

Under one option, Frederick County would be integrated with Loudoun County, resulting in eight solid (D) districts, two swing districts and one remote, sparsely populated Republican District. Under the second option, Frederick County remains part of only two remaining (R) districts in Virginia versus 9 solid (D) districts.

In the News: Congressional Re-Districting Amendment

Normally, Virginia undergoes Congressional redistricting every **10 years**. The most recent redistricting occurred in 2021, effective 2022. Typically, Virginia leans Democrat 55% to 45% in statewide elections.

The Democrat-dominated Virginia Legislature has picked this **April 21st** for voters to approve an amendment that would make an exception to the 10-year rule and redistrict once again "to restore *fairness* to the upcoming election" (i.e., "to let we Democrats win the midterms"). The goal is to change the current 6:5 Democrat: Republican congressional district split to 9:2 or 10:1 in favor of the Democrats.

Nearby Maryland is going through a similar exercise in advance of the mid-term Congressional elections. Maryland seeks to eliminate the last remaining Republican-held district, giving Democrats a political monopoly.

Virginia Democrats are counting on their party being highly mobilized against very low Republican turnout. Given the most recent election, they may be right. Expect lawsuits to fly, however.

How much is this special election costing Virginians? House Appropriations allotted an additional \$5.2M on January 22nd to be distributed to the general registrar's offices throughout the state.

The text of the proposed amendment is listed below. Republican legislators made several attempts to push back on the wording of "**restore fairness**," but were blocked by the super majority.

"Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to temporarily adopt new congressional districts to restore fairness in the upcoming elections, while ensuring Virginia's standard redistricting process resumes for all future redistricting after the 2030 census?"

In the News:

10 Democrat Bills That Would Fundamentally Change Life in Virginia (No Particular Order)

1. [HB 978](#) — A New Tax on Everyday Life

Expands taxes to everyday goods and services — raising costs for families on routine purchases.

2. [HB 61](#) — State Contracts Decided by DEI, Not Merit

Requires state procurement to prioritize DEI criteria over cost and qualifications, increasing costs and limiting competition.

3. [HB 1394](#) — Tent Cities Coming to Virginia

Legalizes “life-sustaining activities” like sleeping and bodily functions in public spaces, opening the door to permanent encampments.

4. Collective Bargaining Expansion — Power Shift to Unions

Multiple bills, including [HB1263](#) and HB715

Repeals long-standing limits on public-sector collective bargaining, shifting leverage to unions and increasing taxpayer costs.

5. Gas-Powered Equipment Bans — Government Overreach Into Daily Life

Multiple bills, including [HB881](#) Ban on Gas Powered Leaf Blowers

Targets gas-powered lawn and landscaping equipment, increasing costs for homeowners, small businesses, and local governments.

6. Dissolving VMI — Erasing History

[HB 1377](#) (and related proposals)

Forces local detention facilities to accept juveniles from other jurisdictions or risk losing state funding.

7. Minimum Wage Mandates — One-Size-Fits-All Pay Rules

[HB 1](#) / [SB 1](#) (and related bills)

Mandates wage increases regardless of region or economic conditions, hitting small businesses and nonprofits hardest.

8. Paid Leave Mandates — More Costs for Employers

Multiple bills (various HB/SB numbers)

Requires paid sick or family leave, adding new mandates on employers already struggling with inflation.

9. Utility & Energy Mandates — Higher Bills, Less Choice

Multiple energy-mandate bills, including [SB650](#) which would redistribute discounts into rates

Pushes utilities toward costly requirements that ultimately raise monthly electric bills for ratepayers.

10. Law Enforcement Restrictions — Making the Job Harder for Police

Including [HB1314](#), removal of qualified immunity

A slate of proposals that increase paperwork, limit discretion, expand liability to target individual police officers, and impose new reporting and oversight requirements — pulling officers off the street and making recruitment and retention even harder at a time when departments are already understaffed.

BUT....There's Still a Glimmer of Hope

These ten topics don't nearly encompass the slate of bad bills proposed this session. But the news isn't all bad. As Democrats tried to move forward on their first batch of gambling related bills, one bill, SB118, that would legalize online casinos, met an unexpected fate. Public testimony led Senator Adam Ebbin, to a change of heart. Sen. Ebbin stated for the record, "I am about to do something I never do, and that is side with the Baptists on this one." Ebbin's change of heart and unlikely vote led this legislation to die in subcommittee. **A testament to the fact that the voice of the public can still make an impact.**
