



VOTE CHARTS – 2013 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

At the conclusion of each year's Virginia General Assembly session, the Virginia Catholic Conference compiles a report of votes taken by members of the Senate and House of Delegates on bills of particular interest to the Conference.

During this year's 46-day Virginia General Assembly session (January 9 to February 23), the Conference took formal positions on more than 60 bills and budget amendments. The two charts that follow record the eight Senate floor and committee votes and five House floor and committee votes that were focal points of Conference advocacy.

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC X: Vote opposed by the VCC

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes				Committee Votes			
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	Restoring Voting Rights	Defunding Abortion of Disabled Children	Maintain Abortion Clinic Regulations	Maintain Ultrasound-Informed Consent	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals
Alexander, Kenneth C. (D-5)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Barker, George L. (D-39)	√	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Black, Richard H. (R-13)	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	X
Blevins, Harry B. (R-14)	√	√	√	X	X	√	√	X
Carrico, Charles W., Sr. (R-40)	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	X
Colgan, Charles J. (D-29)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Deeds, R. Creigh (D-25)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Ebbin, Adam P. (D-30)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Edwards, John S. (D-21)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Favola, Barbara A. (D-31)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Garrett, Thomas A., Jr. (R-22)	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	X
Hanger, Emmett W., Jr. (R-24)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Herring, Mark R. (D-33)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Howell, Janet D. (D-32)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Locke, Mamie E. (D-2)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Lucas, L. Louise (D-18)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes				Committee Votes			
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	Restoring Voting Rights	Defunding Abortion of Disabled Children	Maintain Abortion Clinic Regulations	Maintain Ultrasound-Informed Consent	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals
Marsden, David W. (D-37)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Marsh, Henry L., III (D-16)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Martin, Stephen H. (R-11)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	X
McDougle, Ryan T. (R-4)	√	√	√	X	■	■	■	■
McEachin, A. Donald (D-9)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
McWaters, Jeffrey L. (R-8)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	X
Miller, John C. (D-1)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Newman, Stephen D. (R-23)	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	X
Norment, Thomas K., Jr. (R-3)	X	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Northam, Ralph S. (D-6)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Obenshain, Mark D. (R-26)	√	√	√	X	■	■	■	■
Petersen, J. Chapman (D-34)	√	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Puckett, Phillip P. (D-38)	√	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Puller, Linda T. "Toddy" (D-36)	X	X	√	√	■	■	■	■
Reeves, Bryce E. (R-17)	√	√	√	X	■	■	■	■
Ruff, Frank M., Jr. (R-15)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Saslaw, Richard L. (D-35)	X	X	√	√	X	X	X	√
Smith, Ralph K. (R-19)	√	√	√	X	√	√	√	X

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC X: Vote opposed by the VCC

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes				Committee Votes			
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	Restoring Voting Rights	Defunding Abortion of Disabled Children	Maintain Abortion Clinic Regulations	Maintain Ultrasound-Informed Consent	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals
Stanley, William M., Jr. (R-20)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Stosch, Walter A. (R-12)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Stuart, Richard H. (R-28)	√	√	√	X	■	■	■	■
Vogel, Jill Holtzman (R-27)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Wagner, Frank W. (R-7)	√	√	√	√	■	■	■	■
Watkins, John (R-10)	X	√	√	√	■	■	■	■

Descriptions of Senate Floor Votes

Religious Liberty for Student Groups: The House (73-27; see House chart) and Senate (22-18; see Senate chart) passed Conference-supported legislation to prohibit the Commonwealth’s public colleges and universities from discriminating against student groups’ ability to operate based on religious, political, or philosophical beliefs. This bill ensures that religious and political student organizations at Virginia’s public institutions of higher education can, in accord with their respective missions, (1) order their internal affairs, (2) select their leaders and members, (3) define their doctrines, and (4) resolve their disputes.

Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements: The House (62-32; see House chart) and Senate (21-19; see Senate chart) approved several important technical changes to the Education Improvement Scholarship program to assist scholarship foundations in administering the program. Supported by the Conference and the McDonnell Administration, the program established last year – similar to programs already in place in eleven other states – establishes a tax credit for K-12 scholarship donations by individuals and businesses. Included in this year’s legislation is a provision which will extend the tax credit through 2028.

Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence: The House (88-11; see House chart) and Senate (40-0; see Senate chart) approved Conference-supported legislation allowing victims of domestic violence or sexual assault to terminate their leases under specific circumstances.

Restoring Voting Rights: The Senate (30-10; see Senate chart) passed a Conference-supported, constitutional-amendment proposal that sought to automatically restore voting rights for individuals convicted of non-violent felonies upon completion of their sentences. A similar measure was defeated in the House Privileges and Elections Committee (6-1; see House chart).

Descriptions of Senate Committee Votes

Defunding Abortion of Disabled Children: Under the Medicaid program, the federal government funds abortions when the life of the eligible woman is at risk and in cases of rape and incest, and in no other cases. This restriction on federal funding of abortion (in place since 1977) is called the Hyde policy. By funding abortions in cases of the fetus' "physical deformity" or "mental deficiency," Virginia is among the minority of states that fund abortions beyond the Hyde circumstances. A bill offered this year would have conformed Virginia's policy to the federal Hyde policy, but it was defeated by the Senate Education and Health Committee (8-7; see Senate chart). The Conference supported the bill and opposes all abortion funding.

Maintain Abortion Clinic Regulations: A Conference-opposed measure would have repealed a 2011 law requiring the state Board of Health to regulate the health and safety of abortion facilities. The Senate Education and Health Committee rejected the legislation (8-7; see Senate chart).

Maintain Ultrasound-Informed Consent: Conference-opposed legislation would have weakened Virginia's informed consent law, by eliminating the 2012 law that requires a transabdominal ultrasound prior to an abortion. The Senate Education and Health Committee defeated the bill (8-7; see Senate chart).

In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals: The Senate Education and Health Committee (8-7; see Senate chart) defeated Conference-supported legislation to grant in-state tuition status to immigrant children who arrived in the United States before their 16th birthday and have been granted Deferred Action status by the federal government. Deferred Action status allows children who entered the United States before their 16th birthday and have never committed a crime to remain lawfully present in the United States for a renewable period of two years. It does not grant permanent residency or citizenship.

House of Delegates

✓: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Albo, David B. (R-42)	✓	✓	X	■	■
Anderson, Richard L. (R-51)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
BaCote, Mamy E. (D-95)	X	X	✓	■	■
Bell, Richard P. (R-20)	✓	✓	✓	X	■
Bell, Robert B. (R-58)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Brink, Robert H. (D-48)	X	X	✓	■	■
Bulova, David L. (D-37)	✓	X	✓	✓	■
Byron, Kathy J. (R-22)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Carr, Betsy B. (D-69)	X	X	✓	■	■
Cline, Benjamin L. (R-24)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Cole, Mark L. (R-88)	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Comstock, Barbara J. (R-34)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Cosgrove, John A. (R-78)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Cox, John A. (R-55)	✓	✓	X	■	■
Cox, M. Kirkland (R-66)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Crockett-Stark, Anne B. (R-6)	✓	X	✓	■	■

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Dance, Rosalyn R. (D-63)	X	X	√	■	■
Dudenhefer, L. Mark (R-2)	√	√	√	NV	■
Edmunds, James E., II (R-60)	√	NV	√	■	■
Fariss, C. Matthew (R-59)	√	√	X	■	■
Farrell, Peter F. (R-56)	√	√	√	■	■
Filler-Corn, Eileen (D-41)	X	X	√	■	■
Garrett, T. Scott (R-23)	√	√	√	■	■
Gilbert, C. Todd (R-15)	√	√	√	■	■
Greason, Thomas A. (R-32)	√	√	√	√	■
Habeeb, Gregory D. (R-8)	√	√	√	■	■
Head, Christopher T. (R-17)	√	√	√	■	■
Helsel, Gordon C., Jr. (R-91)	√	√	√	■	■
Herring, Charniele L. (D-46)	X	X	√	■	■
Hester, Daun Sessoms (D-89)	X	X	√	√	■
Hodges, M. Keith (R-98)	√	√	√	■	■
Hope, Patrick A. (D-47)	X	X	√	■	■

House of Delegates

✓: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Howell, Algie T., Jr. (D-90)	X	✓	✓	■	✓
Howell, William J. (R-28)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Hugo, Timothy D. (R-40)	✓	✓	X	■	X
Iaquinto, Salvatore R. (R-84)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Ingram, Riley E. (R-62)	✓	✓	X	■	■
James, Matthew (D-80)	X	X	✓	■	■
Joannou, Johnny S. (D-79)	✓	X	✓	■	X
Johnson, Joseph P., Jr. (D-4)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Jones, S. Chris (R-76)	✓	NV	✓	■	■
Keam, Mark L. (D-35)	X	X	✓	✓	■
Kilgore, Terry G. (R-1)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Knight, Barry D. (R-81)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Kory, Kaye (D-38)	X	X	✓	■	■
Krupicka, K. Robert, Jr. (D-45)	X	X	✓	■	■
Landes, R. Steven (R-25)	✓	✓	✓	X	■
LeMunyon, James M. (R-67)	✓	✓	✓	✓	■

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Lewis, Lynwood W., Jr. (D-100)	√	X	√	■	■
Lingamfelter, L. Scott (R-31)	√	√	NV	X	■
Lopez, Alfonso H. (D-49)	X	X	√	■	■
Loupassi, G. M. (Manoli) (R-68)	√	√	√	■	■
Marshall, Daniel W., III (R-14)	√	√	X	■	■
Marshall, Robert G. (R-13)	√	√	√	■	■
Massie, James P. (Jimmie), III (R-72)	√	√	√	√	■
May, Joe T. (R-33)	√	√	√	■	■
McClellan, Jennifer L. (D-71)	X	X	√	√	■
McQuinn, Delores L. (D-70)	X	X	√	■	■
Merricks, Donald W. (R-16)	√	√	X	■	■
Miller, Jackson H. (R-50)	√	√	√	■	X
Minchew, J. Randall (R-10)	√	√	√	■	■
Morefield, James W. (Will) (R-3)	√	X	√	■	■
Morris, Richard L. (R-64)	√	√	X	■	■
Morrissey, Joseph D. (D-74)	X	X	√	√	■

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
O'Bannon, John M., III (R-73)	√	√	√	■	■
O'Quinn, Israel D. (R-5)	√	√	√	■	X
Orrock, Robert D., Sr. (R-54)	√	√	√	■	■
Peace, Christopher K. (R-97)	√	√	√	■	■
Plum, Kenneth R. (D-36)	X	X	√	■	■
Pogge, Brenda L. (R-96)	√	√	√	√	■
Poindexter, Charles D. (R-9)	√	√	√	■	■
Purkey, Harry R. (R-82)	√	NV	√	■	■
Putney, Lacey E. (I-19)	√	√	X	■	■
Ramandan, David I. (R-87)	√	√	√	■	X
Ransone, Margaret B. (R-99)	√	√	√	■	■
Robinson, Roxann L. (R-27)	√	√	√	√	■
Rush, L. Nick (R-7)	√	√	√	■	■
Rust, Thomas Davis (R-86)	√	X	√	√	■
Scott, Edward T. (R-30)	√	√	√	■	■
Scott, James M. (D-53)	X	X	√	■	■

House of Delegates

✓: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Sherwood, Beverly J. (R-29)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Sickles, Mark D. (D-43)	X	X	✓	■	■
Spruill, Lionell, Sr. (D-77)	X	X	✓	■	■
Stolle, Christopher P. (R-83)	✓	✓	✓	✓	■
Surovell, Scott A. (D-44)	X	X	✓	■	■
Tata, Robert (R-85)	✓	✓	✓	✓	■
Torian, Luke E. (D-52)	X	X	✓	■	■
Toscano, David J. (D-57)	X	X	✓	■	■
Tyler, Roslyn C. (D-75)	X	X	✓	✓	■
Villanueva, Ronald A. (R-21)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Ward, Jeion A. (D-92)	X	X	✓	■	■
Ware, Onzlee (D-11)	✓	✓	✓	✓	■
Ware, R. Lee, Jr. (R-65)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Watson, Michael B. (R-93)	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Watts, Vivian E. (D-39)	X	X	✓	■	■
Webert, Michael J. (R-18)	✓	✓	✓	■	■

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Delegate did not vote

■: Delegate not on Committee

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes	
	Religious Liberty for Student Groups	Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements	Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence	In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals	Restoring Voting Rights
Wilt, Tony O. (R-26)	√	√	X	■	■
Wright, Thomas C., Jr. (R-61)	√	NV	X	■	■
Yancey, David E. (R-94)	√	√	√	√	■
Yost, Joseph R. (R-12)	√	X	√	√	■

Descriptions of House Floor Votes

Religious Liberty for Student Groups: The House (73-27; see House chart) and Senate (22-18; see Senate chart) passed Conference-supported legislation to prohibit the Commonwealth’s public colleges and universities from discriminating against student groups’ ability to operate based on religious, political, or philosophical beliefs. This bill ensures that religious and political student organizations at Virginia’s public institutions of higher education can, in accord with their respective missions, (1) order their internal affairs, (2) select their leaders and members, (3) define their doctrines, and (4) resolve their disputes.

Scholarship Tax Credit Program Improvements: The House (62-32; see House chart) and Senate (21-19; see Senate chart) approved several important technical changes to the Education Improvement Scholarship program to assist scholarship foundations in administering the program. Supported by the Conference and the McDonnell Administration, the program established last year – similar to programs already in place in eleven other states – establishes a tax credit for K-12 scholarship donations by individuals and businesses. Included in this year’s legislation is a provision which will extend the tax credit through 2028.

Lease Termination for Victims of Domestic Violence: The House (88-11; see House chart) and Senate (40-0; see Senate chart) approved Conference-supported legislation allowing victims of domestic violence or sexual assault to terminate their leases under specific circumstances.

Descriptions of House Committee Votes

In-State Tuition for Childhood Arrivals: The House Education Committee (17-4; see House chart) approved Conference-supported legislation to grant in-state tuition status to immigrant children who arrived in the United States before their 16th birthday and have been granted Deferred Action status by the federal government. Deferred Action status allows children who entered the United States before their 16th birthday and have never committed a crime to remain lawfully present in the United States for a renewable period of two years. It does not grant permanent residency or citizenship. The bill was then referred to the House Appropriations Committee, where it stalled when the committee declined to bring it to a vote.

Restoring Voting Rights: The House Privileges and Elections Committee (6-1; see House chart) defeated a Conference-supported, constitutional-amendment proposal that sought to automatically restore voting rights for individuals convicted of non-violent felonies upon completion of their sentences. A similar measure passed the Senate (30-10; see Senate chart).