

Government Relations Report, to VBODA Board, April 10, 2015

Below is information pertaining to bills we followed during the 2015 General Assembly:

SB 823 Sen. John Miller's annual physical activity bill passed the senate and made it as far as the House Elementary and Secondary Education Sub-Committee before failing.

HB 1626 – The Governor vetoed the bill that would prohibit public schools from joining any organization which does not permit home schooled students to participate in sports program (such as the Virginia High School League)

The Governor's comments: "This bill would create a double standard, as students who are not subject to academic or attendance requirements of public schools would now compete with students on public school athletic teams. He also recognized the wide availability of athletic programs that operate outside the public school system."

A two-thirds majority of both houses would be required to override a veto. It is unlikely to occur given the makeup of the senate.

SB 1362/HB 1472 The Governor has signed the State Song legislation, recognizing "Our Great Virginia" as the official "traditional" state song and "Sweet Virginia Breeze" as the official "Popular" state song.

Thanks to those participating in our advocacy efforts by contacting their delegate/ senator or the governor.

Additional information and detail is provided in my Spring NOTES article.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Steve King
Government Relations Chair