

# Water in the 2017 Virginia General Assembly

The 2017 Virginia General Assembly session convened January 11 and adjourned February 25. All non-revenue bills were to be filed by January 20. The reconvened (“veto”) session was held April 5.

In the tables below, the Virginia Water Resources Research Center lists 167 measures in the 2017 Assembly dealing with water resources directly or indirectly, including two budget bills. Inventories from previous General Assembly sessions, back to 1998, are available via this link: <http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/virginia-water-legislation/>.

The list comes from the Legislative Information System (LIS) Web site at <http://lis.virginia.gov/> (also at <http://leg1.state.va.us> in a slightly different format), in the categories indicated by sub-headings below. Bills are listed under only one category, even if LIS listed them more than once. The categories searched and the bills listed include all those with *direct* water relevance (such as bills in the “Water and Sewer Systems” category) as well as those with a *potential or indirect* relevance to water (such as bills dealing with land conservation, energy, or transportation projects). The list below *does not necessarily include all bills* that potentially affect Virginia’s water resources.

Within each category, bills are listed in order of their **bill number**, using the following abbreviations: **HB** = bill started in House of Delegates; **HJ** = joint resolution started in the House; **SB** = bill started in the Senate; and **SJ** = joint resolution started in the Senate. Numbers in the left-hand column have been added by the Water Center for cross-referencing among the bills.

The **bill titles and descriptions** (third column from left) are taken from the LIS site, edited in some cases for clarity, space, or both. The right hand-column lists the **status of bills**—that is, a given bill’s location in House or Senate, the committee currently considering the bill (e.g., “House ACNR” or “Senate Local Government”), and whether the bill has passed or failed in those locations (please note that “reported” from a committee is effectively equivalent to “passing” the committee). The status given is according to information available on the LIS Web site following the April 5, 2017, reconvened session. **Click on the underlined bill numbers** to access more detailed bill information at the LIS site.

**Frequently used abbreviations in the tables:** House ACNR = House Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources Committee; Senate ACNR = Senate Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources Committee; DCR = Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; DEQ = Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; DGIF = Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; DMME = Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy; JLARC = Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; SCC = State Corporation Commission; SWCB = State Water Control Board; VDH = Virginia Department of Health; VDOT = Virginia Department of Transportation; VMRC = Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

## APPROPRIATIONS/BUDGET

Budget bills in every odd-number year's shorter session include proposed changes (amendments) to the current biennial budget, which was approved in the preceding even-numbered year's longer session. Budget amendments are organized into operating expenses, capital expenses, miscellaneous, and general provisions (spending policies). Within the operating and capital expenses sections, the bills' proposals are organized into the Commonwealth's secretariats. For example, the provisions of HB 1500 (the budget bill passed in 2017) for departments under the Secretary of Natural Resources are available online at <https://budget.lis.virginia.gov/secretariat/2017/1/HB1500/Chapter/1/office-of-natural-resources/>. LIS information on the state budget process in 2017 is available online at <https://budget.lis.virginia.gov/default/2017/1/>.

1.	<b>HB 1500</b>	<b>House budget bill for current biennium.</b> Amendments to Chapter 780 of the 2016 General Assembly, which appropriated funds for the 2016-18 Biennium, ending on the 30 <sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.	Passed House and Senate on 2/25/17; many governor recommendations considered 4/5/17; certain additional actions taken by governor; approved by governor 4/28/17.
2.	<b>SB 900</b>	<b>Senate budget bill for current biennium.</b> Amendments to Chapter 780 of the 2016 General Assembly (which appropriated funds for the 2016-18 Biennium), ending on the 30 <sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.	Passed Senate; failed in House Appropriations.

## CONSERVATION

### Land Conservation Policy and Tax-credit Bills

3.	<b>HB 1470</b>	<b>Land preservation tax credits; limitations.</b> Would have imposed a \$2 million limit on the amount of credits that may be claimed for each land conveyance and a \$20,000 limit on the annual amount of credits that may be claimed by each taxpayer; set a \$50,000 cap on the annual amount of credits that may be claimed for a fee simple donation of land to the Commonwealth; limited the maximum annual amount of credits that may be issued to all taxpayers to \$50 million; and increased the fee imposed upon any transfer arising from the sale of land preservation tax credits by any taxpayer from two to 2.5 percent of the value of the donated interest.	Failed in House Finance.
4.	<b>HB 1476</b>	<b>Real property tax assessment for land preservation.</b> Prohibits any locality from requiring any taxpayer who is the lessor of real property to produce the lease for the purpose of determining whether the property is eligible for special assessment for land preservation.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
5.	<b>HB 1565</b>	<b>Local tax and regulatory incentives; green development zones authorized.</b> Authorizes localities to create "green development" zones that provide certain tax incentives and regulatory flexibility for businesses operating in an energy-efficient building or producing goods used to reduce negative impact on the environment.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
6.	<b>HB 1635</b>	<b>Historic rehabilitation tax credit; per taxpayer limitation.</b> Would have limited to \$5 million per year the	Failed in House Finance.

		amount of historic rehabilitation tax credits that may be claimed by each taxpayer, including any amounts carried over from prior taxable years. See related HB 2460 (#8).	
7.	HB 2150	<b>Land preservation tax credit; lower per taxpayer limitation extended to 2017.</b> Companion bill is SB 963 (#9); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in House Finance.
8.	HB 2460	<b>Historic rehabilitation tax credit; per taxpayer limitation for 2017 only.</b> Limits to \$5 million the amount of historic rehabilitation tax credits that may be claimed by each taxpayer, including any amounts carried over from prior taxable years, for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2017, but before January 1, 2019. Companion bill is SB 1034 (#10).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
9.	SB 963	<b>Land preservation tax credit; lower per taxpayer limitation extended to 2017.</b> Extends to taxable year 2017 the \$20,000 limit on the amount that a taxpayer may claim per year under the land preservation tax credit, but retains the \$50,000 limit for each subsequent taxable year. Companion bill is HB 2150 (#7).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
10.	SB 1034	<b>Historic rehabilitation tax credit; per taxpayer limitation for 2017 only.</b> Companion bill is HB 2460 (#9); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
11.	SB 1286	<b>Land preservation tax credits; withholding tax of nonresident owners.</b> Provides that the two-percent transfer fee for land preservation tax credits shall <i>not</i> apply to a distribution of credits to a nonresident owner of a pass-through entity when such credits are applied by the pass-through entity to the withholding tax of the nonresident owner.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
12.	SB 1540	<b>Aggregate caps for rehabilitation tax credit, research and development expenses tax credit, major research and development expenses tax credit, and land preservation tax credit.</b> Would have reduced the total aggregate caps of these tax credits over a period of 10 years, so that no credits were available for any of the credits beginning in 2027.	Failed in Senate Finance.

### Other Conservation Bills

13.	HB 1454	<b>James River; designating additional portion as component of Virginia Scenic Rivers System.</b> Extends the scenic river designation of a portion of the James River located in Botetourt and Rockbridge Counties from 14 miles to 59 miles. Companion bill is SB 1196 (#30).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
14.	HB 1506	<b>Vacant developed property; cutting overgrown shrubs and trees.</b> Would have defined “other foreign growth” as overgrown shrubs and trees for purposes of existing law authorizing localities to require owners of vacant developed property to cut “grass, weeds, and other foreign growth” and for localities—after reasonable notice—to cut such materials on vacant developed property and charge the cost to the owner.	Failed in House Counties, Cities and Towns.
15.	HB 1597	<b>Local stormwater management utility; waiver of charges for stormwater retained and treated on site.</b> Requires any locality establishing a stormwater management utility to provide a full or partial waiver of charges not only for “a stormwater management facility that achieves a permanent	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		reduction in stormwater flow or pollutant loadings” (as in existing law) but also for “[any] other such other facility, system, or practice whereby stormwater runoff produced by the property is retained and treated on site in accordance with an [approved] stormwater management plan.”	
16.	HB 1759	<b>Redeemable beverage containers.</b> Would have required that all beverage containers, as defined in the bill, sold in Virginia have a redemption value of five cents.	Failed in House ACNR.
17.	HB 1774	<b>Stormwater law delay and creation of work group.</b> The bill delays from July 1, 2017, to July 1, 2018, the effective date of new stormwater laws enacted during the 2016 Session of the General Assembly. It also directs the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency to convene a work group to consider alternative methods of stormwater management in rural Tidewater localities. The work group is to review and consider the creation of rural development growth areas, the development of a volume credit program, the payment of fees to support regional best management practices, and the allowance of the use of stormwater in highway ditches to generate volume credits. The group is to report by January 1, 2018, to the governor and the chairs of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
18.	HB 1793	<b>Burn ban; exception for freeze protection of orchard or vineyard.</b> Adds an exception to the ban on fires from February 15 through April 30 for fire set to prevent frost/freeze damage to orchards or vineyards.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
19.	HB 1974	<b>Clean Power Plan; state implementation.</b> Would have required DEQ to receive approval from the General Assembly for a state implementation plan to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants prior to submitting the plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval. A Senate amendment would have required a 2017 General Assembly appropriation for the bill to take effect.	Passed House; amended version passed Senate; Senate-amended version failed in House.
20.	HB 2123	<b>Conservation and replacement of trees in Planning District 8.</b> Would have authorized any locality in Planning District 8 to require developments to meet certain tree canopy requirements by 10 years, rather than the current authorization to have a 20-year time to meet the requirements. See related SB 930 (#26).	Failed in House Counties, Cities and Towns.
21.	HB 2159	<b>Litter from tobacco products.</b> Would have added cigarette or cigar butts to the definition of litter.	Failed in House ACNR.
22.	HB 2272	<b>Compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb recycling; local ordinances for returning bulbs.</b> Would have allowed any locality to require retailers of CFL bulbs to accept used bulbs from customers and to post written notice of that requirement, and required wholesalers to accept used bulbs and to pick them up from the point of collection within 90 days of collection.	Failed in House ACNR.
23.	HB 2311	<b>Nutrient Offset Fund; additional stipulations for the purchase and sale of credits.</b> Adds to the current requirement that the DEQ director to use certain funds to purchase nutrient credits for point or nonpoint sources that achieve reductions beyond the requirements of state or federal	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		law, that the purchase may be to achieve reductions beyond those required by the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan; directs the DEQ to establish procedures for distributing moneys from the Nutrient Offset Fund with certain requirements; requires the DEQ director to consider the recommendations of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade and the requirements of the State Water Control Law ( <i>Virginia Code</i> Sec. 62.1-44.2 <i>et seq.</i> ) in the sale of nutrient credits to <i>new or expanding private facilities</i> ; removes the priority given to nutrient offsets produced from facilities that generate electricity from animal waste; and renames nutrient “offsets” as nutrient “credits or allocations.”	
24.	HJ 636	<b>Study of economic impacts of litter on fishing, farming, and water quality in urban streams.</b> Would have requested the DEQ to study the economic impact of litter on fishing, farming, water, and other components of Virginia's economy; and to propose strategies, campaigns, and actions to protect Virginia’s economy from harm caused by litter and to promote the state’s economic welfare.	Failed in House Rules.
25.	HJ 691	<b>Study by VDOT of noise-abatement remedies.</b> Would have requested the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to develop procedures to assess the noise impact on neighborhoods that were previously studied for noise impact but were ineligible for noise-abatement remedies at the time of the study. Companion bill is SJ 233 (#32).	Failed in House Rules.
26.	SB 930	<b>Town of Vienna (Fairfax County); conservation and replacement of trees.</b> Would have added the Town of Vienna to those localities authorized to provide for the planting and replacement of trees, and the conservation of trees, during certain land development processes. See related HB 2123 (#20).	Failed in Senate Local Government.
27.	SB 984	<b>Water Quality Improvement Fund; water reuse facilities in definition of nutrient-removal technology.</b> Would have included, in the definition of “nutrient removal technology,” technologies in water-reuse facilities that reduce nutrient discharges	Stricken from Senate ACNR at request of patron.
28.	SB 1037	<b>Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act; required disclosures for local historic districts.</b> Adds to the diligence advised for any prospective purchaser of residential property, who receives a residential property disclosure statement wherein the owner makes no representations with respect to the presence of a historic district, to review “any materials available from the locality that explain (i) any requirements to alter, reconstruct, renovate, restore, or demolish buildings or signs in the local historic district and (ii) the necessity of obtaining any local review board or governing body approvals prior to doing any work on a property located in a local historic district.”	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
29.	SB 1097	<b>James River; designating additional portion as component of Virginia Scenic Rivers System.</b> Identical to HB 1454 (#13); please see that bill for summary.	Reported from Senate ACNR; failed on Senate floor.
30.	SB 1196	<b>James River; designating additional portion as component of Virginia Scenic Rivers System.</b> Companion bill is HB 1454 (#13); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

31.	SB 1518	<b>Recycling; scope of DEQ programs to include beneficial use.</b> Would have expanded the scope of the recycling programs supported by the DEQ to include beneficial use, defined as the use or reuse of a material that otherwise would become solid waste in a manufacturing process or as landfill cover, aggregate substitute, fuel substitute, or fill material; increased from every four years to every two years the frequency that solid waste planning units or localities submit a recycling survey report; and directed the DEQ to evaluate recycling rates statewide and make recommendations for increasing rates.	Failed in Senate ACNR.
32.	SJ 233	<b>Study by VDOT of noise-abatement remedies.</b> Companion bill is HJ 691 (#25); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in Senate Rules.

## DRAINAGE, SOIL CONSERVATION, SANITATION, AND PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES

33.	HB 1472	<b>State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act; exceptions for certain contracts entered into by an officer or employee of a soil and water conservation district.</b> Provides an exception to the prohibition against contracts between employing agencies and their officers or employees for contracts by an officer or employee of a soil and water conservation district (or an immediate family member of such officer or employee) to participate in cost-share programs for installation of best management practices to improve water quality. Companion bill is SB 965 (#35).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
34.	HB 1740	<b>Sanitary districts; creation by local governing body rather than circuit court.</b> Transfers authority to create or enlarge sanitary districts from the circuit court with jurisdiction over the locality in which the district is located to the governing body of the county in which the district is located; also adds certain criteria the governing body must meet.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
35.	SB 965	<b>State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act; exceptions for certain contracts entered into by an officer or employee of a soil and water conservation district.</b> Companion bill is HB 1472 (#33); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
36.	SB 1311	<b>Hampton Roads Sanitation District territory and membership.</b> Adds the Surry County, excluding the Town of Claremont, to the Hampton Roads Sanitation District territory; also adds a resident of Surry County as a potential appointee for the Commission member who under current law must be a resident of the City of Suffolk or Isle of Wight County.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

## EMINENT DOMAIN

37.	HB 2024	<b>Condemnation powers and proceedings; notice to owner or tenant.</b> Requires an authorized condemnor or the Commissioner of Highways, between 30 and 45 days prior to the filing or recordation of a certificate in any "quick take" condemnation proceeding, to give notice of the condemnation to the owner or tenant of freehold property subject to	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
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		condemnation; current law requires notice but does not provide a time frame within which such notice must be given. The bill also requires such condemnor to notify the owner or tenant within four business days of the filing or recording by providing a copy of the certificate by certified or registered mail.	
38.	HB 2124	<b>Just compensation for entry onto property by condemnor or natural gas company.</b> Would have required just compensation to a landowner from a condemnor or a natural gas company with the right of entry without the permission of the landowner, with the presumptive amount of such just compensation set at \$100, to be paid to the landowner in advance of the entry onto the property.	Failed in House Courts of Justice.
39.	SB 927	<b>Timing for initiation of “quick-take” condemnation procedure for just compensation.</b> Provides that an authorized condemnor in a “quick-take” condemnation proceeding shall institute such proceedings within 180 days of the recordation of a certificate terminating the interest of the owner of the property. Under current law, such proceedings must be instituted within 60 days after the completion of the construction of the improvements upon the property. The bill further provides that the owner of such property has 180 days after the authorized condemnor has entered upon and taken possession of the property, or after the recordation of a certificate, to petition the court for a determination of just compensation for the property taken or damaged by the authorized condemnor.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
40.	SB 1153	<b>Inverse condemnation proceeding; reimbursement of owner's costs for damage, not only for taking.</b> Directs courts to reimburse a plaintiff for the costs of an inverse condemnation proceeding for “ <i>damaging</i> ” property if a judgment is entered for the plaintiff. Under current law, the court is directed to award costs only for the “ <i>taking</i> ” of property. The amendment in this bill corresponds with the language of amendments to Article I, Section 11 of the <i>Constitution of Virginia</i> , which became effective on January 1, 2013, and applies to judgment proceedings filed on or after July 1, 2017.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
41.	SB 1421	<b>Condemnation proceedings; interest on the amount of award.</b> Provides that the interest on a condemnation proceeding award that is greater than the amount that the condemnor deposited with the court shall accrue at the judgment rate of interest as set forth in <i>Virginia Code</i> section <a href="#">8.01-382</a> (which refers back to section <a href="#">6.2-302</a> ).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

## ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES

42.	HB 1636	<b>Energy efficiency programs; total resource cost test of benefit/cost ratio.</b> Would have defined “total resource cost test” means a test to determine if the benefit-cost ratio of a proposed energy efficiency program or measure is greater than one, and provided that an energy efficiency program or measure that meets the total resource cost test is in the public interest, while an energy efficiency program or measure that fails the total resource cost test would have to be reviewed by the Commission under other tests for approving energy efficiency.	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
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43.	HB 1712	<p><b>Energy conservation or operational efficiency measures from an energy performance-based contract.</b> Provides that a public body (as a contracting entity) may purchase energy-conservation or -efficiency measures from an energy performance-based contract entered into by another contracting entity pursuant to the Energy and Operational Efficiency Performance-Based Contracting Act, even if the entity did not participate in the request for proposals if the request for proposals specified that the procurement was being conducted on behalf of other contracting entities; permits the use of cooperative procurement for energy conservation or operational efficiency measures in such instances; provides, however, that energy-conservation or -efficiency measures shall not include roof-replacement projects.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
44.	HB 1891	<p><b>Geothermal heat pump property expenditure tax credit.</b> Would have established a tax credit for taxable years 2017-2021. Companion bill is SB 1392 (#53).</p>	Failed in House Finance.
45.	HB 2018	<p><b>Virginia Alternative Energy and Coastal Protection Act;</b> Would have required that the governor seek to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative or other carbon-trading program and that the DEQ establish a carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program to reduce emissions from electricity generation. Revenues from the sale of carbon allowances would have been deposited in the Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund, a revolving fund established in 2016 (<a href="#">SB 282</a>) for mitigating future flood damage and helping residents and businesses that are subject to recurrent flooding.</p>	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
46.	HB 2303	<p><b>Small agricultural generators of electricity; establishes parameters of a program for selling electricity to a utility.</b> Establishes the parameters of a program under which small agricultural generators may sell the electricity they generate to its utility. Defines “small agricultural generator” as a customer who operates an electrical generating facility as part of an agricultural business, and which generating facility—among other conditions—has a capacity of not more than 1.5 megawatts, uses renewable energy as its total source of fuel, has a capacity that does not exceed 150 percent of the customer's expected annual energy consumption based on the previous 12 months of billing history, uses not more than 25 percent of contiguous land owned or controlled by the agricultural business for purposes of the renewable energy generating facility, and is a PURPA-qualifying small power production facility. (PURPA is the federal Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; information is online at <a href="https://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/other-regulatory-efforts/public">https://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/other-regulatory-efforts/public</a>.) Effective July 1, 2019, electricity generators may elect to interconnect as small agricultural generators or as “eligible agricultural customer-generators” (defined in previous law), but not both. Existing eligible agricultural customer-generators may elect to become small agricultural generators, but may not revert to being eligible agricultural customer-generators after such election. On and after July 1, 2019, interconnection of eligible agricultural customer-generators shall cease for electric cooperatives only, and such facilities shall interconnect solely as small agricultural generators. For electric cooperatives, eligible agricultural customer-generators whose</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		renewable energy generating facilities were interconnected before July 1, 2019, may continue to participate in net energy metering pursuant to this section for a period not to exceed 25 years from the date of their renewable energy generating facility's original interconnection. The program for small agricultural generators requires the generator to enter into a power purchase agreement with its supplier to sell all of the electricity generated at a rate not less than the supplier's SCC-approved avoided cost tariff for energy and capacity. The program also provides for utilities to recover distribution service costs and costs incurred to purchase electricity, capacity, and renewable energy certificates from the small agricultural generator. Companion bill is SB 1394 (#55).	
47.	<a href="#">HB 2390</a>	<b>Renewable energy power purchase agreements; expands pilot program to Appalachian Power (currently only applied to Dominion).</b> Expands the pilot program for renewable energy power purchase agreements authorized under legislation enacted in 2013 to include Appalachian Power (designated in the bill as “ <i>an investor-owned utility that was not bound by a rate case settlement adopted by the Commission that extended in its application beyond January 1, 2002</i> ”). Currently a pilot program is authorized only within Dominion Energy’s service territory. The measure provides that within the certificated service territory of Appalachian Power, non-profit, private institutions of higher education that are not being served under a specific renewable generation tariff provision are deemed to be customer-generators eligible to participate in the pilot program, without the requirement that they participate in the utility’s net energy metering program. The aggregated capacity of all generation facilities that are subject to third party power purchase agreements in Appalachian Power's pilot program is capped at seven megawatts. Appalachian Power's pilot program expires July 1, 2022.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
48.	<a href="#">HJ 575</a>	<b>Study by Department of General Services of energy savings through infrastructure investments.</b> Would have requested the Department of General Services to study and recommend infrastructure investments that can be made to maximize energy savings to the Commonwealth.	Failed in House Rules.
49.	<a href="#">SB 1197</a>	<b>Small renewable energy projects; restores requirement for State Corporation Commission (SCC) to review construction for projects of certain size or location.</b> Would have restored the requirement for SCC review of small renewable energy projects (removed in 2009) for those projects that either would disturb an area of 100 acres or more or would be located within five miles of a boundary between the political subdivision in which such project is located and another locality.	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.
50.	<a href="#">SB 1226</a>	<b>Virginia Freedom of Information Act exclusion for certain proprietary records and trade secrets related to solar energy.</b> Adds to existing exclusions from the mandatory disclosure provisions of FOIA the following: proprietary information, voluntarily provided by a private business under a promise of confidentiality from a public body, used by the public body for a solar services agreement. The bill requires the private business to specify the records for which protection is sought before submitting them to the public body and to state the	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		reasons why protection is necessary. The bill also allows a solar services agreement contractor or provider to designate specific provisions in a solar services agreement as proprietary information not subject to disclosure, and authorizes a city to withhold from disclosure such information provided by a private entity in connection with a franchise, lease, or use under a solar services agreement.	
51.	SB 1258	<b>Virginia Solar Energy Development Authority continuation, name change, and increase in membership.</b> Continues the Virginia Solar Energy Development Authority and renames it the Virginia Solar Energy Development and Energy Storage Authority; expands the purposes of the authority to include positioning the Commonwealth as a leader in research, development, commercialization, manufacturing, and deployment of energy storage technology; and expands the powers of the Authority promoting collaborative efforts among Virginia's public and private institutions of higher education in research, development, and commercialization efforts related to energy storage; monitoring relevant developments nationally and globally; and identifying and working with the Commonwealth's industries and nonprofit partners. The size of the Authority is expanded from 11 to 15 members.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
52.	SB 1388	<b>Electric utilities' margin on solar energy power purchase agreements.</b> Would have authorized any investor-owned incumbent electric utility to enter into, recover the costs of, and earn a margin on power purchase agreements (executed between July 1, 2017, and July 1, 2018) and for power generated by solar energy systems located in the Commonwealth and not constructed, owned, or operated by the utility. The capacity of such solar-energy systems would have to be at least two megawatts and the systems in the aggregate could have a capacity not more than one percent of the utility's adjusted Virginia peak-load forecast for the previous year.	Stricken in Senate Commerce and Labor at request of patron.
53.	SB 1392	<b>Geothermal heat pump property expenditure tax credit.</b> Companion bill to HB 1891 (#44); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in Senate Finance.
54.	SB 1393	<b>Electric utilities; community solar pilot programs.</b> Requires Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power to conduct a community solar pilot program for retail customers. A pilot program will authorize the participating utility to sell electric power to subscribing customers under a voluntary companion rate schedule, and the utility will generate or purchase the electric power from eligible generation facilities selected for inclusion in the pilot program. An eligible generation facility is an electrical generation facility that exclusively uses energy derived from sunlight; is placed in service on or after July 1, 2017; is not constructed by an investor-owned utility but is acquired by an investor-owned utility through an asset purchase agreement or is subject to a power purchase agreement under which the utility purchases the facility's output from a third party; and has a generating capacity not exceeding two megawatts, subject to an exception. Pilot programs will last three years unless renewed or made permanent by legislation.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

55.	SB 1394	<b>Small agricultural generators of electricity; establishes parameters of a program for selling electricity to a utility.</b> Companion bill is HB 2303 (#46); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
56.	SB 1395	<b>Certain small renewable energy projects eligibility for permits by rule.</b> Increases the maximum rated capacity of solar and wind facilities that qualify as small renewable energy projects from 100 megawatts to 150 megawatts (the capacity remains at 100 megawatts for facilities using falling water, wave motion, tides, or geothermal power; provides eligibility for a permit by rule from the DEQ and an exemption from environmental review and permitting by the SCC for small renewable energy projects that are proposed, developed, constructed, or purchased either by a public utility <i>if</i> the project's costs are not recovered from Virginia jurisdictional customers under base rates, a fuel factor charge, or a rate adjustment clause; by a utility aggregation cooperative; or by a person that is not a regulated utility. The measure exempts a small renewable energy project for which the DEQ has issued a permit by rule from the requirement that it obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction or operation of the project.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

## FISHERIES AND HABITAT OF TIDAL WATERS

57.	HB 1496	<b>Oyster planting grounds leasing; changes in requirements for VMRC notice of application for lease.</b> Same provisions as HB 2297 (#67), which passed.	Failed in House ACNR.
58.	HB 1517	<b>General permit for sand management in the Sandbridge Beach subdivision of Virginia Beach and in Norfolk.</b> Authorizes the Virginia Beach Wetlands Board to adopt a General Permit for Sand Management and Placement Profiles for properties in the Sandbridge Beach Subdivision of Virginia Beach, and authorizes the Norfolk Wetlands Board to adopt such a permit for properties in the City of Norfolk. The bill requires the General Permit and Placement Profiles to include the permissible cost-effective sand-management practices that property owners shall implement to protect and enhance the value of their property and to protect coastal primary sand dunes and public beaches. Any sand that is to be removed by the owner from his property must be judged to be "clean beach" sand prior to being transferred and placed in a spreading zone location.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
59.	HB 1572	<b>Registration as commercial fisherman; exemption from two-year waiting period for family member or employee.</b> Directs the VMRC to grant a preference for an exception to the two-year delay in the effective date of a registration as a commercial fisherman to registration applicants who are a member of the immediate family or a documented employee of a commercial fisherman who is retiring.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
60.	HB 1573	<b>VMRC license revocation; applied only to specific type of fishery at issue on first violation of tidal fisheries law.</b> Provides that when the VMRC revokes a fishing license for a violation of the tidal fisheries law, it shall revoke only the particular type of license that is applicable to the fishery in	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		which the violation occurred. The Commission may revoke other licenses upon a second violation within five years. Under previous law, the VMRC was authorized to revoke all of the fishing licenses a person has been granted upon a first violation, irrespective of the location and type of fish described in the license. The bill also requires the VMCR to accept credit card payment of civil penalties for fishing under a revoked license.	
61.	HB 1574	<b>Oysters culling violations; stipulations regarding scattering of oysters.</b> Provides that when a person charged with violating an oyster culling regulation is required to scatter the entire cargo of oysters on the public rocks, no portion of the cargo shall be scattered anywhere else. The bill also requires the VMRC to accept cash, check, or credit card payment of a bond paid in lieu of throwing the cargo overboard; previous law allowed only payments in cash.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
62.	HB 1575	<b>Oyster dredge transport through sanctuary areas.</b> Would have boats to carry or transport an oyster dredge or oyster dredging equipment through an oyster sanctuary area when traveling to or from licensed oyster grounds or docks for maintenance and repair of boats or equipment.	Failed in House ACNR.
63.	HB 1576	<b>Purse net fishing for Menhaden prohibited in additional areas.</b> Would have added the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries within one-half mile of mean low water and within three miles of the shoreline of Virginia Beach extending to the North Carolina border to the areas where Menhaden purse net fishing is prohibited.	Failed in House ACNR.
64.	HB 1577	<b>Menhaden fishery management by VMRC.</b> Would have transferred management of and regulatory authority for the Menhaden fishery from the General Assembly to the VMRC. Companion bill is SB 820 (#70).	Failed in House ACNR.
65.	HB 1680	<b>VMRC advisory groups: establishment of, or changes to, eight groups.</b> Would have established four advisory committees to make recommendations to the VMRC on issues relating to the management of crab, finfish, shellfish, and habitat; altered two existing advisory boards that deal with commercial fishing and recreational fishing, one existing advisory committee that deals with the Virginia Saltwater Sport Fishing Tournament, and one existing board that advises on the awarding of fishery resource grants; and provided that no member of any of the seven committees and boards shall be removed except for malfeasance, misfeasance, incompetence, or gross neglect of duty. The provisions of the bill establishing the four new committees would have expired on July 1, 2020.	Passed House; failed in Senate ACNR.
66.	HB 1796	<b>Lynnhaven River oyster ground leases subject to dredging for navigation.</b> Provides that certain oyster ground leaseholders in the Lynnhaven River are subject to the conduct of approved municipal dredging projects to restore existing navigation channels. The bill limits such projects to oyster grounds that are condemned, restricted, or otherwise nonproductive, and it requires the locality to compensate the lessee for the use of the ground. The bill directs that if the parties cannot agree on a compensation amount, a court of competent jurisdiction shall determine the value of the ground. The bill expires July 1, 2019. Companion bill is SB 1143 (#72).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

67.	HB 2297	<b>Oyster planting grounds: changes in requirements for VMRC notice of application for lease.</b> Requires the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) to post notice of an application to lease oyster planting grounds for <i>30 days</i> on its Web site and to notify by mail the county or city in which the grounds are located, any current holders of adjoining leases, and riparian owners within 200 feet of the selected grounds. Current law requires posting of notice for 60 days at the local courthouse and does not include the mail notice requirement. The bill also reduces from four weeks to two weeks the period during which the Commission is required to publish weekly notice of the application in a newspaper and requires all forms of notice to invite written comments. Companion bill is SB 1144 (#73).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
68.	HB 2298	<b>Riparian planting grounds lease; changing minimum low-water shorefront needed for eligibility.</b> Would have reduced from 205 feet to 105 feet the minimum low-water shore front that makes the landowner eligible to apply for riparian planting grounds assignment by the VMRC Commissioner. Companion bill is SB 1145 (#74).	Reported from House ACNR; failed in House Appropriations.
69.	HJ 572	<b>JLARC to study most appropriate means of regulation of Menhaden fishing.</b> Would have directed the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to study the most appropriate means of regulating the Menhaden fishing in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.	Failed in House Rules.
70.	SB 820	<b>Menhaden fishery management by VMRC.</b> Companion bill is HB 1577 (#64); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in Senate ACNR.
71.	SB 909	<b>Menhaden total allowable landings increased.</b> Raises the annual total of allowable landings for Menhaden from 158,700.12 metric tons to 168,937.75 metric tons.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
72.	SB 1143	<b>Lynnhaven River oyster ground leases subject to dredging for navigation.</b> Companion bill is HB 1796 (#66); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
73.	SB 1144	<b>Oyster-planting grounds: changes in requirements for VMRC notice of application for lease.</b> Companion bill is HB 2297 (#67); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
74.	SB 1145	<b>Riparian planting grounds lease; changing minimum low-water shorefront needed for eligibility.</b> Companion bill is HB 2298 (#68); please see that bill for summary.	Passed Senate; reported from House ACNR; failed in House Appropriations.
75.	SB 1205	<b>Commercial fishing vessels property taxation.</b> Classifies commercial fishing vessels and property permanently attached to such vessels as a separate class of property for the purpose of local personal property tax.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
76.	SB 1402	<b>Oyster-planting ground leases; VMRC to determine whether ground use plan necessary.</b> Would have given the VMRC authority to require an acceptable <b>ground use plan</b> as part of an application for leasing certain oyster-planting grounds.	Failed in Senate ACNR.

## GAME, INLAND FISHERIES, AND BOATING

77.	HB 1875	<b>Waterfowl blinds; reduces distance of floating blinds from stationary blinds.</b> Would have reduced from 500 yards to 250 yards the minimum distance a hunter, while hunting, is required to maintain between his licensed <i>floating</i> waterfowl blind and a licensed <i>stationary</i> blind.	Failed in House ACNR.
78.	HB 2450	<b>Hunting license; landowner to obtain a free license to hunt on own property.</b> Would have directed the adoption of regulations allowing a hunter to obtain a license at no cost for hunting on lands or inland waters that are either owned by the hunter or family member; owned by a domestic corporation, 50 percent or more of whose stock is owned by the hunter or a family member; or resided upon by the hunter and proof of consent of the landlord is carried during hunting.	Failed in House ACNR.
79.	SB 866	<b>Boating safety course; database listing operators who have passed course.</b> Directs the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) by July 1, 2018, to create a database listing the name, date of birth, and course-passage date of every person who has passed an approved boating safety course prior to July 1, 2018. Any person who passes the course after that date may add his information to the database. The bill prohibits a law-enforcement officer from issuing a citation for failure to pass the required boating safety course until he or she has checked the database for the identity of the motorboat operator.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
80.	SB 1224	<b>Landowner liability related to public recreational access to private property.</b> Provides that landowners who enter into an agreement with a public entity or nonprofit organization concerning the use of land for public recreation shall be immune from liability to a member of the public arising out of the recreational use of the land.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

## HEALTH

81.	HB 1539	<b>Virginia Freedom of Information Act.</b> This detailed bill has several provisions regarding public access to records of public bodies. As introduced, it provided an exclusion from mandatory disclosure requirements for the names and addresses of subscribers to <i>Virginia Wildlife Magazine</i> (published by DGIF), but that exclusion was removed from the final bill.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
82.	HB 2384	<b>Drinking water lead levels: state regulatory action levels to be lowered.</b> Would have directed the State Board of Health to adopt regulations setting the action level for lead in drinking water at 10 parts per billion (ppb) beginning January 1, 2018, and at five ppb beginning January 1, 2022; and would have authorized the Board to set action levels lower than those limits.	Failed in House Health, Welfare and Institutions.
83.	HB 2454	<b>Onsite treatment works; effluent quality standards and maintenance requirements.</b> Would have provided that effluent quality standards and maintenance requirements for onsite treatment works designed by individuals licensed as professional engineers shall not exceed those established in the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 Gallons Per Day for fresh water discharge.	Failed in House Health, Welfare and Institutions.

84.	HJ 639	<b>Study by Department of Health (VDH) of Commonwealth's drinking water infrastructure and oversight.</b> Would have requested the VDH Office of Drinking Water to study the Commonwealth's drinking water infrastructure and oversight of the drinking water system, particularly to identify problems or issues related to lead or copper contamination.	Failed in House Rules.
85.	SB 1577	<b>Alternative onsite sewage systems; sampling for 180-day biochemical oxygen demand.</b> Provides that the VDH shall evaluate the need for 180-day biochemical oxygen demand sampling of small alternative onsite sewage systems that serve no more than three attached or detached single-family residences with a combined average flow of less than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day of residential strength sewage, or a structure with an average daily sewage flow of less than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day of residential strength sewage. The VDH is to report its findings by December 1, 2017.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

## MINES AND MINING

86.	HB 1509	<b>Mineral mines reclamation: increase in amount of bonds, changes to provisions on liens, and increase of Minerals Reclamation Fund.</b> Increases, from a range of \$200 to \$1,000 per acre to a fixed amount of \$3,000 per acre, the mandatory bond amount furnished by operators on mining land; increases the minimum size of the Minerals Reclamation Fund from \$250,000 to \$2 million; and grants the Commonwealth a lien on operator property reclaimed by the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) director and sets out the process to perfect or waive such a lien.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
87.	HB 1678	<b>Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); exclusion for hydraulic fracturing trade secrets submitted to DMME.</b> Would have excluded—from FOIA mandatory disclosure provisions—trade secrets (as defined in the Virginia Uniform Trade Secrets) submitted to the DMME that identify the amount or concentration of chemicals or ingredients used to stimulate a hydraulic fracturing fossil fuel well. See related HB 1679 (#88). Companion bill is SB 1292 (#95).	Passed House; failed in Senate General Laws and Technology.
88.	HB 1679	<b>Hydraulic fracturing information distribution by DMME; provisions regarding trade secrets.</b> Would have authorized the DMME to require disclosure of chemical ingredient names, chemical abstracts numbers, or the amount or concentration of chemicals or ingredients used to stimulate a well, notwithstanding exclusion from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as a trade secret; would have authorized the DMME director to disclose such information to additional DMME staff or state or local officials to assist the department in responding to an emergency, but prohibited such individuals from disseminating such information further. See related HB 1678 (#87). Companion bill is SB 1291 (#94).	Passed House; failed in Senate ACNR (stricken at request of patron).
89.	HB 2198	<b>Coal tax; extends coal employment and production incentive tax credit and limits aggregate amount of</b>	Passed both houses but vetoed by

		<b>credits that may be allocated or claimed.</b> Would have reinstated the Virginia coal employment and production incentive tax credit, which expired on July 1, 2016; would have limited the aggregate amount of credits in each fiscal year to \$7.3 million; and would have extended the sunset date of the tax credit through taxable years beginning before January 1, 2022. Companion bill is SB 1470 (#98).	governor (veto sustained in House).
90.	HB 2200	<b>Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Fund; repeal of expiration date on raising the total amount.</b> Repeals the July 1, 2017, expiration date from 2014 legislation that raised the target balance of the Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Fund from \$1.75 million to \$20 million and that altered the method of deducting certain expenditures from the fund.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
91.	HB 2389	<b>Gas or oil drilling units escrowed proceeds; conditions for considering abandoned.</b> Would have provided that proceeds of certain gas or oil wells, escrowed because the owner's identity and location remain unknown, be presumed abandoned and made available to the school board nearest the drilling unit. Current law requires such escrowed proceeds to be disposed of pursuant to the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act.	Failed in House Finance.
92.	SB 910	<b>Virginia Oil and Gas Act; sampling and replacing contaminated wells.</b> Increases from 750 feet to 1,320 feet the radius of surface lands around gas wells within which well operators have a right to enter and obtain water samples from water wells and are required to replace contaminated water supplies.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
93.	SB 911	<b>Orphaned Well Fund; surcharge raised on permit fees that add to the fund.</b> Raises from \$50 to \$200 the surcharge to be paid by a gas or oil operator for a permit to conduct any activity other than geophysical operations, and contains other wording amendments.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
94.	SB 1291	<b>Hydraulic fracturing information distribution by DMME; provisions regarding trade secrets.</b> See related SB 1292 (#95). Companion bill is HB 1679 (#88); please see that bill for summary.	Reported from Senate General Laws and Technology; failed in Senate Finance.
95.	SB 1292	<b>Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); exclusion for hydraulic fracturing trade secrets submitted to DMME.</b> Companion bill is HB 1678 (#87); please see that bill for summary.	Reported from Senate General Laws and Technology; failed in Senate Finance.
96.	SB 1398	<b>Coal combustion residuals units: required assessments of closure plans and water-pollution impacts/corrective actions.</b> Requires the owner or operator of a coal combustion residuals unit (CCR unit) located in the Chesapeake Bay watershed (that is, Dominion Energy) to identify water pollution and address corrective measures to resolve it, evaluate the clean closure of the CCR unit by recycling the ash for use in cement or moving it to a landfill, and demonstrate the long-term safety of the CCR unit; requires the owner or operator of each CCR unit to transmit its assessment to the DEQ and other agencies or legislative committees by December 1, 2017; requires the DEQ director to delay the issuance of a permit to close any CCR unit	Passed both houses and approved by governor with recommendation.

		until May 1, 2018, or the effective date of any legislation adopted during the 2018 Regular Session of the General Assembly that addresses the closure of CCR units, whichever occurs later.	
97.	SB 1399	<b>Coal combustion by-product impoundments: closure requirements and closure deadline of July 1, 2021.</b> Would have directed the DEQ to require the closure of surface impoundments of coal combustion by-products, commonly called coal ash ponds, by July 1, 2021, for impoundments managed at an electric utility or independent power producer prior to December 22, 2016.	Stricken from Senate ACNR at request of patron.
98.	SB 1470	<b>Coal tax; extends coal employment and production incentive tax credit and limits aggregate amount of credits that may be allocated or claimed.</b> Companion bill is HB 2198 (#89); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses but vetoed by governor (veto sustained in Senate).

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANIES

99.	HB 1438	<b>Natural gas companies: right of entry to require identifying specific date of intended entry.</b> Would have required that a natural gas company's notice of intent to enter upon a property set forth the "specific" date of the intended entry. Current law does not use the term "specific."	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
100.	HB 1465	<b>Electric energy consumption reduction goal: progress reports by DMME and SCC.</b> Companion bill is SB 990 (#114); please see that bill (which passed) for summary.	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
101.	HB 1632	<b>Renewable energy production: property tax credit.</b> Would have established a tax credit for renewable energy property placed in service, equal to 35 percent of the installed cost of the renewable energy property, with certain restrictions.	Failed in House Finance.
102.	HB 1658	<b>Electric utility customer account information to be considered confidential.</b> Would have provided that an electric utility or any officer, agent, employee of the electric utility, or any other person the electric utility authorizes to receive customer account information in connection with any business of the electric utility, shall not knowingly disclose any customer account information to any person without the consent of the customer (subject to certain exceptions).	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
103.	HB 1671	<b>Natural gas utilities: changes to provisions for exemption on cap to investments in eligible infrastructure for establishing base rates.</b> Exempts any natural gas utility serving fewer than 2,000 residential customers and fewer than 350 commercial and industrial customers (in the year in which the utility makes an investment for qualifying projects) from the provision that limits the amount of investment that a natural gas utility may make in qualifying projects to one percent of its net plant investment that was used in establishing base rates in its most recent rate case. Legislation in 2012 established a mechanism for natural gas utilities to recover the eligible infrastructure development costs of a qualifying project through future rates. The previous exemption to the one-percent cap, enacted in 2013, applied to any natural gas utility serving fewer than 1,000 residential customers and fewer than 250 commercial	Passed both houses and approved by governor with a recommendation; both houses concurred in governor's recommendation.

		and industrial customers in such year. As passed by both houses, the 2017 bill would have restricted the exemption to Virginia's coalfield areas only, but a governor's recommendation removed that language. Companion bill is SB 1289 (#119).	
104.	HB 1703	<b>Electric and natural gas utilities: required to meet energy-efficiency goals.</b> Would have required investor-owned electric utilities, cooperative electric utilities, and investor-owned natural gas distribution utilities to meet incremental annual energy efficiency goals (electric utilities: two percent savings by 2032 and thereafter; gas utilities: one percent savings by 2032 and thereafter).	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
105.	HB 1760	<b>Hydropower: recovery of costs of pumped hydroelectricity generation and storage facilities in coalfield region.</b> Authorizes an investor-owned electric utility to petition the SCC for approval of a rate-adjustment clause for recovery of the costs of one or more pumped hydroelectricity generation and storage facilities that utilize associated on-site or off-site renewable energy resources as all or a portion of their power source, and such facilities and associated resources are located in the coalfield region of the Commonwealth. The measure provides that the requirement that a utility demonstrate that it has considered and weighed alternative options (including third-party market alternatives) in its selection process applies only to a generation facility that is described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subdivision A6 of Sec. 56-585.1 of the <i>Virginia Code</i> . See similar SB 1418, #122.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
106.	HB 1766	<b>Utility Facilities Act: associated facilities of an electrical transmission line; SCC approval to meet local planning/zoning requirements.</b> Provides that the issuance by the SCC of a certificate of public convenience and necessity for construction of an electrical transmission line of 138 kilovolts, plus any "associated facilities," shall be deemed to satisfy local comprehensive plan requirements and all local zoning ordinances with respect to the transmission line and associated facilities. The measure defines "associated facilities" as any station, substation, transition station, and switchyard facilities to be constructed <i>outside of any county operating under the county executive form of government that is located in Planning District 8</i> (e.g., Prince William County). Companion bill is SB 1110, #117.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
107.	HB 1800	<b>Renewable energy: allows individual retail customers to enter into third party power purchase agreements for generating renewable energy.</b> Would have authorized individual retail customers of electric energy to own and operate (or contract with others to own, operate, or both) a renewable electrical generating facility on the customer's premises under a third-party power purchase agreement that meets the "eligible customer-generator" requirements for nonresidential customers and agricultural customers under the Commonwealth's net energy metering program (requirements in subsection B of <i>Virginia Code</i> Section 56-594). See related SB 918 (#113).	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.
108.	HB 2112	<b>Community renewable energy projects: SCC to adopt rules to authorize and for their operation.</b> Would have requires the SCC to adopt rules for operation of community	Failed in House Commerce and Labor.

		<p>renewable projects, defined in the bill as solar or wind-powered electric generation facility with a capacity of not more than 20 megawatts and operated so that the electricity generated by the facility belongs to the project's subscribers; the facility could have been owned either by the investor-owned electric utility or distribution cooperative in whose service territory the facility is located or a for-profit or nonprofit entity, which may be an entity entirely owned by or consisting of subscribers, that contracts to sell the electricity generated by the facility to the retail utility. The measure would have provided that neither the owner of a project nor its subscribers are public utilities; that prices paid for subscriptions in projects shall not be subject to regulation by the Commission; that the retail utility purchase all of the electricity generated by the project and that the purchase of the electricity by the utility shall take the form of a credit against the utility's electric bill to each of the project's subscribers; and that the SCC formulate and implement policies to encourage the following: ownership by customers of project subscriptions and of other forms of distributed generation, development of projects that result in lower overall total costs for the retail utility's customers, and successful financing and operation of subscriber-owned projects. Companion bill is See SB 1208 (#118).</p>	
109.	HB 2291	<p><b>Electric utilities: cost recovery for modifications to nuclear generation facilities.</b> Adds the costs of a system or equipment upgrade, system or equipment replacement, or other cost reasonably appropriate to extend the combined operating license for, or the operating life of, <b>nuclear generation</b> facilities to the types of electric-generation construction activities for which an investor-owned electric utility may petition the SCC for a rate-adjustment clause for cost recovery. The measure also does the following: *limits to certain new generation facilities the scope of the requirement that a utility demonstrate that it has considered and weighed alternative options, including third-party market alternatives, in the course of purchasing new facilities; *provides that a utility's costs incurred in extending the combined operating license for, or the operating life of, a nuclear generation facility shall be deferred on the books and records of the utility until the later of the entry of a final order in the proceeding or until the implementation of any applicable approved rate-adjustment clauses; *prohibits a utility, prior to January 1, 2020, from recovering through a rate-adjustment clause certain costs related to extensions of the combined operating license for or the operating life of a nuclear generation facility; and provides that costs recovered through the utility's rates for generation and distribution services as of January 1, 2017, that are associated with a utility's existing nuclear generation facilities are not recoverable through a specified rate-adjustment clause.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
110.	HB 2358	<p><b>Water utilities: regarding temporary and interim rate increases during SCC consideration of rate-increase request.</b> Extends from 150 to 180 days the maximum period that the SCC is authorized to suspend the implementation of a proposed rate increase rates; the measure applies only to investor-owned water utilities <i>not</i> subject to <i>Virginia Code</i></p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		Chapter 10.2:1, “Small Water and Sewer Public Utility Act” (Sec. <a href="#">56-265.13:1</a> <i>et seq.</i> ).	
111.	<b>SB 813</b>	<b>Solar generation facilities: cost-recovery provisions.</b> For proposed generating facilities in the Commonwealth, using energy derived from sunlight, and declared by statute to be in the public interest, the measure would have exempted investor-owned electric utilities from the requirement under cost-recovery law ( <i>Virginia Code</i> Section <a href="#">56-585.1</a> , “Generation, distribution, and transmission rates after capped rates terminate or expire”) that, in a proceeding for approval to construct a generating facility, the utility demonstrate that it has considered and weighed alternative options, including third-party market alternatives. For proposed generating facilities, the measure would also have directed the following: 1) that any cost incurred or projected to be incurred by a utility in connection with such a generation facility is reasonable and prudent if the costs of the generation facility do not exceed by <i>more than 10 percent</i> the cost that would be incurred in the construction and operation of a combined-cycle combustion turbine generation facility with the same capacity; and (ii) any rate increase as a result of construction and operation of such a generation facility is reasonable if the projected rate increase does not exceed by <i>more than two percent</i> the projected increase in rates that would occur if the utility constructed and operated a combined-cycle combustion turbine generation facility with the same capacity.	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.
112.	<b>SB 917</b>	<b>Electric utility regulation: agricultural net energy metering.</b>	Incorporated by Senate Commerce and Labor into SB 1394 (see #55 above).
113.	<b>SB 918</b>	<b>Renewable energy: allows individual retail customers to enter into third party power purchase agreements for generating renewable energy.</b> Would have replaced the pilot program enacted in 2013 that authorized certain third-party power purchase agreements providing financing of certain renewable generation facilities. The existing pilot program applies only to Dominion Energy and sets the maximum size of a renewable generation facility at one megawatt; the programs authorized by this measure would have applied to all electric utilities and would have set no limits on facility size. The measure would have required the SCC to establish third-party power purchase agreement programs for each electric utility, and would have exempted sellers under third-party power purchase agreements from being defined as a public utility, public service corporation, public service company, or electric utility on the basis of electricity sale from or ownership or operation of a renewable generation facility. See related HB 1800 (#107).	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.
114.	<b>SB 990</b>	<b>Electric energy consumption reduction goal: progress reports by DMME and SCC to be required.</b> Directs the DMME, in consultation with the staff of the SCC, to report annually (starting by December 2018) on progress the toward the goal adopted in 2007 of reducing, by 2022, the statewide consumption of electric energy by retail customers by an amount equal to 10 percent of the amount of retail electric energy consumed in 2006. The bill requires reports to the General	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		Assembly, the governor, and the governor's Executive Committee on Energy Efficiency. Companion bill is HB 1465 (#100).	
115.	SB 1014	<b>Water utilities: limits on rate increases.</b> Would have prohibited the SCC from authorizing a water public utility, including a small water utility, from increasing its approved rates, fees, or charges through the use of a surcharge for non-revenue-generating infrastructure replacement or a similar surcharge pursuant to which the utility utilizes an automatic rate adjustment feature to increase its rates, fees, or charges; and would have provided that the rates, fees, and charges that the SCC has approved for a utility to charge its customers shall not be authorized to increase above the amounts in an order of the SCC unless specified in another order by the SCC.	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.
116.	SB 1095	<b>Electric utility Transitional Rate Period passed in 2015.</b> Would have provided that the Transitional Rate Period would conclude on the date the carbon emission guidelines for existing electric power generation facilities that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued are withdrawn, repealed, found to be invalid or unenforceable, or otherwise barred from being implemented, if that date precedes the date when the Transitional Rate Period is scheduled to conclude under existing law. Under legislation enacted in 2015, the period is scheduled to conclude on December 31, 2017, for Appalachian Power and on December 31, 2019, for Dominion Virginia Power. During that period, the SCC is barred from conducting a biennial review of the rates, terms, and conditions for these electric utilities.	Passed by indefinitely in Senate Commerce and Labor.
117.	SB 1110	<b>Utility Facilities Act: associated facilities of an electrical transmission line; SCC approval to meet local planning/zoning requirements.</b> Companion bill is HB 1766 (#106); please see that bill for summary.	Passed Senate; reported from House Commerce and Labor; failed in House Commerce and Labor after floor amendment.
118.	SB 1208	<b>Community renewable projects: SCC adopt rules to authorize and for their operation.</b> Would have required the SCC to adopt rules under which community renewable projects are authorized to operate. A community renewable project was defined in the bill as a solar or wind-powered electric generation facility with a capacity of not more than 20 megawatts, and the electricity generated by the facility belongs to the project's subscribers.	Incorporated by Senate Commerce and Labor into SB 1393 (see #121 below).
119.	SB 1289	<b>Natural gas utilities: provisions for exemption on cap to investments in eligible infrastructure for establishing base rates.</b> Companion bill is HB 1671 (#103); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor with a recommendation; both houses concurred in governor's recommendation.
120.	SB 1383	<b>Coal ash treatment and recycling requirements.</b> Would have required electric utilities to recycle as much of their stored coal ash as is imported into the Commonwealth each year.	Stricken by Senate ACNR at request of patron.

121.	SB 1393	<p><b>Community solar pilot programs: requirement for Dominion and Appalachian Power to conduct.</b> Requires Dominion Virginia Power and Appalachian Power to conduct a community solar pilot program for retail customers. A pilot program will authorize the participating utility to sell electric power to subscribing customers under a voluntary companion rate schedule, and the utility will generate or purchase the electric power from eligible generation facilities (defined in the bill; with generating capacity not exceeding three megawatts [MW]) selected for inclusion in the pilot program. Pilot programs will have a three-year duration unless renewed or made permanent by appropriate legislation. The minimum generating capacity of all the eligible generating facilities in Appalachian Power's pilot program is 0.5 MW and in Dominion's pilot program is 10 MW; the maximum is 10 MW for Appalachian and 40 MW for Dominion. The measure has a number of details about SCC oversight of the programs. An enactment clause directs investor-owned utilities, prior to submitting a proposal for a pilot program, to examine options to facilitate the subscribing by low-income customers to the utility's pilot program. Another enactment clause requires participating utilities to disclose to subscribing customers the cost difference between the voluntary companion rate schedule and rate the customer would pay if not a subscriber.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
122.	SB 1418	<p><b>Hydropower: recovery of costs of pumped hydroelectricity generation and storage facilities in coalfield region.</b> Authorizes an investor-owned electric utility to petition the SCC for approval of a rate-adjustment clause for recovery of the costs of one or more pumped hydroelectricity generation and storage facilities that utilize associated on-site or off-site renewable energy resources as all or a portion of their power source, and such facilities and associated resources are located in the coalfield region of the Commonwealth. The measure provides that the requirement that a utility demonstrate that it has considered and weighed alternative options, including third-party market alternatives, in its selection process <i>does not apply to these generation and storage facilities</i>. The construction of these generation and storage facilities is declared to be in the public interest, and in determining whether to approve such facility, the Commission is directed to construe liberally the provisions of Title 56. See similar HB 1760 (#105).</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
123.	SB 1423	<p><b>Viewshed mitigation payments by electric utilities.</b> Would have set the conditions under which an electric utility may make a payment for the purpose of mitigating adverse visual effects associated with the electric utility's construction, modification, expansion, or location of electric transmission lines.</p>	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.
124.	SB 1457	<p><b>Utility vegetation management activities by utilities: requirements for notices to property owners; civil penalties.</b> Would have required utilities to give customers, landowners, and local governments notice by mail of planned vegetation management activities; required the SCC to require utilities to establish reasonable criteria for the conduct of vegetation management activities; and prohibited vegetation</p>	Failed in Senate Commerce and Labor.

		management activities by any utility from altering, trespassing upon, or limiting the rights of any property owner.	
125.	SB 1492	<b>Water utilities and retail rates.</b> Requires that in any ratemaking proceeding for certain investor-owned water utilities that are part of a water utility network the SCC shall ensure that equal fixed and volumetric rates are charged for each customer class of every water utility that is in the water utility network; allows the SCC to aggregate the revenues and costs of the water utilities that are members of the applicable water utility network; and directs the SCC to order gradual rate adjustments over an appropriate period.	Passed both houses and approved by governor with a recommendation; both houses concurred in governor's recommendation.

## WASTE DISPOSAL AND MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND SUBSTANCES)

126.	HB 1859	<b>Non-federally managed hazardous sites inventory.</b> Would have required the DEQ to publish and update annually an inventory of sites in Virginia of which DEQ is aware that meet certain criteria regarding the presence of hazardous wastes or other hazardous substances but which are not listed on the federal National Priorities List; and required owners of inactive nonfederally managed hazardous waste sites to notify DEQ of their existence.	Failed in House ACNR.
127.	HB 1600	<b>Sanitary landfill gas collection and control system.</b> Directs the DEQ and the Region 2000 Services Authority to continue to reduce the odor issues at the landfill operated by the authority in Campbell County and to report on their efforts to the General Assembly by November 1, 2017; and requires the authority to connect certain parts of its landfill gas-collection system to the existing collection system when its engineers advise it that the connections will operate efficiently.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
128.	SB 884	<b>Waste and recycling charges: liens on unpaid taxes.</b> Would have provided that charges (and any penalty and interest) related to local recycling operations constitute a lien against the real property ranking on a parity with liens for unpaid taxes.	Failed in Senate Local Government.

## WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS

129.	HB 1460	<b>Private wells regulation by Stafford County.</b> Would have added Stafford County to the list of localities authorized to establish well construction and abandonment standards more stringent than standards adopted by the Board of Health. Companion bill is SB 1247 (#135).	Failed in House Health, Welfare and Institutions.
130.	HB 1669	<b>Gas severance tax sunset date extension.</b> Would have extended from 2018 to 2010 the sunset date for the local gas severance tax. See related HB 2169 (#131).	Failed in House Finance.
131.	HB 2169	<b>Gas severance tax sunset date extension.</b> Extends from January 1, 2018, to January 1, 2020, the sunset date for the local gas severance tax, dedicated to the local Coal and Gas Road Improvement Fund; the Virginia Coalfield Economic	Passed both houses and approved by governor.

		Development Fund; and water, sewer, and natural gas lines. Companion bill is SB 886 (#133).	
132.	HB 2477	<b>Onsite sewage systems and private wells site-evaluation services by VDH.</b> Directs the VDH to begin eliminating site evaluation and design services that the department provides for onsite sewage systems and private wells.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
133.	SB 886	<b>Gas severance tax sunset date extension.</b> Companion bill is HB 2169 (#131); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
134.	SB 1189	<b>Water and sewer service liens: rules for owners, lessees, or tenants.</b> Separates <i>Virginia Code</i> provisions regarding water and sewer services provided to lessees or tenants of real property from provisions regarding water and sewer services provided to owners of real property; removes a locality's authority to waive a required written authorization by an owner for water or sewer services provided by a locality to a lessee or tenant (a copy of the lease between the lessee or tenant and the owner is acceptable authorization); provides that no lien can be placed on the property of an owner when a lessee or tenant has delinquent fees for water or sewer charges until the locality has made reasonable collection efforts and practices; provides that a lien against the lessee or tenant shall rank on a parity with a lien for unpaid taxes; provides that when a locality does not require a security deposit from a lessee or tenant to obtain water and sewer services, the locality shall waive its lien rights against the property owner; authorizes the locality or authority to provide a partial credit where excessive water and sewer charges result from an intentional cause; and provides that a locality or authority may not deny service to a new lessee or tenant when there are unpaid fees for services to a previous lessee or tenant unless a lien against the property owner is placed on the property.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
135.	SB 1247	<b>Private wells regulation by Stafford County.</b> Companion bill is HB 1460 (#129); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in Senate Education and Health.
136.	SB 1569	<b>Water and sewer fees: allowable calculation factors.</b> Would have changed the standard a locality may use to calculate the charges for water and sewer connection services from "fair and reasonable" to "practicable and equitable," defined by a number of factors.	Passed Senate; reported from House Counties, Cities and Towns; failed on House floor.

## WATERS OF THE STATE, PORTS AND HARBORS

### Alexandria Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Bills

137.	HB 1423	<b>Potomac River watershed combined sewer overflow outfalls: DEQ to identify owner; compliance required by 2027.</b> Would have directed the DEQ to identify the owner of any CSO outfall that discharges into the Potomac River Watershed and to determine by July 2018 what actions by the owner are necessary to bring the outfall into compliance by with Virginia law, the federal Clean Water Act, and the Presumption Approach described in the CSO Control Policy of the U.S.	Failed in House ACNR.
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		Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CSO owner would have had until July 2027 to bring the CSO outfall into compliance. See related	
138.	HB 2383	<b>Chesapeake Bay watershed combined sewer overflow outfalls: DEQ to identify owner, etc.</b> Directs the DEQ to identify the owner of any CSO outfall that discharges into the Potomac River Watershed and to determine by July 2018 what actions by the owner are necessary to bring the outfall into compliance with Virginia law, the federal Clean Water Act, and the Presumption Approach described in the CSO Control Policy of the U.S. EPA. This bill would only apply to any CSO outfall owner or operator not under a state order or decree related to the CSO as of January 1, 2017; in effect, the bill applies to the City of Alexandria. The bill requires the City of Alexandria by July 2023 to initiate construction activities to bring the outfall into compliance, and by July 2025 to be in compliance. The governor proposed an amendment to extend the deadline for beginning construction to 2024 and for being in compliance to 2027, and to give the DEQ authority to grant six-month extensions of the deadline to no later than 2030 if the City is “in compliance with its permit requirements; unable to meet the deadline due to site conditions or engineering, construction, or federal permitting delays beyond the owner's control; and is in compliance with the annual reporting requirement....” The amendment was rejected by the General Assembly in the reconvened session on April 5, 2017. The governor subsequently signed the final bill, which requires the City by July 2023 to initiate construction activities to bring the outfall into compliance, and by July 2025 to be in compliance. Companion bill is SB 898 (#141).	Passed both houses; recommendations by governor not approved; governor approved bill without the recommendations.
139.	SB 818	<b>Potomac River watershed combined sewer overflow outfalls: DEQ to identify owner; compliance required by 2027.</b>	Incorporated into SB 898 (#141).
140.	SB 819	<b>City of Alexandria Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) system permit: requirement to assess overflows by 2029.</b> Would have directed the SWCB to include in the next renewal of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for the CSO system of the City of Alexandria requirement that the City complete by January 1, 2029, an assessment of the discharges from CSO Number 001 into the Potomac River, including identifying any improvements meant to address discharges from any part of the City's CSO system and determining what control technologies would be required to meet applicable regulations.	Stricken from docket in Senate ACNR.
141.	SB 898	<b>Potomac River watershed combined sewer overflow outfalls: DEQ to identify owner; actions towards compliance required.</b> Companion bill is HB 2383 (#138); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses; recommendations by governor not approved; governor approved bill without the recommendations.

## Other Waters of the State, Ports and Harbors Bills

142.	HB 1562	<p><b>Dam Safety, Flood Prevention and Protection Assistance Fund grants to common interest communities.</b> Authorizes the director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to disburse grants or loans to protect public safety and welfare from the Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund to local governments that own a dam, to local governments for dams located within the locality, or to a private entity that owns a dam. Grants can be used for design, repair, and safety modifications of dams identified in safety reports. See also related SB 1079 (#155).</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
143.	HB 1619	<p><b>Watershed discharge general permits: periodic review of load allocations.</b> Directs the SWCB to incorporate into the general permit (under the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation) procedures by which the board will, every 10 years beginning in 2020, review load allocations to determine whether changes in the use of a facility have halted or reduced nutrient discharges; and (determine, prior to reissuing the general permit, the need for reallocations based on a variety of factors, including changes in treatment technologies and land use.</p>	Passed House and Senate and approved by governor.
144.	HB 1860	<p><b>Aboveground storage tanks: SWCB to regulate; fund; civil and criminal penalties;</b> Would have directed the SWCB to regulate aboveground storage tanks that measure more than 5,000 gallons in capacity and are used to contain dangerous substances other than oil, including adopting regulations that establish construction standards, requirements for registration, certification, and inspection, and other requirements of tank owners and establish a schedule of fees. Would also have authorized the SWCB to require the owner to undertake corrective action, or to undertake its own corrective action, in the event of a release of a regulated substance; required tank owners to register their tanks, develop release response plans, upgrade certain older tanks, install containment infrastructure for certain tanks, notify certain parties in the event of a release of a regulated substance, and demonstrate their financial responsibility; created the Aboveground Storage Tank Fund; and provided for civil and criminal penalties for violations.</p>	Failed in House ACNR.
145.	HB 1870	<p><b>Deleterious substances discharge into state waters: required notice.</b> Would have required any person who unlawfully discharges any deleterious substance into state waters to give written notice to the SWCB; current law requires written notice to be given only to the DEQ. Would also have required the SWCB or the DEQ to give the reported discharge information to local newspapers, television stations, and radio stations “as soon as practicable” after receiving it; current law requires only notice to “a local newspaper” and does not specify “as soon as practicable.”</p>	Failed in House ACNR.
146.	HB 2008	<p><b>Stormwater management: 10,000 square foot minimum disturbance in Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas.</b> Would have increased from 2,500 square feet to 10,000 square feet the minimum area of land disturbance within a Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area that triggers the applicability of erosion or stormwater management programs; current law establishes a</p>	Failed in House ACNR.

		10,000-square-foot threshold for land-disturbing activities that are located <i>outside</i> of Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas.	
147.	HB 2009	Stormwater management: administration of program by certified third party (not including enforcement). Authorizes Virginia Stormwater Management Program entities, and Virginia Erosion Control and Stormwater Program entities, to hire certified third-party professionals to administer any or all aspects of a program for the management of stormwater and erosion, including plan review and inspection but not including enforcement.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
148.	HB 2012	<b>Stormwater management: failed best management practice definition and responsibilities.</b> Would have directed the SWCB to adopt regulations that (i) define a failed best management practice (BMP), (ii) establish criteria for determining whether a particular installed BMP qualifies as a failed BMP, and (iii) direct the DEQ, at the request of a locality, to assume, by contract with the locality, the responsibility for enforcing the operation and maintenance obligations of the owner of a failed BMP.	Failed in House ACNR.
149.	HB 2076	<b>Stormwater management plans: professional licensee signature requirement.</b> Directs the SWCB to adopt regulations requiring that all final stormwater plan elements, specifications, or calculations whose preparation requires a license in engineering, architecture, soil science, or a related profession be signed and sealed by a licensed professional. Companion bill is SB 1127 (#156).	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
150.	HJ 580	<b>Ports impact study.</b> Would have directed JLARC to review and update its 1999 study “Review of the Impact of State-Owned Ports on Local Governments.” Identical to HJ 648 (#151).	Failed in House Rules.
151.	HJ 648	<b>Ports impact study.</b> Identical to HJ 580 (#150); please see that bill for summary.	Failed in House Rules.
152.	HJ 677	<b>Invasive mussels study.</b> Would have requested the DGIF to study the current and potential impact of the Zebra Mussel and Quagga Mussel in Virginia waters and propose strategies, campaigns, and necessary state actions to protect Virginia waters from infestation by these invasive, non-native species.	Failed in House Rules.
153.	SB 906	<b>Snakehead fish and Zebra Mussel.</b> Prohibits the placement of the Snakehead fish or Zebra Mussel from any location into state waters; current law only prohibits the introduction of these non-native, invasive species from <i>outside</i> the Commonwealth.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
154.	SB 967	<b>Port authority powers transfer in City of Chesapeake.</b> Permits the city council of Chesapeake to transfer the powers of the Chesapeake Port Authority to the Chesapeake Economic Development Authority; such action will dissolve the Chesapeake Port Authority.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
155.	SB 1079	<b>Dam Safety, Flood Prevention, and Protection Assistance Fund: allows grants to “common interest communities.”</b> Would have authorized the director of the DCR to disburse moneys from the Fund in the form of grants to “common interest communities” that own dams in order to protect public safety and welfare. See also related HB 1562 (#142).	Failed in Senate Finance.

156.	SB 1127	<b>Stormwater management plants: professional licensee signature requirement.</b> Companion bill is HB 2076 (#149); please see that bill for summary.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
157.	SB 1270	<b>Ohio River Basin Commission.</b> Repeals sections of the <i>Virginia Code</i> relating to participation by Virginia in this commission, which was created in 1971 and terminated in 1981.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
158.	SB 1355	<b>Riparian owner rights regarding navigation over oyster or clam grounds.</b> Would have provided that the existing ability of a landowner to open a channel includes the actions of marking a channel, dredging a navigable channel for access to his property, and participating with a locality to dredge a channel outside his riparian area. Would also have required the VMRC to include navigation specifically as one of the factors the commission considers in determining whether to grant or deny a lease for the use of state-owned bottomlands; and would have expanded the area of state-owned submerged beds that are potentially off limits for oyster planting by including navigation projects that are authorized by the Commonwealth or by a locality among the areas where no lease shall be granted (current law exempts navigation projects from leasing only when they are authorized by Congress).	Stricken in Senate ACNR at request of patron.
159.	SB 1415	<b>Virginia Port Authority Board of Commissioners: changes to membership.</b> Provides that the members of the Virginia Port Authority's Board of Commissioners, appointed by the governor, no longer serve "at the pleasure of the governor." Also changes—from non-voting <i>ex officio</i> member to voting member—the status of the member representing the Port of Richmond and of the member representing the Virginia Inland Port.	Passed both houses and approved by governor.
160.	SJ 246	<b>Inland port study for Roanoke and New River Valley.</b> Would have requested the Secretary of Transportation to study the feasibility of an additional inland port in the Roanoke region and the New River Valley.	Failed in Senate Rules.

## MISCELLANEOUS OTHER CATEGORIES

161.	HB 1964	<b>Creating position of Secretary for Coastal Protection and Flooding Adaptation.</b> Would have created the position of Secretary for Coastal Protection and Flooding Adaptation, who would have been responsible for consolidating into a single office the resources for coastal flooding threats and adaptation; providing direction, ensuring accountability, and developing a statewide coastal flooding adaptation strategy; and, along with the Secretary of Natural Resources, identifying sources of funding for needed implementation of strategies for coastal protection and flooding adaptation. Companion bill is SB 1349 (#162). <i>From Administration of Government category.</i>	Reported from House General Laws; failed in House Appropriations.
162.	SB 1349	<b>Creating position of Secretary for Coastal Protection and Flooding Adaptation.</b> Companion bill is HB 1964 (#161); please see that bill for summary. <i>From Administration of Government category.</i>	Reported from Senate ACNR and Senate Finance; failed on Senate floor.

163.	HB 2089	<p><b>Lead testing of potable water required in public schools.</b> Would have required each local school board to develop and implement a plan to test for lead the potable water from sources identified by the U.S. EPA as high priority; the testing was to be as often as is required of the public water system supplying the schools, giving priority in such testing plan to schools whose school building was constructed, in whole or in part, before 1986; and any test results showing lead at or above 20 parts per billion would have required the school division to develop and implement an remediation plan. <i>From Education category.</i></p>	Failed in House Education.
164.	HJ 704	<p><b>Study of environmental education by Secretary of Natural Resources and Secretary of Education.</b> Would have requested the two secretaries to convene a group of stakeholders to study the delivery of environmental education in the Commonwealth, in light of the budget reductions in 2016 that eliminated all staff positions within the DCR's Office of Environmental Education. <i>From Education category.</i></p>	Failed in House Rules.
165.	HJ 545	<p><b>Constitutional amendment (first resolution); powers of General Assembly; suspension or nullification of administrative rule or regulation.</b> Provides that the General Assembly may suspend or nullify any or all portions of any administrative rule or regulation by a joint resolution agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each house.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor; first passage (amendments require passage by two consecutive General Assemblies to be put before voters).
166.	SJ 295	<p><b>Constitutional amendment (first resolution); legislative review of administrative rules.</b> Grants to the General Assembly the authority to review any administrative rule to ensure it is consistent with the legislative intent of the statute that the rule was written to interpret, prescribe, implement, or enforce.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor; first passage.
167.	SJ 331	<p><b>Constitutional amendment (first resolution); property tax; exemption for flooding remediation, abatement, and resiliency efforts.</b> Provides that the General Assembly may authorize a county, city, or town to partially exempt from taxation any improved real property subject to recurring flooding upon which flooding abatement, mitigation, or resiliency efforts have been undertaken.</p>	Passed both houses and approved by governor; first passage.