

# Bills to be heard

## Wednesday, January 25

### PLEASE CALL LEGISLATORS

#### Oppose Ban on Insurance Coverage for Abortion in State Health Exchange

The Senate Commerce and Labor Subcommittee on Health Insurance meets **Wed., Jan. 25 @ 8:00 a.m.** to discuss a ban on insurance coverage for abortions.

Prohibiting Abortion Coverage in the Virginia Health Care Exchange (SB 496, Watkins): Prohibits the sale of insurance coverage for abortions in the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange, except when the pregnancy endangers the mother's life or is the result of rape or incest. Coverage for abortion care is a benefit the vast majority of plans currently provide. This extreme measure, if enacted, will rob women of benefits they are currently able to purchase and possess through their private health insurance plans. SB 496 would restrict access to abortions for women whose financial circumstances are most dire, resulting in a system where only wealthy women can access the full range of health care services.

Please call Subcommittee members: [McWaters](#) (Chairman), [Stuart](#), and [Herring](#) and ask that they oppose this bill

#### Oppose Voter ID Bills and other Voting Rights Restrictions

The Senate Privileges and Elections Subcommittee on Campaigns and Elections meets **Wed., Jan. 25 @ 10:00 a.m.** to discuss restricting voting rights.

Please call Subcommittee members: [Vogel](#) (Chairman), [Howell](#), [Martin](#), [Edwards](#), [Petersen](#), [Carrico](#), [Garrett](#) and ask that they oppose the following bills:

Voter ID Required to Vote (SB 1- Martin; SB 55- Obenshain): Under current Virginia law, a voter without ID at the polls may sign an "Affirmation of Identity" affidavit and vote by regular ballot. SB 1 and SB 55 would eliminate the "Affirmation of Identity" option and require voters without ID to cast provisional ballots. SB 55 also expands the list of acceptable forms of ID. Voter ID bills are purported to prevent voter impersonation fraud, of which Virginia has no history. LWV-VA opposes voter ID laws because they are onerous and unnecessary legislation that disproportionately affect low-income, elderly, and minority individuals who are less likely to possess the documents required by these bills.

AARP put together a couple of short videos of their members talking about the hurdles of the new Voter ID proposals.

[http://www.youtube.com  
/user/AARPVirginia](http://www.youtube.com/user/AARPVirginia)

Prohibits Solicitation of Absentee Ballot Applications (SB 63, Stanley): Prohibits in-person solicitations of absentee voting applications or ballots from individuals in any hospital, nursing home or assisted living facility (unless the solicitations are by a registrar, electoral board member or family member).

To find out your legislator click [here](#)  
Messages can be left after hours on their voice mail.