



Virginia Association Of
Community Services Boards, Inc.

Making a Difference Together

VACSB Legislative Update

March 4, 2026

This update is published weekly during the General Assembly Session. If you have questions or need information, please contact Heather Orrock at horrock@vacsb.org.

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VACSB CLEARINGHOUSE BILL DESIGNATION

DESIGNATION

Actively Support

Support

Monitor

Oppose

Actively Oppose

ACTION

Advocacy by VACSB Reps

Published Statement

Online Tracking

Published Statement

Advocacy by VACSB Reps

Bill	Catchline	Chief Patron	Committee	Last Action	Position	Date
HB1	Minimum wage; increases incrementally to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028.	Ward	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Passed by for the day (Voice Vote)	Monitor - Same as SB1	03/03/2026
HB5	Employment; paid sick leave, civil penalties.	Convirs-Fowler	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Passed by for the day (Voice Vote)	Monitor - Similar to SB199	03/03/2026
HB32	Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Advisory Committee; appointment of additional members.	Krizek	Education and Health	(S) Rereferred from Education and Health to Rehabilitation and Social Services (13-Y 0-N)	Monitor	02/19/2026
HB37	Developmental disability waivers; financial eligibility standards, sunset repeal.	Shin	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Reported from Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Actively Support	03/04/2026
HB43	Suicide; abolishes common-law crime, delayed effective date, report.	Simon		(S) Signed by President	Support	03/02/2026
HB66	Federal benefit programs; DMS & DSS shall study technology systems used to administer.	Feggans	Rehabilitation and Social Services	(S) Reported from Rehabilitation and Social Services and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Monitor	02/20/2026
HB178	Public schools; student support services, memoranda of understanding, report, effective clause.	Anthony	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Reported from Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Monitor - Similar to SB190	03/04/2026
HB209	Peer recovery specialists; VDH & DOC to develop guidelines for hiring.	Price		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor - Similar to SB608	03/03/2026
HB225	Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force; created.	Hope		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Same as SB514	02/26/2026

HB231	Autism Advisory Council; name change, membership, staffing, powers and duties.	Cohen	Rules	(S) Reported from S-Rules committee with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (14 Y 0 N)	Oppose - Position moved from Support to Oppose as a result of the S-Rules committee substitute. Related bill SB280	03/02/2026
HB245	Jurisdiction of district courts in felony cases; specialty dockets, Behavioral Health Docket Act.	Watts		(S) Signed by President	Monitor	03/02/2026
HB246	Mental illness, neurocognitive disorder, etc.; affirmative defense or reduced penalty.	Watts	Courts of Justice	(S) Reported from Courts of Justice with amendments and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (9-Y 5-N)	Support	02/23/2026
HB247	Deferred dispos. in criminal case; persons with autism, intellectual, or developmental disabilities.	Watts		(H) Bill text as passed House and Senate (HB247ER)	Support - Same as SB416	03/04/2026
HB248	Interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements; development of behavioral health co-response teams.	Watts		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to SB317	03/02/2026
HB257	Comprehensive plan; social determinants of health.	Simonds		(S) Passed by for the day Block Vote (Voice Vote)	Monitor	03/03/2026
HB298	Public elementary or secondary school students; evidence-based restorative disciplinary practices.	McQuinn	Education and Health	(S) Senate subcommittee offered	Monitor	02/26/2026

HB308	Va. ABC Authority; permitting of retail tobacco product retailers, etc.	Hope	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (15-Y 0-N)	Actively Support - Similar to SB620	03/04/2026
HB309	Hospitals; temporary detention for testing, observation, or treatment.	Hope		(S) Passed by for the day Block Vote (Voice Vote)	Monitor	03/03/2026
HB355	Public school students in grades six through 12; annual mental health screening.	Gardner		(S) Passed Senate with substitute (21 Y 19 N 0 A)	Monitor	03/02/2026
HB453	Comprehensive mental health, substance abuse, & developmt. disability crisis services; written plan.	Willett		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor - Same as SB513	03/03/2026
HB481	Prior authorization; requiring physician review for denial.	Hope	Commerce and Labor	(S) Committee substitute printed 26108765D-S1	Monitor	03/03/2026
HB548	Uniform Health Care Decisions Act; civil penalty.	Hope	Courts of Justice	(S) Senate committee offered	Pending	03/02/2026
HB577	Social work; applicants for licensure, criminal background check.	Glass	Courts of Justice	(S) Committee substitute printed 26108952D-S1	Monitor	03/03/2026
HB632	Kinship foster care; barrier crime waiver, report.	Callsen		(H) Bill text as passed House and Senate (HB632ER)	Support - Similar to SB305. Related bill HB1060	03/03/2026
HB642	Cannabis control; establishes framework for creation of retail marijuana market, penalties, report.	Krizek		(S) Passed by for the day (Voice Vote)	Monitor - Same as SB542	03/03/2026
HB652	Parental prenatal & postnatal substance use; work group to evaluate Commonwealth's response to use.	Hayes		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor - Similar to SB133. Related bills SB36 and HB283.	03/03/2026

HB656	Mental health and substance abuse disorders; network adequacy standards, comparative analyses.	Willett	Education and Health	(S) Reported from S-Education and Health committee with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15 Y 0 N)	Support - Same as SB524. Was listed as Monitor, moved to Support on 2/4	03/03/2026
HB681	Retired law-enforcement officers; emergency and temporary detention admissions.	Hayes		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor - Similar to SB75 and SB395	03/03/2026
HB712	Office-based buprenorphine treatment; Board of Medicine to amend regulations.	Wachsmann		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to SB641	02/26/2026
HB896	Substantial Risk Order Training Program; established, report.	Sullivan	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (10-Y 5-N)	Monitor - Related bills HB901 and SB495	03/04/2026
HB901	Substantial risk orders; eligible petitioners, court jurisdiction, constr. possession of firearms.	Sullivan		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Related bill HB896	03/02/2026
HB931	Recovery residences; regulations.	Simon	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Reported from Finance and Appropriations with substitute (15-Y 0-N)	Monitor - Similar to SB270	03/04/2026
HB944	Workplace violence; policy required for certain employers, civil penalty, delayed effective date.	Clark	Commerce and Labor	(S) Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor	Monitor	02/18/2026
HB976	Person in temporary detention process; alternative transportation provider.	Price		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor	03/03/2026

HB996	Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition Program; plan for expansion of Program.	Seibold		(S) Signed by President	Monitor	02/26/2026
HB1014	Incapacitated persons; finding of lack of capacity to understand act of voting.	Tran		(S) Passed by for the day (Voice Vote)	Support - Similar to SB34	03/03/2026
HB1060	Foster and adoptive homes; barrier crimes, exceptions.	Callsen		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Related bills HB632 and SB305	02/26/2026
HB1097	Driver communication improvement program; drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, etc.	Laufer		(S) Signed by President	Support - Related bills HB517 (died, would have expanded the program) and SB309 (requires driver education programs to include information about the program)	02/26/2026
HB1147	Medicine and Nursing, Boards of; continuing education, bias reduction training.	Hayes		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Similar to SB22	03/02/2026
HB1207	Paid family & med. leave insurance program; definitions, notice requirements, civil action, report.	Sewell	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Committee substitute printed 26109116D-S2	Monitor - Similar to SB2	03/04/2026
HB1229	Public schools; use of seclusion and restraint, report.	Scott, P.A.	Education and Health	(S) Assigned Education sub: Public Education	Monitor	02/26/2026
HB1282	Licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners; licensure by endorsement, etc.	Cole, J.G.	Education and Health	(S) Assigned Education sub: Health Professions	Monitor	02/27/2026

HB1292	Temporary detention; certified evaluators, sunset extended.	Price		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Actively Oppose - Same as SB735	03/03/2026
HB1304	Individuals receiving services in a hospital, training center, etc.; right to send and receive mail.	Ware	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Rereferred to Finance and Appropriations	Monitor - Similar to SB580	03/02/2026
HB1318	Hospitals; emergency department physicians.	Willett		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor - Same as SB738	03/02/2026
HB1357	Nursing facilities; comprehensive study of quality of care, etc., and operational practices.	McQuinn	Rehabilitation and Social Services	(S) Reported from Rehabilitation and Social Services and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Monitor	02/20/2026
HB1370	Service providers; regulations for providers to individuals with developmental disabilities.	Mehta	Education and Health	(S) Rereferred from Education and Health to Rehabilitation and Social Services (14-Y 0-N)	Monitor - Related bill HB1380	02/19/2026
HB1405	Social services, local dept. of social services allowed to pay reasonable funeral expense.	McClure		(S) Signed by President	Actively Support	02/26/2026
HB1411	Defendant; evidence of mental condition admissible.	Schmidt	Courts of Justice	(S) Referred to Committee for S-Courts of Justice	Monitor	02/20/2026
HB1414	Children; certain injuries to be reported by physicians, etc., penalties for failure to report.	McQuinn	Courts of Justice	(S) Reported from S-Courts of Justice committee with substitute and rereferred to Finance and Appropriations (15 Y 0 N)	Monitor	03/03/2026

HB1489	Hospitals; reports of threats or acts of violence against health care providers.	Tran		(S) Passed Senate (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor	03/02/2026
HB1523	Certified violence prevention professional; requirements for certification.	McGuire	Education and Health	(S) Senate subcommittee offered	Monitor	03/03/2026
HJ25	Non-Apparent Disabilities Awareness Wk; designating 3rd full week of Oct 2026 & each succeeding yr.	Price		(S) Agreed to by Senate Block Vote (Voice Vote)	Support	03/03/2026
SB1	Minimum wage; increases incrementally to \$15.00 per hour by January 1, 2028.	Lucas		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB1ER)	Monitor - Same as HB1	03/04/2026
SB2	Paid family and medical leave insurance program; definitions, notice requirements, civil action.	Boysko	Labor and Commerce	(H) Committee substitute printed 26109083D-H1	Monitor - Similar to HB1207	03/03/2026
SB18	Children; adjudication of delinquency.	Locke		(H) Read second time	Monitor	03/03/2026
SB22	Medicine and Nursing, Boards of; continuing education, bias reduction training.	Locke		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Similar to HB1147	02/26/2026
SB34	Incapacitated persons; finding lack of capacity to understand voting, court makes specific finding.	Favola		(H) Read second time	Support - Similar to HB1014	03/03/2026
SB35	Juvenile & domestic relations district courts; delinquent juv., mental health/disability evaluation.	Favola	Courts of Justice	(H) Reported from Courts of Justice and referred to Appropriations (22-Y 0-N)	Monitor	03/02/2026
SB75	Emergency and temporary detention transportation; alternative transportation providers, etc.	Lucas		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - SB395 was incorporated on 1/23. Similar to HB681	03/02/2026
SB171	Minors admitted to inpatient treatment; copies provided to public elementary and secondary schools.	Favola	Education	(H) Committee substitute printed 26108179D-H1	Monitor	03/04/2026

SB190	Certified student support agencies; DOE to assess impact of developing program for students.	Williams Graves	Education	(H) Committee substitute printed 26108810D-H1	Monitor - Similar to HB178	03/04/2026
SB198	Individuals with developmental or intellectual disabilities; admissibility of statements.	Favola	Courts of Justice	(H) Reported from Courts of Justice with amendment(s) and referred to Appropriations (15-Y 7-N)	Monitor	03/02/2026
SB199	Employment; paid sick leave, civil penalties.	Favola		(H) Passed House with substitute (63-Y 35-N 0-A)	Monitor	03/03/2026
SB270	Recovery residences; regulations.	VanValkenburg		(H) House requested conference committee	Monitor - Similar to HB931	03/04/2026
SB280	Autism Advisory Council; repeals council, advisory Board established, report, sunset.	Aird	Rules	(H) Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (5-Y 0-N)	Support - Position moved from Oppose to Support as a result of the H-RUL Studies Subcommittee substitute. Related to HB231	03/02/2026
SB305	Kinship foster care; barrier crime waiver, report.	Pekarsky		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB305ER)	Support - Similar to HB632. Related bill HB1060	03/04/2026

SB309	Driver education programs; voluntary initiatives for drivers with autism spectrum disorder.	Pekarsky		(H) Passed House (97-Y 0-N 0-A)	Support - Related bills HB517 (expands program) and HB1097 (edu. for LEOs and EMS about program)	03/03/2026
SB317	Interjurisdictional law-enforcement agreements; development of behavioral health co-response teams.	Perry		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to HB248	02/18/2026
SB335	Mental illness, neurocognitive disorder, etc.; affirmative defense or reduced penalty.	Boysko		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to HB246	02/24/2026
SB416	Deferred dispos. in criminal case; persons with autism, intellectual, or developmental disabilities.	Boysko		(S) Fiscal Impact Statement from Department of Planning and Budget (SB416)	Support - Same as HB247	03/02/2026
SB421	Pharmacist; remote verification and counseling in opioid treatment programs.	Favola		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB421ER)	Actively Support	03/04/2026
SB495	Substantial risk orders; eligible petitioners, court jurisdiction, constr. possession of firearms.	Deeds		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Related bills HB901 and HB896	02/27/2026
SB513	Comprehensive mental health, substance abuse, & developmt. disability crisis services; written plan.	Deeds		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Same as HB453	02/27/2026
SB514	Marcus Alert Evaluation Task Force; created.	Deeds		(S) Signed by President	Monitor - Same as HB225	02/27/2026
SB524	Mental health & substance abuse disorders; network adequacy standards, comparative analyses, report.	Deeds		(H) House requested conference committee	Support - Same as HB656. Was listed as Monitor, moved to Support on 2/4	03/04/2026

SB528	Misdemeanor proceedings; competency treatment.	Stanley		(H) Committee substitute agreed to	Support - Same as HB1105	03/04/2026
SB542	Cannabis control; establishes framework for creation of retail marijuana market, penalties, report.	Aird		(H) Read second time	Monitor - Same as HB642 (Incorporates SB826)	03/03/2026
SB580	Individuals receiving services in a hospital, training center, etc.; right to send and receive mail.	Peake		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB580ER)	Monitor - Similar to HB1304	03/04/2026
SB608	Peer recovery specialists; VDH & DOC to develop guidelines for hiring.	Pillion		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to HB209	02/26/2026
SB620	Va. ABC Authority; permitting of retail tobacco product retailers, etc.	Ebbin	Appropriations	(H) Reported from Appropriations (21-Y 1-N)	Actively Support - Similar to HB308	03/02/2026
SB637	Virginia Human Rights Act; definition of "employer."	Ebbin	Labor and Commerce	(H) Committee substitute printed 26108737D-H1	Monitor	03/03/2026
SB641	Office-based buprenorphine treatment; Board of Medicine to amend regulations.	Pillion		(S) Signed by President	Support - Similar to HB712	03/02/2026
SB699	Virginia Freedom of Information Act; public bodies to post meeting agendas.	Ebbin		(H) Passed House (98-Y 0-N 0-A)	Monitor	03/03/2026
SB735	Temporary detention; certified evaluators, sunset extended.	Diggs		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB735ER)	Actively Oppose - Same as HB1292	03/04/2026
SB738	Hospitals; emergency department physicians.	Jordan		(S) Bill text as passed Senate and House (SB738ER)	Monitor - Same as HB1318	03/04/2026

Dead Bills

Bill	Catchline	Chief Patron	Committee	Last Action	Position	Date
HB159	Va. Freedom of Information Act; proceedings for enforcement, petition for mandamus or injunction.	Simon	General Laws and Technology	(S) Continued to next session in General Laws and Technology (13-Y 1-N)	FYI	02/25/2026
HB707	State government; transaction of public business, prohibited website domains.	Hayes	General Laws and Technology	(S) Continued to next session in General Laws and Technology (15-Y 0-N)	Monitor	02/25/2026
HB852	Indigent defendant; abolition of fees, legal representation, jury trial costs, report.	Cousins	Courts of Justice	(S) Continued to next session in Finance and Appropriations (14-Y 0-N)	FYI	03/03/2026
HB882	Innovative Internship Fund and Program; eligibility of local government employers & matching funds.	Sullivan	Finance and Appropriations	(S) Stricken at request of Patron in Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Support	03/03/2026
HB1495	Medicaid; oversight of services facilitation for consumer directed services.	Tran	Education and Health	(S) Continued to next session in Finance and Appropriations (15-Y 0-N)	Support	03/04/2026
SB21	DJJ; transfer of responsibility to Secretary of Health and Human Resources.	Locke	Rules	(H) Subcommittee recommends continuing to (Voice Vote)	FYI - Similar to HB1293	03/02/2026

SB56	FOIA; procedure for responding to requests, charges, posting of notice of rights & responsibilities.	Roem	General Laws	(H) Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (10-Y 0-N)	FYI	02/24/2026
SB210	Positive behavior support facilitators; scope of practice, supervision, and qualifications.	DeSteph	Health and Human Services	(H) Subcommittee recommends continuing to (Voice Vote)	Support	02/26/2026
SB269	Mental health service providers; definitions, use of artificial intelligence system civil penalty.	Favola	Communications, Technology and Innovation	(H) Continued to next session in Communications, Technology and Innovation (Voice Vote)	Monitor - Similar to HB668	03/02/2026
SB603	School boards; policies relating to volunteer student life counseling and support services.	Reeves	Education	(H) Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (7-Y 3-N)	FYI	03/03/2026
SB689	Oral threat to kill or to do bodily harm; employees of local or state dept. of social serv. penalty.	Mulchi	Courts of Justice	(H) Continued to next session in Courts of Justice (Voice Vote)	Monitor - Similar to HB1159	03/02/2026