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**THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**

*Elected officials in the General Assembly write laws and take action in response to problems or issues.*



Members of General Assembly introduce bills to begin the lawmaking process



House of Delegates and VA Senate committees gather information

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**THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**

*Individuals and interest groups help shape legislation.*




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**THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**  
*PRIMARY ISSUES AT THE STATE LEVEL*



**EDUCATION**  
*To promote an informed and engaged citizenry*  
*(Example: establish minimum standards for local schools)*



**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
*To promote and protect the health of citizens*  
*(Example: fund public health benefits)*

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**THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**  
*PRIMARY ISSUES AT THE STATE LEVEL*



**ENVIRONMENT**  
*To protect natural resources*  
*(Example: improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay)*



**STATE BUDGET**  
*To approve a biennial (2-year) budget prepared by the governor*  
*(Example: fund public health benefits)*

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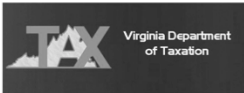
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**THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**  
*PRIMARY ISSUES AT THE STATE LEVEL*



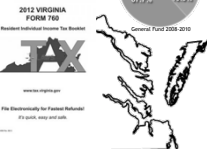
**REVENUE**  
*To levy and collect taxes*




business taxes



sales taxes



2012 VIRGINIA FORM 760  
Resident Individual Income Tax Bracket  
www.dor.virginia.gov  
File Electronically for Faster Refunds!  
#1 choice when you e-file.



Individual 19.0%  
Corporate 19.5%  
Federal 27.7%  
General Fund 200-2010

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## THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

*Citizens (including students) learn the importance of the legislative process through direct involvement and/or simulations.*



Citizens sign petition requesting government action



Fred for President

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