



# HANOVER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

## 2012 General Assembly Session

---

### **2012 Legislative Agenda Action Items**

- Request that the General Assembly direct the appropriate state agency to conduct or coordinate a study of whether and how it would be possible to improve the ability of local emergency communications centers to handle high call volumes during public emergencies, through mutual assistance or otherwise.
- Request that the General Assembly amend Va. Code 2.2-3109 to clarify that a family member of a government employee may enter into a contract to supply goods or services to the governmental agency as long as the employee has no control or influence over the contract.
- Request that a third urban at-large seat be added to the Commonwealth Transportation Board to be filled by a resident of the Richmond-Petersburg Metropolitan Statistical Area. Historically, the two urban at-large seats have been filled with citizens residing in the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads areas.

### **Positions on Legislation Anticipated to Come before the 2012 Session**

- Support legislation that would provide counties with the same local taxing authority as cities in order that counties might reduce their dependence on real estate and personal property taxes.
- Oppose legislation that would eliminate or phase out the authority for machinery and tools taxes or business professional occupation license taxes unless alternative and equivalent additional revenue sources are made available to localities.
- Oppose legislation that would expand the categories of students whose parents do not reside in Hanover for whom Hanover would be mandated to provide free public education.
- Support amendments to Title 51.1 to establish a defined contribution plan through the Virginia Retirement System as an option for localities, in lieu of the defined benefit plan.
- Oppose any state mandated changes to locally funded VRS programs.
- Support legislation that would authorize payment of cash proffers at the time of final building inspection and not at the time of occupancy.
- Support SJ3 and HJ3, the Senate and House bills containing the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Virginia regarding eminent domain.

## **Positions on Legislation Anticipated to Come before the 2012 Session – continued**

- Support legislation that would assure local government authority to apply zoning laws and comprehensive plans to all private businesses, including liquor stores and assisted living facilities.
- Oppose any amendment to Va. Code § 22.1-79.1 governing the date for the opening of the school year.
- Support allowing local governments to use the same actuarial assumptions as the State in determining VRS contribution rates.

## **Legislative Policy Statements**

- Support the protection of existing authority regarding local budget decisions and oppose any shifting of funding responsibility from the state to localities for new or existing programs.
- Support the protection of existing local government authority in all areas including revenue and land use.
- Support environmental regulations and programs that are scientifically valid and reasonably cost effective and that will result in substantial and demonstrable improvements to the environment.
- Support equitable reallocation of revenue and service responsibilities between the state and localities to provide for ongoing stability in taxation and the delivery of government services.
- Support the development of alternative funding sources, in lieu of cash proffers, for capital improvements required to serve new residential development.