



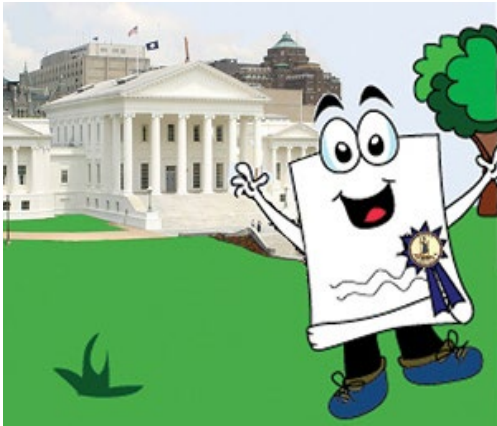
2026 Legislative Committee Report



Annual Meeting

March 2026

- Lynette Clements
- Chesterfield County Electoral Board



Legislative Committee

The duty of the Legislative Committee:

- ➔ to bring to the attention of the Executive Committee needed or proposed legislation affecting any aspect of elections in Virginia,
- ➔ to represent VEBA before the General Assembly,
- ➔ to promote legislation approved by the Board of Directors of VEBA.



Annual Meeting

March 2026

Legislative Committee



Annual Meeting

March 2026

Lynette Clements
Chesterfield County



John Nunnally
Caroline County



Wanda Taylor
Goochland County



Kate Hanley
Fairfax County



Dominick Schirripa
Arlington County



Legislative Forum

The VEBA Legislative Committee hosts a weekly Legislative Forum on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. while the General Assembly is in session. The lively meeting discussions follow the election-related legislation as it moves through the General Assembly from January through April, 2026.



Annual Meeting

March 2026

Legislative Committee Goals



Strengthen VEBA legislative voice

- Lobbyists, Delegates and Senators

Strengthen presence in the General Assembly

- Speaking to bills

Reputation of expertise and knowledge

- Monitor legislation

Our VEBA Lobbyist

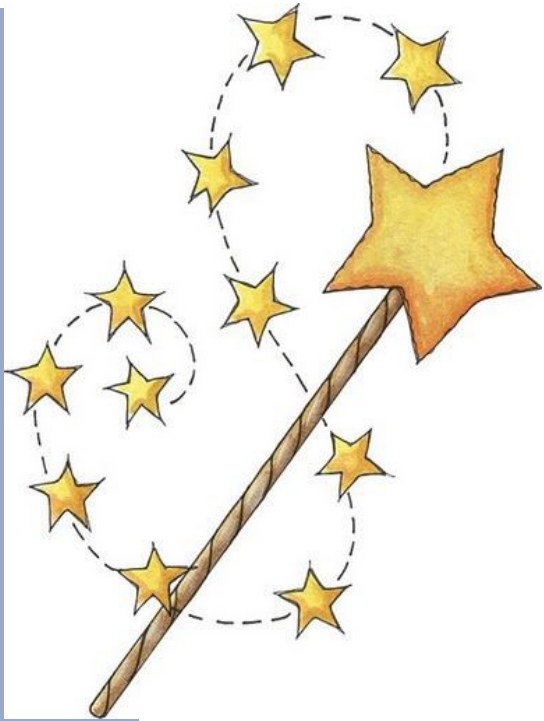


Luke Priddy

Legislative
STRATEGIES GROUP

Lobbying is the process of influencing government policy by advocating, persuading, and influencing legislators and other government officials.

2025 Legislative Committee Priorities



- **Legal Representation**
- **Equity in Salaries**
- **Maintain Flexibility with Precinct Management**
 - 40 ft. line
 - Hours of operation
- **Clarification of Responsibilities**
 - Satellites and Early voting
 - Local Obligations and Emergency Actions

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW IN VIRGINIA

SENATE

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

★ Introduce a Bill . . .

Nice to meet you!

But only a member of the House of Delegates or Senate can introduce a bill.

★ Send to Committee . . .

Knock! Knock!

COMMITTEE

The bill is assigned a number, and then the bill is referred (sent) to the proper committee.

★ Governor's Action . . .

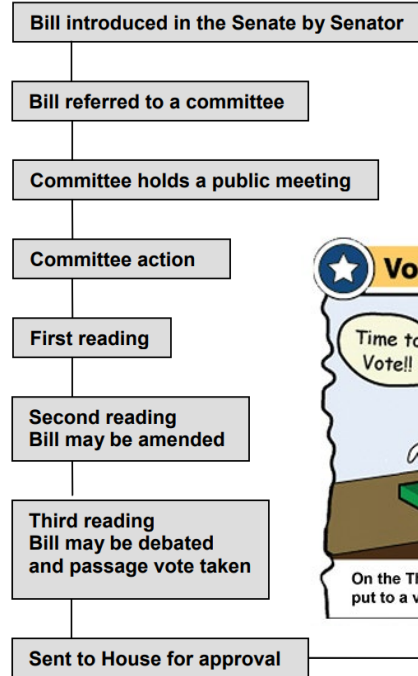
Governor or Bust!

If the bill passes both chambers, it goes to the Governor for approval. The Governor has four choices . . .

★ . . . No Action.

I'm a law!

The Governor does not sign the bill but does not veto it. The bill still becomes a law!

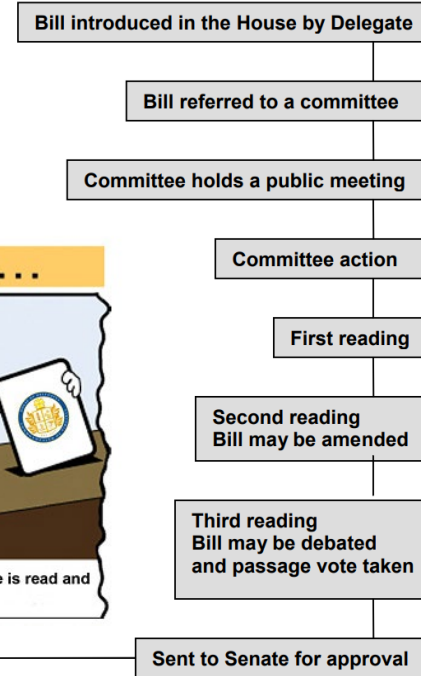


★ Vote on the Bill . . .

Time to Vote!!

YEA NAY

On the Third Reading the bill's title is read and put to a vote.



If each house insists on its own form of a bill, a committee of conference is usually created. A compromise report from the committee is sent to each house for approval.

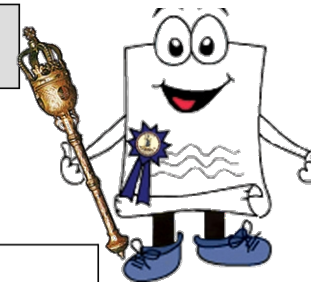
Governor

Signs the bill into law (If no action is taken within several days, the bill becomes law.)

Amended and returned (Amendments must be approved by both houses.)

Vetoed and returned (A veto may be overridden by 2/3 vote in both houses.)

New Law



★ Committee Studies Bill . . .

Exhibit A

Hmmm...

The committee studies the bill to see if it would make a good law. This is when the public may speak.

★ Refer to Senate . . .

If a bill passes in the House of Delegates, it goes through a similar process in the Senate.

★ . . . Changes the Bill.

Back to the drawing board!

CHANGES

The Governor returns the bill with changes (amendments). If the House of Delegates and Senate approve changes, the bill becomes law.

Key Dates for the General Assembly



- **Jan 14, 2026:** Session convenes.
- **Jan 23, 2026:** Deadline for introduction of most bills.
- **Feb 17, 2026:** Crossover deadline (deadline for each house to act on its own legislation).
- **Mar 4, 2026:** Deadline for each chamber to act on budget and revenue bills from the other chamber.
- **Mar 9, 2026:** Deadline for committee action on all legislation.
- **Mar 14, 2026:** Scheduled adjournment sine die.
- **April 13, 2026:** Deadline for the Governor to sign, veto, or take action on legislation.
- **April 22, 2026:** Reconvened session to consider gubernatorial vetoes.

2026 Legislation Summary



Voting and Voters



SB438 - Absentee voting in person; available the second and third Sunday before all elections.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Requires absentee voting in person to be made available for a *minimum of five hours* between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the second and third Sunday immediately preceding all elections.

Introduced by: **Lamont Bagby**



July
1

HB964 - Voter registration; restoration of political rights upon release from incarceration.

SB162 - Mamie E. Locke

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Provides that any person who loses his political rights as a result of a felony conviction shall be invested with those rights upon his release from incarceration and shall be entitled to register to vote.

The bill also amends the language regarding adjudications of mental incompetency for purposes of being qualified to vote

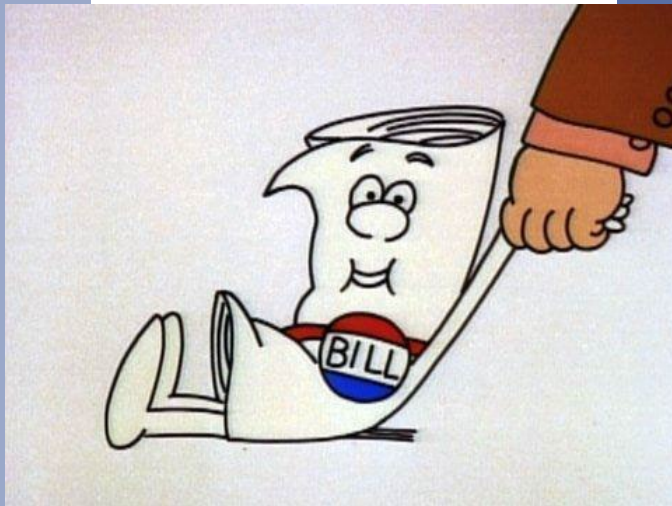
Introduced by: Marcia S. "Cia" Price



Contingent on
November
amendment.

HB966 - Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program); use by Dept. of Elections.

Merged into HB972



Provides that the Department of Elections' use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE Program) operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is for the sole purpose of individually verifying that voters listed in the Virginia voter registration system are United States citizens.

Introduced by: Marcia S. "Cia" Price

HB972- Voter registration; list maintenance activities, cancellation procedures, required record matches.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Requires certain, specified identification information to be included on the lists received by the Department of Elections (the Department) for list maintenance purposes and requires an initial comparison of the information included on such list with the list of registered voters to determine the confidence score for any match.

*Introduced by: **Marcia S. "Cia" Price***

July

1

HB235 - Elections; districts, precincts, and polling places, pilot program for super precincts.

Continued to 2027



Authorizes the State Board of Elections to conduct a pilot program to use super precincts for elections.

Super Precincts aka Voting Centers

Satellite voting on Election Day

*Introduced by: **Debra Gardner***

July

1

2026 Legislation Summary

Electoral Boards and Registrars



HB41 - Elections; procedures for removal of electoral board members and general registrars.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Allows the State Board of Elections to remove any member of an electoral board or general registrar by a recorded two-thirds majority after a public hearing. Also, allows an electoral board to remove a general registrar by a unanimous vote after a public hearing.

*Introduced by: **Marcus B. Simon***



July
1

HB78 - Elections administration; duties of local electoral boards, certification of election, etc.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Provides that the certification of the results is a clear duty of the local electoral boards and neglect/refusal to perform such duty shall be subject to removal proceedings by the State Board of Elections and assessed a civil penalty not exceeding \$1,000. Also, it authorizes the State Board of Elections carry out the duties related to this refusal.

*Introduced by: **Marcia S. "Cia" Price***

July

1

HB234 - Elections; general provisions, electoral board members to wear identification, civil penalty.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Requires the Department of Elections to issue a standardized identification badge to the acting electoral board members of each locality. Electoral board members are required to wear such identification badge while conducting their official duties subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

Introduced by: Kimberly Pope Adams

July

1

HB639 - Elections; administration, acceptance of certain gifts and funding, approval required.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Removes the prohibition on accepting property and services....Conditions the acceptance of money or grants of greater than \$1,000 on approval of such funding by a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the State Board of Elections or the local governing body.

*Introduced by: **Paul E. Krizek***



July

1

2026 Legislation Summary

Cure Process and Deadlines



HB773 - Elections; absentee voting, cure process, delayed effective date.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Removes the requirement that absentee ballots be received by the Friday preceding election day for to implement the process of curing errors. Also, it moves the deadline for curing errors or omissions in absentee ballot applications from noon on the third day after the election to noon on the Monday after the election.

Introduced by: Virgil Thornton

SEPTEMBER

1

HB774 - Elections; absentee and provisional ballots, cure process, delayed effective date.

SB582 - Saddam Azlan Salim

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Moves the deadline for curing errors or omissions in absentee ballot applications from noon on the third day after the election to noon on the Monday after the election. The bill also requires the Department of Elections to issue guidance on the uniform processing and counting of provisional ballots including SDRs.

Introduced by: Virgil Thornton

SEPTEMBER

1

HB82 - Elections; deadline for receipt of absentee ballots and certain other information, etc.

SB58 - Barbara A. Favola

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Moves the deadline for receipt of an absentee ballot, information required to cure an absentee ballot, or proof of identification to accompany a provisional ballot provided for lack of identification from noon to 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election.

Introduced by: Adele Y. McClure



HB968 - Election results; counting machine-readable ballots, processing absentee ballots.

Passed and Signed
By Senate and House



On the Governor's Desk

Requires ballot scanner machines to be used to count machine-readable ballots and prohibits such ballots from being counted by hand unless there is no other option.

The bill also provides for making a true duplicate copy of damaged ballot when processing provisional or absentee as a substitute for that damaged ballot.

Introduced by: Marcia S. "Cia" Price

SEPTEMBER

1

2026 Legislation Summary

Budget Amendment



Equity in Salaries





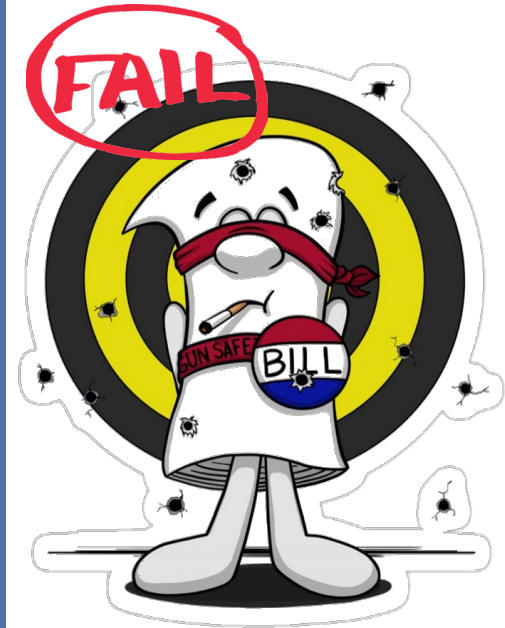
Budget Amendment

Standardizes Electoral Board Compensation

Item 78 #2h/Item 78 #1s

Adjusts the compensation scale for each local electoral board to be proportional to the salary of general registrars.

- Secretary (7.6%) and (3.8%) for other members.
- Preserves the 2% compensation increase for the top population bracket.
- Provides more substantial increases to lower population brackets.
- Re-brackets population metrics to match those for general registrars
- Ongoing costs to the Commonwealth: \$500,000 GF annually.
- Status: adjusted scale not included in House or Senate Budgets.



Bills that Failed

90 day quiet period on voter registration

15 days early voting

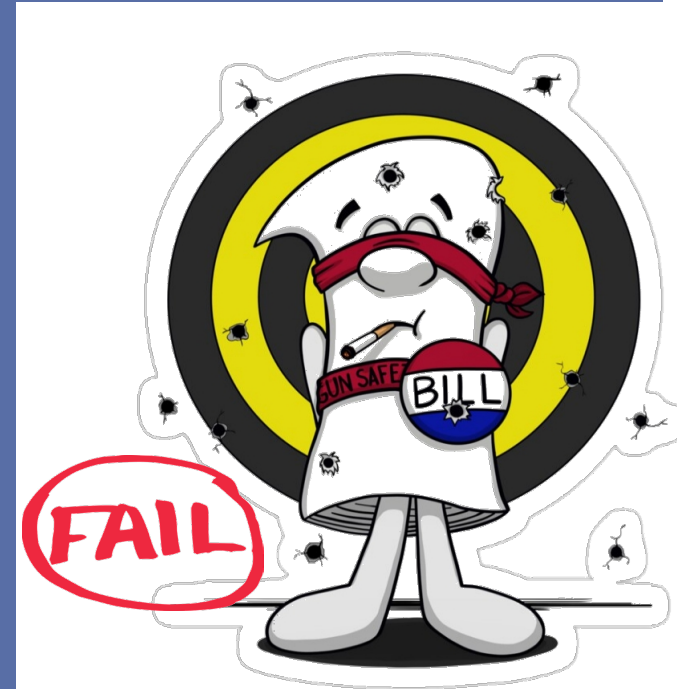
Additional information on affirmation statement

Voter registration by party

Removes “willfully” as a threat requirement.

Local elections in May

Campaigning within 10 feet of curbside vehicles.





Conclusions from Committee Discussions

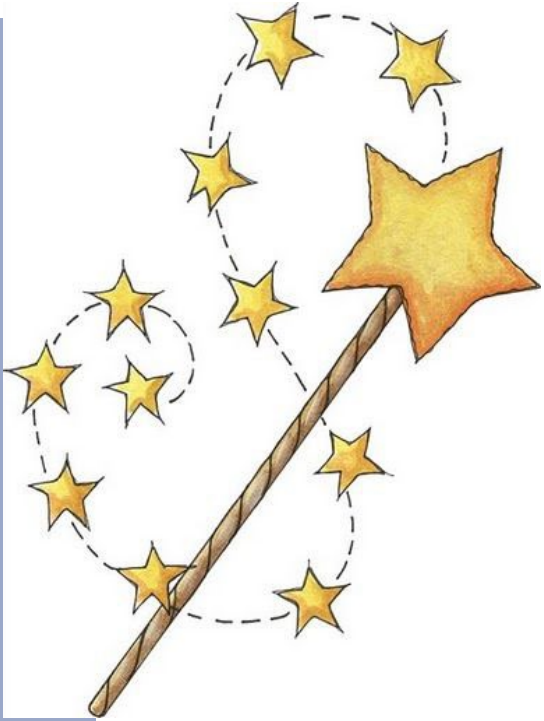
- We project recognition as experts in election administration.
- Our most significant influence is before bills are written
- Our common legislative goals must recognize our differences
- We want to strengthen VEBA legislative voice
- We want to avoid party divides
- We must communicate and stay connected to our legislators

Today's assignment for VEBA members

- Get to know your electeds.
- Learn to talk to your electeds.
- Get to know your electeds.
- Learn to work with your electeds.
- Get to know your electeds.
- Learn to share your knowledge with electeds.



2026 Legislative Committee Priorities



- **Legal Representation**
- **Equity in Salaries**
- **Maintain Flexibility with Precinct Management**
 - 40 ft. line
 - Hours of operation
- **Clarification of Responsibilities**
 - Satellites and Early voting
 - Local Obligations and Emergency Actions

Next for the Legislative Committee

Continue to strengthen our voice
Meet with legislators off season
Build support for our priorities

Email to get on list

Clements.CCEB@Gmail.com





Thank You!

Lynette



Annual Meeting

March 2026

Lynette Clements

Clements.CCEB@gmail.com

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