# Virginia Commissioners of the Revenue Association



## 2025 Legislative Agenda

Virginia's elected Commissioners of the Revenue are making every effort to better serve the Commonwealth and its citizens by providing efficient and innovative revenue administration at both the state and local levels.

In brief, we are committed to providing services to the citizens in each of our localities while simultaneously enhancing state and local revenues.

Proposed legislative priorities for 2025:

1. Seek to consolidate the population-based salary levels of all Commissioners in localities with populations less than 70,000 into one grouping at the higher bracket currently assigned to localities with populations of 40,000 to 69,999 effective July 1, 2025.

Item 63 #3h (Willett)		\$1,637,689	(amended)
Item 63 #3s (McDougle)	Item 63 #4s (Pillion)	\$1,637,689	(amended)

**FY25- 26 FY26-27** \$1,637,689 \$1,786,570

The variance in the size of the three smallest population groups is negligible. In addition, the variance in duties between the offices is negligible.

2. Seek targeted salary increases for State Compensation Board-funded Commissioner of the Revenue, Treasurer, and Finance Director staff to establish parity with classification and pay plan of Circuit Court Clerks, increasing salaries of positions in Pay Band 1 by 46.76%, positions in Pay Band 2 by 26.89%, positions in Pay Band 4 by 6.14%, positions in Pay Band 7 by 3.03%, and positions in Pay Band 8 by 2.33%, effective July 1, 2025.

### **Option #1** Increase all pay 8 bands:

<u>Item 63 #1h</u> (Bulova)	\$2,394,721	(amended)
Item 63 #1s (Locke)	\$2,394,721	(amended)

**Option #2** Increase pay band 1 & 2 only (12.5% & 6.25%):

<u>Item 63 #2h</u> (Bulova) \$676,743 Item 63 #2s (Marsden) \$676,743

(continued)

### **Commissioners of Revenue**

FY2026 FY2027 **\$2,394,721 \$2,612,423** 

The salaries for the lower-tier positions are inadequate, as low as \$26,732, to attract and maintain staffing levels. By comparison, the entry level salary for Circuit Court Clerks staff is \$41,622. As a result, Commissioners, Treasurers, and Finance Directors are having difficulty in filling and maintaining these positions.

### **Additional Budget Amendments for Finance Directors**

In addition, the above funding request seeks restoration of funding for 98 unfunded staff positions in Finance Directors offices for those localities which chose to absorb the cuts of 2012 by eliminating individual positions as opposed to taking the cuts across the board effective July 1, 2025.

Item 62 #1h Regrade positions (Identical to Item 3#1h-2h) FY25-26 \$1,148,298Item 62 #2h (Bulova) Restore unfunded positions FY25-26 \$1,090,133

3. Parity w/state employees on compensation and retiree health care credit.

### 2025 Legislation

### SUPPORT

HB 2383 - (Mundon King) & SB 1402 (Surrovell) Transient occupancy tax; administration.

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 58.1-3, 58.1-3826, and 58.1-3827 of the Code of Virginia, relating to transient occupancy tax; administration.

This bill partially satisfies current reporting requirements. However, it restricts the sharing of information with other local officials by amending §58.1-3.

### **OPPOSE**

### HB 1743 – (Watts) License taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts.

A BILL to amend and reenact § 58.1-3732 of the Code of Virginia, relating to license taxes; deduction for out-of-state receipts.

As written, this bill it is not clear whether a business would be able to take deductions on local gross receipts taxes and income tax. Additionally, the bill would require additional audit support staff.

### HB 2245 – (Callsen) Real property tax; assessment of affordable housing.

A BILL to amend and reenact § 58.1-3295 of the Code of Virginia, relating to real property tax; assessment of affordable housing.

The language in the bill is not permissive. Assessors must rely on information provided by the property owner to utilize the income approach. Additionally, the bill contains provisions that mandates localities pay court costs and attorney's fee. This is unreasonable as presently courts are the sole determinate of financial liability in such matters.