This summary provides an overview of bills passed during the 2025 regular session of the General Assembly that affect the Virginia Retirement System. For full details on each bill, enter the bill number in the search field for the appropriate 2025 session on the <u>Legislative Information System</u>. On the bill's summary page, select the link to the PDF version of the bill.

#### **VRS**

#### House Bill 1705

### **Disability Benefits for Certain Emergency Dispatchers**

Beginning July 1, 2026, emergency dispatchers who are not members of the Hybrid Retirement Plan will become participants in the Virginia Local Disability Program (VLDP) for hybrid plan members, or the



comparable disability program provided by their employer. Employers will cover the costs required for funding dispatchers' participation in the disability program. Dispatchers in service before July 1, 2025, will be given a one-time opportunity to elect to remain in their existing disability program. They will have until March 31, 2026, to make their election.

# **Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System**

#### Senate Bill 1201

#### Conservation Officers Become Members of VaLORS

Extends membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System (VaLORS) to conservation officers of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. VaLORS membership applies only to service earned starting July 1, 2025.

## Appropriation Act, Item 129(B)

## Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind May Establish Campus Police Department

Authorizes the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind to establish a campus police department. If a campus police department is established, the school's campus police officers will be covered under VaLORS.







## **Judicial Retirement System**

Senate Bill 950

### Service Retirement Allowance for Certain Judges

Provides that judges appointed or elected to an original term on or after July 1, 2026, will be under VRS Plan 2. The bill also provides that the service retirement allowance for service rendered on or after July 1, 2026, by judges appointed or elected to an original term on or after January 1, 2014, will be determined under Plan 2.

For judges who were appointed between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2026, contributions in the Hybrid Retirement Plan will not be moved. Rather the benefits will be layered, similar to how judges with prior VRS service have benefits calculated.

## **Volunteer Firefighters' & Rescue Squad Workers' Service Award Program**

Senate Bill 934

#### Unclaimed Volunteer Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Service Award Funds

Provides that any funds or other property held or payable to a member of the Volunteer Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Service Award Fund that have remained unclaimed for more than five years after the member's forfeiture of membership or the dissolution of the volunteer EMS agency or volunteer fire department shall be presumed abandoned for the purposes of the Virginia Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act.





# **Line of Duty Act**

House Bill 1815

Senate Bill 1142

## Line of Duty Act Benefits for Campus and Private Police Officers

Provides employees of contributing nonprofit private institutions of higher education and contributing private police departments, as defined in the bill, with the benefits granted to employees of participating employers under the Line of Duty Act (LODA).

