



# Paperless Legislature Update from the Virginia House of Delegates

**Jeff Finch, Deputy Clerk,  
House of Delegates**

# Then and Now



- Paper Print Request Copies to Contract Printer
- 1800 Copies of Every Bill Version
- Prior to Internet only Printed
  - Cumulative Indexes
  - Legislation
  - Patron Reports
  - Documents
  - Calendars
  - Manuals, Constitution, Budgets, Code of Virginia

# Now

- **Journals 500/150**
- **Manuals 4000/1500**
- **Budget Bills (Intro., Enr., ReEnr., Chap.)**  
**2500/2200-300 depending on the version**
  - **Eliminated Engrossed Printing**
- **Daily Calendars 1800/600**
- **Bills and Resolutions 1600/500 or less**
  - **On Demand Printing**
- **Report Documents 1200/150**
- **Bill Drafting Processes all Electronic**
- **Poll Members for Receipt of Publications**



# Printing on Demand



- **High Volume Printers**
- **Installed in Key Locations in Capitol and General Assembly**
- **Printing on demand for:**
  - **Bill Packets**
  - **Bills requested by public and members**
  - **Educational materials for visiting groups**
  - **All information that can be printed on demand is also available on the web**

# Internet Usage




- *Wireless Access*
  - *Members,*
  - *Staff*
  - *Public*

# Chamber Automation

- Laptops issued to all members
- Approx. 60% of members utilize CAP to follow legislation on the floor
- To help move to 100% paperless - newly elected members only educated on using laptops for legislative use not on utilizing paper – not 100%
- Information accessible:
  - Bill text
  - Amendments
  - Floor and Committee Votes
  - Fiscal Impact Statements and Bill Summaries
  - Anything else accessible from Legislative Information System (LIS)



 **House of Delegates Daily Calendar**  
[Expand All](#) [Collapse All](#) [Customize](#)  
[Print View](#)

▼ **House Special Session 2**  
▼ **SB 3rd Regular**  
SB6009 ▼ **Transportation funding, statewide and regional; establishes new taxes & increases rates of certain.**  
    ▶ Amendment - (Delegate Armstrong) Agreed to  
    ◻ Amendment - (Delegate Armstrong) Released  
    ◻ 06/26/08 H Reported from Rules without recommendation (11-Y 4-N)  
    ▶ 7/09/2008 3:55:35 PM- --- ADOPTION - YEAS-- 0-NAYS-- 98-RULE 69-- 0  
    ▶ 7/09/2008 4:26:02 PM- --- AGREE TO - YEAS-- 95-NAYS-- 1-RULE 69-- 0  
    ▶ 7/09/2008 5:01:45 PM- --- PASSAGE - YEAS-- 39-NAYS-- 59-RULE 69-- 0

▼ **HB 2nd Uncontested**  
HB6009 ▼ **Trooper Robert Tinsley Lohr Memorial Bridge; designating as Rt. 207 bridge over I-95 in Caroline.**  
    ◻ 06/24/08 H Reported from Transportation with amendment (14-Y 0-N)  
    ▶ 7/09/2008 5:11:58 PM.

**New Comment** **New Amendment** **Bill Text** **Highlight Bill** **Favor** **Oppose** **Abstain** **Fiscal** **Fullscreen** **Next Bill**  
SB6009 Transportation funding, statewide and regional; establishes new taxes & increases rates of certain. Patron: Saslaw

**SB 6009 Transportation funding, statewide and regional; establishes new taxes & increases rates of certain.**    
**Richard L. Saslaw** | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

*Summary as introduced:*  
**Statewide and regional transportation funding.** Establishes new taxes and increases the rates of certain existing taxes with the revenues generated to be used for the funding of transportation on a statewide and regional basis. The bill would provide funds for mass transit and road and highway maintenance statewide by (i) increasing the state motor fuels tax rate by \$0.06 per gallon in increments of \$0.01 per gallon in each of the next six fiscal years, (ii) increasing the state retail sales and use tax by one-quarter of one percent, and (iii) increasing the motor vehicle sales and use tax by one-half of one percent. These increases in taxes would be imposed throughout the Commonwealth.

The bill also would provide funds to be used for transportation purposes in the counties and cities embraced by the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority by (i) establishing an additional one-half of one percent state retail sales and use tax to be imposed in the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park; (ii) establishing a \$5 per day transient occupancy tax to be imposed in such counties and cities; and (iii) increasing the grantor's tax in such counties and cities by \$0.40 per \$100 of value.

The revenues collected under the bill for mass transit and road and highway maintenance would be deposited into the Supplemental Highway Maintenance and Mass Transit Fund. Each year 25 percent of the moneys deposited into the Fund would be distributed to the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund to be used for mass transit purposes. The remaining 75 percent of such moneys would be used for road and highway maintenance in the construction district in which such moneys were generated or attributable, provided that the Bristol construction district would receive a proportionate share that is not less than such construction district's proportion of the total funds allocated statewide for road and highway maintenance in the Commonwealth's fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

The revenues from the taxes that would be imposed in the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun,

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HB6009 ▾ Troop Memor as Rt. Carolin

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7/09/2008 5:12:38 PM- PREVIEW THE BLOCK - YEAS-- 98-NAYS-- 0-RULE 69-- 0

Committee Amendment --

Done

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2008 SPECIAL SESSION II

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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1 SENATE BILL NO. 6009

2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3 (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance

4 on June 25, 2008)

5 (Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Saslaw)

6 A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-202.1, 2.2-202.2, 15.2-4838, 15.2-4840, 33.1-23.03,

7 33.1-391.3, 38.1-603, 58.1-604, 58.1-604.1, 58.1-603.3, 58.1-611.1, 58.1-612, 58.1-614, 58.1-638,

8 58.1-639, 58.1-802, 58.1-811, 58.1-815, 58.1-815.1, 58.1-816.1, 58.1-2217, 58.1-2249, 58.1-2289, as

9 it is currently effective and as it may become effective, 58.1-2402, 58.1-2403, as it shall become

10 effective, 58.1-2425, 58.1-2701, as it is currently effective and as it may become effective, and

11 58.1-2706 of the Code of Virginia, and to amend and reenact the fifth enactment of Chapter 596 of

12 the Acts of Assembly of 2007, to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 1.2-126.1,

13 58.1-603.1, 58.1-603.2, and 58.1-603.3, by adding in Chapter 48.2 of Title 15.2 a section numbered

14 15.2-4941, by adding in Article 1.1 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-23.5.3, by

15 adding in Title 33.1 a chapter numbered 10.3, consisting of sections numbered 33.1-391.16,

16 33.1-391.17, and 33.1-391.18, by adding in Title 58.1 a chapter numbered 6.01, consisting of a

17 section numbered 58.1-639.1, and by adding in Chapter 22 of Title 58.1 an article numbered 3.1,

18 consisting of a section numbered 58.1-2288.1; and to repeal §§ 2.2-2817.1, 46.2-755.1, 46.2-755.2,

19 46.2-1167.1, 58.1-625.1, 58.1-802.1, 58.1-2402.1, and 58.1-8235.1 of the Code of Virginia, to repeal

20 Chapter 10.2 ( §§ 33.1-391.6 through 33.1-391.15) of Title 33.1 of the Code of Virginia and Article

21 4.1 ( §§ 58.1-1724.2 through 58.1-1724.7) of Chapter 17 of Title 58.1, and to repeal the sixth,

22 thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth enactments of Chapter 596 of the Acts of

23 Assembly of 2007, relating to transportation funding and administration, including taxes and fees for

24 transportation funding.

25 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

26 1. That the General Assembly of Virginia finds: that (i) an adequate, efficient, and safe

27 transportation system is important to the economic well-being of the Commonwealth, its regions,

28 its localities, and its citizens; (ii) the increasing costs of and growing demands upon the

29 Commonwealth's transportation system require additional funding from time to time so that an

30 adequate, efficient, and safe transportation system is available throughout the Commonwealth; and

31 (iii) the financing and operation of an adequate, efficient, and safe transportation system are state

32 responsibilities with assistance from federal, regional, private, and local partners.

33 2. That §§ 2.2-203.1, 2.2-203.2, 15.2-4838, 15.2-4838.1, 15.2-4840, 33.1-23.03, 33.1-391.5, 58.1-603,

34 58.1-604, 58.1-604.1, 58.1-608.3, 58.1-611.1, 58.1-612, 58.1-614, 58.1-638, 58.1-639, 58.1-802,

35 58.1-811, 58.1-815, 58.1-815.1, 58.1-816.1, 58.1-2217, 58.1-2249, 58.1-2289, as it is currently effective

36 and as it may become effective, 58.1-2402, 58.1-2403, as it shall become effective, 58.1-2425,

37 58.1-2701, as it is currently effective and as it may become effective, and 58.1-2706 of the Code of

38 Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections

39 numbered 1.2-126.1, 58.1-603.1, 58.1-603.2, and 58.1-603.3, by adding in Chapter 48.2 of Title 15.2

40 a section numbered 15.2-4941, by adding in Article 1.1 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section

41 numbered 33.1-23.5.3, by adding in Title 33.1 a chapter numbered 10.3, consisting of sections

42 numbered 33.1-391.16, 33.1-391.17, and 33.1-391.18, by adding in Title 58.1 a chapter numbered

43 6.01, consisting of a section numbered 58.1-639.1, and by adding in Chapter 22 of Title 58.1 an

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deposited into the Supplemental Highway Maintenance and Mass Transit Fund. Each year 25 percent of the moneys deposited into the Fund would be distributed to the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund to be used for mass transit purposes. The remaining 75 percent of such moneys would be used for road and highway maintenance in the construction district in which such moneys were generated or attributable, provided that the Bristol construction district would receive a proportionate share that is not less than such construction district's proportion of the total funds allocated statewide for road and highway maintenance in the Commonwealth's fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

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# The Paperless Legislature from a Committee Perspective

House Committees and Subcommittees remain very paper dependent. Efforts made to move towards a more paperless legislature but they have met with resistance than similar ideas utilized on the floor.

Even so there have been some successes.....

# Committee Successes


- Members using laptops in committees on rise; however, reluctant to give up hard copies of bills altogether
- Bill books eliminated which contained EVERY bill pending before the committee. Today, members receive bill packets containing only those bills scheduled for action (i.e. listed on the docket)
- Last two years, moved to electronic voting. Today, 11 of 14 committees vote electronically.
- Eliminated “hard copy” patron notification system and moved to electronic (email) system for notification (patrons and public)

# Patron Notification

- **Committee Agendas / Patron Notices**
- **Following Occurs:**
  - **Posts online agenda on committee pages**
  - **Sends email to all patrons and interested parties**
  - **Creates appointment automatically on member calendar**
  - **Used to create committee report**



# Interim Meeting Notices



Movement to electronic distribution of interim meeting notices has resulted in a significant reduction in paper and tremendous cost savings to the Commonwealth



- As of January 2000, Interim Meeting Database maintained by House Committee Operations, as required by statute, contained more than 6,000 records.

- Purged out-dated records and eliminated duplicative records reduced to 4,500 names

- In 2000, mailed between 200-250 unique meeting notices to mailing lists (10-300 names)

- EVERY one of these notices went out by U.S. mail (first class postage).

- NO interim meeting notices were sent by fax or email.



# •July 2006 Interim Meetings Database

- 3,750 names
- 2,816 emails (75%)
- 871 hard copy
  - U.S. mail (23%)
  - 60 fax (less than 2%)

# •Dec 1, 2008 Interim Meeting Database

- 3,624 names
- 3,228 emails (89%)
- 345 hard copy
  - U.S. mail (9.5%)
  - 47 fax (less than 2%)



# Looking to the Future

- Audio and Video Internet Webcasts
- Increased Member Usage of Laptops for Committee and Floor Work
- Elimination of Bill Packets
- 100% Committee Electronic Voting
- Decreased Printing of Legislative Publications
- Increased Reliance for Electronic Committee and Floor Amendments
- Electronic Committee Testimony
- Etc.....