



## NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAMBER PARTNERSHIP 2016 General Assembly Session SCORECARD Criteria

*The Northern Virginia Chamber Partnership* is a collaboration between the Dulles Regional, Greater Reston and Loudoun County chambers of commerce. *The Partnership* was formed seven years ago to provide a strong, unified voice for the northern Virginia business community in Western Fairfax, the Dulles Corridor and Loudoun County at the state and regional level, collectively representing more than 2,800 businesses and 100,000 jobs.

In an effort to recognize those members of the northern Virginia delegation who support the priorities outlined for the 2016 session, *the Partnership* will once again produce a scorecard based on votes taken on identified priority legislation during the session. The following outlines the criteria for legislation that will be included in the scorecard:

- In an effort to ensure all members have an opportunity to be scored fairly and equally, legislators will only be evaluated on those votes that are before subcommittees and committees on which he/she serves and/or on legislation that reaches the floor of its respective body.
- In some cases, legislators will be scored on votes taken on companion bills, given positions and bill language can change over the course of a legislative session.
- If a legislator votes consistently with the *Partnership's* position on a specific bill or initiative, he/she will receive +1 point. If a legislator votes inconsistently with the *Partnership's* position on a specific bill or initiative, he/she will receive -1 point.
- If a legislator misses a vote on a *Partnership* priority bill, does not have his/her vote recorded according to the rules of his/her respective body and the missed vote is not due to medical, family or professional reasons, that legislator will receive 0 points for that vote and it will be included in his/her total vote count. If the vote on a *Partnership* priority bill is missed for medical, family or professional reasons, the vote will not be included in his/her total vote count.
- If a legislator serves as a chief patron for one of the *Partnership's* priority bills, he/she will receive +2 bonus points. Those bonus points will be voided if the bill remains a *Partnership* priority and the legislator, for some reason, does not vote in support of the bill when it is considered.
- If a legislator serves as a chief patron for a bill that is inconsistent with the *Partnership's* priorities and that bill is identified as a *Partnership* priority bill, he/she will receive -2 points. Those negative points will be voided if the bill remains a *Partnership* priority and the legislator, for some reason, votes against passage of the bill.
- Given the diversity of the issues contained within the budget bill, the bill itself will NOT be included in the scorecard; however, if there is a specific amendment that is a priority to *the Partnership* that is pulled out for consideration on the floor of either body, that amendment will be included in the scorecard. The previous two

***For more information about the chambers, please visit their web sites at:***

[www.RestonChamber.org](http://www.RestonChamber.org)

[www.LoudounChamber.org](http://www.LoudounChamber.org)

[www.DullesRegionalChamber.org](http://www.DullesRegionalChamber.org)

[www.mtvernon-leechamber.org](http://www.mtvernon-leechamber.org)



bullets which outline conditions for bonus and negative points for legislation will also apply to any budget items identified as *Partnership* priorities.

- *The Partnership* will only score legislation about which we communicate with you in advance of the vote (including by email). Once the priority bills are identified, *the Partnership* will send an email to all delegation members clearly communicating which bills are priorities and *the Partnership's* position on each, on at least a weekly basis, throughout the remainder of the legislative session.
- *The Partnership* reserves the right to weigh one bill higher than others based on *the Partnership's* estimation of the impact and importance of a particular bill to its collective membership and the economy of the region and/or Commonwealth. In such cases, however, *the Partnership* will inform the delegation in advance of any vote to be scored in such a weighted manner.
- *The Partnership* will share the results of the scorecard with members of its delegation at least 24 hours prior to releasing the results to the public. Edits to the scorecard will not be accepted – this is intended as a courtesy to the delegation members.

If any member of the delegation has a question regarding the scoring process or whether a specific bill will be included on *the Partnership* scorecard, please contact Mindy Carlin at [mindy.carlin@accesspointpa.com](mailto:mindy.carlin@accesspointpa.com) or at 571-242-2684.

In conclusion, the purpose of this scorecard, once again, is to recognize those legislators who support *the Partnership's* priorities. While we understand and respect that we will not agree with all our delegation members on all issues, we highly value the relationship each of the organizations within *the Partnership* has with the members of its delegation and hope this scorecard will only strengthen those relationships by acknowledging where priorities are aligned and support is given to *Partnership* priorities.

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