



VOTE CHARTS – 2011 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 47-day Virginia General Assembly session (January 12 to February 27), the Conference took formal positions on about 30 bills and budget amendments. The two charts that follow record nine Senate floor and committee votes and eight House floor votes on bills that were focal points of Conference advocacy. After the charts, an additional section describes two major outcomes of the one-day reconvened session (April 6) – the day designated for the General Assembly to act on the Governor's vetoes and proposed amendments.

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Senator did not vote

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes					
	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Medicaid Eligibility – Legal Permanent Residents	Juvenile Court Appeal	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Prohibiting Coerced Abortions	Preserving Triggerman Death Penalty Limitation	Freedom of Conscience for Religious Institutions	Scholarship Tax Credit
Barker, George L. (D-39)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	■	X	■
Blevins, Harry B. (R-14)	√	√	√	√	√/√	√	■	■	■
Colgan, Charles J. (D-29)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	X
Deeds, R. Creigh (D-25)	X	√	√	■	■	■	√	■	■
Edwards, John S. (D-21)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	√	■	■
Hanger, Emmett W., Jr. (R-24)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	√
Herring, Mark R. (D-33)	X	√	√	■	■	■	■	X	■
Houck, R. Edward (D-17)	X	√	X	X	X/X	√	■	X	X
Howell, Janet D. (D-32)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	√	■	X
Locke, Mamie E. (D-2)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	■	X	■
Lucas, L. Louise (D-18)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	√	■	X
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	■	■	■	X	■	■
McEachin, A. Donald (D-9)	X	√	√	■	■	■	√	■	■
McWaters, Jeffrey L. (R-8)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	■
Miller, John C. (D-1)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	■	X	■

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Senator did not vote

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes					
	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Medicaid Eligibility – Legal Permanent Residents	Juvenile Court Appeal	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Prohibiting Coerced Abortions	Preserving Triggerman Death Penalty Limitation	Freedom of Conscience for Religious Institutions	Scholarship Tax Credit
Miller, Yvonne B. (D-5)	X	√	NV	■	■	■	■	■	X
Newman, Stephen D. (R-23)	√	√	√	√	√/√	√	■	■	■
Norment, Thomas K., Jr. (R-3)	√	√	X	■	■	■	X	■	√
Northam, Ralph S. (D-6)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	■	■	■
Obenshain, Mark D. (R-26)	√	√	X	■	■	■	X	■	■
Petersen, Chap (D-34)	X	√	√	■	■	■	√	X	■
Puckett, Phillip P. (D-38)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	■
Puller, Toddy (D-36)	X	√	√	■	■	■	√	■	■
Quayle, Frederick M. (R-13)	√	√	X	√	√/√	√	■	■	√
Reynolds, Wm. Roscoe (D-20)	X	X	√	■	■	■	X	■	X
Ruff, Frank M., Jr. (R-15)	√	√	X	√	√/√	√	■	√	■
Saslaw, Richard L. (D-35)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	X	■	X
Smith, Ralph K. (R-22)	√	X	X	■	■	■	■	■	■
Stanley, William M., Jr. (R-19)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	√	■
Stosch, Walter A. (R-12)	√	√	X	■	■	■	■	√	√
Stuart, Richard H. (R-28)	√	√	√	■	■	■	X	■	■
Ticer, Patricia S. (D-30)	X	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	■
Vogel, Jill Holtzman (R-27)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	√	■
Wagner, Frank W. (R-7)	√	X	X	■	■	■	■	√	■
Wampler, William C., Jr. (R-40)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	√	√

Senate

√: Vote supported by the VCC

X: Vote opposed by the VCC

NV: Senator did not vote

■: Senator not on Committee

Name of Senator (Party, District)	Floor Votes			Committee Votes					
	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Medicaid Eligibility – Legal Permanent Residents	Juvenile Court Appeal	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Prohibiting Coerced Abortions	Preserving Triggerman Death Penalty Limitation	Freedom of Conscience for Religious Institutions	Scholarship Tax Credit
Watkins, John (R-10)	√	√	√	■	■	■	■	■	√
Whipple, Mary Margaret (D-31)	X	√	√	X	X/X	X	■	■	X

Descriptions of Senate Floor Votes

Abortion Clinic Regulation: A Conference-supported House bill would have required abortion clinics to be licensed and regulated by the Board of Health. It passed the House (66-33; see House chart, first vote) but failed in the Senate Education and Health Committee (“Senate E & H”). However, a Senate bill requiring the Board of Health to issue regulations containing health and safety standards for other facilities was amended by the House to include abortion clinics (63-34; see House chart, second vote). The full Senate then adopted the Conference-endorsed amendment (20-20; see Senate chart), with Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling casting the tie-breaking vote in favor of the amendment.

Medicaid Eligibility – Legal Permanent Residents: A Conference-supported bill would have eliminated the 40-quarters-of-work requirement for Legal Permanent Resident Medicaid access, thereby allowing immigrants to access Medicaid immediately upon completing the five-year federal bar. This bill passed the Senate (37-3) but failed in the Health and Human Resources Subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations.

Juvenile Court Appeal: A Conference-supported bill to allow circuit court judges to review a prosecutor’s decision to certify juvenile cases to adult court passed the Senate (29-9) but was defeated in the Criminal Subcommittee of the House Committee on Courts of Justice. (Under existing law, circuit court judges can already review decisions of juvenile court judges.)

Descriptions of Senate Committee Votes

Exclusion of Abortion Coverage: Conference-supported legislation sought to restrict abortion coverage within health plans that participate in any Virginia health exchange that may be established pursuant to the new federal health-care law. The bill was approved by the House (60-36, see House chart) but failed in Senate E & H (10-5, see Senate chart).¹

¹ A subsequent amendment proposed by Governor McDonnell to another bill successfully added the restrictions. See “2011 Reconvened Session Outcomes.”

Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims: Conference-endorsed legislation to create a wrongful death cause of action for the death of an unborn child, and thereby provide important legal recognition of the intrinsic value and dignity of human life, passed the House (62-36, see House chart) but was rejected by Senate E & H (10-5, see Senate chart).

Prohibiting Coerced Abortions: A Conference-supported bill sought to provide that anyone who forces or coerces a pregnant female to have an abortion against her will would be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. It also sought to create a private right of action – for the female herself and for the wrongful death of her unborn child – against the person who coerced her to have an abortion. The bill was introduced in the Senate and failed in the Senate E&H Committee (9-6).

Preserving Triggerman Death Penalty Limitation: For the fifth consecutive year, the General Assembly considered Conference-opposed legislation that would have permitted more murder accomplices to receive death sentences. This year, unlike in years past, the proposed expansion was limited to instances in which the murder involves the commission of a rape. (Executions are, with very few exceptions, reserved for actual perpetrators under current law.) This bill was introduced in the Senate and failed in the Senate Courts of Justice Committee (8-6).

Freedom of Conscience for Religious Institutions: A Conference-opposed bill sought to add “sexual orientation” as a protected classification in anti-discrimination provisions applicable to places of public accommodation (including educational institutions) and to employment decisions made by public and private entities, including religious institutions. The bill was introduced in the Senate and failed in the Senate General Laws and Technology Committee (7-7).

Scholarship Tax Credit: Conference-supported legislation would have provided tax credits to businesses for their donations to fund nonpublic-school tuitions for low-income students. This proposal passed the House (53-46, see House chart) but was subsequently defeated in the Senate Finance Committee (9-6, see Senate chart).

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Abbitt, Watkins M., Jr. (I-59)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Abbott, Robin A. (D-93)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Albo, David B. (R-42)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Alexander, Kenneth C. (D-89)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	X	X	X
Anderson, Richard L. (R-51)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Armstrong, Ward L. (D-10)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	X	X
Athey, Clifford L., Jr. (R-18)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
BaCote, Mamy E. (D-95)	X/X	X	X	X/√	√	√	√	X
Barlow, William K. (D-64)	X/X	√	X	X/X	X	X	X	X
Bell, Richard P. (R-20)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Bell, Robert B. (R-58)	√/√	√	√	√/√	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	X	X	X	X
Byron, Kathy J. (R-22)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Carr, Betsy B. (D-69)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Carrico, Charles W., Sr. (R-5)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Cleaveland, William H. (R-17)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Cline, Benjamin L. (R-24)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Cole, Mark L. (R-88)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Comstock, Barbara J. (R-34)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Cosgrove, John A. (R-78)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Cox, John A. (R-55)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Cox, M. Kirkland (R-66)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Crockett-Stark, Anne B. (R-6)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Dance, Rosalyn R. (D-63)	X/√	X	X	√/√	√	X	X	X

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Ebbin, Adam P. (D-49)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Edmunds, James E., II (R-60)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Englin, David L. (D-45)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Filler-Corn, Eileen (D-41)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Garrett, T. Scott (R-23)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Gilbert, C. Todd (R-15)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Greason, Thomas A. (R-32)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Habeeb, Gregory D. (R-8)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Herring, Charniele L. (D-46)	X/X	X	X	√/X	√	√	√	X
Hope, Patrick A. (D-47)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Howell, Algie T., Jr. (D-90)	X/√	X	X	√/√	√	X	X	√
Howell, William J. (R-28)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Hugo, Timothy D. (R-40)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Iaquinto, Salvatore R. (R-84)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Ingram, Riley E. (R-62)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
James, Matthew (D-80)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	X	X
Janis, William R. (R-56)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Joannou, Johnny S. (D-79)	X/X	X	X	NV/√	X	X	X	√
Johnson, Joseph P., Jr. (D-4)	√/√	√	√	√/X	X	X	X	X
Jones, S. Chris (R-76)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Keam, Mark L. (D-35)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Kilgore, Terry G. (R-1)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Knight, Barry D. (R-81)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Kory, Kaye (D-38)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Landes, R. Steven (R-25)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
LeMunyon, James M. (R-67)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Lewis, Lynwood W., Jr. (D-100)	X/X	X	X	X/X	X	X	X	X
Lingamfelter, L. Scott (R-31)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Loupassi, G. Manoli (R-68)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Marshall, Daniel W., III (R-14)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Marshall, Robert G. (R-13)	√/√	O	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Massie, James P. (Jimmie), III (R-72)	√/√	√	√	NV/√	X	X	X	√
May, Joe T. (R-33)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
McClellan, Jennifer L. (D-71)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
McQuinn, Delores L. (D-70)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Merricks, Donald W. (R-16)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Miller, Jackson H. (R-50)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Miller, Paula J. (D-87)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	X	X	X
Morefield, James W. (R-3)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Morgan, Harvey B. (R-98)	NV/√	X	√	√/√	X	X	X	√

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Morrissey, Joseph D. (D-74)	√/√	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Nutter, David A. (R-7)	√/√	√	√	√/X	X	X	X	X
O'Bannon, John M., III (R-73)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Oder, G. Glenn (R-94)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Orrock, Robert D., Sr. (R-54)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Peace, Christopher K. (R-97)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Phillips, Clarence E. (D-2)	√/√	√	√	NV/X	X	X	X	X
Plum, Kenneth R. (D-36)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Pogge, Brenda L. (R-96)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Poindexter, Charles D. (R-9)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Pollard, Albert C., Jr. (D-99)	√/√	X	X	X/X	√	X	X	√
Purkey, Harry R. (R-82)	√/√	NV	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Putney, Lacey E. (I-19)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Robinson, Roxann L. (R-27)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Rust, Thomas Davis (R-86)	√/√	√	√	X/√	X	X	X	X
Scott, Edward T. (R-30)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Scott, James M. (D-53)	X/X	X	X	X/√	√	√	√	X
Sherwood, Beverly J. (R-29)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	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	√	X

House of Delegates

√: Vote supported by the VCC
 NV: Delegate did not vote

X: Vote opposed by the VCC
 O: Abstention

Name of Delegate (Party, District)	Abortion Clinic Regulation	Exclusion of Abortion Coverage	Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims	Bioethical Safeguards	Immigration – Probable Cause	Immigration – Community Policing	Immigration – Higher Education	Scholarship Tax Credit
Spruill, Lionell, Sr. (D-77)	X/X	X	X	X/X	X	√	√	X
Stolle, Christopher P. (R-83)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Surovell, Scott A. (D-44)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Tata, Robert (R-85)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Torian, Luke E. (D-52)	NV/X	O	O	X/X	X	X	√	X
Toscano, David J. (D-57)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Tyler, Roslyn C. (D-75)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	X	X
Villanueva, Ronald A. (R-21)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Ward, Jeion A. (D-92)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Ware, Onzlee (D-11)	X/X	X	X	X/√	√	√	√	X
Ware, R. Lee, Jr. (R-65)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X
Watts, Vivian E. (D-39)	X/X	X	X	X/X	√	√	√	X
Wilt, Tony O. (R-26)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	√
Wright, Thomas C., Jr. (R-61)	√/√	√	√	√/√	X	X	X	X

NOTE: The seat for Virginia's 91st House district was vacant during the 2011 Virginia General Assembly session (January 12 - February 27, 2011). (Former) Delegate Thomas Gear resigned from the House of Delegates on December 30, 2010, due to health reasons. (Current) Delegate Gordon C. Helsel, Jr., was elected to fill the seat on March 8, 2011, and was sworn in the following day.

Descriptions of House Floor Votes

Abortion Clinic Regulation: A Conference-supported House bill would have required abortion clinics to be licensed and regulated by the Board of Health. It passed the House (66-33; see House chart, first vote) but failed in the Senate Education and Health Committee (“Senate E & H”). However, a Senate bill requiring the Board of Health to issue regulations containing health and safety standards for other facilities was amended by the House to include abortion clinics (63-34; see

House chart, second vote). The full Senate then adopted the Conference-endorsed amendment (20-20; see Senate chart), with Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling casting the tie-breaking vote in favor of the amendment.

Exclusion of Abortion Coverage: Conference-supported legislation sought to restrict abortion coverage within health plans that participate in any Virginia health exchange that may be established pursuant to the new federal health-care law. The bill was approved by the House (60-36, see House chart) but failed in Senate E & H (10-5, see Senate chart).²

Unborn Child Wrongful Death Claims: Conference-endorsed legislation to create a wrongful death cause of action for the death of an unborn child, and thereby provide important legal recognition of the intrinsic value and dignity of human life, passed the House (62-36, see House chart) but was rejected by Senate E & H (10-5, see Senate chart).

Bioethical Safeguards: Legislation to create a research-and-development tax credit, of particular interest to biotechnology companies, was amended by a House committee to include Conference-backed safeguards to prevent companies that conduct embryonic stem-cell research or research on aborted fetuses from receiving the proposed tax credit. On the House floor, an amendment was offered (opposed by the Conference) to strip those safeguards. The amendment was rejected (62-34; see House chart, first vote).³ During the budget process, another Conference-supported amendment was proposed to prevent companies and colleges/universities from using any state money for embryonic stem-cell research or research on aborted fetuses. The budget amendment was approved by the House (64-33; see House chart, second vote), but it was not endorsed by the Senate and was not ultimately included in the budget.

Immigration – Probable Cause: A Conference-opposed measure would have required law enforcement to inquire into the citizenship of every person arrested and taken into custody, prior to the determination of probable cause for arrest and prior to admission to jail. (Current law requires such an inquiry after probable cause has been established.) This legislation threatened to undermine policies designed to increase community safety and encourage the cooperation of victims and witnesses of crime with law enforcement. The bill passed the House (68-31) but was defeated in the Immigration Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Courts of Justice.

Immigration – Community Policing: This Conference-opposed bill sought to prohibit any agency, political subdivision, or locality – or any employee thereof – from limiting or restricting the enforcement of federal immigration laws to less than the full extent permitted by federal law. As written, the bill threatened to undercut local public-safety policies, such as those related to community policing (viz., orders that say crime witnesses and crime victims should not be routinely asked their immigration status when they approach law enforcement to report crimes, unless doing so is necessary for the investigation of crimes). The bill passed the House (73-26) but was defeated in the Immigration Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Courts of Justice.

Immigration – Higher Education: This Conference-opposed bill sought to prohibit undocumented students from enrolling in public colleges and universities. The ban would have applied even to children who came to the U.S. at very young ages, who had no part in the decision to migrate, and who graduated with their peers from Virginia high schools. The bill passed the House (75-24) but was defeated in the Immigration Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Courts of Justice.

Scholarship Tax Credit: Conference-supported legislation would have provided tax credits to businesses for their donations to fund nonpublic-school tuitions for low-income students. This proposal passed the House (53-46, see House chart) but was subsequently defeated in the Senate Finance Committee (9-6, see Senate chart).

² A subsequent amendment proposed by Governor McDonnell to another bill successfully added the restrictions. See “2011 Reconvened Session Outcomes.”

³ The Conference-endorsed research-and-development tax credit safeguards failed to receive sufficient support in the Senate. Ultimately, the final version of the tax credit legislation included some safeguards, but the Conference does not deem them to be sufficient.

2011 Reconvened Session Outcomes

Exclusion of Abortion Coverage: Governor McDonnell proposed an amendment to a bill passed by the General Assembly that set forth initial steps for the creation of a state health exchange (pursuant to the new federal health-care law). The Governor's proposed amendment sought to ban coverage (within Virginia's exchange) of abortions that have long been ineligible for federal funding in major health programs, such as Medicaid and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (that is, all abortions except for cases of rape, incest, or danger to the life of the mother). With the Conference's backing, the amendment was approved by the House (61-36) and by the Senate (20-20, with the tie broken favorably by Lieutenant Governor Bolling, as Senate President). Virginia thus became the seventh state to make use of a provision in the federal law that provides, "[A] state may elect to prohibit abortion coverage in qualified health plans offered through an Exchange in such State if such State enacts a law to provide for such a prohibition." Governor McDonnell's successfully adopted amendment ensures that, as discussions on establishing a state exchange proceed, health plans seeking to be part of the exchange will be prohibited from covering abortion on demand.

The Senate vote was as follows (with a YEA vote being a vote in favor of the Governor's amendment and a NAY vote being a vote against it):

YEAS--Blevins, Colgan, Hanger, Martin, McDougle, McWaters, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Puckett, Quayle, Ruff, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Stuart, Vogel, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins

NAYS--Barker, Deeds, Edwards, Herring, Houck, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, McEachin, Miller, J.C., Miller, Y.B., Northam, Petersen, Puller, Reynolds, Saslaw, Ticer, Whipple

The House vote was as follows:

YEAS--Abbitt, Albo, Anderson, Athey, Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Byron, Carrico, Cleaveland, Cline, Cole, Comstock, Cosgrove, Cox, J.A., Cox, M.K., Crockett-Stark, Edmunds, Garrett, Gilbert, Greason, Habeeb, Helsel, Hugo, Iaquinto, Ingram, Janis, Johnson, Jones, Kilgore, Knight, Landes, LeMunyon, Lingamfelter, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Massie, May, Merricks, Miller, J.H., Morefield, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Peace, Phillips, Pogge, Poindexter, Purkey, Putney, Robinson, Rust, Scott, E.T., Sherwood, Stolle, Tata, Villanueva, Ware, R.L., Wilt, Wright, Mr. Speaker (Delegate William J. Howell)

NAYS--Abbott, Alexander, Armstrong, BaCote, Barlow, Brink, Bulova, Carr, Ebbin, Englin, Filler-Corn, Herring, Hope, Howell, A.T., James, Joannou, Keam, Kory, Lewis, McClellan, McQuinn, Miller, P.J., Morgan, Morrissey, Plum, Pollard, Scott, J.M., Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Surovell, Toscano, Tyler, Ward, Ware, O., Watts

ABSTENTIONS--Dance, Marshall, R.G., Torian

Funding for Abstinence Education: The reconvened session also involved General Assembly consideration of a budget amendment, proposed by Governor McDonnell, to add funding to the state budget for abstinence programs. The amendment, supported by the Conference, was approved by the House (69-29) and by the Senate (20-20, with Lieutenant Governor Bolling again casting the deciding vote to break the tie in favor of the amendment).

The Senate vote was as follows (with a YEA vote being a vote in favor of the Governor's amendment and a NAY vote being a vote against it):

YEAS--Blevins, Colgan, Hanger, Martin, McDougle, McWaters, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Puckett, Quayle, Ruff, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Stuart, Vogel, Wagner, Wampler, Watkins

NAYS--Barker, Deeds, Edwards, Herring, Houck, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, McEachin, Miller, J.C., Miller, Y.B., Northam, Petersen, Puller, Reynolds, Saslaw, Ticer, Whipple

The House vote was as follows:

YEAS--Abbitt, Albo, Anderson, Athey, Barlow, Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Byron, Carrico, Cleaveland, Cline, Cole, Comstock, Cosgrove, Cox, J.A., Cox, M.K., Crockett-Stark, Dance, Edmunds, Garrett, Gilbert, Greason, Habeeb, Helsel, Hugo, Iaquinto, Ingram, Janis, Johnson, Jones, Kilgore, Knight, Landes, LeMunyon, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Marshall, R.G., Massie, May, McQuinn, Merricks, Miller, J.H., Morefield, Morgan, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Orrock, Peace, Phillips, Pogge, Poindexter, Pollard, Purkey, Putney, Robinson, Rust, Scott, E.T., Sherwood, Stolle, Tata, Torian, Tyler, Villanueva, Ware, R.L., Wilt, Wright, Mr. Speaker--69.

NAYS--Abbott, Alexander, Armstrong, BaCote, Brink, Bulova, Carr, Ebbin, Englin, Filler-Corn, Herring, Hope, Howell, A.T., James, Joannou, Keam, Kory, McClellan, Miller, P.J., Morrissey, Plum, Scott, J.M., Shuler, Sickles, Spruill, Surovell, Toscano, Ward, Ware, O., Watts--29.