

The Virginia General Assembly and Legislative Process

By the Numbers

Answer Key

1619

Answer: The General Assembly of Virginia began with the first session of the House of Burgesses, in Jamestown, on July 30, 1619.

2

Answer: The General Assembly of Virginia is a bicameral legislature consisting of the House of Delegates and Senate.

140

Answer: There are 140 members in the Virginia General Assembly.

100/2/17,640

Answer: There are 100 Delegates elected for a two-year term, and receive \$17,640/yr.

40/4/18,000

Answer: There are 40 Senators elected for a four-year term, and receive \$18,000/yr.

8,001,024

Answer: The population of the Commonwealth of Virginia as reflected by the 2010 US Census.

80,010

Answer: The approximate population in a House district.

200,026

Answer: The approximate population in a Senate district.

R=E(60)

Answer: An even-year session lasts for 60 days and may be extended an additional 30 days.

O(30) + (\leq 30) 2,955

Answer: An odd-year session lasts for 30 days and may be extended for an additional 30 days; however, an odd-year session is initially extended 16 days at the start.

14

Answer: There are 14 standing committees in the House of Delegates.

11

Answer: There are 10 standing committees in the Senate of Virginia and the Committee on Rules.

IV, 11

Answer: Article IV, Section 11 of the Constitution of Virginia lays out "How a Bill Becomes a Law."

4=P+C+R+V

Answer: Article IV, Section 11 of the Constitution of Virginia includes four steps that every bill must have to become law in each body, which are be printed, be referred to committee, have three readings, and receive a recorded vote.

3R

Answer: In order to become law, a bill must have three readings on three different days in each body unless waived by 4/5 vote.

7/1

Answer: The day all new laws become effective each year unless otherwise provided in the bill.