STATE BUDGET

Post-Session Recap



Initial Budget and Supplemental Request

- Last year's biennial budget was a record \$10.6 billion
- The Governor requested a \$692 million supplemental budget this year, claiming it was intended for "emergencies and unforeseen contingencies."

WYFC Actions

The House Appropriations Committee significantly reduced the Governor's request, removing \$390 million in Capital Construction and an additional \$235 million in spending, leaving only \$68 million in emergency funding.

Senate and House Differences

- The Senate added \$228 million back to the budget
- The House added \$119 million \$72 million being earmarked for property tax relief.
- The resulting difference between the Senate and House was roughly \$110 million.

Senate Leadership's Actions

- Senate leadership killed the budget bill unilaterally without a vote of the body.
 - Many Senators have confirmed that they did not know of leadership's decision to kill the budget until they read it in the news themselves.
- Senate leadership killed the capital construction bill unilaterally, which included \$165 million of the supplemental budget's original \$692 million, including \$72 million for the State VA Hospital.
- WYFC Concerns with Leadership's Actions
 - Cuts made by the House from the Governor's request succeeded in slowing the growth of government while only funding emergencies (like fire mitigation and property tax relief).
 - Senate leadership's unilateral decision to kill a piece of legislation is bad policymaking.
 - Senate leadership's decision to unilaterally kill the budget allows the Senate to claim fiscal conservatism— in reality, it saved Senators from having to move forward with uncontrolled spending.
 - This is not how a government of the people, by the people, and for the people should function.
 - We must stand firm against any erosion of our legislative process, for it is the bedrock of our liberty.