

## **2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY BILLS PASSED**

**SB 632** - Confidentiality of personally identifiable information of candidates and elected officials.

**SB 322, HB 965** - National Popular Vote.

**SB 176, HB 630** - Expands the option to use ranked choice voting from only elections for county board of supervisors and city councils to any local governing body.

**SB 162** - Voter registration; restoration of voting rights upon release from incarceration.

**HB 967** - Sets out revisions to the Voting Rights Act of Virginia.

**HB 82, SB 58** - Extends the deadline for receipt of a postmarked absentee ballot and proof of ID to 5:00 p.m. on the third day after the election. (Previously the deadline was noon on the third day after the election.)

**HB 774, SB 582** - Extends the deadline for cure of an absentee ballot to noon on Monday after election (previously noon three days after election).

**SB 57** - Voter registration; requires membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).

**HJ 2, SJ 2** - Proposed constitutional amendment on end to felony disenfranchisement after release from incarceration, right to vote/guardianship/adjudication of capacity to vote.

**HJ 4** - Proposed constitutional amendment on congressional reapportionment and redistricting.

**HB 963** - Enabling legislation for referendum on proposed constitutional amendment on end to felony disenfranchisement after release from incarceration, right to vote/guardianship/adjudication of capacity to vote

**HB 1384** - Sets referendum election date of 4/21/26 on proposed constitutional amendment on congressional reapportionment and redistricting.

**HB 29** - Budget, sets out general law on constitutional redistricting amendment and proposed new congressional map.

**SB 6** - Enabling legislation for referendum on proposed constitutional amendment on end to felony disenfranchisement after release from incarceration, right to vote/guardianship/adjudication of capacity to vote.

**HB 1014, SB 34** - Guardianship, requires specific finding of incapacity to understand act of voting before revocation of voting rights.

**HB 909** - Prohibits knowingly carrying a firearm within one hundred feet of the entrance to a polling place and other specified election-related locations.

**HB78** - Certifying an election is mandatory, penalties include removal.

**HB 639** - Election officials can accept funds for voter registration and outreach; amounts over \$1000 must be approved by 2/3 of the state Board of Elections or local governing body.

**HB 111** - Specifies sources of data for removing and cancelling voter registration.

**HB 113** - Prohibits bribing someone to vote or to register to vote.

**HB 968** - Requires that ballots be read by machine.

**SB 438** - Mandates two Sundays for early voting, a minimum of 5 hours between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the second and third Sundays preceding the election. (Previously Sunday voting was discretionary.)

**HB 640** - Eliminates voter challenges at the polling place and before the Registrar; voting challenges must now be filed by petition to the Circuit Court.

**SB 681 (charter), HB 187 (charter), SB 51 (general law), HB 168 (general law), HB 1483 (general law)** - Updates the City of Virginia Beach charter to conform to the existing 10-1 local election system for City Council and School Board.

### **PENDING COURT CASES**

**Louisiana v. Callais** is a challenge to Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which allows private plaintiffs to sue for racial discrimination. The issue is whether the creation of an additional “minority opportunity district” on a state congressional map violates the 14th or 15th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has not yet decided this case, but most likely will do so soon.

**Scott v. McDougle** and **Koski v. Republican National Committee** are two cases pending before the Supreme Court of Virginia regarding the April 21st referendum on a proposed constitutional amendment to reapportion and redistrict the Virginia congressional districts. On February 13th and March 4th, the Supreme Court of Virginia, the highest appellate court in the Commonwealth, ruled that the April 21st referendum election should go forward. The Supreme Court *did not* decide the cases, but set out a briefing schedule and will address the merits after the election.