



**THE CLUB FOR
GROWTH**
FOUNDATION



2024

Virginia State Economic Scorecard

See how Members of Virginia's General Assembly
are voting on economic growth issues.



Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of the legislators who serve in state legislatures. This is part of a larger scorecard project that the Club for Growth Foundation has created to educate the public about the economic positions taken by legislators in states across the country.

Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION
EDUCATES THE
PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-
GROWTH POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION
CONDUCTS
COMPREHENSIVE
EXAMINATIONS OF
VOTING RECORDS.

THE FOUNDATION'S
GOAL IS TO INFORM
THE PUBLIC AND
BRING AWARENESS
TO LAWMAKERS.

Methodology | Virginia 2024

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Virginia’s elected state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker’s record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

The Foundation examines legislative votes related to the Club’s immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limiting government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing Term Limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examines votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA
SENATE
VOTES

VIRGINIA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
RANKINGS

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN VIRGINIA IN 2024

The Foundation’s study examined over 4,100 floor votes and, in the end, included 20 Virginia House votes and 19 Virginia Senate votes.

COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted – signified as an “X” on the scorecard – though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker’s position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an “I”.

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from

ties, lawmakers with 0% scores are, by default, ranked #100 in the House and #40 in the Senate if all lawmakers are present. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a “Lifetime Score” for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2024 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases, “n.a.” for “not applicable” appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with “n.a.” listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without “n.a.” years may be misleading.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the Virginia House and Virginia Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker’s work in committee, advocacy in his party’s caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating pro-growth policies.

“Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity.”

- **DAVID McINTOSH**
PRESIDENT,
CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE
FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY
2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA
SENATE
SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA
SENATE
VOTES

VIRGINIA
SENATE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
RANKINGS

VIRGINIA
HOUSE
VOTE
DESCRIPTIONS



Virginia Senate Snapshot

40 MEMBERS

19 Republicans

21 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 73%

Average Democrat Score: 0%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN SENATOR

John McGuire (SD-10) | 97%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN SENATOR

Todd Pillion (SD-6) | 55%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT SENATOR

Lashrecse Aird (SD-13) | 3%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT SENATORS

20 Democrats scored 0%

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1	HB4	HB30	HB107	HB139	HB151	HB212	HB213	HB456	HB478	HB805	HB960	HB1125	HB1130	HB1261	SB231	SB234	SB373	SB729	Rank	
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	7	10	3	8	8		
Aird, Lashrecse	SD-13	D	3%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Bagby, Lamont	SD-14	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Boysko, Jennifer	SD-38	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Brankley Mulchi, Tammy	SD-09	R	77%	77%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	3	8	8	9	
Carroll Foy, Jennifer	SD-33	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Deeds, R. Creigh	SD-11	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
DeSteph, Bill	SD-20	R	81%	58%	10	3	10	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	-	7	10	3	8	8	3	
Diggs, J.D.	SD-24	R	56%	56%	10	3	10	-	5	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	3	8	-	18	
Durant, Tara	SD-27	R	81%	60%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	4	-	10	3	8	8	3	
Ebbin, Adam	SD-39	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Favola, Barbara	SD-40	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
French, Timmy	SD-01	R	71%	71%	10	3	10	-	5	4	3	-	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	10	3	8	-	12	
Hackworth, Travis	SD-05	R	61%	42%	10	3	-	-	5	4	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	-	8	8	17	
Hashmi, Ghazala	SD-15	D	0%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Head, Chris	SD-03	R	66%	67%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	10	-	8	-	14	
Jordan, Emily	SD-17	R	73%	64%	10	-	10	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	3	8	8	11	
Locke, Mamie	SD-23	D	0%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Lucas, L. Louise	SD-18	D	0%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Marsden, Dave	SD-35	D	0%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
McDougle, Ryan	SD-26	R	84%	64%	10	-	10	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	-	7	10	3	8	8	2	
McGuire, John	SD-10	R	97%	77%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	-	4	7	10	3	8	8	1	

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1	HB4	HB30	HB107	HB139	HB151	HB212	HB213	HB456	HB478	HB805	HB960	HB1125	HB1130	HB1261	SB231	SB234	SB373	SB729	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	7	10	3	8	8	
McPike, Jeremy	SD-29	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
New Craig, Christie	SD-19	R	81%	81%	10	3	10	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	-	7	10	3	8	8	3
Obenshain, Mark	SD-02	R	80%	65%	10	3	10	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	7	10	3	8	-	6
Peake, Mark	SD-08	R	63%	53%	X	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	10	-	8	-	15
Pekarsky, Stella	SD-36	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Perry, Russet	SD-31	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Pillion, Todd	SD-06	R	55%	49%	10	3	-	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	-	8	-	19
Reeves, Bryce	SD-28	R	71%	60%	10	3	X	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	10	-	8	8	12
Roem, Danica	SD-30	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Rouse, Aaron	SD-22	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Salim, Saddam	SD-37	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Stanley, William	SD-07	R	77%	56%	10	3	X	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	X	7	10	-	8	8	9
Stuart, Richard	SD-25	R	63%	55%	10	3	-	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	-	7	10	-	8	-	15
Sturtevant, Glen	SD-12	R	78%	68%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	4	-	10	-	8	8	8
Subramanyam, Suhas	SD-32	D	0%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Suetterlein, David	SD-04	R	80%	71%	10	3	10	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	7	10	-	8	-	6
Surovell, Scott	SD-34	D	0%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
VanValkenburg, Schuyler	SD-16	D	0%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
Williams Graves, Angelia	SD-21	D	0%	4%	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	21

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

HB 1

ANTI-SMALL BUSINESS MINIMUM WAGE HIKE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a new minimum wage scale on employers over the next three years. Specifically, the legislation increases the state minimum wage from \$12.00 per hour to \$13.50 per hour on January 1, 2025. Additionally, this pay scale mandate on employers ratchets up to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2026, alongside an estimated \$36 million cost increase to Virginia taxpayers over the next two years for higher government employee wages. Empirical data has been consistently clear that minimum wage increases result in fewer jobs and place onerous constraints on small businesses through diminished profit margins due to sudden increases in mandatory hourly wages. These costs are then passed on to consumers. The Virginia House passed the bill, 51-49, on February 2, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-18, on February 23, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 4

GROCERY BAG TAX EXPANSION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a statewide incentive to impose grocery bag taxes on hardworking Virginians. Specifically, the legislation requires any county that has implemented a grocery bag tax to equally distribute the tax revenue to cities within that county in accordance with existing sales tax distribution criteria. This policy incentivizes city officials throughout Virginia to support new grocery bag taxes at the county level as a new revenue stream for local government spending projects. The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-45, on February 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 22-17, on February 28, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 30

INITIAL BIG SPENDING BUDGET AGREEMENT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes spending levels for the

FY2025 and FY2026 biennium. Total spending is estimated at \$177 billion, a 7.3 percent increase from the previous biennium budget passed last year. The legislation guarantees an additional 3 percent across-the-board pay raise on top of previous increases in the most recent bienniums for all state employees, incorporates a massive new \$1 billion sales tax increase on digital services and goods, significantly expands government housing programs, increases government Pre-K spending by \$528 million, and locks in the new subsidized child care program and minimum wage increase. The Virginia House passed the bill, 62-37, on March 9, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 24-14, on the same day. Governor Youngkin did not sign the bill and a special session was required for a new budget.

HB 107

ELECTRIC VEHICLE RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE BOONDOGGLE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded grant

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

program for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure in “distressed” parts of the Commonwealth. Specifically, the legislation creates the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund to award private developers up to 70 percent of non-utility costs for constructing EV charging stations in poor and rural parts of Virginia. Additionally, the bill is estimated to cost \$25 million in the first year, however total spending thereafter remains subject to appropriations. As of January 2024, only 85,000 registered vehicles in Virginia were EVs, a total of just 1 percent of all vehicles statewide. The Virginia House passed the bill, 74-22, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 28-12, on March 5, 2024. The bill was left in conference committee where it died.

HB 139

IMPOSING DAVIS-BACON WAGE MANDATES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes federal prevailing wage requirements for certain contract workers. Specifically, the legislation requires any contract offered by a public service company

for underground infrastructure development must adhere to Davis-Bacon federal wage requirements. These prevailing wage formulas concocted by the federal Department of Labor increase the cost of construction projects by an average of 10 percent, discriminate against non-unionized workers, and significantly limit market competition while bogging down projects in delays. The Virginia House passed the bill, 51-49, on February 12, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-19, on March 8, 2024. The bill was left in conference committee where it died.

HB 151

GREEN NEW DEAL BUILDING MANDATES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands onerous green energy mandates for government buildings. Specifically, the legislation requires construction of new facilities of 5,000 square feet or renovations costing more than 50 percent of the value of the building to comply with stringent green energy requirements, including an expanded expectation for onsite green energy generation and storage. Additionally, the bill encourages

localities to adopt standards that are even more stringent than existing code, which will increase overall costs for taxpayers. Lawmakers should not open the door to destructive Green New Deal mandates that will increase costs for taxpayers and inevitably create burdensome regulations in the private sector. The Virginia House passed the bill, 54-44, on January 29, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 20-19, on February 28, 2024.

HB 212

DISCRIMINATORY TAXPAYER-FUNDED GRANT REQUIREMENTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a neo-Marxist litmus test for taxpayer-funded grants. Specifically, the legislation layers Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) criteria for businesses seeking taxpayer-funded grants through the Virginia Economic Development Authority for major employment and investment projects. These major projects are valued at more than \$10 million in taxpayer-funded grants, tax exemptions, and subsidies. Lawmakers should not reward well-connected interests at the expense of hardworking

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

Virginians and should zero out this program, much less infuse it with DEI criteria designed to discriminate on the basis of race and sex. The Virginia House passed the bill, 49-46, on March 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-19, on the same day. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 213

EMISSIONS INSPECTION FEE INCREASE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill once again imposes higher fees on hardworking Virginians. Specifically, the legislation increases the \$28 emissions fee cap to \$30 for each inspection and authorizes the state’s emissions coordinator to receive a 43 percent increase in payments from every motor vehicle inspection station in the Commonwealth. Currently, the program coordinator can be paid up to \$3,500 from each emissions inspection station. This legislation increases that cap to \$5,000. At a time of persistent inflation and high costs, this inspection tax increase could transfer an additional \$5 million from hardworking families to the coffers of government bureaucrats in 2025 alone. The

Virginia House passed the bill, 58-38, on March 1, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 25-14, on February 28, 2024.

HB 456

PERMANENT STATEWIDE CITY COUNCIL SALARY INCREASES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes permanent and unending statewide salary increases for local officials. Specifically, the legislation increases the existing salary cap for mayors between 81 and 89 percent depending on municipality size, increases the salary cap for city council members between 82 and 89 percent, and authorizes an annual 5 percent meritless pay increase for municipal officials to account for ongoing inflation. As families in the Commonwealth face high costs and persistent inflation due to profligate government spending and onerous regulatory mandates, lawmakers should not create permanent pay increases for elected officials at taxpayers’ expense. The Virginia House passed the bill, 67-30, on March 1, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 29-10, on February 28, 2024.

HB 478

EXPANDED LOCAL SPECIAL INTEREST SUBSIDIES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands a program originally confined to just the city of Richmond. Specifically, the legislation allows any locality in the Commonwealth to create a “community revitalization fund” through local ordinance that doles out taxpayer-funded loans and grants to well-connected firms for construction and renovation of residential properties. This policy exposes every citizen and household in the Commonwealth to new taxpayer-backed slush funds that reward special interests and further entrench government into community central planning projects. The Virginia House passed it, 88-10, on February 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 21, 2024.

HB 805

SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE LOCAL SALES TAX INCREASE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes a new statewide tax increase.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

Specifically, the legislation allows any municipality to impose a new 1 percent sales tax for school-related construction projects or renovations of school facilities through local referendums and approval. Additionally, the bill authorizes this new sales tax to be used retroactively to fund capital improvement projects that began prior to the implementation of the tax. Estimates based on existing sales tax revenue suggest that this measure could impose an additional \$1.5 billion tax burden on families and households across the Commonwealth. Instead of raising taxes, lawmakers should prioritize government projects using existing revenue while reducing overall spending. The Virginia House passed the bill, 71-26, on February 27, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 27-12, on February 23, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 960

CRONY HISTORIC REHABILITATION CREDIT EXPANSION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. Specifically, the legislation increases the existing annual credit cap for

eligible recipients from \$5 million to \$7.5 million. This nonrefundable credit is equal to 25 percent of the rehabilitation expenses of projects approved by the Department of Historic Resources. This crony special interest handout has no existing programmatic cap with spending largely dictated by unelected department bureaucrats. Lawmakers should not expand distortions in the tax code that benefit well-connected interests at the expense of hardworking families and households. The Virginia House passed the bill, 78-19, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on March 7, 2024.

HB 1125

EXPEDITED CORPORATE CRONYISM PROJECTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill serves as a catalyst for the recently created Business Ready Sites Acquisition Program. Specifically, the legislation creates a second Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program to speed up permitting approval for up to two sites and four eligible projects every year. These projects benefit hand-selected

private employers slated to receive at least \$40 million in taxpayer-backed subsidies over the next two years. This legislation rewards well-connected corporate interests at the expense of hardworking Virginians and hastens attempts to centrally plan Virginia's economic growth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 94-5, on March 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on the same day.

HB 1130

HEALTH EQUITY LICENSING MANDATE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements new licensing requirements. Specifically, the legislation mandates the Board of Medicine impose neo-Marxist tenets of Critical Theory into the practice of medicine by requiring medical professionals undergo “unconscious bias” training as a condition for their license renewal. The infusion of so-called “health equity” into the healthcare system poses a direct threat to hardworking families and households as it prioritizes the needs of patients based on immutable characteristics. These licensing schemes enrich bureaucrats seeking to implement government-run

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

healthcare at the expense of both doctors and patients. The Virginia House passed the bill, 55-43, on February 5, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 32-7, on February 26, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 1261

CODIFYING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WASTE **(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill resurrects expired pandemic-era provisions relating to unemployment insurance (UI) and makes them permanent. Specifically, the legislation requires the Virginia Employment Commission to waive the obligation to repay UI overpayments if repayment is “contrary to equity and good conscience.” Additionally, the bill requires the commission to notify recipients that they are eligible for repayment waivers in advance. Official estimates show that fraudulent UI payments cost taxpayers up to \$135 billion as part of the federal government’s profligate spending during the COVID pandemic. This bill permanently codifies wasteful and fraudulent taxpayer-financed UI payments in

the Commonwealth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 55-42, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 27-12, on March 7, 2024.

SB 231

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR NON CITIZENS **(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill expands Medicaid to illegal immigrants in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation mandates that the Department of Medical Assistance Services establish a government-funded program to provide “comprehensive health care” to every Medicaid-eligible individual under 19 years old who is not covered by health insurance, regardless of immigration status. This bill is modeled after legislation passed in Oregon, California, and Illinois. The program, which is estimated to cost taxpayers at least \$115 million through FY2030, is similar to other state Medicaid programs that have had significant cost overruns. It is fundamentally immoral to force hardworking Virginians to pay for taxpayer-financed benefits for non-citizens as they weather persistent inflation and high costs stemming from this exact kind

of government-initiated profligacy. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 21-19, on February 13, 2024. The Virginia House did not take it up.

SB 234

ABSURD PARKING LOT SOLAR ENERGY CREDITS **(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill instructs the Department of Energy to establish a Parking Lot Solar Development Program. Specifically, the legislation creates a taxpayer-financed slush fund for solar energy credits, set at a fixed price determined by a 10-year incentive level, for parking lots in Chesterfield County and Richmond. Additionally, the bill authorizes the creation of a statewide mapping database for additional solar-powered parking lots throughout the Commonwealth. The total cost of the credits is uncapped and subject to appropriations. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 30-10, on February 9, 2024. The Virginia House did not take it up.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | Senate Vote Descriptions

SB 373

NEW GOVERNMENT PAID LEAVE MANDATE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new paid leave mandate in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation requires the Virginia Employment Commission to establish a new paid leave program beginning in 2027 that provides 80 percent of the employee’s average weekly wage but no more than 80 percent of the state weekly average. Additionally, the bill sets the duration of paid leave at 12 weeks in a calendar year. Estimates suggest the new mandate would cost employers at least \$1 billion each year. Lawmakers should not implement onerous mandates and programs that reduce existing employer benefits at a high cost to both workers and taxpayers and increase the cost of goods and services for Virginians due to diminished worker productivity. The Virginia House passed the bill, 50-46, on February 26, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 20-19, on February 28, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

SB 729

CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCING SCHEME (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a permanent new state agency to operationalize the Green New Deal in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation creates the Clean Energy Innovation Bank to accelerate costly and unreliable green energy projects, impose onerous mandates on businesses, and pilfer taxpayers for these various initiatives through grants, loans, and specialized tax benefits. The first year cost to taxpayers for these special interest projects is \$20 million with expected increases every year thereafter. This “green bank” will leech from taxpayers to take out loans that create future financial moral hazards while subsidizing energy initiatives that increase monthly utility costs. The Virginia House passed the bill, 56-43, on March 9, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 28-12, on the same day. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS



Virginia House Snapshot

100 MEMBERS

49 Republicans

51 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 74%

Average Democrat Score: 3%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVES

Nick Freitas (HD-62) | 100%

Timothy Griffin (HD-53) | 100%

Phillip Scott (HD-63) | 100%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVE

Carrie Coyner (HD-75) | 38%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT REPRESENTATIVE

Irene Shin (HD-8) | 6%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT REPRESENTATIVE

22 Democrats scored 0%

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1	HB4	HB30	HB 30 Amdt 114	HB107	HB139	HB151	HB212	HB213	HB456	HB478	HB805	HB960	HB1125	HB1130	HB1216	HB1261	HB1514	SB373	SB729	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	
Anthony, Bonita	HD-092	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Arnold, Jonathan	HD-046	R	76%	76%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	-	3	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	23
Askew, Alex	HD-095	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Austin, Terry	HD-037	R	45%	52%	10	3	-	-	-	5	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	8	8	48
Ballard, Jason	HD-042	R	71%	59%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	31
Batten, Amanda	HD-071	R	91%	85%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	-	3	8	-	-	4	5	7	5	8	8	9
Bennett-Parker, Elizabeth	HD-005	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Bloxom, Robert	HD-100	R	48%	51%	10	3	-	-	-	5	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	8	8		45
Bulova, David	HD-011	D	0%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Callsen, Katrina	HD-054	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Campbell, Ellen	HD-036	R	57%	52%	10	X	-	3	-	5	4	3	2	-	X	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	41
Carr, Betsy	HD-078	D	5%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Cherry, Mike	HD-074	R	72%	57%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	3	-	-	-	7	-	8	-	29
Clark, Nadarius	HD-084	D	5%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Cohen, Laura Jane	HD-015	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Cole, Joshua	HD-065	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Convirs-Fowler, Kelly	HD-096	D	5%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Cordoza, Aijalon	HD-086	R	64%	49%	10	3	10	-	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	37
Cousins, Rae	HD-079	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Coyner, Carrie	HD-075	R	38%	51%	10	-	-	-	-	5	-	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	8	-	49
Davis, William	HD-039	R	76%	76%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	-	3	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	23

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1	HB4	HB30	HB 30 Amdt 114	HB107	HB139	HB151	HB212	HB213	HB456	HB478	HB805	HB960	HB1125	HB1130	HB1216	HB1261	HB1514	SB373	SB729	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	
Delaney, Karrie	HD-009	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Earley, Mark	HD-073	R	81%	81%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	16
Ennis, Baxter	HD-089	R	55%	55%	10	3	10	3	-	5	-	3	-	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	-	X	8	42
Feggans, Michael	HD-097	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Ferrell Tata, Anne	HD-099	R	58%	47%	10	3	-	3	-	5	4	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	40
Fowler, Hyland	HD-059	R	84%	64%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	3	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	12
Freitas, Nick	HD-062	R	100%	99%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	1
Gardner, Debra	HD-076	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Garrett, Thomas	HD-056	R	95%	95%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	X	2	X	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	-	8	8	5
Gilbert, C. Todd	HD-033	R	95%	81%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	-	8	8	5
Glass, Jackie	HD-093	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Green, Chad	HD-069	R	78%	78%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	20
Griffin, Timothy	HD-053	R	100%	100%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	X	2	3	3	8	3	X	4	5	7	5	8	8	1
Hayes, C.E.	HD-091	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Helmer, Dan	HD-010	D	5%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Henson, Rozia	HD-019	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Hernandez, Phil	HD-094	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Herring, Charniele	HD-004	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Higgins, Geary	HD-030	R	76%	76%	10	-	10	3	3	5	4	3	-	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	23
Hodges, M. Keith	HD-068	R	61%	55%	10	X	X	3	3	5	4	3	-	X	-	-	X	-	4	-	X	-	8	X	39
Hope, Patrick	HD-001	D	5%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51

Virginia 2024 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	
Jones, Michael	HD-077	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Keys-Gamarra, Karen	HD-007	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Kilgore, Terry	HD-045	R	48%	55%	10	3	-	X	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	8	8	45
Knight, Barry	HD-098	R	76%	58%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	-	3	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	23
Krizek, Paul	HD-016	D	5%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Laufer, Amy	HD-055	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Leftwich, James	HD-090	R	78%	61%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	20
LeVere Bolling, Destiny	HD-080	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Lopes-Maldonado, Michelle	HD-020	D	0%	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	79
Lopez, Alfonso	HD-003	D	5%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Lovejoy, Ian	HD-022	R	62%	62%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	-	38
Marshall, Daniel	HD-049	R	54%	54%	10	3	-	-	-	5	4	3	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	7	X	8	8	43
Martinez, Marty	HD-029	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
McClure, Adele	HD-002	D	5%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
McNamara, Joseph	HD-040	R	82%	69%	10	3	10	X	-	5	4	3	2	-	3	8	3	-	4	X	7	5	8	-	13
McQuinn, Delores	HD-081	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Milde, Paul	HD-064	R	78%	78%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	20
Morefield, James	HD-043	R	47%	53%	10	3	-	-	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	8	8	47
Mundon King, Candi	HD-023	D	0%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
O'Quinn, Israel	HD-044	R	70%	63%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	33
Oates, Delores	HD-031	R	94%	94%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	3	-	4	5	7	5	8	8	7

Virginia 2024 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	
Obenshain, Joseph	HD-041	R	70%	70%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	-	33
Orrock, Robert	HD-066	R	80%	65%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	5	8	8	18
Owen, David	HD-057	R	66%	66%	10	3	10	3	-	5	-	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	35
Phillips, Eric	HD-048	R	65%	65%	10	3	10	-	-	5	4	3	X	X	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	36
Price, Marcia	HD-085	D	5%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Pugh Kent, Hillary	HD-067	R	81%	81%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	16
Rasoul, Sam	HD-038	D	5%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	5	-	-	51
Reaser, Atoosa	HD-027	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Reid, David	HD-028	D	5%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Runion, Chris	HD-035	R	82%	67%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	8	3	-	4	-	X	5	8	8	13
Scott, Don	HD-088	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Scott, Phillip	HD-063	R	100%	97%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	1
Seibold, Holly	HD-012	D	5%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Sewell, Briana	HD-025	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Shin, Irene	HD-008	D	6%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	5	X	-	50
Sickles, Mark	HD-017	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Simon, Marcus	HD-013	D	5%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Simonds, Shelly	HD-070	D	5%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Srinivasan, Kannan	HD-026	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Sullivan, Richard	HD-006	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Taylor, Kim	HD-082	R	52%	43%	10	3	-	X	X	5	-	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	8	8	44

Virginia 2024 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1	HB4	HB30	HB 30 Amdt 114	HB107	HB139	HB151	HB212	HB213	HB456	HB478	HB805	HB960	HB1125	HB1130	HB1216	HB1261	HB1514	SB373	SB729	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
POINTS					10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	3	4	5	7	5	8	8	
Thomas, Joshua	HD-021	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Torian, Luke	HD-024	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Tran, Kathy	HD-018	D	5%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Wachsmann, H. Otto	HD-083	R	72%	55%	10	3	10	-	-	5	4	3	2	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	7	5	8	8	29
Walker, Wendell	HD-052	R	82%	66%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	5	X	8	13
Ward, Jeion	HD-087	D	5%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	51
Ware, Lee	HD-072	R	80%	64%	10	X	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	-	X	-	3	-	4	5	7	-	8	8	18
Watts, Vivian	HD-014	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Webert, Michael	HD-061	R	92%	84%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	-	4	-	7	5	8	8	8
Wiley, Bill	HD-032	R	71%	58%	10	3	-	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	31
Willett, Rodney	HD-058	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
Williams, Wren	HD-047	R	87%	60%	10	3	10	3	X	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	X	-	4	-	X	5	8	8	11
Wilt, Tony	HD-034	R	76%	61%	10	3	10	3	-	5	4	3	-	3	-	8	-	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	23
Wright, Thomas	HD-050	R	89%	72%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	X	2	3	3	-	3	-	4	5	7	5	8	8	10
Wyatt, Scott	HD-060	R	74%	65%	10	3	-	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	-	8	3	-	4	-	7	-	8	8	28
Zehr, Eric	HD-051	R	97%	97%	10	3	10	3	3	5	4	3	2	3	3	8	3	-	4	5	7	5	8	8	4

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

HB 1

ANTI-SMALL BUSINESS MINIMUM WAGE HIKE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a new minimum wage scale on employers over the next three years. Specifically, the legislation increases the state minimum wage from \$12.00 per hour to \$13.50 per hour on January 1, 2025. Additionally, this pay scale mandate on employers ratchets up to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2026, alongside an estimated \$36 million cost increase to Virginia taxpayers over the next two years for higher government employee wages. Empirical data has been consistently clear that minimum wage increases result in fewer jobs and place onerous constraints on small businesses through diminished profit margins due to sudden increases in mandatory hourly wages. These costs are then passed on to consumers. The Virginia House passed the bill, 51-49, on February 2, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-18, on February 23, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 4

GROCERY BAG TAX EXPANSION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a statewide incentive to impose grocery bag taxes on hardworking Virginians. Specifically, the legislation requires any county that has implemented a grocery bag tax to equally distribute the tax revenue to cities within that county in accordance with existing sales tax distribution criteria. This policy incentivizes city officials throughout Virginia to support new grocery bag taxes at the county level as a new revenue stream for local government spending projects. The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-45, on February 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 22-17, on February 28, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 30

INITIAL BIG SPENDING BUDGET AGREEMENT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes spending levels for the

FY2025 and FY2026 biennium. Total spending is estimated at \$177 billion, a 7.3 percent increase from the previous biennium budget passed last year. The legislation guarantees an additional 3 percent across-the-board pay raise on top of previous increases in the most recent bienniums for all state employees, incorporates a massive new \$1 billion sales tax increase on digital services and goods, significantly expands government housing programs, increases government Pre-K spending by \$528 million, and locks in the new subsidized child care program and minimum wage increase. The Virginia House passed the bill, 62-37, on March 9, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 24-14, on the same day. Governor Youngkin did not sign the bill and a special session was required for a new budget.

HB 30 AMDT 114

PROFESSIONAL GOLF SUBSIDIES (CFGF OPPOSES)

This amendment to the annual budget agreement appropriates new spending for

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

professional golf. Specifically, the amendment appropriates \$5 million in taxpayer subsidies to the Virginia Tourism Authority for FY2025 to promote the Solheim Cup on the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) tour. Under no circumstances should lawmakers pilfer tax dollars from hardworking Virginians and their families to subsidize marketing for a particular sporting event favored by special interests. Such efforts should be left to the private sector. The Virginia House passed this amendment, 59-38, on February 22, 2024. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

HB 107

ELECTRIC VEHICLE RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE BOONDOGGLE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded grant program for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure in “distressed” parts of the Commonwealth. Specifically, the legislation creates the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund to award private developers up to 70 percent of non-utility costs for constructing EV charging

stations in poor and rural parts of Virginia. Additionally, the bill is estimated to cost \$25 million in the first year, however total spending thereafter remains subject to appropriations. As of January 2024, only 85,000 registered vehicles in Virginia were EVs, a total of just 1 percent of all vehicles statewide. The Virginia House passed the bill, 74-22, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 28-12, on March 5, 2024. The bill was left in conference committee where it died.

HB 139

IMPOSING DAVIS-BACON WAGE MANDATES (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes federal prevailing wage requirements for certain contract workers. Specifically, the legislation requires any contract offered by a public service company for underground infrastructure development must adhere to Davis-Bacon federal wage requirements. These prevailing wage formulas concocted by the federal Department of Labor increase the cost of construction projects by

an average of 10 percent, discriminate against non-unionized workers, and significantly limit market competition while bogging down projects in delays. The Virginia House passed the bill, 51-49, on February 12, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-19, on March 8, 2024. The bill was left in conference committee where it died.

HB 151

GREEN NEW DEAL BUILDING MANDATES (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands onerous green energy mandates for government buildings. Specifically, the legislation requires construction of new facilities of 5,000 square feet or renovations costing more than 50 percent of the value of the building to comply with stringent green energy requirements, including an expanded expectation for onsite green energy generation and storage. Additionally, the bill encourages localities to adopt standards that are even more stringent than existing code, which will increase overall costs for taxpayers. Lawmakers should not open the door to destructive Green

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

New Deal mandates that will increase costs for taxpayers and inevitably create burdensome regulations in the private sector. The Virginia House passed the bill, 54-44, on January 29, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 20-19, on February 28, 2024.

HB 212

DISCRIMINATORY TAXPAYER-FUNDED GRANT REQUIREMENTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a neo-Marxist litmus test for taxpayer-funded grants. Specifically, the legislation layers Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) criteria for businesses seeking taxpayer-funded grants through the Virginia Economic Development Authority for major employment and investment projects. These major projects are valued at more than \$10 million in taxpayer-funded grants, tax exemptions, and subsidies. Lawmakers should not reward well-connected interests at the expense of hardworking Virginians and should zero out this program, much less infuse it with DEI criteria designed to discriminate on the basis of race and sex. The

Virginia House passed the bill, 49-46, on March 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 21-19, on the same day. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 213

EMISSIONS INSPECTION FEE INCREASE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill once again imposes higher fees on hardworking Virginians. Specifically, the legislation increases the \$28 emissions fee cap to \$30 for each inspection and authorizes the state’s emissions coordinator to receive a 43 percent increase in payments from every motor vehicle inspection station in the Commonwealth. Currently, the program coordinator can be paid up to \$3,500 from each emissions inspection station. This legislation increases that cap to \$5,000. At a time of persistent inflation and high costs, this inspection tax increase could transfer an additional \$5 million from hardworking families to the coffers of government bureaucrats in 2025 alone. The Virginia House passed the bill, 58-38, on March 1, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 25-14, on February 28, 2024.

HB 456

PERMANENT STATEWIDE CITY COUNCIL SALARY INCREASES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes permanent and unending statewide salary increases for local officials. Specifically, the legislation increases the existing salary cap for mayors between 81 and 89 percent depending on municipality size, increases the salary cap for city council members between 82 and 89 percent, and authorizes an annual 5 percent meritless pay increase for municipal officials to account for ongoing inflation. As families in the Commonwealth face high costs and persistent inflation due to profligate government spending and onerous regulatory mandates, lawmakers should not create permanent pay increases for elected officials at taxpayers’ expense. The Virginia House passed the bill, 67-30, on March 1, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 29-10, on February 28, 2024.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

HB 478

EXPANDED LOCAL SPECIAL INTEREST SUBSIDIES

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands a program originally confined to just the city of Richmond. Specifically, the legislation allows any locality in the Commonwealth to create a “community revitalization fund” through local ordinance that doles out taxpayer-funded loans and grants to well-connected firms for construction and renovation of residential properties. This policy exposes every citizen and household in the Commonwealth to new taxpayer-backed slush funds that reward special interests and further entrench government into community central planning projects. The Virginia House passed it, 88-10, on February 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 21, 2024.

HB 805

SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE LOCAL SALES TAX INCREASE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes a new statewide tax increase.

Specifically, the legislation allows any municipality to impose a new 1 percent sales tax for school-related construction projects or renovations of school facilities through local referendums and approval. Additionally, the bill authorizes this new sales tax to be used retroactively to fund capital improvement projects that began prior to the implementation of the tax. Estimates based on existing sales tax revenue suggest that this measure could impose an additional \$1.5 billion tax burden on families and households across the Commonwealth. Instead of raising taxes, lawmakers should prioritize government projects using existing revenue while reducing overall spending. The Virginia House passed the bill, 71-26, on February 27, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 27-12, on February 23, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 960

CRONY HISTORIC REHABILITATION CREDIT EXPANSION

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. Specifically, the legislation

increases the existing annual credit cap for eligible recipients from \$5 million to \$7.5 million. This nonrefundable credit is equal to 25 percent of the rehabilitation expenses of projects approved by the Department of Historic Resources. This crony special interest handout has no existing programmatic cap with spending largely dictated by unelected department bureaucrats. Lawmakers should not expand distortions in the tax code that benefit well-connected interests at the expense of hardworking families and households. The Virginia House passed the bill, 78-19, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on March 7, 2024.

HB 1125

EXPEDITED CORPORATE CRONYISM PROJECTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill serves as a catalyst for the recently created Business Ready Sites Acquisition Program. Specifically, the legislation creates a second Business Ready Expedited Permitting Program to speed up permitting approval for

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

up to two sites and four eligible projects every year. These projects benefit hand-selected private employers slated to receive at least \$40 million in taxpayer-backed subsidies over the next two years. This legislation rewards well-connected corporate interests at the expense of hardworking Virginians and hastens attempts to centrally plan Virginia’s economic growth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 94-5, on March 8, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on the same day.

HB 1130

HEALTH EQUITY LICENSING MANDATE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements new licensing requirements. Specifically, the legislation mandates the Board of Medicine impose neo-Marxist tenets of Critical Theory into the practice of medicine by requiring medical professionals undergo “unconscious bias” training as a condition for their license renewal. The infusion of so-called “health equity” into the healthcare system poses a direct threat to hardworking families and households as it prioritizes the needs of

patients based on immutable characteristics. These licensing schemes enrich bureaucrats seeking to implement government-run healthcare at the expense of both doctors and patients. The Virginia House passed the bill, 55-43, on February 5, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 32-7, on February 26, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

HB 1216

SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE MATCHING PROGRAM (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes a new program for subsidization of child care. Specifically, the legislation creates the Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program wherein employers are incentivized to pay for their employees’ child care through a “mixed delivery” model run by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation. The bill does not specify the extent of the state match and the total authorized subsidies remain uncapped and subject to legislative appropriations. A more innovative way to help families is through tax-free savings accounts

that reduce exposure to burdensome tax policies while providing meaningful market-based avenues for childcare services. The Virginia House passed the bill, 87-8, on February 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

HB 1261

CODIFYING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WASTE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill resurrects expired pandemic-era provisions relating to unemployment insurance (UI) and makes them permanent. Specifically, the legislation requires the Virginia Employment Commission to waive the obligation to repay UI overpayments if repayment is “contrary to equity and good conscience.” Additionally, the bill requires the commission to notify recipients that they are eligible for repayment waivers in advance. Official estimates show that fraudulent UI payments cost taxpayers up to \$135 billion as part of the federal government’s profligate spending during the COVID pandemic. This bill permanently codifies wasteful and fraudulent taxpayer-financed UI payments in

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

Virginia 2024 | House Vote Descriptions

the Commonwealth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 55-42, on March 6, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 27-12, on March 7, 2024.

HB 1514

CRONY PROFESSIONAL SPORTS AUTHORITY

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Authority in Alexandria. Specifically, the legislation authorizes the new entity to issue bonds, acquire property, and borrow money on the backs of taxpayers for the benefit of the Washington Capitals and Washington Wizards, owned by billionaire Ted Leonsis. Additionally, the bill authorizes the new financing entity to operate for the next 40 years providing an estimated \$1.5 billion in taxpayer-financed benefits to these professional sports franchises. As hardworking Virginia families continue to face high costs and persistent inflation, lawmakers should not create new entities designed to increase taxes on residents and reward massive athletic franchises with access to taxpayer-backed capital. The Virginia House passed the bill, 59-40, on February 13,

2024. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

SB 373

NEW GOVERNMENT PAID LEAVE MANDATE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new paid leave mandate in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation requires the Virginia Employment Commission to establish a new paid leave program beginning in 2027 that provides 80 percent of the employee’s average weekly wage but no more than 80 percent of the state weekly average. Additionally, the bill sets the duration of paid leave at 12 weeks in a calendar year. Estimates suggest the new mandate would cost employers at least \$1 billion each year. Lawmakers should not implement onerous mandates and programs that reduce existing employer benefits at a high cost to both workers and taxpayers and increase the cost of goods and services for Virginians due to diminished worker productivity. The Virginia House passed the bill, 50-46, on February 26, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 20-19, on February 28, 2024. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

SB 729

CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCING SCHEME (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a permanent new state agency to operationalize the Green New Deal in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation creates the Clean Energy Innovation Bank to accelerate costly and unreliable green energy projects, impose onerous mandates on businesses, and pilfer taxpayers for these various initiatives through grants, loans, and specialized tax benefits. The first year cost to taxpayers for these special interest projects is \$20 million with expected increases every year thereafter. This “green bank” will leech from taxpayers to take out loans that create future financial moral hazards while subsidizing energy initiatives that increase monthly utility costs. The Virginia House passed the bill, 56-43, on March 9, 2024. The Virginia Senate passed it, 28-12, on the same day. Governor Youngkin vetoed the bill.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

METHODOLOGY 2024 VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA SENATE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTES

VIRGINIA SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

VIRGINIA HOUSE SNAPSHOT

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTES

VIRGINIA HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS