

Northern Virginia Chamber Partnership Policy Positions – 2010 General Assembly Session

TAXES/REGULATION

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 94	Bell	Would allow a reduction of one percent in the corporate income tax rate for up to three years for certain small businesses that increase the number of their full-time employees by a minimum of five percent over the previous year.	Continued to 2011	SUPPORT
HJ 79	Dance	Would direct the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the costs and benefits to the Commonwealth of providing financial and other incentives to localities that collaborate on capital facilities, construction projects, and other operating services.	Rules Sub recommended striking from docket	SUPPORT
HJ 123	Morgan	Would establish a joint subcommittee to study ways to improve the balance of local revenue sources.	Rules Sub recommended lay on table	SUPPORT
SJ 88	Vogel and McDougle	Would establish a nine-member joint subcommittee to recommend methods for modernizing local government structure and organization, including the potential benefits of regional solutions to local problems and regional delivery of local services. This is a two-year study.	Senate Rules recommended carry over to 2011	SUPPORT
SB 542 HB 1051	Colgan Scott, J.	Would eliminate the dealer discounts for the retail sales and use tax, communications sales and use tax, state cigarette tax, E-911 tax, tobacco products tax, tire recycling fee, fuels tax, and motor vehicle fuel sales tax	(SB 542) Left in Senate Finance (HB 1051) House Approps	OPPOSE – working through the statewide coalition working on this issue
Budget Bill		Would eliminate the dealer discounts for the retail sales and use tax, communications sales and use tax, state cigarette tax, E-911 tax, tobacco products tax, tire recycling fee, fuels tax, and motor vehicle fuel sales tax	(House budget) Eliminates dealer discount only for retailers who already are required to remit payment electronically and allows smaller retailers to retain 50% of the current discount. For the remainder, the retained percentage would be reduced by 50% - to 2%, 1.5% and 1.0% depending on monthly sales. This would generate \$46.1 million in fiscal year 2011 - a loss of \$14.8 million compared to House Bill 30 as introduced, but would allow more than 98% of retailers to retain some compensation	OPPOSE – working through statewide coalition working <i>Working through coalition on compromise that would enable all retailers to retain 25% of the dealer discount, as well as include study language that appears in the Senate version of the budget.</i>
			(Senate budget) Maintains Kaine elimination of dealer discount; expresses the intent that the elimination	

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			of the dealer discount, as contained in the introduced budget is temporary in nature; Directs the Tax Commissioner to examine what compensation for retailers and other entities who collect and remit the sales and use tax should be and make recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.	
Budget Bill		Accelerated sales tax proposal – Would require retailers to accelerate their July payments into June, thereby making two payments in one month.	(House budget) Maintains Kaine budget provisions (Senate budget) Maintains Kaine budget provisions, but also states that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the payment requirement be phased out beginning in fiscal year 2015. The payment amount for June 2015 should be reduced to 85 percent of the sales and purchases for the previous June and the payment amount should continue to be reduced until fully eliminated not later than June 2021.	OPPOSE -- working through statewide coalition
HB 223	Watts	Would reinstate the estate tax for persons dying on or after July 1, 2010. No estate tax would be imposed on a gross estate if the majority of the assets of the estate is an interest in a closely held business or a working farm. The revenues from the estate tax would first be used for funding staffing standards in nursing homes required to be established under the bill, which staffing standards would require a minimum period of time of direct care services to each resident per 24-hour period.	House Finance recommended laying on table SY 2N	OPPOSE
HB 275	Englin	Would provide that if there is no federal estate tax credit for state estate taxes paid, then the Virginia estate tax rate is one-half of the amount of the federal credit as it existed on January 1, 1978.	House Finance Sub #1 recommended striking from docket	OPPOSE
SB 714	Petersen	Reinstates the federal credit amount so that the Commonwealth will receive payments from those estates of persons dying on or after July 1, 2010. No estate tax would be imposed on estates valued at \$5 million or less, working farms, and closely held businesses. The revenues from the estate tax would be used, as provided in the general appropriation act, to fund community-based programs of area agencies on aging, increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for hospitals or nursing homes that serve indigent seniors, and fund the cost of existing or	Left in Senate Finance	OPPOSE

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		additional waivers from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to authorize the Commonwealth to cover certain health care services and delivery systems for senior citizens as may be permitted by Title XIX of the Social Security Act.		

ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 1220 SB 395	Hugo Wagner	Bills that would delay implementation of the new stormwater regulations being promulgated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation given the shared concern about the effect these regulations would have on Virginia's economy.	(HB 1220) Passed House and Senate (SB 395) House amendment agreed to by Senate 40Y ON	SUPPORT
Budget Bill		This amendment delays the implementation of stormwater management regulations until the U.S. E.P.A. establishes pollution load limits for the Chesapeake Bay.	(House Budget) Language <u>not</u> included (Senate Budget) Language included	WANT LANGUAGE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH LEGISLATION
HB 756 SB 601	Stolle Wagner	Would require that 80 percent of any revenues and royalties paid to the Commonwealth as a result of offshore natural gas and oil drilling shall be deposited to the Transportation Trust Fund. The remaining 20 percent will be invested in renewable energy research and development.	(HB 756) Signed by President (SB 601) Senate voted to recommit to Finance 22-Y 18-N; Finance carried over to 2011	SUPPORT (Governor's bill)
HB 787 SB 394	Villanuevo Wagner	States that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to support oil and natural gas exploration, development, and production 50 miles or more off Virginia's coast, taking into account the impact on affected localities, armed forces, and the mid-Atlantic regional spaceport. Currently, the policy is limited to supporting exploration for natural gas resources 50 miles or more offshore.	(HB 787) Passed House and Senate (SB 394) House amendment agreed to by Senate 39Y 1N	SUPPORT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
Budget Bill		Double the Governor's Opportunity Fund in FY 2011 by increasing the state commitment by \$12.1 million	(House budget) Included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 2 (Senate budget) – Not included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Commit \$5 million in FY 2011 to a state industrial mega-site fund to attract new employers	(House budget) Included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 2 (Senate budget) Senate Finance amendment Item 96 #4s provides an amount estimated at \$5.0 million	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
			GF from previously awarded funds that were not used and funds repaid by political subdivisions and business beneficiaries deposited in the Governor's Development Opportunity Fund to be transferred to the Major Employment and Investment Project Site Planning Grant Fund	
Budget Bill		Use \$2 million over the biennium to establish state economic development offices in major growth markets in China, India and the United Kingdom	(House budget) \$500K in year 1 and \$1 m in year 2 included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 3 (Senate budget) – Not included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Support the fast growing bio-technology and life sciences industry by removing the \$3 million cap on the Qualified Equity and Subordinated Debt Investment Tax Credit and raising it to \$5 million in FY 2011	(House Budget) Included (Senate Budget) Not included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Invest \$3 million in bioscience "Wet Lab" Facilities over the biennium	(House budget) \$1.5 m in year 1 and year 2 included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 2 (Senate budget) – \$3 million is included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Utilizing \$2 million to reestablish funding for the Business Incubator Program (or CIT GAP) in FY 2011	(House Budget) \$1.5 million is included (Senate Budget) \$2 million is included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Provide income tax exemption for qualified investments in technology and science startup companies in FY 2012 (cost \$500,000)	(House Budget) \$500K included (Senate Budget) Not included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Improve Virginia's business assistance services by increasing funding for the Loan Guarantee Program by \$1 million in FY 2011	(House budget) Included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9.#2h – page 3 (Senate budget) – Not included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
Budget Bill		Continue funding for the Business One Stop Program, cost of \$1 million over the biennium	(House budget) Included in House Approps amendment Item 0.9.#2h – page 3	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
			(Senate budget) – Not included	
Budget Bill		Increase the appropriation for the Virginia Jobs Investment Program by \$6.5 million in FY 2011	(House budget) \$3.5 m included in year 1 and \$3 m included in year 2 in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 3 (Senate budget) Funds not included; Senate Finance amendment Item 98 #22 expresses the intent that grants from the VJIP program shall be prioritized for small businesses that create new jobs	SUPPORT (Governor’s proposal)
Budget Bill		Funding to implement an aggressive national and international advertising campaign to market Virginia through the Virginia Economic Development Partnership	(House budget) \$2.25 m included in both years (\$7,200 total) in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 3 (Senate Budget) – Not included	SUPPORT
HB 1384 SB 733	Merricks/Comstock McWaters/Vogel	Small Business Investment Company Credit – Would provide for the creation of private investment funds (up to \$100 million) that will invest in small businesses located in Virginia.	(HB 1384) Continued to 2011 in Approps (SB 733) House Approps carried over to 2011 by voice vote	SUPPORT (Governor’s proposal)
HB 1381 SB 730	Armstrong Reynolds	Establishing the Major Employment and Investment Project Site Planning Grant Fund and Program – Would establish a mega-site fund of \$5 million for FY 2011-2012. This fund will support efforts to improve site location development to encourage large businesses to locate to the Commonwealth and create new jobs	(HB 1381) Passed House and Senate (SB 730) House Approps Econ Dev Sub	.SUPPORT (Governor’s proposal)
HB 380 SB 475	Edmunds Watkins	Would provide that criteria to be used in awarding grants and loans from the Governor’s Development Opportunity Fund shall include (i) job creation, (ii) private capital investment, and (iii) anticipated additional state tax revenue expected to accrue to the state and affected localities as a result of the capital investment and jobs created.	(HB 380) Signed by President (SB 475) Passed by House and Senate	SUPPORT (Governor’s bills)
SB 428 HB 523	Herring Nixon	Would grant an income tax exemption for any gain taxed as a capital gain for federal income tax purposes, on or after January 1, 2010, that is related to a qualified investment of a technology and science start-up business made in the first three years in which the business was founded.	(SB 428) House substitute agreed to by Senate 36Y 2N (HB 523) Passed House and Senate	SUPPORT (Governor’s bills)
HB 1244 SB 554	Marshall, D. Puckett	Governor’s discretion for use of GOF funds may include a requirement for local match which may be cash or in-kind; and may waive the cap for qualifying projects.	(HB 1244) Senate dispensed Constitutional reading (SB 554) House passed 100Y ON	SUPPORT (Governor’s bills)
HB 624 SB 472	Kilgore Watkins	Would amend the Major Business Facility Job Tax Credit. Current law provides a \$1,000 tax credit for major business facilities that create at least 100 qualified full-time jobs. This legislation would lower the threshold to 50 full-time jobs. In enterprise zones or economically distressed areas, the base or threshold	(HB 624) Senate Finance (SB 472) House Approps rpt 22Y ON	SUPPORT (Governor’s bills)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		is lowered from 50 newly created jobs to 25. The changes also allow the credit to be taken over a two-year period for taxable years beginning January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2012, rather than December 31, 2010.		
SB 181 HB 1395	Stosch Massie	Agreements under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 and the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002. Authorizes state agencies and state authorities, upon the approval of the Governor, to enter into agreements with private entities under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 and the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 for the development of a project by the private entity, which agreements provide for the private entity to be paid grants from a portion of the growth in state taxes attributable to the development of the project. Before any agreement is entered into with a private entity, the respective Secretary shall certify to the Governor and the chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance that the present value of the state tax revenues anticipated to be collected that are attributable to the development of the project are at least 100 percent greater than the present value of the proposed grant payments to the private entity. The bill also would allow local governments, agencies, and authorities, upon the approval of the governing body of the locality, to join in the agreement entered into between the private entity and the state agency or state authority.	(SB 181) Senate Finance failed to report 6Y 8N (HB 1395) House General Laws	SUPPORT (Governor's bill)

TOURISM

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
Budget Bill		Increase state funding for the Virginia Tourism Corporation by \$3.6 million in each year of the biennium	(House budget) Included both years with direction on how money would be spent (Senate Budget) Included	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)
HB 584	Landes	Requires VDOT to reopen closed highway rest areas and residency offices and prohibits closure of highway welcome centers.	Left in House Transportation	SUPPORT
HJ 126 SJ 99	Nutter Herring	Would enable a study of the privatization of all or portions of the Commonwealth's rest areas.	(HJ 126) Senate agreed to y voice vote (SJ 99) House Rules Sub #3 recommended reporting 4Y 0N	SUPPORT
HB 582 SB 347	Landes Hanger	Would create the Agri-tourism Incentives Act to allow qualified farm businesses to have restaurants and provide overnight accommodations on rural or agriculturally zoned land under certain conditions and permit a locality to provide certain tax incentives and regulatory flexibility to each qualified farm business located in the locality.	(HB 582) Passed by House and Senate (SB 347) House amendment agreed to by Senate 40Y 0N	SUPPORT
HB 588 SB 237	Landes Watkins	Would require that the portion of the wine liter tax collected from the sale of wine produced by farm wineries be deposited in the Virginia Wine Promotion Fund for use by the Wine Board to promote Virginia's wineries.	(HB 588) Senate passed 40Y 0N (SB 237) House passed 99Y 0N	SUPPORT
Budget Bill		Deposit the Wine Liter Tax attributable to Virginia Wine into the Wine Promotion Fund (\$1.5 million over biennium)	(House budget) \$745K included in both years in House Approps amendment Item 0.9 #2h – page 2	SUPPORT (Governor's proposal)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
			(Senate budget) Senate Finance amendment Item 84 #2s implements the provisions of Senate Bill 237, which provides that the portion of the wine liter tax attributable to the sale of wine produced by farm wineries be provided to the Wine Promotion Fund. A companion amendment to Item 3-1.01 deposits these funds from the general fund into the Wine Promotion Fund.	

DEVELOPMENT

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 374 SB 632	Cosgrove Obenshain	Would delay collection or acceptance of a cash proffer by a locality until the residential property has been issued a certificate of occupancy by said locality	(HB 374) Senate passed 39-Y ON (SB632) Passed House and Senate	SUPPORT
HB 1250	Knight	Provides that the issuance of any written order, requirement, decision, or determination by the zoning administrator regarding the permissibility of a specific use or density of the landowner's property shall be considered a significant affirmative governmental act for purposes of determining vested rights.	Senate passed 40Y ON	SUPPORT
SB 551	Barker	Would provide for more limited review by VDOT when a property being considered for rezoning has already been subject to a VDOT review in connection with development of a local comprehensive plan.	Continued to 2011 in Senate Local Govt.	SUPPORT
SB 640	Martin	Provides that no locality shall establish any rate policy or guideline regarding the amount and timing of the payment of cash proffers to such locality unless such rate policy or guideline is established by ordinance.	Stricken at request of patron	SUPPORT
HB 336	Marshall, R.	Would broaden a locality's ability to use cash proffers for capital projects other than those for which the cash was originally proffered under certain circumstances.	House CC&T Sub #2 recommended lay on table	OPPOSE
HB 1071 SB 420	Athey Vogel	Would set certain densities in urban development areas according to the population of the locality that designated the urban development area. The bill would also require that, to the extent possible, certain federal funding and state water and sewer facility and public infrastructure funding be directed to urban development areas or other designated growth areas. The bill would mandate that the Commission on Local Government report on localities' compliance with the statute requiring the designation of urban development areas.	(HB 1071) Senate amendments agreed to by House 98Y ON (SB 420) House substitute agreed to by Senate 40Y ON	MONITOR
HB 1013 SB 418	Athey Vogel	Would create the Virginia Infrastructure in Urban Development Areas Loan Fund. The Fund would be administered by the Virginia Resources Authority. Money in the Fund would be used exclusively for the financing of road, small water facility, and wastewater treatment facility projects located or to be located within an urban development area in the Commonwealth and undertaken by a local government. Priority for loans would be given to projects that will serve two or more local governments to encourage regional cooperation.	(HB 1013) Senate Local Govt continued to 2011 (SB 418) Senate Local Govt carry over to 2011	MONITOR
HJ 135 SJ 89	Athey Vogel	Would continue the Joint Subcommittee to Study Development and Land Use Tools in Virginia's Localities for one year to examine and monitor the transition to channeling development into Urban Development Areas and determine if additional legislation is needed to help localities as they transition to Urban Development Areas.	(HJ 135) Senate agreed to by voice vote (SJ 89) House Rules Sub #3	MONITOR

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		The joint subcommittee would also continue to make a comprehensive evaluation of all existing land use planning tools and infrastructure financing options and make any recommendations deemed appropriate.	recommended reporting 5Y ON	
HB 553	Marshall, D.	Would permit local governing bodies to adopt ordinances to control and enforce signage regulation in public highway rights of way, which apparently is being pushed by the Realtors.	Senate passed 40Y ON	MONITOR
HB 1348	Lingamfelter	Provides that with regard to approval by a locality of surety provided by a developer, "designated administrative agency" means the planning commission of the locality or an agent designated by the governing body of the locality for such purpose.	Senate passed 39Y ON	MONITOR

HEALTHCARE

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 726	Peace	Would require the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits to review mandated health insurance benefits to assess their social and financial impact and their medical efficacy. The bill would also require the Commission to submit a schedule of evaluations to the standing committees having jurisdiction over health insurance matters. Currently, the standing committees having jurisdiction over health insurance matters provide a mandate evaluation schedule to the Commission.	Senate C&L passed 15Y ON	SUPPORT
HB 556 SB 642	Marshall, D. Reynolds	Would authorize health maintenance organizations (HMOs) to offer and sell to small employers group health care plans for health care services that do not include all of the state-mandated health insurance benefits. Currently, such limited coverage may be offered by health insurers and corporations providing subscription contracts.	(HB 556) Passed House and Senate (SB 642) House 2 nd reading	SUPPORT
HB 548	Marshall, D.	Would allow group health insurance policies to provide a discount of up to five percent to employers who institute employee wellness programs. The bill also allows an employer instituting and maintaining an employee wellness program to require any employee wishing to enroll to undergo a health assessment as a condition of enrollment.	Passed House and Senate	SUPPORT
HB 1130	Keam	Would direct the Secretary of Administration, in cooperation with the Bureau of Insurance, to prepare a program design for a voluntary, public-private health insurance purchasing pool for businesses with 50 or fewer employees. The Secretary would be directed to work with representatives of health insurers, insurance agents, health care providers, and small businesses in designing the program. The program design would be required to be completed by January 1, 2012.	House C&L #2 recommended laying on table	SUPPORT
HJ 28	Purkey	Would establish a joint subcommittee to study whether state laws and regulations impede the ability of small businesses to act collectively in procuring health insurance. The study shall propose recommendations for legislation to eliminate any barriers created by state laws and regulations found to be so impeding small businesses.	House Rules Sub recommended laying on table	SUPPORT
HB 34	Marshall, R.	Would require health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals under age 21.	Incorporated into HB 303	OPPOSE
HB 303	O'Bannon	Would require health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals from the date of diagnosis until they reach 10 years of age. This requirement does not apply to individual or small group policies, contracts, or plans, and will not apply to the state employees' health insurance plan until July 1, 2015.	House C&L Sub #1 failed to report 4Y 4N	OPPOSE
HB 730	Albo	Would prohibit an insurer that provides coverage for early intervention services from denying coverage for medically necessary speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, applied behavior analysis, and assistive technology services and devices because a covered minor dependent has been diagnosed with autism.	House C&L Sub #1 carried over to 2011 9Y ON	OPPOSE
HB 1182	Phillips	Would require health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to	(HB 1153) Left in House C&L	MONITOR

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
SB 675	Wampler	provide coverage for the cost of telemedicine services when the services are appropriately provided through such means. "Telemedicine services" means the use of interactive audio, video, or other telecommunications technology by a health care provider to deliver health care services at a site other than the site where the patient is located, including the use of electronic media for consultation relating to the health care diagnosis or treatment of the patient.	(SB 675) House amendment agreed to by Senate 40Y 0N	
SB 464	Howell	Would require health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals from the date of diagnosis until they reach 10 years of age. This requirement does not apply to individual or small group policies, contracts, or plans, and will not apply to the state employees' health insurance plan until July 1, 2015.	House C&L Sub #1 recommended laying on the table 10Y 0N	OPPOSE
SB 649	Stosch	Establishes a tuition assistance grant program for students with autism and further requires health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders in individuals under age 21.	Failed to rpt from House C&L (7Y 8N)	OPPOSE
HB 1263 SB 622	Ware Wampler	Would prohibit a contract for the provision of health care between a dental plan and a dentist or oral surgeon that establishes the fee or rate that the dentist or oral surgeon is required to accept for the provision of health care services, or from requiring that a dentist or oral surgeon accept the reimbursement paid by the dental plan as payment in full for health care services.	(HB 1263) Passed House and Senate (SB 622) House rpt 92Y 4N	OPPOSE

LABOR/EMPLOYMENT

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 535	Nixon	Would postpone the scheduled increase, from \$2,700 to \$3,000, in the minimum amount of wages an employee must have earned in the two highest earnings quarters of his base period in order to be eligible for unemployment benefits. The increase would apply to claims filed on or after July 3, 2011; it is currently scheduled to apply to claims filed on or after July 4, 2010.	Senate passed 40Y0N	SUPPORT
HB 737 SB 225	Albo Barker	Would require agencies of the Commonwealth, public contractors, localities, and employers with 15 or more employees within the Commonwealth to enroll in the E-Verify Program by December 1, 2010, and to use the Program for each newly hired employee who is to perform work within the Commonwealth. Employers and contractors that fail to do so would be subject to suspension or revocation of certain licenses. Licenses would be reinstated when a business establishment enrolls in the Program or, if already enrolled but not using the Program, prepares and implements a compliance plan.	(HB 737) Senate C&L (SB 225) Left in Senate C&L	OPPOSE (through participation in the Virginia Employers for Sensible Immigration Policy coalition)
HB 647 SB 562	Armstrong Puckett	Would provide that certain individuals who have exhausted eligibility for unemployment benefits and who are enrolled in approved training programs are eligible for up to 26 weeks of additional benefits. The measure would also provide that an individual who was employed part time during at least one-half of the weeks of work in the individual's base period is deemed to satisfy the requirement that he be available for work and actively seeking and unable to obtain suitable work if he is available for and actively seeking work that is comparable to his part-time work experience in his base period	(HB 647) House C&L Sub #2 recommended laying on the table 6Y 4N (SB 562) Inc into SB 239	OPPOSE (working through Virginia Chamber coalition)
SB 239	Watkins	Would provide that certain individuals who have exhausted eligibility for unemployment benefits and who are enrolled in approved training programs are eligible for up to 26 weeks of additional benefits. The measure would also provide that an individual who voluntarily separates from employment is not disqualified from receiving unemployment compensation benefits if the separation is for a compelling family reason, which is defined as domestic violence, the illness or disability of a member of the individual's immediate family; or the need for the individual to accompany such individual's spouse to a place from which it is impractical for such individual to commute and due to a change in location of the spouse's employment. A provision allowing individuals to receive unemployment benefits if they voluntarily leave employment to follow a military spouse	House C&L Sub #2 recommended laying on the table 6Y 5N	OPPOSE (working through Virginia Chamber coalition)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		assigned to a new duty station, which provision would become effective only if the federal government appropriates adequate funds specifically for the purpose of paying benefits to such individuals, is repealed. The measure also would require that bills enhancing unemployment compensation benefits payable to a claimant contain a statement reflecting the projected impact on the solvency level of the unemployment trust fund and the average increase in state unemployment tax liability of employers. Currently, such bills are required to contain an estimate of potential revenue losses of state tax revenues		
SB 666	Locke	Repeals the provision that made the enactment of a measure to allow military trailing spouses to be eligible for unemployment benefits contingent upon the appropriation by the federal government of funds for this purpose.	Inc into SB 239	OPPOSE (working through Virginia Chamber coalition)

CIVIL JUSTICE

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 309 SB 363	O'Bannon Blevins	Allows motions for summary judgment to be based, in whole or in part, upon pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, answers to requests for admissions, or affidavits filed in the suit or action.	(HB 309) Courts Civil Sub recommended carry over to 2011 (SB 363) Stricken at request of patron	SUPPORT (Virginia Chamber bill)
HB 310 SB 366	O'Bannon Blevins	Provides that a party defending a claim may serve upon an adverse party not less than 10 days before trial an offer to allow judgment to be taken against him on specified terms, including the costs then accrued. An offer of judgment may also be made by a party whose liability to another has been determined, but where the extent of his liability is to be determined in a subsequent proceeding. If the offer is accepted, the court shall enter the judgment. If the offer is not accepted, and the adverse party does not obtain a judgment more favorable than the offer, the adverse party shall pay all costs incurred from the time of the offer.	(HB 310) Courts Civil Sub recommended carry over to 2011 (SB 366) Stricken at request of patron	SUPPORT (Virginia Chamber bill)
HB 465	Herring	Would allow a court, in the event a jury returns a verdict for damages in excess of the amount requested, to amend the pleadings to conform them to the amount awarded and enter a judgment for such damages.	PBI	OPPOSE

TRANSPORTATION

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
HB 230	Watts	Would increase the motor fuels tax by \$0.10 per gallon, minus \$0.01 for each \$0.20 that the average price of gasoline exceeds \$3.00. The tax will be indexed every two years beginning July 1, 2011, by an amount equal to the percentage change in the U.S. Department of Labor's Producer Price Index for Highway and Street Construction.	Left in House Finance	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
HB 276	Albo	Would require the CTB, when allocating funds for highway maintenance, to do so on the basis of achieving a minimal level of disparity among highway construction districts in meeting asset performance standards in § 33.1-13.02.	Senate Transportation	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
HB 277	Albo	Would require the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a Washington Bypass transportation corridor.	House Approps Transportation Sub recommended laying on table	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
HB 666	May	Would provide that at least 50 percent of the proceeds of Commonwealth of Virginia Transportation Capital Projects Revenue Bonds would be used for new road or highway construction projects. The bill defines a new	House Transportation passed by with letter	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		road or highway construction project as the construction of, enhancement of, or addition to a road or highway (or a portion or segment of a road or highway), which construction, enhancement, or addition did not commence prior to January 1, 2010. Commonwealth of Virginia Transportation Capital Projects Revenue Bonds were authorized for issuance in 2007 pursuant to House Bill No. 3202.		
HB 779	LeMunyon	Would direct VDOT to prioritize Northern Virginia highway and transit projects based on the ability to reduce congestion and cost effectiveness. Projects tested would include those currently in the Six Year Plan as well as new Potomac River crossings, extension of the Orange Line and a regional VMT system. It also requires testing of several scenarios to maximize the ability to evacuate the region in the event of a major evacuation of the Washington area.	House Transp passed by with a letter 13Y 8N	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
HB 971	Rust	Would provide additional funding for transportation by (i) imposing a transportation infrastructure users fee on motor fuels sold by a distributor to a retail dealer at the rate of one percent, to be used for highway maintenance in the highway construction district in which the fuel is sold; (ii) increasing the state sales and tax in Northern Virginia by 0.5 percent for transportation projects in Northern Virginia; and (iii) imposing a regional congestion relief fee on the recordation of deeds in Northern Virginia at a rate of \$0.40 per \$100. Neither the fees nor the tax increase would become effective until the unemployment rate in the Commonwealth is equal to or lower than it was in January 2008 for six consecutive months. The bill would also require a performance audit of the Commonwealth's transportation programs.	House Finance carried over to 2011	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
HB 1153	Scott, J.	Would convert the rates of taxation on motor fuels from cents per gallon to percentage rates. The percentage rates would be calculated by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles in an amount that will most closely yield the amount of cents per gallon being charged on the applicable motor fuel prior to the effective date of the bill. Thereafter, the percentage rates would not change, but would be applied against the average price per gallon of the fuel, less federal and state taxes, as determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles over rolling six-month periods, to determine the cents to be charged.	House Finance Sub #2 recommended laying on table	SUPPORT (working with NVTA)
SB 343	Hanger	Fuels taxes; annually adjusted. Adjusts fuels taxes each year on April 1 by the percentage increase in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (sales volume weighted), Total Fleet (the CAFE) for the immediately preceding calendar year over the CAFE for calendar year 2009. The first adjustment would occur on April 1, 2011.	House Finance continued to 2011	SUPPORT (Working with NVTA)

EDUCATION

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
Budget Bill		Efforts to restore LCI funding	(House budget) included (Senate budget) included	SUPPORT
HB 351	Rust	Would create the Virginia School Construction Revolving Fund for financing elementary, secondary, or vocational education school projects.	Approps Elem & Sec Ed Sub recommended lay on table	SUPPORT
HJ 92	Purkey	Would establish a joint subcommittee to study ways to increase college graduates with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics related baccalaureate degrees. In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee would: (i) review current statistics on the number of STEM-related degrees awarded annually at higher education institutions in Virginia; (ii) explore the creation of individual income tax incentives; (iii) identify impediments to STEM education; (iv) review existing and successful Virginia Community College programs; (v) consider future industry needs in STEM fields; and (vi) examine ways to encourage partnerships between STEM-related departments at institutions of higher education and science and technology based businesses in the Commonwealth.	Rules Sub recommended lay on table	SUPPORT
HJ 100	LeMunyon	Would encourage the Board of Education to support the establishment of additional mathematics, science, and technology Governor's Schools in the Commonwealth.	Senate Rules Sub #1	SUPPORT
SJ 32	McDougle	Would direct the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the role of the Secretary of Education	House Rules Sub #3	SUPPORT

Bill #	Patron	Description	Status	Notes
		in improving coordination between K-12, community colleges, and four-year institutions of higher education. In conducting its study, JLARC shall (i) examine the statutory authority and duties of the Secretary of Education in overseeing education in the Commonwealth from K-12 through higher education, (ii) consider possible ways of expanding such authority or duties in order to better coordinate education at all levels throughout the Commonwealth, (iii) emphasize the need to better anticipate the workforce needs of the Commonwealth, and ways to direct students toward education and training that will fulfill those needs, and (iv) make recommendations as to how to accomplish these objectives legislatively or otherwise	recommended reporting 4Y ON	
		Maintenance of flexibility to set tuition by Virginia's public colleges and universities		SUPPORT