

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY



CALENDAR

2019 American Legion Boys State of Virginia Session

Friday, June 21, 2019

ALBS Bill 46 A BILL to provide voluntary annual mental health screenings for citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

SUMMARY: The goal of this proposal is to improve the mental wellness of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia as well as attempting to curb the current epidemic of gun violence and suicide. These screenings will allow citizens of the state to have greater access to information about their mental health, and will provide information and access to medical services to improve their mental wellness. The Commonwealth of Virginia will cover the cost of screenings for employees of the state. Screenings will be provided to citizens of an age range determined by the Board of Mental Health to be decided at a later date.

ALBS Bill 47 A BILL to provide a voluntary civics test for minors the age of 16 years old and up in order to gain the opportunity to vote in state and local elections in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

SUMMARY: This voluntary standardized test would be administered to any minor eligible who proves that they are civically competent enough to vote even at their young age. The test would be designed and administered by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). This bill serves as recognition of the fact that there are many citizens who are ineligible to vote due to age restrictions yet who are educated on the candidates and their policy. This will also further encourage politicians to address issues that younger citizens care about, giving a voice to the future.

ALBS Bill 48 A BILL to alter different facets of the American Legion Boys State of Virginia to improve the experience for future citizens.

SUMMARY:

1. *Make hats available for purchase from the American Legion. Not only will this make more profit for the American Legion, but it will also help Boys State citizens be more comfortable outside in the sun.*
2. *Update maps on the back of the American Legion Boys State flag books to depict the current Radford campus, not the older map currently depicted.*
3. *Have party conventions earlier than they are currently scheduled during the week in order to provide state legislators with policy ideas to benefit their parties.*
4. *Include activities not for city points in order to encourage citizens to engage in activities new to them.*
5. *Update the packing list sent to accepted Boys State attendees in order to make it more comprehensive. Packing list included this past year did not have critical items that should be brought to Boys State.*
6. *Allow visits between cities in the same residence hall.*
7. *Invite the former Governor of the American Legion Boys State of Virginia to visit to speak about his experience.*

ALBS Bill 49 A BILL to enable proper cooperation between already prominent youth organizations and Law Enforcement to reduce gang violence and rehabilitate youth affected by Gang Violence.

SUMMARY: The following bill would allow strong cooperation between already established Youth Organizations and Law Enforcement agencies across the State of Virginia to reduce Gang Violence. The process of reducing said violence would start by eliminating gangs and working with youth organizations to assist those affected by the violence. Those involved with gangs under the age of 18 would be sent to be rehabilitated and supported to reduce the chance of re-entry into gangs and criminal activities as well as provide a stable foundation for the youth. The States' role would be providing officers, funding, and incentives.

ALBS Bill 50 A BILL to allow localities to assume implied powers as based on expressed powers in the Virginia Code.

SUMMARY: In the Commonwealth of Virginia, localities are not allowed to assume any powers not explicitly granted to them in the Virginia Code. The tenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees states the right to assume powers not specifically granted to them. This bill would act as the tenth amendment for localities (cities, towns, and counties). Localities would have more freedom in zoning regulation, fees and taxes, road condition management, and contracting to repair and build infrastructure.