



## **VOTE CHARTS – 2008 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION**

The 2008 session of the Virginia General Assembly began on January 9<sup>th</sup> and adjourned on March 13<sup>th</sup>. The Virginia Catholic Conference (VCC) monitored approximately 50 policy measures during this year's session.

An integral facet of the VCC's mission is to report decisions made by the state legislature on issues of concern to Catholics throughout the Commonwealth. As part of that mission, the VCC compiles, at the conclusion of each year's General Assembly session, the results of votes taken by members of the Senate and House on matters of particular interest to many Catholics involved in state advocacy.

Although some VCC-tracked items failed to reach the full body of either chamber, others did receive floor votes. Appearing below are two charts that record five Senate and nine House floor votes. Each floor vote relates to an issue (described below) that was significantly monitored by the VCC and its grassroots advocacy partners.

In addition, a particularly high concentration of VCC priorities were prevented from reaching the Senate floor due to votes cast in the 15-member Senate Committee on Education and Health. A third chart records that committee's votes on matters that were never considered by the full Senate but that were significantly monitored by the VCC and its grassroots advocates during committee deliberations.

# Senate

√: a vote supported by the VCC  
 X: a vote opposed by the VCC  
 NV: The Senator did not vote.

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Preventing Planned Parenthood Funding *	Death Penalty – Blocking Expansion	Contraception – Opposing Teaching Mandate	Funding Abstinence Education	Immigrants – Higher Education
Barker, George (D-39)	X	√	X	X	√
Blevins, Harry B. (R-14)	√	X	√	√	√
Colgan, Charles J., Sr. (D-29)	√	√	√	NV	√
Cuccinelli, Kenneth “Ken” Thomas, II (R-37)	√	√	√	√	X
Deeds, Robert Creigh (D-25)	X	X	X	X	√
Edwards, John S. (D-21)	X	√	X	X	√
Hanger, Emmett W., Jr. (R-24)	√	X	√	√	√
Herring, Mark R. (D-33)	X	X	X	X	√
Houck, R. Edward “Edd” (D-17)	X	X	√	X	√
Howell, Janet D. (D-32)	X	√	X	X	√
Hurt, Robert (R-19)	√	X	√	√	X
Locke, Mamie E. (D-2)	X	√	X	X	√
Lucas, L. Louise (D-18)	X	√	X	X	√
Marsh, Henry L., III (D-16)	X	√	X	X	√
Martin, Stephen H. (R-11)	√	X	√	√	X
McDougle, Ryan (R-4)	√	X	√	√	X
McEachin, A. Donald (D-9)	X	√	X	X	√
Miller, John (D-1)	X	X	X	X	√
Miller, Yvonne B. (D-5)	X	√	X	X	X
Newman, Stephen D. “Steve” (R-23)	√	X	√	√	X
Norment, Thomas K., Jr. (R-3)	√	X	√	√	√
Northam, Ralph S. (D-6)	X	√	X	X	√
Obenshain, Mark D. (R-26)	√	X	√	√	X
Petersen, Chap (D-34)	X	√	X	X	√

<b>Puckett, Phillip P. (D-38)</b>	X	X	√	X	√
<b>Puller, Linda T. “Toddy” (D-36)</b>	X	√	X	X	√
<b>Quayle, Frederick M. (R-13)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Reynolds, W. Roscoe (D-20)</b>	X	X	X	X	√
<b>Ruff, Frank M., Jr. (R-15)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Saslaw, Richard L. (D-35)</b>	X	√	X	X	√
<b>Smith, Ralph (R-22)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Stolle, Kenneth W. “Ken” (R-8)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Stosch, Walter A. (R-12)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Stuart, Richard H. (R-28)</b>	√	X	√	√	X
<b>Ticer, Patricia Smith (D-30)</b>	X	√	NV	X	√
<b>Vogel, Jill Holtzman (R-27)</b>	√	X	√	√	X
<b>Wagner, Frank W. (R-7)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Wampler, William C., Jr. (R-40)</b>	√	X	√	√	X
<b>Watkins, John C. (R-10)</b>	√	X	√	√	√
<b>Whipple, Mary Margaret (D-31)</b>	X	√	X	X	√

\*Vote was a 20-20 tie; Lieutenant Governor William Bolling (R) broke the tie by voting in favor of the prohibition.

## Descriptions of Senate Votes

**Preventing Planned Parenthood Funding.** During the Senate’s floor debate on the state budget for the next two fiscal years, Senator Ken Cuccinelli (R – Fairfax) proposed including budget language to prohibit the provision of state money to Planned Parenthood. Because the Senate’s vote on the proposal was 20-20 (displayed above), Lieutenant Governor William Bolling had the role of “breaking the tie” as President of the Senate. The Lieutenant Governor voted in favor of the VCC-endorsed prohibition on Planned Parenthood funding. The proposal later failed, however, when the House-Senate conference committee (appointed to resolve differences between the two chambers’ budget proposals) did not include the funding prohibition in its report.

**Death Penalty – Blocking Expansion.** For the second straight year, the General Assembly enacted VCC-opposed legislation that would have permitted, under a wide range of circumstances, murder accomplices to receive death sentences (which under current law are reserved for the actual perpetrators with few exceptions). As in 2007, Governor Kaine vetoed this year’s legislation, and the Senate sustained (upheld) his veto when its vote (24-16, displayed above) fell three votes short of the two-thirds majority required to override a veto.

**Contraception – Opposing Teaching Mandate.** A VCC-opposed bill would have required the state Board of Education to include teaching on FDA-approved contraceptive methods within its standards of learning and curriculum guidelines for family-life education in public schools. The Senate Committee on Education and Health advanced the measure to the Senate floor by a 9-6 vote, but the full Senate then defeated it 22-17 (displayed above).

**Funding Abstinence Education.** Last October, the Governor eliminated \$275,000 in annual state matching funds for federally supported abstinence education for youth. A VCC-supported budget amendment proposed by Senator Cuccinelli to restore this money was debated on the Senate floor but was rejected by a 20-19 vote (displayed above). No similar amendment was considered by the House.

**Immigrants – Higher Education.** The Senate approved a VCC-supported bill (30-10 vote, displayed above) that would have permitted undocumented immigrant youth to receive in-state tuition at public higher-education institutions if they graduate from Virginia high schools, are actively pursuing permanent U.S. residency, and have parents who have filed Virginia income-tax returns for at least three years prior to enrollment. The House Committee on Education, however, rejected the Senate approach by adopting alternative provisions making all undocumented immigrant youth ineligible for in-state tuition at Virginia’s public institutions. [Ultimately, the competing Senate and House versions both failed because an appointed conference committee was unable to reconcile differences.]

Senate Committee on Education and Health		√: a vote supported by the VCC X: a vote opposed by the VCC			
Name of Senator (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Licensing/Regulation	Abortion Clinic Licensing/Inspection	Abortion – Informed Consent	HPV Information – Postponing Start Date	
<b>Barker, George (D-39)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Blevins, Harry B. (R-14)</b>	√	√	√	√	
<b>Edwards, John S. (D-21)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Houck, R. Edward “Edd” (D-17)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Howell, Janet D. (D-32)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Locke, Mamie E. (D-2)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Lucas, L. Louise (D-18)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Martin, Stephen H. (R-11)</b>	√	√	√	√	
<b>Miller, John (D-1)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Newman, Stephen D. “Steve” (R-23)</b>	√	√	√	√	
<b>Northam, Ralph S. (D-6)</b>	X	X	X	X	
<b>Quayle, Frederick M. (R-13)</b>	√	√	X	√	

<b>Ruff, Frank M., Jr. (R-15)</b>	√	√	√	√
<b>Saslaw, Richard L. (D-35)</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>Whipple, Mary Margaret (D-31)</b>	X	X	X	X

## Descriptions of Senate Committee on Education and Health Votes

**Abortion Clinic Licensing/Regulation.** A VCC-endorsed Senate bill that would have required abortion clinics to be licensed by the state and subject to regulations applicable to other ambulatory surgery centers was defeated by the Senate Committee on Education and Health (“E & H”) by a 10-5 vote (displayed above).

**Abortion Clinic Licensing/Inspection.** After a VCC-endorsed measure requiring abortion clinics to be licensed and subject to regulations applicable to other ambulatory surgery centers passed the House (see House chart) and was assigned to E & H, the patron amended the bill to require only that abortion clinics be licensed, inspected at least once every two years, and have emergency equipment on hand. E & H, however, rejected this scaled-down version 10-5 (displayed above).

**Abortion – Informed Consent.** A VCC-supported bill requiring that every pregnant woman considering an abortion first be given the opportunity to view an ultrasound image of her unborn child passed the House (see House chart), but E & H then defeated it by an 11-4 vote (displayed above).

**HPV Information – Postponing Start Date.** A VCC-endorsed bill delaying implementation of a requirement that parents of girls about to enter the sixth grade receive information from the state regarding the new HPV vaccine and the link between HPV and cervical cancer (see “Descriptions of House Votes”) passed the House (see House chart). The measure was then assigned to E & H, which rejected it 10-5 (displayed above).

# House of Delegates

√: a vote supported by the VCC  
 X: a vote opposed by the VCC  
 NV: The Delegate did not vote.  
 ---: not yet elected at time of vote  
 A: The Delegate abstained.

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Licensing/Regulation.	Abortion – Informed Consent	Abortion – Prohibiting Funding	Research – Ethical Standards	Death Penalty – Blocking Expansion	Immigrants – Higher Education	Payday Lending Reform	HPV Information – Postponing Start Date	Education Tax Credit
Abbitt, Watkins M., Jr. (I-59)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Albo, David B. (R-42)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Alexander, Kenneth C. (D-89)	X	X	X	√	X	X	√	X	√
Amundson, Kristen J. (D-44)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	X	X
Armstrong, Ward L. (D-10)	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	X	X
Athey, Clifford L., Jr. (R-18)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
BaCote, Mamye E. (D-95)	X	X	X*	X	√	√	√	X	X
Barlow, William K. (D-64)	X	√	X	X	X	X	√	X	X
Bell, Rob B., III (R-58)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Bouchard, Joseph F. (D-83)	X	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X
Bowling, Daniel C. (D-3)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	X
Brink, Robert H. (D-48)	X	X	X*	X	√	√	√	X	X
Bulova, David L. (D-37)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X
Byron, Kathy J. (R-22)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	√
Caputo, C. Charles (D-67)	X	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X
Carrico, Charles “Bill” W., Sr. (R-5)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	X
Cline, Ben L. (R-24)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Cole, Mark L. (R-88)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Cosgrove, John A. (R-78)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Cox, M. Kirkland “Kirk” (R-66)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Crockett-Stark, Anne (R-6)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	X	X

Dance, Rosalyn R. (D-63)	X	√	X*	X	√	X	√	X	X
Ebbin, Adam P. (D-49)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Eisenberg, Albert C. (D-47)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Englin, David L. (D-45)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Fralin, William H., Jr. (R-17)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Frederick, Jeffrey M. (R-52)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Gear, Thomas D. "Tom" (R-91)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Gilbert, C. Todd (R-15)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Griffith, H. Morgan (R-8)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	X
Hall, Franklin "Frank" P. (D-69)	NV	X	X	X	√	X	√	X	X
Hamilton, Phillip A. (R-93)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Hargrove, Frank D., Sr. (R-55)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Hogan, Clarke N. (R-60)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Howell, Algie T., Jr. (D-90)	√	√	X	X	√	X	√	X	√
Howell, William J. (R-28)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Hugo, Timothy D. (R-40)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	X
Hull, Robert D. "Bob" (D-38)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Iaquinto, Sal R. (R-84)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Ingram, Riley E. (R-62)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Janis, Bill (R-56)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	√
Joannou, Johnny S. (D-79)	X	X	X	√	X	X	√	X	X
Johnson, Joseph P., Jr. (D-4)	NV	√	√	√	X	X	√	NV	X
Jones, Dwight Clinton (D-70)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	NV	X
Jones, S. Chris (R-76)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Kilgore, Terry G. (R-1)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	X
Landes, R. Steven "Steve" (R-25)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Lewis, Lynwood W., Jr. (D-100)	X	X	√	X	X	X	√	X	X
Lingamfelter, L. Scott (R-31)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Lohr, Matt (R-26)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Loupassi, Manoli (R-68)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Marsden, Dave W. (D-41)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Marshall, Danny, III (R-14)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Marshall, Robert G. "Bob" (R-13)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Massie, James P. "Jimmie", III (R-72)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Mathieson, Robert W. "Bobby" (D-21)	X	X	X	X	X	X	NV	X	X
May, Joe T. (R-33)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
McClellan, Jennifer L. (D-71)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Melvin, Kenneth R. "Ken" (D-80)	X	X	NV	NV	√	√	√	X	X
Merricks, Donald (R-16)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Miller, Jackson H. (R-50)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	A

Miller, Paula J. (D-87)	X	X	X	√	X	X	√	X	X
Moran, Brian J. (D-46)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X
Morgan, Harvey B. (R-98)	√	√	NV	√	X	X	√	√	√
Morrissey, Joe (D-74)	√	X	√	X	√	√	√	X	√
Nichols, Paul F. (D-51)	X	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X
Nixon, Samuel A. "Sam", Jr. (R-27)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Nutter, Dave (R-7)	√	√	NV	√	X	X	√	NV	X
O'Bannon, John M., III M.D. (R-73)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Oder, G. Glenn (R-94)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Orrock, Robert "Bobby" Dickson, Sr. (R-54)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Peace, Chris (R-97)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Phillips, Clarence E. "Bud" (D-2)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	X
Plum, Kenneth R. "Ken" (D-36)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Pogge, Brenda (R-96)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Poindexter, Charles (R-9)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Poisson, David E. (D-32)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	X	X
Pollard, Albert C., Jr. (D-99)	---	---	√	X	X	---	√	---	---
Purkey, Harry R. "Bob" (R-82)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Putney, Lacey E. (I-19)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Rust, Thomas Davis (R-86)	√	X	√	√	X	X	√	X	X
Saxman, Chris B. (R-20)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Scott, Edward T. (R-30)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Scott, James M. "Jim" (D-53)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Shannon, Stephen C. (D-35)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	X	X
Sherwood, Beverly J. (R-29)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Shuler, James M. (D-12)	X	X	X	X	X	X	√	X	X
Sickles, Mark D. (D-43)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	X	X
Spruill, Lionell Sr. (D-77)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Suit, Terrie L. (R-81)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√
Tata, Robert "Bob" (R-85)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	√
Toscano, David J. (D-57)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Tyler, Roslyn C. (D-75)	X	X	X	X	√	X	√	X	X
Valentine, Shannon R. (D-23)	X	√	X	X	√	√	√	√	X
Vanderhye, Margaret "Margi" (D-34)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Ward, Jeion Antonia (D-92)	X	X	X	X	√	√	√	X	X
Ware, Onzlee (D-11)	X	X	NV	NV	√	√	X	X	X
Ware, R. Lee (R-65)	√	√	√	√	X	X	X	√	√
Watts, Vivian E. (D-39)	X	X	X	X	X	√	√	X	X
Wright, Thomas "Tommy" C., Jr. (R-61)	√	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	√



\*Delegate was a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Resources. The eight-member subcommittee approved the budget item prohibiting state abortion funding and included it in its budget report. On the signature page of the report, however, Delegate noted that he/she opposed including this prohibition in the report.

## Descriptions of House Votes

**Abortion Clinic Licensing/Regulation.** A VCC-endorsed measure that would have required abortion clinics to be licensed by the state and subject to regulations applicable to other ambulatory surgery centers passed the House by a vote of 60-37 (displayed above). A scaled-down version of the bill was subsequently defeated 10-5 in the Senate E&H committee (displayed in Committee chart).

**Abortion – Informed Consent.** A VCC-supported bill designed to improve Virginia’s “informed consent” law, by requiring that every pregnant woman considering an abortion first be given the opportunity to view an ultrasound image of her unborn child, passed the House (62-37 vote, displayed above). The Senate E&H committee subsequently rejected it by an 11-4 vote (displayed in Committee chart).

**Abortion – Prohibiting Funding.** By a 60-36 vote (displayed above), the House approved a VCC-supported budget amendment to prevent state funding of Medicaid abortions. Not included in the Senate’s budget package, the amendment eventually failed when the House-Senate conference committee (appointed to resolve differences between the two chambers’ budget proposals) did not include the funding prohibition in its report.

**Research – Ethical Standards.** The current state budget contains no ethical standards to prevent use of state funds for research that requires destroying human embryos or fetuses. The VCC pursued budget language prohibiting state investment in such research. The provision was approved by the House in a 61-37 vote (displayed above). Not included in the Senate’s budget package, the provision eventually failed when the House-Senate budget conference committee did not include the funding prohibition in its report.

**Death Penalty – Blocking Expansion.** As in 2007, Governor Kaine vetoed this year’s VCC-opposed legislation that would have broadened eligibility for the death penalty (see “Descriptions of Senate Votes”). After the House’s attempt to override his veto succeeded by a 77-23 vote (displayed above), the Senate sustained his veto (see Senate chart).

**Immigrants – Higher Education.** Legislation to prohibit undocumented immigrant youth (who entered the U.S. with their parents) from attending Virginia’s public colleges and universities, even if they graduate from Virginia high schools, passed the House 73-26 (displayed above) before stalling in the Senate E&H committee. As in prior years, the VCC opposed this measure because it would have penalized immigrant children for decisions made exclusively by their parents.

**Payday Lending Reform.** VCC-endorsed proposals to require “payday lenders” to operate under the same annual-percentage-rate (APR) cap (36%) as other small-loan lenders operating in Virginia failed to advance beyond the committee level. The House did, however, vote 91-7 (displayed above) in favor of a modified, VCC-supported version of the legislation that would have provided substantial relief for those trapped in the cycle of debt often created by payday lending. The modified bill’s reforms included lowering the payday loan fee from 15% to 10%, doubling the time many borrowers would have to repay the loan, capping interest (in addition to

the initial fee) at 36% APR, limiting borrowers to one loan at a time, and limiting borrowers to five loans per year. Subsequent legislative negotiations, however, resulted in the final passage of legislation with significantly less protection for borrowers.

**HPV Information – Postponing Start Date.** Since June 2006, when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Gardasil, a vaccine that prevents four potentially cancer-causing strains of human papillomavirus (HPV) infection, there has been much public debate regarding the government's role in promoting or mandating the vaccine for school-aged girls. In Virginia, debate about Gardasil led to the General Assembly's quick enactment last year of legislation requiring the parents of girls about to enter the sixth grade to receive information from the state describing the link between HPV and cervical cancer. [The decision about whether a girl should receive the HPV vaccine would be left within the sole discretion of her parents after they reviewed this information.] This new policy is scheduled to go into effect in October 1, 2008. During the 2008 General Assembly session, a VCC-endorsed bill was considered to delay this start date until July 1, 2010, so that the legislature and state health officials would have more time to gather information about this new vaccine and assess any risks that may be associated with it. The House of Delegates approved this measure (57-39 vote, displayed above), but the Senate E&H committee rejected it 10-5 (displayed in Committee chart).

**Education Tax Credit.** Legislation introduced in the House and endorsed by the VCC would have established income tax credits for business entities and individuals who make contributions to either public-school foundations or scholarship foundations. This proposal narrowly passed the House (50-48, displayed above) before being defeated 11-3 in the Senate Committee on Finance.