

Legislative Update

May 2025



1

Legislative Update

- 2025 General Assembly “short” session adjourned on February 22.
- The governor suggested changes to 159 bills that were sent to him for action and vetoed another 158 bills (all of which stood).
- He proposed 205 amendments/eight vetoes to the FY25/26 budget.
- At the one-day “reconvened” session on April 2, the legislature rejected numerous changes that the governor proposed.
- The governor has a May 2 deadline to act on legislation returned to him (amendments rejected) by the legislature.
- At this point, 677 measures have been approved.



2

Legislative Update

□ State Budget

- Governor proposed \$300 million more in funding for reserves from reductions made to other spending items. Many of those reductions were rejected. The governor has indicated he will sign the budget.
- The spending plan includes additional funding in FY25 for remediation of harmful algae blooms (HAB) at Lake Anna and for testing inland waterways for the presence of HAB.
- Gubernatorial amendments to reduce funding for a Charlottesville low-barrier shelter and a Biscuit Run walking trail were rejected.



3

Legislative Update

□ Legislation

- Legislation to allow localities to enact a one-cent sales tax for school capital was again vetoed.
- Bills that would have restricted local land use authority on solar development and that required local and regional energy planning stalled in the General Assembly. Numerous other bills that would have limited local land use authority also did not pass.
- A summary of approved legislation of interest to local governments will be distributed soon.



4

Legislative Update

- Looking Ahead—Issues to be discussed
 - Energy/Solar: Continued discussions regarding changes to the Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA) and development of solar energy.
 - Virginia Housing Commission annually considers unsuccessful items from the most recent legislative session. Two workgroups will review 17 proposals.
 - FOIA Advisory Council: Two subcommittees (on records and meetings); will review SB 876 (additions to meeting agendas).
 - Elections: Two-year legislative study on the effects of moving some/all state or local elections to even-numbered years to coincide with federal elections; changes would require Constitutional amendment. (HJ 443 and SJ 253)



5

Legislative Update

- Special Subcommittees:
 - The Joint Subcommittee on Elementary and Secondary Funding will continue its work to prioritize and implement JLARC's K-12 funding recommendations.
 - House Emergency Committee on the Impact of Federal Workforce and Senate Special Subcommittee on Federal Impacts to Resources:
 - Both are receiving reports and conducting research/analysis on federal funding, the workforce, economic impacts, etc. related to evolving circumstances at the federal level.



6

Legislative Update

Questions?

