain information about nonpoint source nutrient credits certified that involve land use conversion to be reported by July 1 each year.

HB 1085 (*Rasoul*) and SB 243 (*McPike*) require the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to develop and implement a plan to prioritize and conduct PFAS assessments for identifying significant sources of PFAS in public water systems' raw water source or sources. The bill provides that any facility that is a potential source of PFAS, as identified by DEQ, is required to self-report the manufacture and use of such substances. The bill also establishes the PFAS Expert Advisory Committee to assist in in identifying 1) PFAS sources through assessments and associated monitoring and reporting; 2) public and private lab testing capacity issues, and 3) options for reducing PFAS in source waters.

<u>HB 1431</u> (*Hodges*) requires the Department of Health to approve treatment units for alternative onsite sewage systems if they meet certain standards or certain testing requirements.

<u>HB 1458</u> (*Hernandez*) amends various *Code* provisions related to the Commonwealth's Chief Resilience Officer and requires the appointment of a Virginia Flood Resilience Advisory Committee to assist with developing, updating, and implementing the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan and the Commonwealth's flood resilience, preparedness, prevention, and protection programs.

Education

HB 599 (Simonds) allows any school board, with the concurrence of the local governing body, to establish a capital reserve fund into which it exclusively deposits any local operating funds that



remain unexpended at the end of the year, to be used for future school division capital expenditures.

<u>HB 1247</u> (*Maldonado*) and <u>SB 272</u> (*Hashmi*) require state funding to be provided pursuant to the Appropriation Act to support ratios of instructional positions to English language learner students, based on each such student's English proficiency level.

Finance

HB 25 (*Reid*) and SB 116 (*Lucas*) establish an annual retail sales and use tax holiday that takes place on the first full weekend in August beginning on July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2030. During such weekend, state retail sales and use tax will not apply to certain (i) school supplies, (ii) clothing and footwear, (iii) qualified products designated as Energy Star or WaterSense, (iv) portable generators, or (v) hurricane preparedness equipment.

<u>HB 639</u> (*Sullivan*) and <u>SB 677</u> (*Durant*) clarify legislation from 2023 by specifying that notice of an "effective tax rate increase" must include the lowered rate necessary to offset increases in assessments and generate the same amount of real estate tax.

<u>HB 914</u> (*Shin*) allows a locality that establishes a local historic district to provide tax incentives for the conservation and renovation of historic structures in such district.

<u>HB 944</u> (*Lopez*) and <u>SB 129</u> (*Ruff*) provide that moneys from the Forest Sustainability Fund must be allocated proportionally among localities that forgo tax revenues as a result of the land use value assessment.

<u>HB 960</u> (*Lopez*) and <u>SB 556</u> (*Williams Graves*) provide for an expansion of the Virginia Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program by increasing the maximum amount of the tax credit that may be claimed by a taxpayer (beginning in tax year 2025) from the current \$5 million to \$7.5 million.

HB 1019 (Wilt) permits any locality to allow participation in its group health insurance program by any non-benefitted employee, including members of governing bodies, provided that such non-benefitted employees reimburse the locality for the full cost of their participation.

<u>HB 1211</u> (*Hayes*) revises the threshold for petitioning a city or town for establishment of a tax assessment district from not less than three-fourths of the landowners affected to the owners of not less than three-fourths of the parcels affected.

HB 1429 (*Laufer*) and SB 483 (*Aird*) provide that farm machinery, equipment, and implements used by an indoor, closed, controlled-environment commercial agricultural facility are a class of farm machinery and implements that a locality may exempt from personal property taxation.

HB 1502 (Willett) and SB 194 (VanValkenburg) remove the sunset on the authorization for localities to assign a rate of tax or assessment different from the general personal property rate on certain automobiles, trucks, motor vehicles for use by the handicapped, motorcycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, off-road motorcycles, campers, and other recreational vehicles.

<u>HB 1503</u> (*Jones*) permits the governing body of a locality to authorize its treasurer or other collecting official to enter into installment agreements with taxpayers who have been assessed with omitted taxes, including any penalty and interest, over a term of up to 72 months.

Housing

HB 477 (*Coyner*) and SB 50 (*Locke*) extend the expiration of the Eviction Diversion Pilot Program for an additional year, to July 1, 2025.

<u>HB 634</u> (*Simon*) and <u>SB 308</u> (*McPike*) prohibit a locality from enacting or enforcing an ordinance that bans the rental of residential dwelling units for 30 consecutive days or longer. A locality may regulate such rental, if such regulations (i) are reasonable and (ii) do not exceed the requirements for an owner-occupied residential property or a residential property rented for a lease term of 12 months or more in the same zoning district.



<u>HB 701</u> (*Feggans*) requires landlords to include in a tenant's notice of routine maintenance the last date on which such maintenance may possibly be performed; such maintenance is to be performed within 14 days of delivering such notice.

<u>HB 764</u> (*Delaney*) provides that a tenant who is a victim of certain abuse or assault may terminate obligations under a rental agreement if the tenant has obtained a permanent protective order and gave proper written notice of termination.

<u>HB 957</u> (*Lopez*) provides that a landlord shall be liable to the tenant for actual damages and reasonable attorney fees if the tenant gave notice to the landlord that his dwelling unit was in violation of an applicable building code; such violation posed a substantial risk to the health, safety, and welfare of a tenant; and resulted in the tenant being excluded from the unit due to it being condemned.

<u>HB 967</u> (*Lopez*) and <u>SB 405</u> (*Boysko*) require certain landlords to include on the first page of a written rental agreement, a description of any rent and fees to be charged to the tenant.

HB 1272 (*Callsen*) requires a landlord to provide a copy of the signed written rental agreement to the tenant within 10 business days of its effective date, and to provide additional hard copies of the agreement upon request, or to maintain such agreement in an electronic format that can be easily accessed by or shared with the tenant.

<u>HB 1461</u> (*Mundon King*) provides that no local ordinance can prohibit an operator from offering a property as a short-term rental solely on the basis that such operator is a lessee or sublessee, if the property owner has granted permission (by attestation) for the property's use as a short-term rental; localities may limit a lessee or sublessee to one short-term rental within the locality.

<u>SB 544</u> (*Bagby*) prohibits having a special permit requirement for the use of a residential dwelling as a short-term rental where the dwelling unit is also legally occupied by the property owner as his primary residence.

Human Services

<u>HB 1366</u> (*Delaney*) establishes a process for local departments of social services to conduct background checks for current or prospective employees and prohibits local departments from employing any person who has been convicted of a criminal offense that relates to their employment.

Land Use

<u>HB 281</u> (*Reaser*) and <u>SB 13</u> (*Favola*) allow localities, by ordinance, to waive any requirements for zoning permits for the operation of a child day program in an office building.

HB 650 (*Coyner*) allows localities to set time limits on the validity period for special exceptions, and special use or conditional use permits for electrical generation facilities, as long as the period of validity is no less than three years.

HB 947 (*Lopez*) allows a locality to regulate the retail sale locations of tobacco, nicotine vapor, alternative nicotine, or hemp products, including to prohibit such location from being within 1,000 feet of a child day center or a public, private, or parochial school.

<u>HB 1395</u> (*Hope*) provides that the filing of a building permit or demolition application shall stay a locality from issuing any permit to raze or demolish a historic landmark, building, or structure until 30 days after the rendering of the final decision of the governing body.

HB 1415 (*McQuinn*) authorizes localities to adopt an ordinance establishing a civil penalty for razing, demolishing, or moving a building or structure that is located in a historic district or that has been designated by a governing body as a historic structure or landmark.

<u>SB 296</u> (*VanValkenburg*) requires local planning commissions to use the same approval process for residential development projects as currently is required for commercial development projects.



SB 701 (*French*) provides that if a locality has issued a building permit, despite nonconformance with the zoning ordinance, and a property owner, relying in good faith on the issuance of that permit, incurs extensive obligations or substantial expenses in building a project that conforms with the building permit and the USBC, the locality shall not treat such building as an illegal use, but rather as a legal nonconforming use.

Local Government

<u>HB 62</u> (*Campbell*) and <u>SB 93</u> (*Stanley*) authorize localities to establish, organize, and maintain a computerized animal cruelty registry as a database of information regarding persons convicted of animal cruelty-related felonies.

<u>HB 69</u> (*Bulova*) requires a local governing body making an interim appointment to fill a vacancy in its membership to hold a public meeting at least seven days prior to making such appointment, and to announce at such meeting the names of all persons being proposed for the appointment.

HB 128 (*Watts*) provides that local ordinances regulating the activities of door-to-door vendors shall not apply to any person participating in certain specified political activities.

<u>HB 234</u> (*Ward*) and <u>SB 516</u> (*Williams Graves*) authorize cities to provide, by ordinance, for the seizure, impounding, and disposition of an illegally operated all-terrain vehicle or off-road motorcycle operated on a city highway or sidewalk.

<u>HB 285</u> (*McQuinn*) provides that enforcement of the Uniform Statewide Building Code for certain bus shelters to be constructed for transit agencies receiving certain state funds, shall be delegated to the local building official, in lieu of the Department of General Services. The provisions, which expire in three years, also provide that the state will not be liable for any bus shelter built on state-owned property under the bill.

<u>HB 456</u> (*Callsen*) increases the salary caps for members of city councils and requires a public hearing prior to adopting an ordinance to set city council salaries; the bill also provides that the maximum salaries may be adjusted in any year by an inflation factor not to exceed five percent.

HB 467 (Simon) and SB 354 (Locke) prohibit localities from establishing or enforcing a mandatory disclosure requirement for a real estate licensee, any party to a contract for the sale or listing of residential real property, or any authorized agent of such party.

<u>HB 478</u> (*Coyner*) and <u>SB 49</u> (*Locke*) expand to all localities current provisions authorizing establishment of a community revitalization fund for preventing neighborhood deterioration.

<u>HB 619</u> (*Price*) and <u>SB 343</u> (*Rouse*) allow localities to establish one or more military centered community zones, which is defined as a community that has a significant presence of military personnel living or working in the designated area, for the purpose of providing certain benefits to businesses looking to locate within a zone to serve the needs of military personnel.

<u>HB 755</u> (*Walker*) allows localities to charge enhanced civil penalties for certain local property violations on property zoned or utilized for industrial or commercial purposes.

<u>HB 852</u> (*Williams*) provides that localities may establish ordinances related to billing on behalf of volunteer fire departments for the provision of emergency medical services.

<u>HB 1053</u> (*Knight*) allows localities to apply, under certain conditions, to the Department of Wildlife Resources for an authorization to destroy and dispose of an abandoned watercraft.

<u>HB 1486</u> (*Thomas*) and <u>SB 48</u> (*Locke*) permit any county, city, or town to require the owner of any building that has been vacant for at least 12 months and meets certain other conditions to register such building annually.

Public Safety

<u>HB 823</u> (*Cherry*) and <u>SB 497</u> (*Carroll Foy*) provide that when a magistrate is determining whether an alternative transportation provider is available to transport a person who is the subject of a temporary detention order, such provider shall be deemed available if it states that it can take



custody of the person from law enforcement within six hours of issuance of the temporary detention order or an order changing the transportation provider.

<u>HB 912</u> (*Shin*) provides that the net profits from the operation of stores and telephone communication systems in local jails shall be used within each facility for educational, recreational, or medical purposes for the benefit of the inmates.

<u>HB 1496</u> (*Rasoul*) requires all state and local law-enforcement agencies to provide to the Department of Criminal Justice Services a list of surveillance technologies, as defined in the bill, procured by such agencies and departments on an annual basis by November 1 of each year.

Transportation

<u>HB 74</u> (*Reid*) and <u>SB 644</u> (*Perry*) provide that improvements to unpaved secondary roads include improvements other than paving; the local governing body of a county receiving funds for such improvements will select the roads or segments to be improved, after consulting with VDOT.

<u>HB 143</u> (*Reid*) directs VDOT to establish and maintain a publicly accessible database and map of all utility work that has been approved by the Department and will occur within a highway right-of-way in a residential neighborhood; the bill takes effect January 1, 2025.

HB 144 (*Reid*) requires VDOT to notify a locality when a speed limit increase or decrease on a VDOT-maintained highway within the locality will occur; a locality shall notify any property owners' or condominium association if the change will occur in a community subject to such association.

<u>HB 1071</u> (*Carr*) expands current local authority to reduce the speed limit to less than 25 mph (but not less than 15 mph) on highways within local boundaries that are located in a business district or residence district, to include highways within the state highway system.

<u>HB 1254</u> (*Runion*) designates bridges with a general condition rating of no more than five for at least one major bridge component as eligible for state of good repair funds; currently, bridges must be structurally deficient to be eligible. The bill applies to new project allocations made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board after June 1, 2025.

<u>SB 336</u> (*Roem*) permits a state or local law-enforcement agency to operate a photo speed monitoring device at a high-risk intersection segment in the locality (within 1,000 feet of a school property that is adjacent to an intersection with a marked crosswalk) to record vehicles operating in excess of the speed limit, provided that such agency certifies that a traffic fatality has occurred since January 1, 2014, in such segment.

Miscellaneous

<u>HB 151</u> (*Helmer*) and <u>SB 245</u> (*McPike*) require the Department of Energy, upon request, to provide technical assistance to localities which are implementing requirements related to onsite renewable energy generation, energy storage, and resilience standards for construction or renovation of certain public buildings.

<u>HB 233</u> (*Campbell*) and <u>SB 135</u> (*Head*) permit the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to determine a site of at least 50 contiguous acres to be eligible for a grant from the Business Ready Sites Program, if the site meets certain conditions.

<u>HB 237</u> (*Austin*) and <u>SB 496</u> (*Carroll Foy*) reduce, beginning July 1, 2025 and until July 1, 2028, the amount of matching funds required for any grant awarded from the GO Virginia Fund to be at least half of the grant awarded.

<u>HB 279</u> (*Helmer*) and <u>SB 401</u> (*Durant*) require that professional firefighters receive paid leaves of absence for up to 388 workhours that such leave is required for such person to be engaged in federally funded military duty.

<u>HB 578</u> (*McQuinn*) and <u>SB 538</u> (*Bagby*) revise the minimum and maximum amounts that a person can be fined for convictions of violating provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code.



<u>HB 778</u> (*Callsen*) authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to release certain real property rights related to a portion of real estate owned by the Department concerning an offsite ingress and egress easement serving the Biscuit Run property in Albemarle County.

<u>HB 906</u> (*Shin*) and <u>SB 480</u> (*Aird*) enact various restrictions on the suspension or disconnection of electric, gas, water, and wastewater service by public utilities.

HB 1125 (*Carr*) and SB 217 (*Locke*) establish the Virginia Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program and direct the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to designate up to two sites and four projects for participation in the program. Sites and projects eligible for the program shall include only sites that are eligible for a site development grant under the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program or projects with significant local, regional, or statewide economic impact. The bills are effective from January 1, 2025, until June 30, 2028.

HB 1349 (*Krizek*), SB 180 (*DeSteph*), SB 400 (*Deeds*), SB 657 (*Reeves*) and SB 724 (*Stanley*) define performing arts facility and sports facility and standardize eligibility criteria for annual mixed beverage performing arts facility licenses and on-and-off-premises wine and beer licenses for performing arts food concessionaires; under current law, eligibility criteria for such licenses varies by location and includes inconsistent ownership, lease, capacity, and seating requirements.

Broadband:

<u>HB 800</u> (*Herring*) and <u>SB 713</u> (*Marsden*) provide timelines for practices and provisions that address applications for pole attachments; the bills also provide for the State Corporation Commission to resolve disputes involving pole access within 90 days and concerning certain other matters within 120 days.

Elections:

HB 989 (*Tran*) requires the Department of Elections to provide information for voters on its website, including (i) the role of and contact information for the State Board and Department of Elections, local electoral boards, and general registrars; and (ii) information about absentee voting, polling hours, voter identification requirements, casting of ballots, and a means for voters to find their polling place.

<u>HB 998</u> (*Anthony*) extends, from seven to 10 days after an election, the deadline for local electoral boards to meet to certify the election results and submit the abstract of results to the State Board of Elections.

HB 1003 (*Anthony*) requires notice of any adopted change in an election district, precinct, or polling place to be mailed to all registered voters subject to such change at least 30 days, rather than the current 15 days, prior to the next election.

Freedom of Information (FOIA)/Notices:

<u>HB 264</u> (*Hope*) and <u>SB 157</u> (*Boysko*) provide that where any ordinance, resolution, notice, or advertisement is required by law to be published in a newspaper, they instead may be published in an online-only news publication subject to certain requirements.

HB 816 (Cherry) and SB 244 (McPike) address the Virginia Supreme Court's Berry v. Bd of Supervisors (Fairfax County) decision on electronic meetings held during a declared state of emergency.

<u>HB 818</u> (*Cherry*) and <u>SB 36</u> (*Locke*) revise the definition of a public meeting to address the Virginia Supreme Court's *Gloss v. Wheeler* decision on what constitutes a public meeting; they also define public business as any activity a public body has undertaken or proposes to undertake on behalf of the people it represents, and clarify that the appointment of more than two members of a public body to another public body does not constitute a meeting of the first public body.

<u>HB 894</u> (*Bennett-Parker*) and <u>SB 734</u> (*Marsden*) allow certain regional and local public bodies to hold additional virtual meetings (up to 50% of meetings per calendar year); the bills also provide that a public body member is deemed absent from such meeting, for purposes of a quorum, during any time visual communication with the member is voluntarily disconnected or if visual or audio



communication is lost. Finally, the bills require annual adoption of a public body's electronic meeting policy.

HB 1040 (Bennett-Parker) and SB 85 (Favola) provide, that for purposes of determining whether a quorum is physically assembled, a public body member who is a person with a disability or a caregiver who uses remote participation, counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present. The bill also provides that the participation policy adopted by a public body shall not prohibit or restrict any individual member of a public body who is participating in an all-virtual meeting or who is using remote participation from voting on matters before the body.

HB 1412 (*Cherry*) defines "personal contact information" and exempts from disclosure for purposes of FOIA, to includes home or business (i) address, (ii) email address, or (iii) telephone numbers of complainants in cases involving zoning enforcement or the building or fire codes.

<u>HB 1488</u> (*Henson*) and <u>SB 413</u> (*Head*) clarify various provisions of 2023 legislation standardizing the frequency with which and length of time in which notices of certain meetings, hearings, and other intended actions of localities must be published.

<u>SB 204</u> (*Diggs*), among other things, permits a victim or certain family members to waive the 14-day period for a public body to respond to a request for criminal investigative files.

<u>SB 215</u> (*Perry*) removes the requirement that persons to whom non-ongoing criminal investigation files shall otherwise be disclosed be Virginia citizens.

<u>SB 324</u> (*Roem*) prohibits a public body from charging a requester for any costs incurred during the first hour spent accessing, duplicating, supplying, or searching for records requested. The bill also directs the FOIA Advisory Council to study whether public bodies should charge requesters pursuant to the bill and report on its findings by December. The 2025 General Assembly must approve the bill for it to become effective.

Procurement:

<u>HB 242</u> (*Bulova*) and <u>SB 242</u> (*McPike*) remove the prohibition on a public body requiring an offeror to state in a proposal, any exception to any liability provisions contained in a Request for Proposal for information technology. The bills also require an offeror to state any exception to any contractual terms or conditions in writing at the beginning of negotiations, but prohibit the public body from basing the scoring or evaluation on such exceptions when selecting offerors for negotiations.

<u>HB 311</u> (*Hope*) requires all local public bodies to provide an option to submit bids or proposals for procurement contracts through eVA or other electronic means. The bill takes effect January 1, 2025.

HB 1108 (*Carr*) and SB 18 (*Locke*) require state and local public bodies to provide, upon request, documentation of the processes used for the final selection of a construction contract to all unsuccessful applicants; further, the bills require a local public body to adopt a resolution or motion to use construction management or design-build, if required by its local governing body, prior to issuing a Request for Qualifications, and to publish notice of such resolution or motion on its website or on eVA.

<u>HB 1113</u> (*Carr*) provides for the following: 1) increases from \$6 million to \$10 million the maximum threshold above which the sum of all jobs performed in a one-year job order contract term shall not exceed; 2) increases the maximum threshold amount for any individual job order from \$500,000 to \$1 million; and 3) increases from two to three the number of additional one-year terms for which job order contracts, entered into on or after July 1, may be renewable.

<u>HB 1116</u> (*Carr*) allows a public body to establish purchase procedures not requiring competitive sealed bids or competitive negotiation for single or term contracts for non-transportation-related construction projects up to \$300,000.

HB 1361 (Feggans) and SB 260 (DeSteph) provide preference as it relates to procurement for a bidder who is a resident of Virginia and then a bidder whose goods are produced in the United



States; the bill exempts a public body if it is rendered ineligible to receive federal funding due to the provisions of the bill, which has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

Workers' Compensation/Line of Duty:

<u>HB 321</u> (*McQuinn*) and <u>SB 649</u> (*Salim*) increase from \$25,000 to \$75,000 the death benefit payout under the Virginia Line of Duty Act for a death caused by occupational cancer, respiratory disease, or hypertension or heart disease for those deaths that occur on or after January 1, 2025.

STUDIES AND RESOLUTIONS

<u>HB 133</u> (*Convirs-Fowler*) and <u>SB 650</u> (*Rouse*) direct the Department of Fire Programs to convene a work group to study options to help ensure that local government employees responding to emergencies that expose them to toxic materials have appropriate preemptive and ongoing health care; a report is due November 1.

<u>HB 309</u> (*Hope*) and <u>SB 461</u> (*Marsden*) require the Department of Forestry to develop a Forestland and Urban Tree Canopy Conservation Plan to conserve the state's forestland and incentivize the protection of forests and other similar sensitive natural areas as an integral part of state forestry planning and the local comprehensive planning process. The plan is to be developed by November 1, 2026.

<u>HB 327</u> (*Feggans*) directs the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Commissioner) to develop a plan to ensure that people with disabilities have an opportunity to access affordable and inclusive housing. The plan is due by November 1, 2025.

<u>HB 368</u> (*McClure*) and <u>SB 195</u> (*VanValkenburg*) direct the Board of Housing and Community Development to convene a stakeholder advisory group to evaluate and recommend revisions to the Uniform Statewide Building Code to permit Group R-2 occupancies to be served by a single exit, provided that the building has no more than six stories.

<u>HB 405</u> (*McClure*) provides that the State Corporation Commission and Department of Housing and Community Development shall provide technical assistance to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation should it undertake evaluation of the design and deployment of the electrical distribution infrastructure necessary to support the installation of electric vehicle charging facilities in new single-family and multifamily residential unit developments.

<u>SB 450</u> (*Marsden*) directs the State Corporation Commission to examine the existing regulation of towing fees and identify policy options for the Commission to assume all or part of such regulation.

<u>SB</u> <u>487</u> (*Aird*) directs the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to conduct an analysis of the use of artificial intelligence by public bodies in Virginia and the creation of a Commission on Artificial Intelligence.

<u>SB 489</u> (*Carroll Foy*) directs the Department of Housing and Community Development to convene a work group to examine the feasibility of and options for establishing a Virginia residential development infrastructure fund.

<u>HJ 6</u> (*Sullivan*) designates October 4, in 2024 and in each succeeding year, as Energy Efficiency Day in Virginia.

<u>HJ 41</u> (*Srinivasan*) directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to study policy solutions to the fentanyl crisis in Virginia.

<u>HJ 45</u> (*Tran*) and <u>SJ 3</u> (*McPike*) are proposed Constitutional amendments that provide for a voter referendum on expanding the current tax exemption for real property available to the surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action to the surviving spouses of soldiers who died in the line of duty. <u>HB 558</u> (*Hernandez*), and <u>SB 4</u> and <u>SB 240</u> (*McPike*) provide the necessary *Code* changes and for the referendum to be placed on the November ballot.

