

2010 Virginia General Assembly
VCCA Legislative Report
March 14, 2010

The 2010 session of the Virginia General Assembly has just adjourned. There were more than 2700 bills introduced in the 60 day session, which is somewhat less than the 3000 plus bills and resolutions that are normally considered in a long session. There were really no big surprises associated with the session, which had to be extended by one day as House and Senate negotiators needed extra time to come to terms with adoption of a two-year state budget that initially included a \$4 billion deficit.

This week there was one disappointment as HB 1041 which had easily passed the House and had the endorsement of the new Governor, came up before the Senate General Laws Committee and after a surprising objection raised by the chancellor of the community college system, was carried over to the next session (generally a nice way to kill a bill). I have previously detailed to you what this Bill did, and why it was beneficial to our sector. I had also worked closely with the manufacturers and state chamber of commerce lobbyists in support of the bill, and testified twice in favor of it.

Both I and the patron of the bill, Delegate Byron (R-Lynchburg) were caught completely off guard when the chancellor showed up at the very last consideration of the bill and spoke strongly against it. As a result the General Laws Committee, in a close 9 to 6 vote, voted to carry over the bill.

So the battle has been lost, but perhaps not the war. I have suggested to three sitting members of the VA. Workforce Council - including the Bill's patron -that this matter be brought up again before the next meeting of the Council, in May. One of the chancellor's arguments was that the content of the bill had not been vetted by the Council. So I am urging that at the next meeting of the Council, they do so and thereby make that objection go away. Secondly, I have suggested that a joint letter to the Governor be sent and signed by the CEOs of the the State Chamber, the VA Manufacturers Assoc, and me, expressing our support for the legislation and our disappointment in the position taken by the community college system.

Finally, as most of you know, the Governor appoints members to serve on the Council, and based on the action taken by the community colleges in opposing a Bill the Governor endorsed, one might assume that new appointees are going to have some rather strict marching orders regarding future legislation and other related matters.

Everything else in the attached matrix has been previously discussed.

Thank you for your continued support and generous PAC contributions. Both allow us to continue to influence legislation of importance to our sector.

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Composite view with notes

Bills	Committee	Last action	Date
HB 7 - Tata - Higher Education, Council of; duties.	(H) Committee on Education (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Approved by Governor-Chapter 68 (effective 7/1/10)	03/09/10
HB 300 - Dance - Tuition, in-state; eligibility for dependents of civilian personnel of the military.	(H) Committee on Education	(H) Left in Education	02/16/10
HB 471 - Dance - Community College Scholarship Match Program; created.	(H) Committee on Appropriations	(H) Left in Appropriations	02/16/10
HB 647 - Armstrong - Unemployment benefits; eligibility of individuals part-time employed and in training programs.	(H) Committee on Commerce and Labor	(H) Left in Commerce and Labor	02/16/10
HB 703 - Bulova - Vocational programs; definition.	(H) Committee on Education (S) Committee on Education and Health	(G) Approved by Governor-Chapter 67 (effective 7/1/10)	03/09/10
HB 961 - Crockett-Stark - Community College Scholarship Match Program; created.	(H) Committee on Education	(H) Left in Education	02/16/10
HB 996 - James - Education, Secretary of; name changed to Secretary of Education and Workforce Development.	(H) Committee on Education	(H) Stricken from docket by Education	01/20/10
HB 1005 - Athey - Community College Scholarship Match Program; created.	(H) Committee on Education	(H) Left in Education	02/16/10
HB 1006 - Athey - Higher educational institutions; funding disbursed based on total number of Virginia domiciles.	(H) Committee on Appropriations	(H) Left in Appropriations	02/16/10
HB 1007 - Athey - Higher educational institutions; governing body establish rules & regulations for undergraduates.	(H) Committee on Appropriations	(H) Left in Appropriations	02/16/10
HB 1011 - Athey - Community College System; establish programs and grant baccalaureate degrees in nursing, etc.	(H) Committee on Education	(H) Left in Education	02/16/10
HB 1041 - Byron - Workforce Council; reduces membership, Executive Committee shall review & recommend grant proposals.	(H) Committee on Commerce and Labor (S) Committee on Commerce and Labor	(S) Continued to 2011 in Commerce and Labor (9-Y 6-N)	03/08/10
HB 1043 - Byron - Chief Workforce Development	(H) Committee on	(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-	03/10/10

Officer; responsibilities.	Commerce and Labor <hr/> (S) Committee on Commerce and Labor	N)	
SB 166 - Edwards - Community College Scholarship Match Program; created.	(H) Committee on Appropriations <hr/> (S) Committee on Finance	(H) Subcommittee recommends laying on the table	03/01/10
SB 182 - Stosch - Two-Year College Transfer Grant Program; eligibility.	(H) Committee on Appropriations <hr/> (S) Committee on Finance	(H) Subcommittee recommends laying on the table	03/01/10
SB 323 - Ruff - Education, Secretary of; name changed to Secretary of Education and Workforce Development.	(H) Committee on Education <hr/> (S) Committee on General Laws and Technology	(H) Stricken from docket by Education	02/24/10
SB 598 - Herring - Vocational programs; definition.	(H) Committee on Education <hr/> (S) Committee on Education and Health	(S) Signed by President	03/12/10
SB 720 - Norment - Tuition; covered higher educational institutions to charge based on ability to pay.	(S) Committee on Education and Health	(S) Continued to 2011 in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N)	02/11/10
SB 731 - Reynolds - Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; created, report.	(H) Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions <hr/> (S) Committee on Education and Health	(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB731ER)	03/12/10