



**THE CLUB FOR  
GROWTH**  
FOUNDATION



2023

# 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.

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# Methodology | Virginia 2023

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.

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# LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN VIRGINIA IN 2023

The Foundation’s study examined over 4,000 floor votes and, in the end, included 18 Virginia House votes and 18 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 2023 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

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# Virginia Senate Snapshot

40 MEMBERS

18 Republicans

22 Democrats

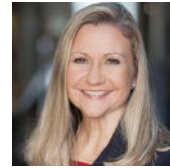
0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 35%

(Down from 40% in 2022)

Average Democrat Score: 2%

(Up from 1% in 2022)



### HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Sen. Amanda Chase (SD-11) | 70%



### LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Sen. Siobhan Dunnivant (SD-12) | 15%

Sen. Thomas Norment (SD-3) | 15%



### HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Sen. John Edwards (SD-21) | 11%



### LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Multiple Senators at 0%

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1842	HB2297	HB2479	HB6001	SB886	SB956	SB1035	SB1066	SB1083	SB1266	SB1312	SB1327	SB1330	SB1408	Rank	
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					6	2	6	4	6	3	10	10	5	8	5	4	5	5	5	5	6	3	7	
Bagby, Lamont	SD-09	D	n/a	11%	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	-	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I		
Barker, George	SD-39	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Bell, John	SD-13	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	24	
Boysko, Jennifer	SD-33	D	0%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Chase, Amanda	SD-11	R	70%	73%	-	-	6	4	6	3	10	-	5	8	-	-	5	5	5	6	X	X	1	
Cosgrove, John	SD-14	R	37%	56%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	7	6	
Deeds, R. Creigh	SD-25	D	10%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
DeSteph, Bill	SD-08	R	37%	54%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	7	6	
Dunnavant, Siobhan	SD-12	R	15%	42%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	17	
Ebbin, Adam	SD-30	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Edwards, John	SD-21	D	11%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	
Favola, Barbara	SD-31	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Hackworth, Travis	SD-38	R	31%	33%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	7	11	
Hanger, Emmett	SD-24	R	26%	40%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	3	7	13	
Hashmi, Ghazala	SD-10	D	10%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
Howell, Janet	SD-32	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Lewis, Lynwood	SD-06	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Locke, Mamie	SD-02	D	0%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Lucas, L. Louise	SD-18	D	0%	4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Marsden, Dave	SD-37	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Mason, Monty	SD-01	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1842	HB2297	HB2479	HB6001	SB886	SB956	SB1035	SB1066	SB1083	SB1266	SB1312	SB1327	SB1330	SB1408	Rank
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					6	2	6	4	6	3	10	10	5	8	5	4	5	5	5	6	3	7	
McClellan, Jennifer	SD-09	D	0%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
McDougle, Ryan	SD-04	R	42%	60%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	5	5	6	3	7	4
McPike, Jeremy	SD-29	D	0%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Morrissey, Joseph	SD-16	D	10%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Newman, Stephen	SD-23	R	36%	54%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	5	5	6	3	7	8
Norment, Thomas	SD-03	R	15%	47%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	X	-	17
Obenshain, Mark	SD-26	R	42%	62%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	5	5	6	3	7	4
Peake, Mark	SD-22	R	20%	51%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	3	X	16
Petersen, Chap	SD-34	D	10%	15%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Pillion, Todd	SD-40	R	24%	48%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	-	14
Reeves, Bryce	SD-17	R	31%	58%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	7	11
Rouse, Aaron	SD-07	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Ruff, Frank	SD-15	R	24%	47%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	-	14
Saslaw, Richard	SD-35	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Spruill, Lionell	SD-05	D	0%	7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Stanley, William	SD-20	R	33%	52%	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	X	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	-	X	10
Stuart, Richard	SD-28	R	55%	54%	X	-	6	-	-	-	10	-	5	-	-	-	5	5	5	6	3	7	3
Suetterlein, David	SD-19	R	57%	70%	-	-	6	-	-	3	10	-	5	8	-	4	-	-	5	6	3	7	2
Surovell, Scott	SD-36	D	0%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Vogel, Jill	SD-27	R	34%	37%	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	3	-	9

# Virginia 2023 | Senate Vote Descriptions

## HB 1411

### NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SLUSH FUND

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes a crony government slush fund that was originally appropriated \$10 million in 2021. Specifically, the legislation creates the Virginia Community Development Financial Institutions Program which doles out taxpayer dollars through government credit unions and community development banks as grants and loans to selected recipients equal to \$100,000 or less. This taxpayer-funded “microfinancing” rewards hand-picked businesses and low-income housing property development enterprises with tax dollars at the expense—and exclusion—of hardworking Virginians. The Virginia House passed the bill, 98-2, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-0, on February 10, 2023.

## HB 1438

### OYSTER REPLENISHMENT CARVEOUT

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new \$250,000 annual taxpayer-funded grant program for restaurants. Specifically, the legislation provides a grant equal to \$4 per bushel of oyster shells for restaurants that donate the shells to a non-profit engaged in replenishment activities. The program is capped at \$1,500 annually for each recipient. Lawmakers should not create or empower programs that reward niche industries with special taxpayer-funded favors. The Virginia House passed the bill, 74-22, on February 15, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on the same day.

## HB 1510

### ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRAL PLANNING SCHEME

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates an “urban green space” incentive program. Specifically, the legislation authorizes any city or municipality to establish a program granting regulatory flexibility to businesses if they engage in the development or preservation of urban green spaces that “reduce the urban heat effect.” The specific flexibility includes reduced permitting fees or expedited permit approval with discretion given to localities on the type of permits that can be awarded. While environmental preservation is laudable, this program centrally plans urban development through ideologically selective regulatory flexibility for businesses based on their adherence to a green agenda. The Virginia House passed the bill, 72-27, on January 31, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 32-8, on February 22, 2023.

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### HB 1664

#### GOVERNOR'S CRONY CATFISH GRANT PROGRAM

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill empowers the governor to oversee a specialized \$2 million taxpayer-funded grant program. Specifically, the legislation expands the existing Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund to include a new blue catfish processing and flash freezing initiative that gives the governor the authority to award reimbursable competitive taxpayer grants of \$250,000 to municipalities and other political subdivisions for specialized infrastructure. Instead of creating new taxpayer-funded government grants—run at the discretion of the governor—to deal with invasive species, lawmakers should embrace market-oriented incentives for Virginian outdoorsmen. The Virginia House passed the bill, 92-8, on February 2, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 21, 2023.

### HB 1842

#### CRONY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes a new Business Ready Sites Acquisition Program for the purpose of government-facilitated economic development. Specifically, the legislation authorizes the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to administer a program to acquire sites of at least 500 acres for “project-ready” economic development and enter into agreements with hand-selected large private employers. The bill also creates an associated \$450 million fund to utilize taxpayer dollars to purchase the sites in arrangements with large private sector entities to “fill gaps in the Commonwealth’s current portfolio.” This legislation rewards well-connected special interests at the expense of hardworking Virginians and attempts to centrally plan Virginia’s economic growth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 97-3, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 23, 2023.

### HB 2297

#### STATE CATTLE CHECKOFF PROGRAM (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the state’s expiring checkoff program for the Cattle Industry Board through 2028 at its current rate of \$0.50 per head. Checkoff programs allow hand-picked interests in a particular agricultural industry to collude with the government to force their competitors to fund the promotion of their own products. These programs essentially serve as government-mandated taxes on smaller businesses. The Virginia House passed the bill, 97-0, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on February 15, 2023.

### HB 2479

#### AMAZON SWEETHEART SUBSIDY PROGRAM

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill creates a massive new taxpayer-funded grant program for Amazon. Specifically, the legislation creates the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund to provide tax incentives to Amazon to reimburse the company for the cost of construction,

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workforce development, and training of their employees as part of their data center investment plan in Virginia. The value of this reimbursement is estimated at \$140 million. Further, the legislation extends a special sales tax exemption for equipment acquired to set up Amazon’s data centers through 2040. This is flagrant corporate welfare and is a textbook case of the government putting the interests of well-connected companies above those of hardworking citizens. The Virginia House passed the bill, 87-11, on February 21, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 31-9, on February 15, 2023.

### HB 6001

#### MISSED OPPORTUNITY AMENDED BUDGET AGREEMENT

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill establishes revised total spending for the FY2023 and FY2024 biennium. Total spending is estimated at \$165 billion, a \$3 billion increase from the original biennium budget passed last year. The legislation incorporates some pro-growth policies including a doubled standard deduction for single and married

filers through 2026 as well as \$1 billion in one-time tax rebates. However, the proposal guarantees an additional 2 percent across-the-board pay raise on top of the previous 5 percent increases in both FY2023 and FY2024 for all state employees, locks in the crony Amazon corporate welfare sweetheart deal, increases higher education spending by \$190 million, and increases K-12 education funding by an additional \$645 million above the previous agreement—raising baseline spending in a persistently inflationary environment. The Virginia House passed the bill, 86-4, on September 6, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-0, on the same day.

### SB 886

#### EXPANSIVE PAID SICK LEAVE MANDATE

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill implements new business mandates on healthcare and grocery employers. Specifically, the legislation requires that such businesses provide mandatory paid sick leave and eliminates the 20-hour-per-week eligibility threshold, expanding paid leave to part-time

employees. Conservative estimates suggest such a mandate will cost taxpayers at least \$7 million while burdening grocery and healthcare employers with higher benefit costs that often result in commensurate reductions in paid wages that harm workers. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 22-18, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 956

#### MASSIVE LOCAL CRONYISM EXPANSION

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill creates a new blueprint for localities to enact crony economic development schemes. Specifically, the legislation provides for localities to establish “business improvement districts” upon the approval of a majority of businesses in the proposed area. This allows municipalities to impose fees, provide special tax breaks, issue bonds, and implement direct taxpayer funding for select businesses in the improvement district. The broad nature of this authority expands the destructive habit of government picking winners and losers at every level of state government. The Virginia

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House passed the bill, 85-13, on February 16, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on February 20, 2023.

### SB 1035

#### BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING EXPANSION

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill expands the scope of the state’s infrastructure “good repair” program. Specifically, the legislation provides for bridges in otherwise “fair” condition to be eligible for funding whereas before such infrastructure had to be structurally deficient. Further, the bill eliminates the maximum annual allotment from the state board for each construction district, moving instead to a needs-based system. Given the expansion of the fund’s scope, these policies will necessitate higher spending levels and potentially politicize project funding with the removal of the maximum allotment and the imposition of the state board having a more prominent role in determining which district has a higher need. The Virginia House passed the bill, 69-28, on February 21, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on February 1, 2023.

### SB 1066

#### REHABILITATION CRONY TAX CREDIT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands the existing tax carveout for historic rehabilitation projects. Specifically, the legislation doubles the existing \$5 million credit cap to \$10 million for each eligible recipient and allows for year-to-year rollover. Eligible projects are determined by the Virginia Landmarks Register and there is no current appropriations cap to how much taxpayer money is available for FY2024. These distortionary carveouts not only complicate the state tax code but serve as little more than government-approved handouts to primarily wealthy special interests at the expense of hardworking Virginia taxpayers. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 39-1, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1083

#### SHARED SOLAR EXPANSION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill perpetuates Green New Deal policies through the expansion of a shared solar program. Specifically, the legislation extends subsidized solar power to Appalachian Power customers

throughout western portions of the state. The program facilitates unreliable solar power generation through a complicated scheme that requires customers unable to afford expensive installation costs to purchase off-site solar power to generate a solar credit. However, these customers are then required to pay an additional fee to offset the higher costs to the utilities generating solar. The shared solar program puts hardworking Virginians on the hook for potential utility bailouts and new subsidy programs from higher energy costs and unreliable generation. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 35-5, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1266

#### SHARED SOLAR PRICE AND GENERATION MANDATES

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill attempts to impose price controls for the existing shared solar program. Specifically, the legislation forces Dominion Energy to lower its minimum bill while increasing the breadth of the shared solar program by 10 percent of the peak load to a full gigawatt capacity. Additionally,

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the bill allows non-jurisdictional political subdivisions to utilize the program in a bid to offset the increased costs to Dominion Energy while mandating an additional 165 megawatts of capacity for low-income households. These mandates increasingly crowd out reliable sources of energy, jeopardize the stability of the Virginia grid, and impose either guaranteed future price hikes on customers or put hardworking Virginians on the hook for potential utility bailouts and subsidies. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 24-15, on February 3, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1312

#### ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allows localities and political subdivisions to expand electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Specifically, the legislation authorizes specific localities to implement ordinances requiring EV charging stations if population density is equal to seven residential dwellings per acre or higher. In Virginia, EVs comprise roughly 1.9 percent of

all registered vehicles with estimates showing the average EV costs nearly double that of a gas-powered vehicle. These policies socialize the cost among all Virginia taxpayers to pay for such costly infrastructure for the exclusive benefit of the wealthy few. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 22-18, on February 2, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1327

#### MASSIVE NEW ILLEGAL ALIEN WELFARE PROGRAM

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new taxpayer-funded welfare program for illegal alien children. Specifically, the legislation authorizes the Department of Medical Assistance Services to create a new program to subsidize “comprehensive” healthcare coverage for all individuals in Virginia under the age of 19 who are not covered by an existing plan and are not U.S. citizens. Conservative estimates suggest that the program would immediately cost \$7.3 million in FY2024 and then hit \$22 million annually by FY2030. Hardworking Virginians should not be forced to subsidize new and expensive open-

ended welfare programs for non-citizens. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 24-16, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1330

#### DELINQUENT PAYMENT PROTECTION MANDATE

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a new mandate on landlords. Specifically, the legislation increases from 5 days to 14 days for a tenant to make payment after a landlord serves written notice of delinquency before the landlord may take action to terminate a rental agreement. This policy incentivizes tenants to take advantage of landlords and undermines the ability of landlords and rental property owners to operate their businesses. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 24-14, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

### SB 1408

#### NEW STATEWIDE SALES TAX

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes the creation of a new sales tax for capital construction projects. Specifically,

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the legislation authorizes any locality in Virginia to impose a new and additional 1 percent sales tax to fund the construction or renovation of K-12 government schools. Previously this new taxing authority was limited to a handful of counties. Lawmakers should not create new statewide taxing powers and should instead focus on policies that encourage spending prioritization through cuts and expanded economic growth to bolster existing revenue streams. The Virginia Senate passed the bill, 26-10, on January 23, 2023. The Virginia House did not take it up.

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# Virginia House Snapshot

100 MEMBERS

52 Republicans

48 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 51%

(Down from 52% in 2022)

Average Democrat Score: 3%

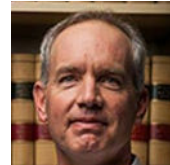
(Down from 5% in 2022)



## HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Rep. Nick Freitas (HD-30) | 97%

Rep. Phillip Scott (HD-88) | 97%



## LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Del. Robert Bloxom (HD-100) | 37%



## HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Rep. Marcia Price (HD-95) | 24%



## LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Multiple Reps at 0%

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1378	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1783	HB1821	HB1842	HB1874	HB1934	HB2138	HB2297	HB2319	HB2461	HB2479	HB6001	SB956	SB1035	Rank
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	3	6	6	10	10	8	5	
Adams, Dawn	HD-068	D	10%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	55
Adams, Les	HD-016	R	40%	62%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Anderson, Timothy	HD-083	R	57%	55%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	1	-	5	10
Arnold, Jonathan	HD-006	R	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	
Austin, Terry	HD-019	R	40%	53%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Avoli, G. John	HD-020	R	47%	56%	8	-	2	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	29
Bagby, Lamont	HD-074	D	2%	11%	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	65
Ballard, Jason	HD-012	R	51%	54%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	21
Batten, Amanda	HD-096	R	65%	84%	8	-	2	6	4	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	5	5
Bell, Robert	HD-058	R	56%	69%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	-	14
Bennett-Parker, Elizabeth	HD-045	D	0%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Bloxom, Robert	HD-100	R	37%	52%	8	-	-	-	-	3	X	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	52
Bourne, Jeffrey	HD-071	D	2%	10%	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Brewer, Emily	HD-064	R	51%	62%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	21
Bulova, David	HD-037	D	0%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Byron, Kathy	HD-022	R	46%	64%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	31
Campbell, Ellen	HD-024	R	47%	47%	8	-	2	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	29
Campbell, Jeffrey	HD-006	R	57%	59%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	1	-	5	10
Carr, Betsy	HD-069	D	0%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Cherry, Mike	HD-066	R	51%	49%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	21
Clark, Nadarius	HD-079	D	0%	0%	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	69

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# Virginia 2023 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1378	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1783	HB1821	HB1842	HB1874	HB1934	HB2138	HB2297	HB2319	HB2461	HB2479	HB6001	SB956	SB1035	Rank
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	3	6	6	10	10	8	5	
Convirs-Fowler, Kelly	HD-021	D	16%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	54
Cordoba, Aijalon	HD-091	R	40%	42%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Coyner, Carrie	HD-062	R	40%	54%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Davis, Glenn	HD-084	R	44%	52%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	I	-	-	38
Delaney, Karrie	HD-067	D	0%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Durant, Tara	HD-028	R	48%	50%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	28
Edmunds, James	HD-060	R	52%	57%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	X	6	6	-	X	-	5	18
Fariss, C. Matt	HD-059	R	57%	65%	8	-	2	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	X	6	6	-	-	8	5	10
Ferrell Tata, Anne	HD-082	R	40%	42%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Filler-Corn, Eileen	HD-041	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Fowler, Hyland	HD-055	R	50%	60%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	X	-	26
Freitas, Nick	HD-030	R	97%	99%	8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	-	6	6	10	10	8	5	1
Gilbert, C. Todd	HD-015	R	61%	78%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	5	7
Glass, Jackie	HD-089	D	0%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	69
Gooditis, Wendy	HD-010	D	0%	11%	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	69
Greenhalgh, Karen	HD-085	R	58%	50%	8	-	-	6	4	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	-	9
Guzman, Elizabeth	HD-031	D	10%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	55
Hayes, C.E.	HD-077	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	69
Head, Chris	HD-017	R	59%	67%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	5	8
Helmer, Dan	HD-040	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Herring, Charniele	HD-046	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69

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Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1378	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1783	HB1821	HB1842	HB1874	HB1934	HB2138	HB2297	HB2319	HB2461	HB2479	HB6001	SB956	SB1035	Rank
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	3	6	6	10	10	8	5	
Hodges, M. Keith	HD-098	R	45%	54%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	35
Hope, Patrick	HD-047	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Hudson, Sally	HD-057	D	10%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	55
Jenkins, Clinton	HD-076	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Kilgore, Terry	HD-001	R	45%	56%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	35
Knight, Barry	HD-081	R	46%	54%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	31
Kory, L. Kaye	HD-038	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	69
Krizek, Paul	HD-044	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
LaRock, Dave	HD-033	R	57%	82%	8	-	2	6	4	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	10
Leftwich, James	HD-078	R	46%	58%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	31
Lopes-Maldonado, Michelle	HD-050	D	3%	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
Lopez, Alfonso	HD-049	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
March, Marie	HD-007	R	77%	77%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	10	X	8	5	3
Marshall, Daniel	HD-014	R	40%	54%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
McGuire, John	HD-056	R	65%	73%	8	-	2	6	4	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	5	5
McNamara, Joseph	HD-008	R	55%	67%	8	-	2	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	8	5	15
McQuinn, Delores	HD-070	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Morefield, James	HD-003	R	40%	54%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Mullin, Michael	HD-093	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Mundon King, Candi	HD-002	D	10%	6%	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	55
Murphy, Kathleen	HD-034	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	69

# Virginia 2023 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	3	6	6	10	10	8	5	
O'Quinn, Israel	HD-005	R	49%	61%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	X	5	27
Orrock, Robert	HD-054	R	52%	62%	8	-	2	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	X	-	-	5	18
Plum, Kenneth	HD-036	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Price, Marcia	HD-095	D	24%	11%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	-	-	53
Ransone, Margaret	HD-099	R	41%	62%	8	-	X	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	39
Rasoul, Sam	HD-011	D	0%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Reid, David	HD-032	D	3%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
Robinson, Roxann	HD-027	R	40%	58%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Roem, Danica	HD-013	D	10%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	55
Runion, Chris	HD-025	R	53%	63%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	16
Scott, Don	HD-080	D	2%	9%	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Scott, Phillip	HD-088	R	97%	96%	8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	-	6	6	10	10	8	5	1
Seibold, Holly	HD-035	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	55
Sewell, Briana	HD-051	D	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Shin, Irene	HD-086	D	0%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Sickles, Mark	HD-043	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Simon, Marcus	HD-053	D	3%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
Simonds, Shelly	HD-094	D	0%	8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Subramanyam, Suhas	HD-087	D	0%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Sullivan, Richard	HD-048	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Taylor, Kim	HD-063	R	40%	38%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40

# Virginia 2023 | House Scorecard (Continued)

Name	District	Party	Score	Life-score	HB1378	HB1411	HB1438	HB1510	HB1664	HB1783	HB1821	HB1842	HB1874	HB1934	HB2138	HB2297	HB2319	HB2461	HB2479	HB6001	SB956	SB1035	Rank
<b>PRO-GROWTH POSITION</b>					Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
<b>POINTS</b>					8	6	2	6	4	3	5	6	3	3	6	3	6	6	10	10	8	5	
Torian, Luke	HD-052	D	2%	8%	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65
Tran, Kathy	HD-042	D	10%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	55
VanValkenburg, Schuyler	HD-072	D	0%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Wachsmann, H. Otto	HD-075	R	45%	47%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	35
Walker, Wendell	HD-023	R	51%	62%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	X	21
Wampler, William	HD-004	R	51%	58%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	21
Ward, Jeion	HD-092	D	0%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	69
Ware, Lee	HD-065	R	39%	61%	8	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	X	-	-	51
Watts, Vivian	HD-039	D	0%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Webert, Michael	HD-018	R	77%	82%	8	-	2	6	4	3	5	-	3	3	6	X	6	6	10	-	8	5	3
Wiley, Bill	HD-029	R	40%	54%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Willett, Rodney	HD-073	D	0%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Williams Graves, Angelia	HD-090	D	0%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Williams, Wren	HD-009	R	53%	48%	8	-	2	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	16
Wilt, Tony	HD-026	R	40%	58%	8	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	40
Wright, Thomas	HD-061	R	52%	68%	8	-	X	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	5	18
Wyatt, Scott	HD-097	R	46%	63%	8	-	-	6	-	3	5	-	3	3	6	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	31

# Virginia 2023 | House Vote Descriptions

## HB 1378

### CALIFORNIA EMISSIONS STANDARD REPEAL

#### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill rolls back onerous regulatory measures adopting California's destructive motor-vehicle emissions standards. Specifically, the legislation severs Virginia from the California standards, which recently implemented criteria to prohibit the sale of gas-powered vehicles by 2035, effectively banning the internal combustion engine. These tyrannical California standards force consumers to purchase expensive electric vehicles (EVs) and further subsidize the implementation of the Green New Deal. In Virginia, EVs comprise roughly 1.9 percent of all registered vehicles with estimates showing the average EV costs nearly double that of a gas-powered vehicle. The Virginia House passed it, 52-48, on January 25, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

## HB 1411

### NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SLUSH FUND

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes a crony government slush fund that was originally appropriated \$10 million in 2021. Specifically, the legislation creates the Virginia Community Development Financial Institutions Program which doles out taxpayer dollars through government credit unions and community development banks as grants and loans to selected recipients equal to \$100,000 or less. This taxpayer-funded "microfinancing" rewards hand-picked businesses and low-income housing property development enterprises with tax dollars at the expense-and exclusion-of hardworking Virginians. The Virginia House passed the bill, 98-2, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-0, on February 10, 2023.

## HB 1438

### OYSTER REPLENISHMENT CARVEOUT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new \$250,000 annual taxpayer-funded grant program for restaurants. Specifically, the legislation provides a grant equal to \$4 per bushel of oyster shells for restaurants that donate the shells to a non-profit engaged in replenishment activities. The program is capped at \$1,500 annually for each recipient. Lawmakers should not create or empower programs that reward niche industries with special taxpayer-funded favors. The Virginia House passed the bill, 74-22, on February 15, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on the same day.

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### HB 1510

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRAL PLANNING SCHEME

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates an “urban green space” incentive program. Specifically, the legislation authorizes any city or municipality to establish a program granting regulatory flexibility to businesses if they engage in the development or preservation of urban green spaces that “reduce the urban heat effect.” The specific flexibility includes reduced permitting fees or expedited permit approval with discretion given to localities on the type of permits that can be awarded. While environmental preservation is laudable, this program centrally plans urban development through ideologically selective regulatory flexibility for businesses based on their adherence to a green agenda. The Virginia House passed the bill, 72-27, on January 31, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 32-8, on February 22, 2023.

### HB 1664

#### GOVERNOR’S CRONY CATFISH GRANT PROGRAM

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill empowers the governor to oversee a specialized \$2 million taxpayer-funded grant program. Specifically, the legislation expands the existing Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund to include a new blue catfish processing and flash freezing initiative that gives the governor the authority to award reimbursable competitive taxpayer grants of \$250,000 to municipalities and other political subdivisions for specialized infrastructure. Instead of creating new taxpayer-funded government grants—run at the discretion of the governor—to deal with invasive species, lawmakers should embrace market-oriented incentives for Virginian outdoorsmen. The Virginia House passed the bill, 92-8, on February 2, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 21, 2023.

### HB 1783

#### NATURAL GAS USAGE PROTECTION (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prohibits local governments from imposing green mandates on the usage of natural gas. Specifically, the legislation prohibits any political subdivision of Virginia from adopting a resolution, ordinance, or other measure that mitigates or terminates the ability of a customer to acquire natural gas services from a utility provider. Additionally, the bill implements protections for building permits ensuring that any utility fees and restrictions imposed on natural gas providers must be similar to those of other utility providers. The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-47, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

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### HB 1821

#### MODEST SCHOOL CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP EXPANSION

##### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill expands the current Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit (EISTC) program. Specifically, the legislation eliminates some of the existing EISTC limitations for eligible lower-income kids and instead redefines eligible students as children who are residents of Virginia, whose family income does not exceed 300 percent of the federal poverty level, and who are of school age as defined in state law. Additionally, the bill increased the value of the credit from 65 percent to 100 percent of the donation made to the scholarship organization. The Virginia House passed the bill, 50-48, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 1842

#### CRONY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill establishes a new Business Ready

Sites Acquisition Program for the purpose of government-facilitated economic development. Specifically, the legislation authorizes the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to administer a program to acquire sites of at least 500 acres for “project-ready” economic development and enter into agreements with hand-selected large private employers. The bill also creates an associated \$450 million fund to utilize taxpayer dollars to purchase the sites in arrangements with large private sector entities to “fill gaps in the Commonwealth’s current portfolio.” This legislation rewards well-connected special interests at the expense of hardworking Virginians and attempts to centrally plan Virginia’s economic growth. The Virginia House passed the bill, 97-3, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 39-1, on February 23, 2023.

### HB 1874

#### NEW FRAUDULENT WELFARE MANDATE

##### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands the reach of the welfare state to low-income populations. Specifically, the

legislation creates a new Special Supplemental Nutrition Program targeted at recipients of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, mandates that all localities in Virginia participate in the WIC program, and eliminates the requirement that recipients show up in person when applying or renewing their participation in the program. The \$6 billion WIC program has a long history of fraud and this legislation makes fraudulent participation easier. The Virginia House defeated the bill, 45-54, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 1934

#### NEW STATE REGULATORY REFORM

##### PROVISION

##### (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill gives the legislature new tools for reining in excessive state regulations. Specifically, the legislation requires the Legislature to approve any regulation with an estimated fiscal impact of \$500,000 or more. This approach mirrors the federal REINS Act and provides an important check on unaccountable bureaucrats attempting

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to impose their ideological agenda through agency edicts. The Virginia House passed the bill, 53-46, on January 31, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 2138

#### SIGNIFICANT SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements new tax relief for businesses in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation reduces the existing state corporate income tax from 6 percent to 5 percent and provides a new small business deduction equal to 50 percent of the business interest currently disallowed beginning in January 2024. Estimates suggest that these measures will save businesses nearly \$300 million annually from the corporate rate cut and \$275 million with the expanded deduction over the next two years. The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-48, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 2297

#### STATE CATTLE CHECKOFF PROGRAM (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the state’s expiring checkoff program for the Cattle Industry Board through 2028 at its current rate of \$0.50 per head. Checkoff programs allow hand-picked interests in a particular agricultural industry to collude with the government to force their competitors to fund the promotion of their own products. These programs essentially serve as government-mandated taxes on smaller businesses. The Virginia House passed the bill, 97-0, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on February 15, 2023.

### HB 2319

#### SIGNIFICANT INCOME TAX REDUCTION (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill reduces the existing individual income tax rate in Virginia. Specifically, the legislation lowers the top state income tax rate from 5.75 percent to 5.5 percent and doubles the standard deduction for individuals to \$9,000

and married couples to \$18,000. Estimates suggest that these income tax reforms will provide \$428 million in tax relief for FY2024 and alleviate the tax burden for roughly 86 percent of Virginia taxpayers. The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-48, on January 24, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 2461

#### COVID LOCKDOWN RESTITUTION POLICY (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements a restitution initiative for Virginians harmed by state policies during the COVID-19 lockdowns. Specifically, the legislation requires all state government agencies to account for the total amount of fines and fees imposed on individuals, businesses, and non-profits, including suspension or revocation of licenses, to ascertain the total negative economic impact on hardworking Virginians who were punished by government policies. Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of Finance to develop procedures for full reimbursement to the affected individuals and businesses through the general fund.

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The Virginia House passed the bill, 52-47, on February 7, 2023. The Virginia Senate did not take it up.

### HB 2479

#### AMAZON SWEETHEART SUBSIDY PROGRAM

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill creates a massive new taxpayer-funded grant program for Amazon. Specifically, the legislation creates the Cloud Computing Cluster Infrastructure Grant Fund to provide tax incentives to Amazon to reimburse the company for the cost of construction, workforce development, and training of their employees as part of their data center investment plan in Virginia. The value of this reimbursement is estimated at \$140 million. Further, the legislation extends a special sales tax exemption for equipment acquired to set up Amazon’s data centers through 2040. This is flagrant corporate welfare and is a textbook case of the government putting the interests of well-connected companies above those of hardworking citizens. The Virginia House

passed the bill, 87-11, on February 21, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 31-9, on February 15, 2023.

### HB 6001

#### MISSED OPPORTUNITY AMENDED BUDGET AGREEMENT

**(CFGF OPPOSES)**

This bill establishes revised total spending for the FY2023 and FY2024 biennium. Total spending is estimated at \$165 billion, a \$3 billion increase from the original biennium budget passed last year. The legislation incorporates some pro-growth policies including a doubled standard deduction for single and married filers through 2026 as well as \$1 billion in one-time tax rebates. However, the proposal guarantees an additional 2 percent across-the-board pay raise on top of the previous 5 percent increases in both FY2023 and FY2024 for all state employees, locks in the crony Amazon corporate welfare sweetheart deal, increases higher education spending by \$190 million, and increases K-12 education funding by an additional \$645 million above the

previous agreement—raising baseline spending in a persistently inflationary environment. The Virginia House passed the bill, 86-4, on September 6, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-0, on the same day.

### SB 956

#### MASSIVE LOCAL CRONYISM EXPANSION (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new blueprint for localities to enact crony economic development schemes. Specifically, the legislation provides for localities to establish “business improvement districts” upon the approval of a majority of businesses in the proposed area. This allows municipalities to impose fees, provide special tax breaks, issue bonds, and implement direct taxpayer funding for select businesses in the improvement district. The broad nature of this authority expands the destructive habit of government picking winners and losers at every level of state government. The Virginia House passed the bill, 85-13, on February 16, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 38-2, on February 20, 2023.

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## SB 1035

### BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING EXPANSION

#### (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands the scope of the state’s infrastructure “good repair” program. Specifically, the legislation provides for bridges in otherwise “fair” condition to be eligible for funding whereas before such infrastructure had to be structurally deficient. Further, the bill eliminates the maximum annual allotment from the state board for each construction district, moving instead to a needs-based system. Given the expansion of the fund’s scope, these policies will necessitate higher spending levels and potentially politicize project funding with the removal of the maximum allotment and the imposition of the state board having a more prominent role in determining which district has a higher need. The Virginia House passed the bill, 69-28, on February 21, 2023. The Virginia Senate passed it, 40-0, on February 1, 2023.

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