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# 2016 Legislative Update

Brooks Braun, Policy Analyst



# GREB Handbook Update

- **New chapter organization**
- **Will incorporate legal updates**
- **Rolling updates**
- **Future improvements**



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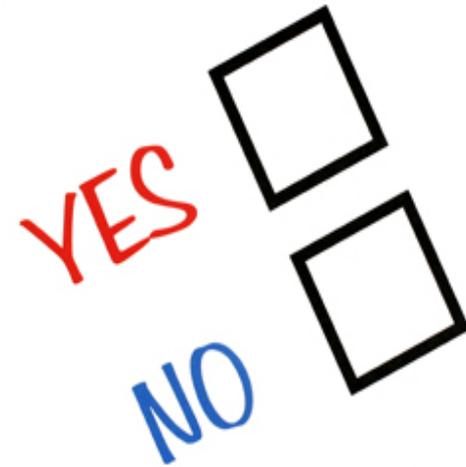
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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Constitutional Amendments



- **HB 865/HJ 123:** Property Tax Exemption for Spouses of Emergency Workers KILD
- **SB 446/HB 4/SJ 70:** Right to Work
  - On the ballot in November
  - Final ballot language is forthcoming.
  - ELECT will provide...
    - printed brochures for offices
    - posters for polling locations
    - advertisements in local media





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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Administration

# SB 382/HB 1145 : Reassigning Certain Duties of EBs to GRs

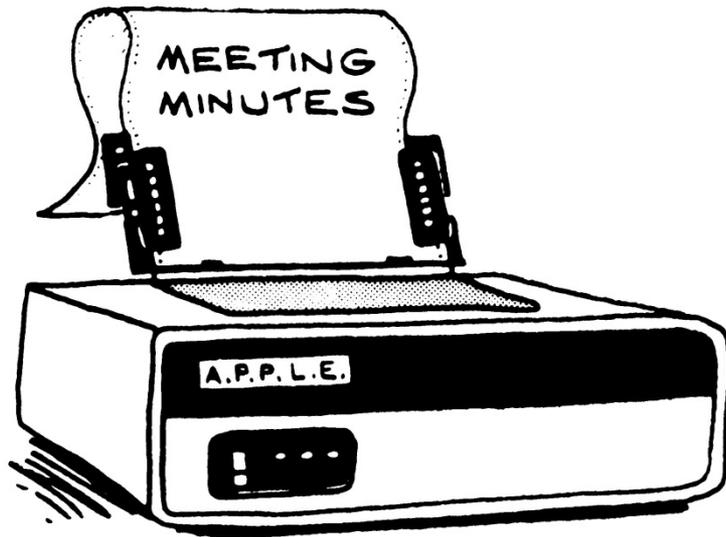
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Come see the presentation ater in  
the session on EB duties



# SB 89: Posting EB Minutes Online

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- Amends § 24.2-107
- Requires posting of EB meeting minutes on locality website
- Must be done ASAP and no later than one week prior to the next meeting

# HB 88: New Annual Training Requirements

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- Amends §§ 24.2-106, 111, 114, and 411
- Every EB member must attend training in year one of any term
  - Instead of any one member attending annual training
  - Results in a different member attending training each year
- Eliminates the requirement that the locality pay for GR staff to attend annual training.
- Requires all registrars to attend training unless they have a personal or family emergency
- Adds an option for GRs to close their offices, with notice, for training purposes, for a limited number of days a year.

# SB 574/HB 1030: New Officer of Election Training Requirements

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- Amends §§ 24.2-103
  - Requires the State Board develop training standards, a standardized training program, and an online training course
- Adds § 24.2-115.2
  - Requires use of the standardized training program
  - More rigorous OOE training requirements
  - This means more frequent training
- The Department is currently updating its online OOE training.
  - Finished product will cover everything an OOE needs to know that is uniform across the state.
  - Localities will be responsible for supplementing the training with locality specific information.

# SB 43: Moving Municipal Elections

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- Amends § 24.2 – 222.1
- Clarifies that a city or town may move the time of its local elections to the November general election pursuant to statutory authority notwithstanding any contrary provisions of its charter.



# SB 308/HB 832: Special Elections to Fill Vacancies in Constitutional Offices

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- Amends § 24.2-228.1 to allow the local governing body to prevent a special election to fill a vacancy in a constitutional office.
- Provides for filling the vacancy with office staff.



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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Campaign Finance

# HB 1387: Extended Deadline for Large Pre-Election Contributions

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- Amends § 24.2-947.9 (candidates) and § 24.2-949.6 (PACs).
- Extends the deadline for the LCR from 5:00 p.m. the day after the contribution is received (excluding Sundays) to 11:59 p.m. for all filers.
- Includes both COMET filers and paper filers.





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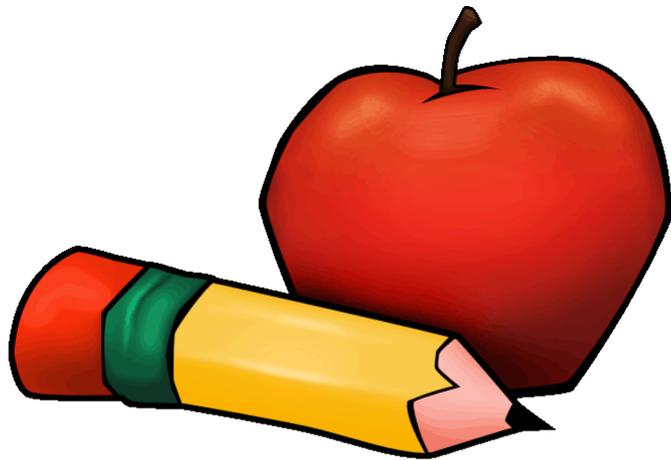
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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Ballot Access

# SB 664: Order of Names of Candidates for School Board

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SCHOOL BOARD

- Changes order from alphabetical to time of filing
- “Time of filing” is the moment the last qualifying filing is submitted.
- VERIS change is in the works to add a time field. Until then please keep track of this information.

# SB 692: Conflicts of Interest Act Changes

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- Changes § 24.2-502 filing of statements of economic interest
  - Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council now receives statements from candidates for:
    - Executive office (Governor, Lieutenant Gov, Attorney General)
    - State Legislature (Senate and House of Delegates)
    - Constitutional office (treasurer, sheriff, Commonwealth's atty, clerk, commissioner of the revenue)
  - The list of filers is transmitted from the Council to ELECT after the filing deadline.
- Changes semi-annual filing to annual filing for:
  - Members of governing bodies and school boards Changes
  - Constitutional officers
  - State legislators
- All incumbents with a current January 15th (with either the Council or the clerk of their local governing body) have fulfilled the requirements of § 24.2-502.



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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Voter Registration

# SB 420: Changes to the Voter Registration Application

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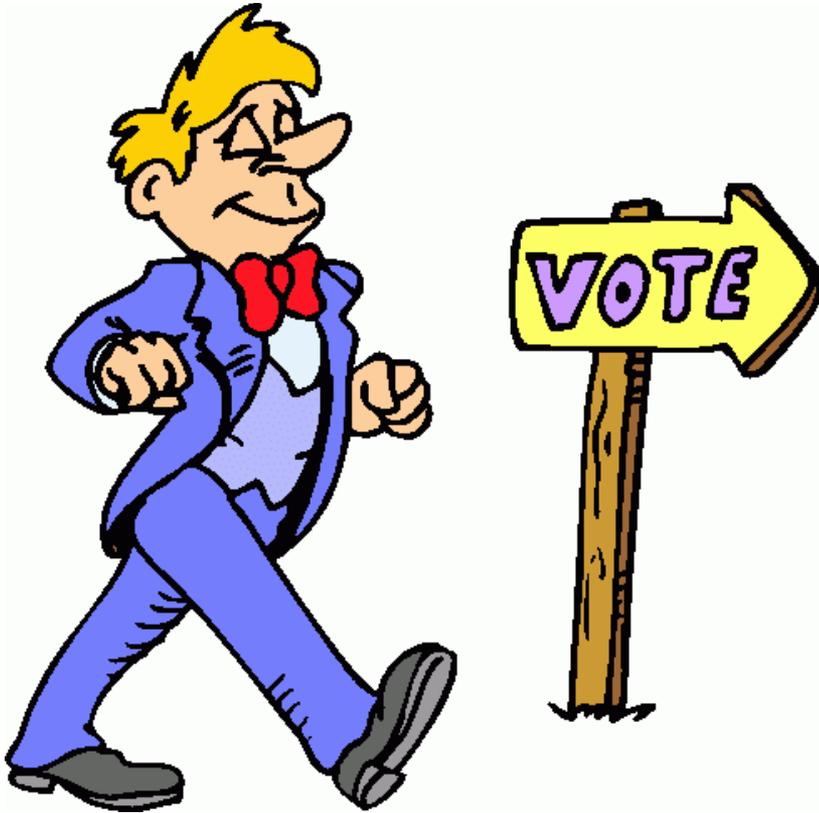
- Changes § 24.2-418
- Removes the requirement that an individual whose rights have been restored provide “information regarding the circumstances under which his right to vote has been restored.”
- Integrated into the new Voter Registration Application and regulation approved in IVAC20-40-70



**ARE YOU REGISTERED TO  
VOTE?**

# SB 460: Changes to Processing of Voter Registration Applications

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- Changes § 24.2-114 and § 24.2-418
- Requires GRs, when registering any person who was previously registered in another state, to notify the appropriate authority in that state of the person's registration in Virginia by providing electronically, through the Department of Elections, the information contained in that person's registration application.
- This will streamline the process of providing notices to other states.



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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Absentee

# SB 137/HB 456: Verified E-mail Addresses for Sending AB Materials

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- Requires GRs to send electronic absentee materials with an official email address or fax number published on the Department of Elections website.
  - Authorizes the State Board of Elections to prescribe, by regulation, the format of such email addresses .
  - Allows GRs to use Federal Voting Assistance Program transmission services.
- The bill does not provide for the return by electronic means of a voted absentee ballot.
- GRs will no longer be able to use private email addresses to send absentee materials.



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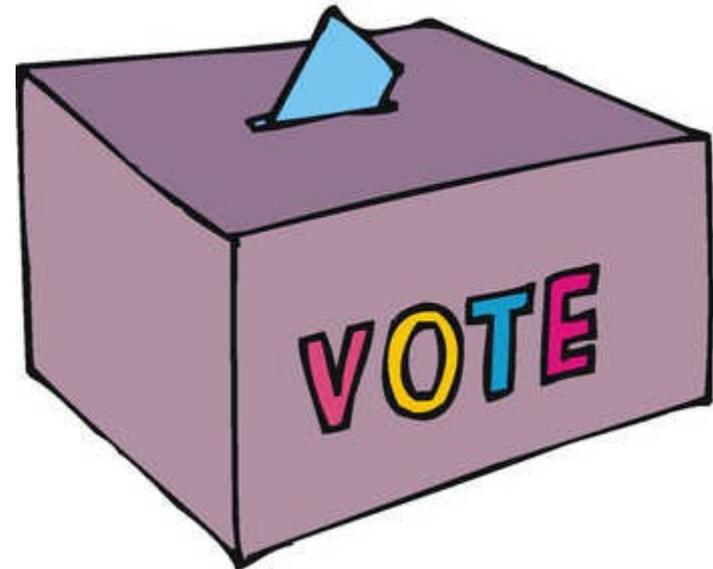
# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Election Day Procedures

# SB 381 / HB 205: Clarification of Election Page Program

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- Amends § 24.2-604(H)
- Clarifies that election pages...
  - Must receive training on their duties, responsibilities, and prohibited conduct
  - May assist in arranging the polling place (including moving voting equipment)
  - May assist in counting unmarked ballots prior to opening of the polls



# HB 1223: Option for Written Response to Request for Name and Address

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- Amends § 24.2-643 to allow a voter, when asked by an officer of election for their full name and residence address, to answer either orally or in writing.
- This accommodation is made on behalf of those who have difficulty speaking.
- The officer must still repeat the name and address out loud.



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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Voting Equipment

# SB 315/HB 104: Voting Equipment with Separate Data Storage Devices

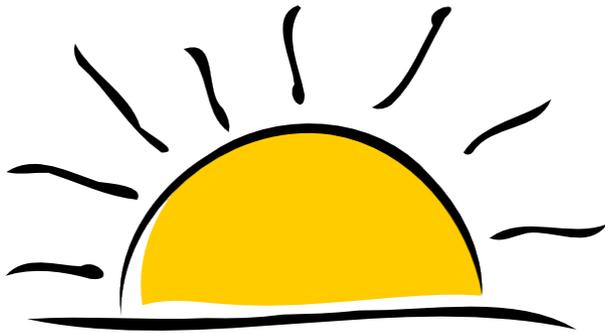
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- Amends § 24.2-659
- Clarifies the procedure for sealing voting equipment where voting data is stored entirely on a removable data storage device
- Exempts ADA compliant ballot marking devices that don't record votes
- Only equipment with onboard storage needs to be sequestered until after the contest period
- Frees up some equipment (e.g. scanners and AutoMARK devices) to be used quickly after an election in a subsequent special election



# SB 190: DRE Sunset

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- Amends § 24.2-626 to prohibit the use of DRE's in elections after July 1, 2020
- Eliminates previous exceptions for previously acquired equipment and accessibility
- Eliminates mention of DRE's in the Code
- Effective July 1, 2020



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# 2016 Bills to be Enacted

## Recounts and Contests

# SB 316/HB 105: Service of Complaint Deadline

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- Amends § 24.2-808
- Clarifies that not only must a contestant file her complaint with the circuit court, but that they must also serve parties to the contest within the time limits for a contest
- Based on problems in Richmond last year





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# Vetoed Bills

# HB 254/HB 1188: Technical Adjustments to Legislative Districts

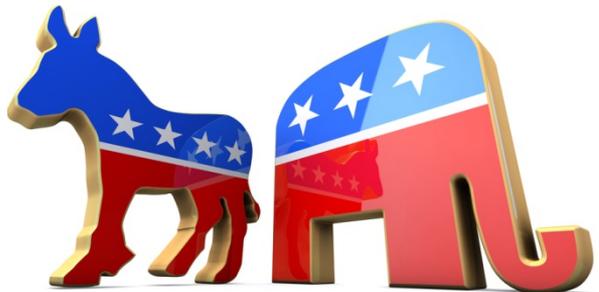
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- Made adjustments to district boundaries to avoid splits
- Vetoed as potentially unconstitutional for changing districts outside the normal decennial redistricting cycle.



# SB 767: Party ID On Ballot for Local Candidates

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- Would put party identifiers next to names in local races.
- Vetoed for increasing partisanship in historically non-partisan local elections.

# HB 9: Voter Registration Application Clarification

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- Strikes the generic list of requirements and provides a more detailed list.
- Vetoed as a violation of the Voting Rights act prohibition on denying applications based on omissions not material to the applicants qualification to vote.

