



Virginia NOW (the Virginia Chapter of the National Organization for Women) is a statewide feminist advocacy organization advancing women's rights and social justice for all. Chapter locations: Alexandria, Arlington, Vienna Area, Charlottesville, Rockbridge County, Fredericksburg, Montgomery County, Richmond, & Williamsburg, with individual members all across Virginia.

## Bill Sheet: Family Health

### *Access to Healthcare—SUPPORT*

#### **HB 134 Diabetes; care of students who have been diagnosed. Introduced by: Mark L. Cole**

Care of students who have been diagnosed with diabetes. Permits the parents of any public school student who has been diagnosed with diabetes to designate in a diabetes care plan a delegated care aide to provide diabetes care for the student, including the administration of insulin and glucagon, when a school nurse or physician is not present in the school or at a school-sponsored activity. The bill also requires the delegated care aide to receive training in diabetes care and every school employee to receive basic training in responses to emergency situations and changes from one to two the minimum number of employees in a school that must be trained with regard to a student with diabetes who attends the school. The bill contains technical amendments.

#### **SB 416 Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan; eligibility for assistance. Introduced by: Emmett W. Hanger**

Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan; eligibility. Eliminates the requirement that an individual under the age of 19 must have been without health insurance for at least four months or must meet the requirements set forth in the Virginia Plan for Title XXI of the Social Security Act (Children's Health Insurance Program) to be eligible for assistance under the Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan.

### *Access to Mental Health Services—SUPPORT*

#### **HB 86 Inpatient psychiatric hospital admission from local correctional facility; criteria.**

##### **Introduced by: Christopher P. Stolle**

Inpatient psychiatric hospital admission from local correctional facility; criteria. Repeals the second enactment of the 2012 act that amended the criteria for the psychiatric admission of inmates from local correctional facilities to add mentally ill inmates for whom there exists a substantial likelihood that they will suffer serious harm due to their lack of capacity to protect themselves from harm. The second enactment provides that the use of this additional criterion shall expire on July 1, 2014.

#### **HB 293 & SB 260 Temporary detention order; facility of detention. Introduced by: Robert Bell; Creigh Deeds**

Temporary detention order; facility of detention. Provides that in cases in which a facility for temporary detention has not been identified prior to the running of the time for emergency custody, the magistrate shall issue the temporary detention order if the person meets the criteria for temporary detention and the community services board certifies that it will continue to make good faith efforts to identify the facility of temporary detention until such time as a facility is identified or the temporary detention order expires for lack of execution.

#### **SJ 47 Study; joint subcommittee to study the mental health services in the Commonwealth; report.**

##### **Introduced by: Creigh Deeds**

Study; joint subcommittee to study the mental health services in the Commonwealth; report. Establishes a new joint subcommittee to study the delivery of mental health services, including laws governing the provision of mental health services and the system of emergency, short-term, forensic, and long-term mental health services in the Commonwealth.



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## Bill Sheet: Community Safety

### *Domestic Violence and Stalking—SUPPORT*

#### **HB 1 Sexual and Domestic Violence Subfund; funding of sexual and domestic violence prevention, etc.**

##### **Introduced by: Barbara J. Comstock**

Funding of sexual and domestic violence prevention, intervention, and prosecution. Creates a new subfund in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund to be known as the Sexual and Domestic Violence Subfund. The Subfund consists of all funds, from whatever source, in the Commonwealth related to sexual and domestic violence prevention, intervention, and prosecution. The bill also directs the Workers' Compensation Commission to appoint a coordinator to administer and oversee the use of the funds.

#### **HB 708 Assault and battery; family or household member. Introduced by: C. Todd Gilbert**

Assault and battery against a family or household member. Adds unlawful wounding in violation of § 18.2-51 and strangulation in violation of § 18.2-51.6 to the list of offenses that, if a person has been previously convicted of two such offenses within a 20-year period and such offenses occurred on different dates, enhance the penalty of assault and battery against a family or household member from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony.

#### **HB 1233 Address Confidentiality Program; victims of stalking eligible for Program. Introduced by: David J. Toscano**

Address Confidentiality Program; victims of stalking. Makes victims of stalking eligible for the Address Confidentiality Program. Under current law, only victims of domestic violence are eligible for participation. The bill also allows the Office of the Attorney General to cancel a program participant's certification if the participant obtains a name change through an order of the court and does not provide notice and a copy of the order to the Office of the Attorney General within seven days after entry of the order.

#### **SB 658 Physical evidence recovery kits; DFS required to create and maintain inventory. Introduced by: Richard Black**

Inventory of physical evidence recovery kits. Requires the Department of Forensic Science to create and maintain an inventory of all physical evidence recovery kits that have not been submitted to the Department for analysis prior to July 1, 2014. The bill requires the Department to make arrangements with law-enforcement agencies to submit such physical evidence recovery kits by January 1, 2015. The bill also requires the Department to submit a report of its inventory to the General Assembly prior to the 2015 Session, and to include in its report a plan for analyzing all untested physical evidence recovery kits.

#### **Budget Amendment: Item 401 #1s Public Safety FY 14-15 FY 15-16. Chief Patron: Adam Ebbin**

Language: Department of Forensic Science \$300,000

Page 330, line 5, strike "\$40,527,829" and insert "\$40,827,829".

Page 330, line 5, strike "\$40,674,243" and insert "\$40,974,243".

Explanation: This amendment provides \$300,000 each year from the general fund and three forensic scientist positions to process physical evidence recovery kits, to reduce the backlog of unprocessed kits and to allow sexual assault cases to be processed more quickly in the future. These kits collect DNA evidence used to document, investigate, and prosecute cases of sexual assault.



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## Bill Sheet: Social & Economic Equity

### *Poverty Reduction—SUPPORT*

**SB 10 Water and sewer; discounted fees and charges for certain low-income and disabled customers. Introduced by: Thomas A. Garrett**

Discounted fees and charges for certain low-income and disabled customers; population density. Removes the requirement that a locality owning a water and sewer system have a population density of no more than 200 persons per square mile before it may by ordinance develop criteria for providing discounted water and sewer fees and charges for low-income and disabled customers.

**SB 67 Discounted fees and charges; City of Richmond may develop criteria for certain customers. Introduced by: Henry L. Marsh III**

Discounted fees and charges for certain customers; City of Richmond. Allows the City of Richmond to develop criteria for providing discounted water and sewer fees and charges for low-income, elderly, and disabled customers.

### *Education—SUPPORT*

**HB 1187 School Safety, Virginia Center for; bullying. Introduced by: Jennifer L. McClellan**

Virginia Center for School Safety; bullying. Requires the Virginia Center for School Safety to use the definition of bullying found in § 22.1-276.01 of the Code of Virginia for purposes of training on evidence-based antibullying tactics and providing information to school divisions regarding school safety concerns.

**SJ 10 Study; improving access to higher ed for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities.**

**Introduced by: David W. Marsden**

Study; strategies for improving access to higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities; report. Requests that each public institution of higher education in Virginia report to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), in the form and manner determined by SCHEV, on the number and percentage of students with developmental and intellectual disabilities who were enrolled at each public institution of higher education based on the fall counts for the 2014-2015 academic year, identify strategies that public institutions of higher education in other states use to improve access to higher education for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities, recommend strategies that the institution could use to annually increase the percentage of enrolled students with developmental and intellectual disabilities, and estimate the fiscal impact to the institution of an annual increase in the percentage of enrolled students with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The resolution requests that SCHEV collect and summarize the data, strategies, recommendations, and estimates received from each public institution of higher education and report its findings to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Disability Commission no later than November 30, 2015. The study is a recommendation of the Disability Commission.

### *Edu. OPPOSE*

**HB 157 Charter schools, conversion; restrictions and pre-lottery enrollment for current students. Introduced by: J. Randall Minchew**

Charter schools; restrictions and pre-lottery enrollment for current students of conversion charter schools. Provides that in the case of the conversion of an existing public school, students who attend the school and the siblings of such students shall be given the opportunity to enroll in advance of the lottery process. The bill removes the requirement that at least one-half of public charter schools per division be for at-risk students.

**SB 236 Student religious viewpoint expression; school division policy. Introduced by: L. Scott Lingamfelter**

Limited public forums for student religious viewpoint expression; school division policy. Requires each school division to adopt a policy to permit a student speaker to express a religious viewpoint at all school events at which a student is permitted to publicly speak. The policy shall declare each such school event to be a limited public forum, provide a neutral method for the selection of student speakers, and require each school principal to

provide a disclaimer in advance of each such school event that the school division does not endorse any religious viewpoint that may be expressed by student speakers.



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## Bill Sheet: Civil and Human Rights

### *Voting Rights—SUPPORT*

#### **HB 759, SB 11 Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots. Introduced by: Thomas Davis Rust; Linda Puller**

Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots. Requires the State Board of Elections to provide instructions, procedures, and services to enable uniformed-service voters outside of the United States to return voted military-overseas ballots securely by electronic mail or fax. The bill requires the State Board to develop and annually update security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of such votes and requires the Chief Information Officer of the Commonwealth to approve the measures. The State Board is directed to convene a working group for the initial development of the security measures. Additionally, the State Board is directed to work with the U.S. Department of Defense to use smart cards issued to active-duty military personnel to authenticate and enable the return of such military-overseas ballots. The bill is a recommendation of the Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

#### **HB 669 Absentee ballots; date requirement. Introduced by: Charniele L. Herring**

Elections; absentee ballots; date requirement. Provides that a voter's failure to provide the date, or any part of the date, on which he signed the statement on the back of the return envelope shall not render that ballot void or provide officers of election with a basis for rejection.

#### **HB 670 Absentee ballots; name and signature requirements. Introduced by: Charniele L. Herring**

Elections; absentee ballots; name and signature requirements. Provides that a voter's failure to provide his full middle name or his middle initial in the statement on the back of the return envelope shall not render that absentee ballot void or provide officers of election with a basis for rejection, unless the voter also failed to provide his full first name. The bill also provides that a signature that is reasonably similar to the voter's legal name is sufficient for purposes of casting an absentee ballot.

#### **HB 838 Absentee ballot; procedures for return of envelope. Introduced by: Mark L. Keam**

Elections; absentee ballot procedures. Provides that an absentee ballot will not be voided solely because the envelope containing the ballot was imperfectly sealed so long as the outside envelope containing the ballot and its envelope has been sealed and there is evidence that a good faith effort has been made to seal the ballot envelope.

#### **SB 16 Absentee voting; persons age 65 or older on day of an election are entitled to vote absentee ballot.**

##### **Introduced by: John C. Miller**

Elections; absentee voting. Provides that persons age 65 or older on the day of an election for which an absentee ballot is requested are entitled to vote absentee.

#### **SB 191 Voter registration; duties of State Board of Elections. Introduced by: John S. Edwards**

Voter registration; duties of the State Board of Elections. Modifies the provision calling for the State Board to cross-check voter registration lists with other states by (i) limiting the cross-checking to lists of active (rather than active and inactive) voters, (ii) requiring corroboration that the voter is no longer a resident and a mailed notice before the general registrar cancels his registration based on lists developed by such cross-checking, (iii) requiring the State Board to send lists of such voters to the general registrars only between January 1 and March 1, and (iv) giving the general registrar 90 days following his receipt of the list from the State Board to process the list.

### *Ending LGBTQIA Discrimination—SUPPORT*

#### **SB 14 Crimes against nature; clarifies provisions of clause, penalty. Introduced by: Thomas A. Garrett**

Crimes against nature. Clarifies that engaging in consensual sodomy is not a crime if all persons participating are adults, are not in a public place, and are not committing, attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, aiding, or abetting any act in furtherance of prostitution. The bill states that an emergency exists and it is in force from its passage.

*Gender Equity—SUPPORT*

**SJ 78 US Constitution; General Assembly to ratify and affirm Equal Rights Amendment. Introduced by: Scott Surovell**

United States Constitution; Equal Rights Amendment. Ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution that was proposed by Congress in 1972. This joint resolution advocates the position that the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment remains viable and may be ratified notwithstanding the expiration of the 10-year ratification period set out in the resolving clause, as amended, in the proposal adopted by Congress.