



# 2013 Budget Agenda Issues

**Senate Finance General Government  
Subcommittee**

**January 29, 2013**

# Commissioners Summary

- Chief Assessing Officers for Virginia's localities
- 128 principal officers
- 800 deputies
- Local duties include assessment of P.P., Real Estate, excise taxes , etc.
- State duties include Virginia Income Tax assistance and DMV Select offices

**ISSUE #1 SUPPORT continued funding for  
Commissioner of the Revenue Career  
Development Program CDP  
(*Senator McDougle* Item 75 \$78,191)**

- 1. At a minimum**, provide continued (FY14) career development program (CDP) funding as provided in FY13 through the Governor's amendment. This amendment provides that appropriation be maintained for this program and available for new participants as existing participants retire. The Governor's amendment reversed a conference committee action that reduced appropriations on the expectation that CDP funding would decline as qualified incumbents leave the workforce and their successors *are not* funded. (Item 71; approximate cost \$78,191)

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**31 deputies & 7 principal officers will lose CDP Funding**

Alleghany	Covington	King William
Amherst	Dinwiddie (2)	Louisa (2)
Arlington	Fluvanna (3)	Newport News
Bland (2)	Franklin Co.	Norfolk
Brunswick	Giles	Roanoke
Campbell	Gloucester	Smyth
Caroline	Hampton (3)	Wise (3)
Chesapeake	Harrisonburg (2)	
Chesterfield	Isle of Wight	

**ISSUE #1 SUPPORT the Career Development Programs (CDP) for all constitutional officers and provides funding for all CoR principal officers & their employees currently certified in the CDP program**  
***(Senator Vogel Items 68, 71, 72, 74, 75)***

2. Unfreezes the development (CDP) funding for all constitutional officers (Commissioners, Treasurers, Sheriffs & Commonwealths Attys.) Commissioners = 35 principal officers and 132 deputies who have qualified for the program but remain unfunded, some as long as seven years. (Item 71; approximate cost \$336,411 which includes the \$78,191 from above)

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***(Senator Vogel Items 68, 71, 72, 74, 75)***

This amendment provides \$336,411 in CDP funding for 132 commissioner deputies and 35 principal officers who have qualified for the program but remain unfunded. This *includes* the 38 individuals and \$78,191 funding in budget item 75 (above).

**ISSUE #1 SUPPORT the Career Development Programs (CDP) for all constitutional officers and provides funding for all CoR principal officers & their employees currently certified in the CDP program**  
***(Senator Vogel Items 68, 71, 72, 74, 75)***

- The CDP program promotes professionalism, efficiency and uniformity.
- The rigorous program of study is administered by the Weldon Cooper Center of the University of Virginia.
- Upon certification the successful candidate is eligible to receive a small annual stipend.

**ISSUE #2 SUPPORT the 5% salary initiative for  
all constitutional officers and their employees  
by the Virginia Sheriff's Association  
(*Senators Norment, Northam, Carrico & Stanley*  
Item 468)**

- Presently, entry level deputy commissioner earns just **\$19,856** ANNUALLY, or \$1,654.67 per month, with no local supplement. A family consisting of such a deputy, a spouse and ***one child*** qualifies for food stamps - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - easily, in fact, as their monthly income is **\$415 lower** than) eligibility level of \$2,069 per month. *than 5 years ago!*



**ISSUE #2 SUPPORT the 5% salary initiative for  
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(*Senators Norment, Northam, Carrico & Stanley*  
Item 468)**

- The 2% pay increase (August 2013) will not disqualify entry level deputies from government assistance.
- Salaries of commissioners of the revenue employees are funded on a 50-50 state-local basis, with the state share having been repeatedly cut over the last ten years.

**ISSUE #2 SUPPORT the 5% salary initiative for  
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Stanley Item 468*)**

- The last state funded pay raise for all constitutional officers and their employees was December 1, 2007 – *more than 5 years ago!*

# ISSUE #3 SUPPORT Adequate Base Funding for Commissioners of the Revenue (*Senator Vogel* Item 71 \$670, 938)

- Commissioners of the Revenue offices are funded on a 50-50 state-local basis. The state share of this funding, however, has been cut repeatedly as part of budget reductions over the last two decades.

## ISSUE #3 SUPPORT Adequate Base Funding for Commissioners of the Revenue (*Senator Vogel* Item 71 \$670, 938)

- Of the 847 allocated positions, 587 are funded, 86 are significantly *underfunded*, 174 completely unfunded. The shortfall between the Compensation Board's staffing standards and present state appropriation levels for Commissioners of the Revenue is approximately \$4.5 million. This amount does not include the 376 positions needed according to staffing standards but unallocated and unfunded.

# ISSUE #3 SUPPORT Adequate Base Funding for Commissioners of the Revenue (*Senator Vogel* Item 71 \$670, 938)

- The Commissioner of the Revenue Association is realistic about restoring past funding. However, it is imperative that the effort begin.
- We suggest a modest 15% restoration in FY14

# ISSUE #3 SUPPORT Adequate Base Funding for Commissioners of the Revenue (*Senator Vogel* Item 71 \$670, 938)

- This item is the first step in a multi-year initiative, much like that adopted to address staffing needs in the Commonwealth's Attorneys' offices just before the most recent round of budget reductions. A three to four year timeframe that would permit this need to be addressed in an incremental but steady manner.



Thank You!