2022 GCV Supported Bills & Resolutions
Prepared for Legislative Day, February 1, 2022

*Clean Energy*

**HB172** Solar projects and energy storage projects siting/visibility requirements.

**HB471** Solar-ready roof requirements for state agencies and localities; energy-positive building design.

**HB905** More stringent energy efficiency requirements.

**SB290 (companion, HB471)** Solar-ready roof requirements for state agencies and localities; energy-positive building design.

*Clean Water/Wetlands*

**HB1011** Requires Department of Health to study occurrence, levels of PFAS in the Commonwealth's public drinking water.

**HJ55** Commission study of Albemarle-Pamlico Watershed, impacts upon and flora and fauna.

*Climate Resilience*

**HB516** Implements recommendations from the first Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan. Report every two years beginning in 2023.

**HB520** Requires locality's comprehensive plan to include climate resilience measures to prepare for hazardous events.

*Education*

**HB362** Requires Department of Education to assist local school boards with instruction on climate change.

**HB636** Requires Board of Education to assist local school boards in developing and implementing a program of instruction for k-12, aligned to Standards of Learning, emphasizing environmental literacy.

*Land Conservation*

**HB1029** Wildlife Corridor Grant Fund established to fund projects as set forth in the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan.

**SB31** Requires Governor to include 40M for funding: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and Fund.
Native/Invasive Plants

HB311 Agencies required to prioritize the use of native plant species on state properties.

HB314 Informational signage and labeling of native plants/invasive plants in commercial sale.

HB491 Noxious Weeds Law: Language change from “commercially viable” to “commercially significant” to enable adding more invasive plants to Noxious Weeds list.

HB541 Allows any locality to adopt an ordinance providing for the conservation of trees during the land development process.

HB706 In planning, reduces the time frame for minimum canopy cover from 20 to 10 years, increases required canopy cover by a quarter, protection for trees older than 30 years.

Pollution

HB647 Creates producer Packaging Stewardship Fund to offset costs to state for disposal or recycling of packaging.

HB826 Establishes a beverage container deposit, refund, and redemption program involving distributors, retailers, and consumers. The program would be run by a Producer Responsibility Organization under the Department of Environmental Quality.

Scenic Rivers

HB28 Scenic River designations: Maury River 23-mile extension.

HB49 Scenic River designations: James River 44-mile extension.

SB292 Scenic River designation, Maury River.

Resolutions:

SJ18 Commemorates 400th anniversary of European honeybee in America.

SJ21 Honoring Honorable William Tayloe Murphy, Jr.

Oppose the following bills:

HB657 & SB120 Allows energy derived from carbon by-product waste coal to be considered “renewable”, exempts carbon emitting electric generating units from closure by December 31, 2045, as currently required.

HB118 Repeals provisions requiring Electric utilities to reduce carbon dioxide emissions; repeals provisions limiting SCC approval of new carbon dioxide emitting energy resources.