

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy 2026 General Assembly Bill Positions

This bill list is up-to-date as of February 12, 2026. Please note that bills are constantly changing as they move through the House and Senate on their way to become law. Click on the bill title to see its updates in the Legislative Information System (LIS). For bills sponsored by a Loudoun representative, their name is in parenthesis next to the bill number. When available, a link below the bill will take you to one pagers with talking points for you to use when speaking with your legislator, courtesy of Virginia Conservation Network partners.

LAND CONSERVATION AND HABITAT

House Bills: SUPPORT	Senate Bills: SUPPORT
<p>HB388: Allows a service district created within a locality to control invasive plants. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB388-SB89-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED HOUSE</p>	<p>SB89: Allows a service district created within a locality to control the spread of any plant that is identified on the list of invasive plant species established by the Department of Conservation and Recreation https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB388-SB89-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED SENATE</p>
<p>HB88: Requires the Commonwealth Transportation Board (Board) to establish and implement a policy for identifying and removing or controlling any invasive plant on the list of invasive plants created by the Department of Conservation and Recreation on any state highway right-of-way and prohibits the Commonwealth Transportation Board and Commissioner of Highways from planting or causing or suffering to be planted any such invasive plant on the right-of-way of any state highway. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB-88_Invasive-Plants-VDOT-ROW.pdf</p>	<p>SB519: Establishes as goals of the Commonwealth the achievement of permanent conservation of 20 percent of the land area of Virginia by 2036 and 10 percent of the aggregate acreage of Virginia's urban areas by 2036. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB519-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED SENATE</p>
<p>HB239/HB500* (McAuliff): Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to accept from The Conservation Fund approximately 1,240 acres...known as Oak Hill Farm, for the purpose of establishing and operating a state park on such property. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB239-HB500-SB157-Talking-Points.pdf</p>	<p>SB157* (Perry): Authorizes the Department of Conservation and Recreation to accept from The Conservation Fund approximately 1,240 acres...known as Oak Hill Farm, for the purpose of establishing and operating a state park on such property. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB239-HB500-SB157-Talking-Points.pdf</p>
<p>HB1375: Prohibits any person from manufacturing, distributing, using, or selling</p>	

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House Bills: SUPPORT	Senate Bills: SUPPORT
<p>any pesticide containing paraquat, defined in the bill, as an active ingredient Defeated in Committee</p>	
<p>HB109: Amends the definition of noxious weed to remove the exclusion for living plants or parts thereof that are commercially viable or commercially propagated in Virginia... https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB109_Invasives-CV-Loophole.pdf PASSED HOUSE</p>	
<p>HB596: Directs the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources to, in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation, convene an Interagency Implementation Group to advance projects, policies, and priorities identified under the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB596-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>	
<p>HB597: Establishes the Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund to provide grants for projects that conserve or enhance wildlife corridors prioritized by the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan... https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB597-Talking-Points.pdf</p>	
<p>HB641[*]: Creates a data center land preservation tax on and after January 1, 2027, in an amount equal to \$3 per square foot of each data center facility footprint, as defined in the bill, and directs no less than \$250 million of revenues from the tax to be distributed for various land protection and preservation purposes, including into the Virginia Tribal Commitment Fund, as created in the bill. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB641-SB393-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>	
<p>HB805: Increases from \$75 million to \$100 million, beginning in calendar year 2026, the maximum amount of land preservation tax credits that may be issued in a calendar year.</p>	

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House Bills: SUPPORT	Senate Bills: SUPPORT
https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB805-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee	

Land Conservation And Habitat Budget Amendments

House Member Requests: SUPPORT	Senate Member Requests: SUPPORT
362 #16h : Provides \$200,000 from the general fund each year to establish Virginia's first state mycologist position	362#19s : Provides \$50,000 GF each year for the fiscal impact of Senate Bill 89, which allows a service district created within a locality to control the spread of any plant that is identified on the list of invasive plant species maintained by the Department of Conservation and Recreation
370#1h* (McAuliff): Provides \$775,000 from the general fund each year for invasive species management activities at the Department of Wildlife Resources	370#2s : Increases the transfer to the Game Protection Fund by \$775,000 NGF each year to support the Department of Wildlife Resources' participation in the multi-agency Virginia Invasive Species Management Plan
C-15 #1h* : Provides \$16.0 million in nongeneral fund appropriation the first year and language stipulating the circumstances surrounding the state's acceptance of James Monroe's Oak Hill Farm in Loudoun County	C-15#1s : allows the Department of Conservation and Recreation to acquire the property at Oak Hill Farm

DATA CENTERS AND ENERGY:

House Bills: SUPPORT	Senate Bills: SUPPORT
HB153* : Requires sound studies for data center rezoning applications near schools and residential communities; allows for a locality to also require the application's assessment to include effects on surface and groundwater resources, parks, agriculture, historic sites, and forestland. <i>Incorporates HB511 (McAuliff)</i> https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB153-SB130-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED HOUSE	SB26 : Provides that any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires that an applicant must install a solar canopy over designated surface parking areas. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB26-Talking-Points.pdf
HB155*: Prohibits any person from operating a high load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 25 megawatts that was not operating before July 1, 2026, without first having obtained a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission.	SB619* (Srinivasan): Prohibits any person from operating a high-load facility, defined in the bill as a facility whose electricity demand exceeds 25 megawatts that was not operating before July 1, 2026, without first having obtained a certificate of operation from the State Corporation Commission.

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<p>https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB155-SB619-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>	<p>https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB155-SB619-Talking-Points.pdf</p>
<p>HB903: Directs the State Corporation Commission to convene a work group to design an effective regulatory framework to improve electric utility performance in the Commonwealth and submit a report of the work group's findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by October 31, 2026 https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB903-SB251-Talking-Points.docx.pdf</p>	<p>SB339 (Perry): Directs the State Corporation Commission to conduct proceedings to review cost allocation among different customer classifications for certain electric utilities. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB658-SB339-Talking-Points.pdf</p>
<p>HB591: Provides that it is the policy of the Commonwealth to encourage the responsible operation of data centers in the Commonwealth while supporting grid reliability, affordability, and the deployment of renewable resources</p>	<p>SB43: Directs the Department of Energy to evaluate and assess the benefits and impacts of and best practices and implementation recommendations for demand response programs</p>
<p>HB589: Requires any water user that provides water to a data center, as defined in the bill, and is required to register certain water withdrawal and use data with the State Water Control Board to report to the Board, on a monthly basis or as frequent a basis as practicable, the total volume of water, including the portion that is reclaimed water, provided to such data center during the reporting period. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB589-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>	<p>SB553 (Srinivasan): Requires any water user that provides water to a data center, as defined in the bill, and is required to register certain water withdrawal and use data with the State Water Control Board to report to the Board, on a monthly basis or as frequent a basis as practicable, the total volume of water, including the portion that is reclaimed water, provided to such data center during the reporting period https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB589-SB533-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED SENATE</p>
<p>HB897: Requires a data center operator, in order to be eligible for the existing data center sales and use tax exemption, to (i) beginning July 1, 2027, not use co-located generating facilities that emit carbon dioxide, other than backup generators; (ii) beginning July 1, 2029, contract for a certain percentage of energy, capacity, and renewable energy certificates from clean energy resources, as evidenced by a certification from the State Corporation Commission, or contracts and service agreements; (iii) utilize only non-carbon dioxide-emitting backup power</p>	<p>SB522: Requires a locality, prior to any approval of a rezoning application, special exception, or special use permit for the siting or major expansion of a large data center... to conduct an initial public hearing regarding such siting or expansion and to require the applicant to perform a site assessment including certain specified information and to submit such site assessment to the locality and the Department of Environmental Quality (the Department)...The bill requires</p>

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<p>sources, such as energy storage resources, beginning on a date dependent on the data center's initial service date; and (iv) beginning July 1, 2030, have demonstrated sufficient investment in environmental management and energy efficiency measures to provide system-wide benefits https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB897-Talking-Points.pdf</p> <p><i>Incorporates HB784: Requires the Department of Taxation to annually publish a report including the name of all data center operators receiving a retail sales and use tax exemption https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB784-Talking-Points.pdf</i></p>	<p>the Department to review such site assessment to ensure compliance with...standards for noise impacts, light pollution and illumination at night, water usage and source impacts, air emissions, traffic and other construction-phase impacts, and other impacts of proximity to residential units and schools... The bill authorizes the Office of the Attorney General to bring an action against a large data center for injunctive or other appropriate relief to enforce the bill's provisions...In addition, the bill directs the Department to develop site assessment standards for large data centers by July 1, 2027.</p> <p>Defeated in Committee</p>
<p>HB507(McAuliff): Limits the allowable use by a data center of certain carbon dioxide-emitting backup generators to only in an emergency, requires a data center to utilize energy storage as its primary backup power source for a minimum of two hours in an emergency, and only allows the use of carbon dioxide-emitting backup generators during grid emergencies after such energy storage resource has been depleted. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB507-Talking-Points.pdf</p>	<p>SB467: Prohibits a governing body or board of zoning appeals from issuing final approval for any special exception, special use permit, variance, rezoning application, or other land disturbing permit, including building permits and erosion and sediment control permits, for a high load facility, defined in the bill, until the applicant submits a finding of no impact or minimal impact issued by the State Corporation Commission.</p> <p>Defeated in Committee</p>
<p>HB1515: Prohibits final approval of any application for a rezoning, special exception, special use permit, site plan, or plan of development for the siting of a new data center by a locality until the earlier of (i) the fulfillment of all pending requests for interconnection to distribution service by an electric utility customer that is a data center or (ii) July 1, 2028.</p> <p>Defeated in Committee</p>	
	<p>Senate Bills: OPPOSE</p>
	<p>SB69: Repeals provisions (i) requiring the State Air Pollution Control Board to adopt regulations to reduce carbon dioxide</p>

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	<p>emissions from any electricity generating unit in the Commonwealth and authorizing the Board to establish an auction program for energy allowances; (ii) prohibiting the State Corporation Commission from approving any new utility-owned generation facilities that emit carbon dioxide as a by-product of energy generation under certain circumstances; (iii) declaring that statutory allowances for energy derived from sunlight, onshore wind, offshore wind, and storage facilities are in the public interest; and (iv) relating to the development of solar and wind generation and energy storage capacity, development of offshore wind capacity, and generation of electricity from renewable and zero-carbon sources</p> <p>DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE!</p>
	<p>SB752: Repeals provisions (i) requiring the State Air Pollution Control Board to adopt regulations to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from any electricity generating unit in the Commonwealth and authorizing the Board to establish an auction program for energy allowances; (ii) prohibiting the State Corporation Commission from approving any new utility-owned generation facilities that emit carbon dioxide as a by-product of energy generation under certain circumstances; (iii) declaring that statutory allowances for energy derived from sunlight, onshore wind, offshore wind, and storage facilities are in the public interest; and (iv) relating to the development of solar and wind generation and energy storage capacity, development of offshore wind capacity, and generation of electricity from renewable and zero-carbon sources</p> <p>https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB69-SB752-Talking-Points.pdf</p>

Data Centers and Energy Budget Amendments

House Member Requests: SUPPORT	Senate Member Requests: SUPPORT
<p>109#10h: Provides \$50,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the general fund to support costs incurred by the Department of Energy for conducting a</p>	<p>109#5s: Provides \$50,000 GF each year for the fiscal impact of Senate Bill 26, which enables local governments to adopt ordinances to require solar</p>

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workgroup to examine opportunities to use waste heat from data centers	canopies in certain large, nonresidential parking lots and allows developers to use generated electricity onsite and interconnect to the utility grid
	O#14S: Removes the data center sales and use tax exemption beginning on or after July 1, 2026

GOOD GOVERNANCE

House Bills: <i>SUPPORT</i>	Senate Bills: <i>SUPPORT</i>
<p>HB1038*: Establishes the Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plan Grant Fund and Program. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB1038-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>	<p>SB155: Designates the brown-belted bumblebee (<i>Bombus griseocollis</i>) as the official state native pollinator. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB155-Talking-Points.pdf PASSED SENATE</p>
<p>HB1266: Puts in place environmental justice requirements for public notices and hearings as well as cumulative impact analyses concerning DEQ environmental permits https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB1266-Talking-Points.pdf</p>	<p>SB502*: Prohibits candidates, campaign committees, and political committees from soliciting or accepting contributions from any public utility, as defined in relevant law, and prohibits any public utility or political action committee established by such public utility from making any such contribution. https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB502-Talking-Points-1.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>
	<p>SB761: Prohibits an electric or gas utility subject to regulation by the State Corporation Commission from recovering certain costs through its retail rates and charges for service. The costs prohibited for such recovery include political influence activities and promotional advertising https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB761-Talking-Points.pdf Defeated in Committee</p>
House Bills: <i>OPPOSE</i>	
<p>HB1122: Alters the criteria for determining when a landowner's rights shall be deemed vested in a land use. [Significantly limits local authority for land use decisions]</p>	

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Good Governance Budget Amendments

House Member Request: **SUPPORT**

[326#28h](#)*: Provides \$500,000 from the general fund each year for the Virginia Student Environmental Literacy Plant Grant Program [Bill HB1038]

WATER

House Bills: **SUPPORT**

[HB237](#): Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to include in the floodplains and flooding resilience and protected landscape resilience categories of the ConserveVirginia program a geographic information system layer to map those lands adjacent to existing wetlands and lands suitable for wetland migration to occur.

<https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HB237-Talking-Points.pdf>

PASSED HOUSE

[HB938](#): Requires every publicly owned treatment works to require certain new or existing industrial users to self-report use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) as part of a pretreatment program.

Senate Bills: **SUPPORT**

[SB482](#)*: Directs the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to conduct a study on safe and environmentally sensitive alternatives to using Sodium Chloride, or rock salt, to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather

PASSED SENATE

[SB138](#): Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to require quarterly monitoring for one year for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for every industrial wastewater source that discharges pollutants into a publicly owned treatment works

Senate Bills: **OPPOSE**

~~***SB11: Repeals the statute prohibiting food vendors and certain restaurants from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a single-use expanded polystyrene food service container.***~~
~~<https://vcnva.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SB11-Talking-Points.pdf>~~

DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE!

Water Budget Amendments

House Member Requests: **SUPPORT**

Senate Member Requests: **SUPPORT**

[439#2s](#): provides \$50,000 GF each year for the potential fiscal impact of Senate Bill 482,

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	which would direct the Department of Transportation to study safe and environmentally sensitive alternatives to using salt for treating and pre-treating roadways.
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