



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

DAVE LaROCK

POST OFFICE BOX 6
HAMILTON, VIRGINIA 20159
THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
TRANSPORTATION (VICE-CHAIR)
EDUCATION
COUNTIES, CITIES AND TOWNS

May 15, 2022

Dear Friend,

I hope this message finds you well. As your elected Delegate, I'm taking this opportunity to report to you on what took place in the 2022 Session of the Virginia General Assembly and how it will affect all of us. While we are still waiting to finalize the Commonwealth's budget and some key pieces of legislation, I would also like to take a moment to share with you some of the accomplishments our Republican majority in the House of Delegates was able to pass this year.

We came to Richmond with a clear mandate from Virginians fed up with being overregulated, overtaxed, and held back from dealing with our most urgent challenges by hyper-partisanship. During this legislative session, I worked with all who were willing to deliver what my constituents asked for. With the partnership of Governor Glenn Youngkin, Lt. Governor Winsome Earle-Sears, and Attorney General Jason Miyares, that's exactly what we're doing.

Republicans have worked to empower parents and students, strengthen our schools, grow and maintain Virginia's thriving business community, lower taxes on essential goods and services for families, and help workers keep more of their hard-earned cash. Meanwhile, Democrats have insisted on the status quo and openly bragged about blocking legislation that Virginians want and need.

First, we reinforced the fact that parents are the ones who should be making decisions about their child's health and education, working with Governor Youngkin to make sure parents got to decide if their child wears a mask to school. We also passed legislation that once again requires assaults on school property are reported, and a bill to provide parental notification and alternative materials to sexually explicit instructional materials.

In our budget, Republicans in the House voted to provide real economic relief to families by eliminating the grocery tax and providing a \$300/individual and \$600/joint-filer tax rebate, as well as doubling the standard deduction. Senate Democrats are trying to hold this up, delaying much needed relief. The House version of the budget also provides significant pay increases for our teachers and law enforcement personnel that will help recruit and train the best candidates.

The Republican Majority in the House of Delegates was also able to defeat numerous dangerous proposals put forth by Democrats - including legislation that would further inhibit your 2nd Amendment rights and raise your taxes.

While we worked hard to roll back fraud-prone election policies, legislation that demonized our law enforcement officers, laws that drive up the cost of living, and much more, too often we were blocked by Democrats who still control the Senate and seem focused more on partisan politics than the needs of Virginians. While holding a slim Republican majority in the House, we have begun the work of getting Virginians back on the right track.

Below is information on some bills you might find interesting. While many will require more effort in the future before they become law, rest assured, we will stay the course.

After eight years under Governors McAuliffe and Northam, my first session with a Republican Governor was a very nice change, as the administration sent representatives to speak in favor of good legislation. Unfortunately, Senate Democrats defeated most Republican efforts to reverse the last two years of significant leftward policy shifts under single-party control in Richmond. The bright side is that legislation is not permanent, the future will always afford opportunities to reform laws to best serve those affected.

While the legislative session is completed, my work as a legislator is not. I continue to work on local issues, resolve constituent concerns with state agencies, and meet with constituents around the district. I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to be a voice for our district here in Richmond. As always, if I or my staff can do anything to assist you, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Read more about my efforts on the following pages, as well as on my website, and let me know if I can help you! My mailing address is PO Box 6, Hamilton, VA, 20159, phone is 540-751-8364 and email is DelDLaRock@house.virginia.gov. My website is www.VoteLaRock.us, where you can find helpful information, contact me, or read and **sign up for my email updates**. You can also follow me on Facebook, Twitter, and MeWe for more frequent information. I look forward to hearing from you, and I hope to continue serving you in future years.

Sincerely,



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LaRock Legislation

Providing Greater Education Opportunity and Parental Involvement:

- [HB 784 Income tax, state; home instruction and private school tax credit.](#) Seeks to provided a tax credit for parents' personal expenditures for the education of their children
- [HB 785 Family life education curriculum guidelines; human reproduction, viewing of ultrasound video.](#) Seeks to require the family life education curriculum guidelines on human reproduction to include the viewing of a video recording of an ultrasound of a live unborn human in the uterus.
- [HB 786 Instructional material and related academic activities; Board of Education to establish policy.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 1009](#), died in Senate; similar [SB 656](#) becoming law) Provides parental notification and review of sexually explicit instructional materials, and option of alternative materials.
- [HB 787 Public elementary and secondary education; training or instruction on certain concepts.](#) (Passed House; killed in Senate) Seeks to declared it an unlawful and discriminatory practice for local schools to teach any public school student to believe or promote to any such student as valid the belief that (i) one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex; (ii) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously; (iii) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race or sex; (iv) an individual's moral character is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex; or (v) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex
- [HB 788 Education Improvement Scholarships program; increases percentage for tax credit.](#) Increases from 65 percent to 75 percent the tax credit for the value of donations made by a taxpayer to an eligible scholarship foundation to increase education opportunities.
- [HB 789 Family life education programs; student participation, summaries.](#) (Passed House; killed in Senate) Seeks to prohibit any public school student from participating in any family life education program without the prior written consent of his parent, and provided parents with contact information for the individual or office responsible for maintaining printed and audio-visual program materials.
- [HB 1024 Parental Choice Education Savings Accounts; established, definition of poverty guidelines.](#) (Passed House; killed in Senate) Would send 95% of per pupil state funds to Parental Choice Education Savings Accounts for certain education-related expenses for parents who withdraw their children from public schools, or students entering kindergarten, if (1) family income is less than or equal to 300% of the poverty guidelines; (2) a parent is an active duty member in the Armed Forces; (3) the student receives special education pursuant to an IEP; or (4) the student is the victim of harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, robbery, sexual offenses, assault, battery, threat, or intimidation on school property.
- [HB 1025 Parental Choice Education Savings Accounts; established.](#) Same as above, but without requiring the student be in one of the four eligibility groups.
- [HB 1032 School boards, local; standards for certain public school library materials, parental review.](#) Seeks to required statewide standards for evaluating, classifying, and removing from any public elementary or secondary school library any sexually explicit material. The bill also permits the Office of the Attorney General to enforce compliance with such standards in any local school division. The bill Seeks to establish means and processes for the review of library materials by parents, and their vote to approve or disapprove of each item on a list of proposed library materials distributed to it by the school.
- [HB 1036 School boards, local; requirement for students to wear masks or other face coverings.](#) (Incorporated into [HB1272](#), becoming law) seeks to require any local school board requirements for students to wear a mask to be substantiated by evidence that (i) such requirement is necessary, no reasonable alternatives exist, and is narrowly tailored to address risk to life and health.
- [HB 1099 Retail sales & use tax, additional local; use of revenues for construction or renovation of schools.](#) Seeks to allow local referendums to fund school renovation and construction projects
- [HB 1100 Public elementary and secondary school buildings; standards for maintenance, operations, etc.](#) Seeks to require amendments to the Standards of Quality to establish standards for the maintenance and operations, renovation, and new construction of public elementary and secondary school buildings.
- [HB 1347 Family life education instruction; school year time limit.](#) Seeks to refocus schools on core academics by limiting family life education instruction to one hour per school year in each grade.

LaRock Legislation (continued)

Protecting the Right to Life, Religious Liberty, and Medical Freedom:

- [HB 777 Emergency Services and Disaster Law; emergency orders and regulations, limitations, civil penalty.](#) (Incorporated into similar [HB 158/SB 4](#)) seeks to limit the duration of Executive Emergency Powers and ensure compliance with well-established judicial standards to protect fundamental rights.
- [HB 783 Immunizations; authority of the Commissioner of Health, religious exception.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 306](#); passed the House, killed in Senate) seeks to assure that religious exemption from mandatory immunization requirements remains in effect even during an epidemic.
- [HB 934 COVID-19; Employer-mandated vaccinations, required exemptions, civil penalties.](#) Seeks to protect employees from COVID-19 mandates, recognizing the value of natural immunity, religious or medical exemption, etc.
- [HB 937 Family planning services; restrictions on expenditure of funds.](#) Seeks to divert public funds from the abortion industry and toward vital community health, by prioritizing agencies that provide comprehensive care to all Virginians.
- [HB 962 Vaccines; adverse events, reporting.](#) Seeks to require the Virginia Department of Health to establish a process for receiving reports of adverse reactions to the administration of a vaccine, including any side effects and other reactions, and make that information readily available to the public.
- [HB 976 Prescriptions; unapproved use.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 102](#); passed the House, killed in Senate) Seeks to clarify that health care providers with prescriptive authority may prescribe, administer, or dispense a drug that has been approved for a specific use by the FDA for off-label use when the health care provider determines it is appropriate; and would prohibit a pharmacist from refusing to dispense a drug for unapproved use if a valid prescription is presented.
- [HB 1349 Abortion; born alive human infant, treatment and care, penalty.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 304](#); passed the House, killed in Senate) Seeks to require abortionists to provide lifesaving treatment to any baby who survives an abortion attempt. The compassionate and right thing to do when a baby survives an abortion done late in a pregnancy, is to ensure they receive the lifesaving treatment they need.

Restoring Fair, Efficient, and Accurate Elections:

- [HB 941 Seeks to repeal the recent law allowing voter registration up to & including the day of the election.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 185](#), passed the House, killed in Senate), restoring the normal deadline for the close of voter registration.
- [HB 942 Seeks to restore the requirement for presentation of a form of Photo ID in order to vote.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 46](#), passed the House, killed in Senate)
- [HB 945 Seeks to limit early voting in person to the ten days immediately preceding an election.](#) (Incorporated into similar [HB 39](#), passed the House, killed in Senate)
- [HB 956 Absentee voting; deadline for returning absentee ballot.](#) (Passed the House, killed in Senate) Seeks to require absentee by mail ballots be received by the registrar by the time polls close on Election Day.
- [HB 1101. Prohibits state and local elections officials from soliciting, accepting, using, or disposing of any moneys, grants, property, or services given by a private individual or entity.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 205](#), Signed by Governor)
- [HB 1109 Elections; time of certain local elections.](#) (Incorporated into [HB 1082](#), passed the House, killed in Senate) Seeks to return to allowing localities to determine whether local elections for mayor, members of a local governing body, or members of an elected school board would be held in May or November.

More on my efforts in this area is on my website at <https://www.votelarock.us/issues/election-integrity>

LaRock Legislation (continued)

Transportation, Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability and Local Issues:

- [HB 790 Seeks to ensure that any local police or sheriff department collective bargaining agreement would allow fair and appropriate ability to investigate and punish police misconduct.](#) (Passed the House, killed in Senate)
- [HB 792 Nutrient credit trading; adjacent hydrologic unit code.](#) Seeks to address Clarke County concerns about permanent removal of agricultural production in order to meet state environmental regulations that everything built after July 1, 2014, be nutrient neutral. Nutrient / phosphorous credits must be purchased within the eight-digit hydrologic unit or an adjacent eight-digit hydrologic unit hub. Clarke is adjacent to five out of seven of the Potomac River hubs; so, developments in those areas can buy nutrient credits in Clarke. As of Dec. 2021, 8 farm properties, 1,082 acres representing 1.6% of Clarke’s land area, have been removed from agricultural production with trees planted and maintained in perpetuity; this is 7.2% of the entire conversion throughout the Commonwealth.
- [HB 793 Traffic incident management vehicle; definition, vehicle may be equipped w/secondary warning lights.](#) (Signed by the Governor) This has been a multi-year effort, but finally got it passed. This will enhance the ability of VDOT Traffic Incident Management vehicles to access and remove accidents to reduce delays and secondary accidents; accident clearance is the #1 cause of delays on I-81.
- [HB 1028 Lovettsville, Town of; amending charter, town officers and powers.](#) (Signed by the Governor) Town of Lovettsville Town Council submitted revisions to the Town Charter in order to address primarily administrative grammatical issues, appointment process for vacant Council Member seats and Town staff, and revisions to align with Code of Virginia.
- [HB 1113 Transportation funding; statewide prioritization process for project selection.](#) Under the McAuliffe and Northam administrations, bureaucrats wandered away from the legislature’s intent for transportation funding which established objective processes to ensure prioritization of projects giving “best bang for the buck”, not political preferences. This bill will eventually provide much needed spending methodology.
- [HB 1114 Real property; additional tax on commercial and industrial property in certain localities.](#) This would allow Frederick and Clarke County, and others in the I-81 corridor, to implement local taxation of industry in order to fund transportation improvements and help Frederick County compete on a level playing field with Northern Virginia localities which already have this ability.

Budget Amendments

- [72#4h & 79#2h Adding Sheriffs’ Deputies - Funding Positions FY23 \\$11,523,365; FY24 \\$14,444,122](#)
Virginia law says the state funds 1 Sheriff deputy for every 1,500 population in counties where sheriffs provide primary law enforcement services, but no additional positions have been funded for this since FY2008. The 275 additional deputy sheriffs (including 107 in Loudoun and 15 in Frederick) funded by this amendment would address school safety & law enforcement needs in 42 of the Commonwealth’s 83 counties with no police force.
- [294#5h Priority of Funding for Family Planning Services \(Language Only\)](#) Defunds abortion providers by stating that public funds for family planning services in the Commonwealth shall be made in the following order of priority: 1. To public entities; 2. To nonpublic hospitals and federally qualified health centers; 3. To rural health clinics; and 4. To nonpublic health providers that have as their primary purpose the provision of primary health care services
- [375#13h Loudoun County State Park Operations – FY23 \\$816,253; FY24 \\$613,253](#) (Funded in House Budget) Would provide start-up and two years of operational funding for the new State Park in Loudoun County on Harpers Ferry Rd. Private donors and the County have provided this land, and we now need to staff and maintain it. Some of this funding will be offset by admission fees charged to those using the park.

See all my legislation from this and previous years at <https://www.votelarock.us/legislation>

Lowering Taxes and Helping Virginians Faced with Rising Costs of Living

America is in crisis. With inflation reaching record levels and gas prices soaring, Virginians are struggling every day to get to school and work, and to buy groceries and other essentials their families need.

Governor Glenn Youngkin's Administration projects that Virginia's surplus during the next budget cycle will reach \$13.4 billion. Along with House Republicans, I am working to return over \$5 billion to Virginia taxpayers in the form of tax relief. Virginians work hard, and they deserve to keep more of the money that they've earned.

Democrats don't see it that way. Even in spite of the economic hardship Virginians are facing at the hands of bad Democratic policy-making, Democrat legislators argued against the House Republican Majority's tax relief plan.

With [HB 90](#), House Republicans fought to eliminate Virginia's grocery tax. With [HB 935](#), we worked to offer individual filers a tax rebate of up to \$300, and joint filers a tax rebate of up to \$600. We supported a temporary suspension of gas tax hikes in the Commonwealth with [HB 1144](#), a measure Democrats blocked while disingenuously calling on the Governor to provide reprieve from soaring gas-prices. And we made efforts to double the standard deduction for Virginia tax filers with [HB 472](#) -- another tax relief measure Democrats declined to advance.

Further, with [HB 1301](#), we acted to help families who are struggling to cover the cost of energy by advancing legislation that would end Virginia's membership in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Even advocates of RGGI admit that it fails to do the one thing it was created to do: reduce carbon emissions. Instead, it's counted as a success by its advocates because of the cash it brings into the Commonwealth's coffers. RGGI is a tax parading as a "free market solution." Virginia needs real solutions. Not more taxes.

In that same vein, the House advanced legislation ([HB 118](#)) to roll back the so-called Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA), a "green" measure that makes life a lot more expensive for Virginians (just as gas prices are sky-rocketing). What's become clearer than ever during recent months is that the Commonwealth of Virginia and the whole of the United States need to embrace an all-of-the-above approach to energy, both as a savings measure and as a national security measure. According to State Corporation Commission estimates, the VCEA means that the average Virginia family pays \$800 more each year in energy costs. That's a price many Virginians, including our most vulnerable, can't afford to pay.

I believe that when Virginians do well, Virginia does well, and I won't stop fighting to make sure that Virginians are in control of how their hard-earned money is spent.

Making Virginia More Open for Business by Fighting Over-Regulation

After two years destructive Democrat policies and two years of COVID-19 closures and other mitigation measures, and now a labor shortage and surging inflation, businesses and workers in Virginia need advocates in Richmond. It's clear that overregulation, over-taxation, and government meddling have created nothing but trouble for the business community.

House Republicans are changing that. One of our top priorities during the 2022 General Assembly legislative session has been to pull back the reins on out-of-control bureaucracy in Virginia.

We believe in rewarding good business decisions, not punishing them. We believe in incentivizing growth, not crushing it. Under new Republican leadership, we spent this session working to make it easier for leaders in business, entrepreneurship, and economic developers to make certain Virginia is the best place in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

Following a "Day One" Executive Order by Governor Glenn Youngkin, the Virginia Safety and Health Codes Board voted to end the inflexible and outdated COVID-19 standards that had been in place for employers during much of the pandemic.

Meanwhile, Republicans worked to pass legislation that will limit the emergency powers of *any* Virginia Governor, regardless of political party. [HB 158](#) limits emergency orders to 45 days and requires the General Assembly to approve before the Governor can reissue the same rule, regulation, or order. Gone are the days when the Commonwealth's executive branch can unilaterally declare a state of emergency with no end in sight.

As Democrats embrace a top-down, one-size-fits all approach to government, I'll continue to fight for the rights of community and business leaders, and I'll make sure your voice is heard.

Strengthening Public Safety and Restoring Rights to Self Defense

When we ran for office in 2021, our Republican team made a commitment to undo as much of the damage done by Democrats as quickly as possible. Much of the damage they did was in the area of public safety. They worked tirelessly to let more dangerous felons out of prison early and to treat police like criminals.

I'm proud to say that our Republican team passed a number of bills that would have reversed that trend. Our caucus passed legislation that makes the troubled Parole Board much more transparent, ensuring that any votes cast to release a felon from prison will be done publicly.

For instance, in partnership with Republican Attorney General Jason Miyares, Republicans ushered [HB 283](#) through the House and the Senate, and with it, strengthened Virginia's capacity to identify and prevent human trafficking in the Commonwealth. The legislation requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish training standards for law-enforcement personnel regarding the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.

Democrats (still in control of the state Senate), in many cases made good on their promise to be a 'brick wall' against our efforts at course correction. They blocked legislation that would have repealed a "good behavior" system in our prisons that would let dozens of killers and other violent criminals out of jail this summer, rather than completing their sentences.

We will not stop working to keep Virginians safe by keeping dangerous felons where they belong – behind bars. Several bills to restore 2nd Amendment rights that were taken in the last two years passed the House, but died in the Senate. It will take another election putting Republicans back in control of the Senate to make that happen.

Preserving and Protecting Innocent Life

Democrats in the Senate were adamant that they would not budge on any matters related to life. That being the case, our House team decided to push forward on legislation that we thought would be impossible for anyone to oppose.

The House brought forward [HB 744](#), legislation that would make the killing of an unborn baby in an altercation or through some other reckless behavior by someone other than the mother a class 5 felony. Senate Democrats blocked it.

House Republicans advanced legislation ([HB 212](#)) that would have restored informed consent requirements for women seeking an abortion. It didn't establish a waiting period, or require an ultrasound – it simply required women to be given information about what they were about to do. Democrats blocked it.

To the amazement of many, Senate Democrats blocked [HB 304](#) (and my identical [HB 1349](#)). These bills mandated medical care be given to a baby who survived an attempted abortion. This anti-infanticide legislation was still too much for Democrats. Every Democrat member of the House voted against this protection for newborns.

I am pro-child and pro-family, and I will not stop fighting to protect the unborn. That's why it's so important that when the General Assembly is on the ballot again in 2023 that we see majorities in both House and Senate.

Religious and Medical Freedom

I have challenged the fairness, efficacy and legality of forced experimental COVID-19 vaccinations, and I have sought to raise awareness of expert advice on how to bolster one's immune system and use medications off-label to avoid serious harm from COVID-19.

I'm also working to protect the rights of Virginians to be safe from employer discrimination on the basis of religious exemption claims. A concerted effort was and is underway to silence me or others who apply critical thought to important issues when it is needed the most. Medical Passports and a Social Credit System are on the horizon and are a direct assault on God-given rights.

Agriculture/Conservation

Farmers are constantly on the receiving end of complaints about water quality in the Chesapeake Bay, as more urban areas seek to regulate how our farms operate. It's not fair to ask farms to bear the costs of cleaning up the Bay on their own. That's why our budget fully funds the Best Management Practices program with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This budget puts more money toward helping farmers pay to keep cattle out of streams and other best practices than any budget in recent history.

The House and Senate passed [HB 206](#), legislation that preserves the integrity of prime agricultural soils, forest land, and other natural and historic resources by requiring applicants for certain solar and energy storage projects to analyze environmental impacts and -- when necessary -- submit a plan to mitigate any harmful impacts.

House Republicans believe that we can move Virginia toward a more sustainable future by empowering innovators, embracing free-market solutions (that don't put the burden on the shoulders of taxpayers), and by supporting policies that make Virginia a hub for clean energy industries and jobs.