



2019 Last Call Legislative Report



Virginia Craft Brewers Guild

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INTRODUCTION

Dear VCBG Members:

This **VCBG 2019 Last Call Legislative Report** provides an overview of priority and defensive priority bills that the VCBG monitored and managed in the 2019 Virginia General Assembly session. These bills are available for review on our [website](#).

The VCBG has developed nine foundational public policy priorities that help guide its legislative advocacy. These are developed and prioritized through the VCBG committees and Leadership Council. These priorities are as follows:

- Protect Virginia's Hybrid Self-Distribution Laws (e.g., Unlimited On-Premise or Off-Premise Tasting Room Sales, No Regulation of Tasting Room Hours of Operation, Brewpubs, etc.)
- Support & Protect Unlimited Expansion Breweries
- Protect Brewery-to-Brewery Transfers
- Improve Distribution Performance and Market
- Oppose "Play-to-Play" Trade Spending
- Maintain Rural Character of VA Farm Breweries
- Protect Contract Brewing
- Maintain ABC Regulatory Balance
- Support VA Craft Beer Tourism

Preparing for this session, the VCBG Leadership Council and Government Affairs Committee were prepared for a "mega-brewer" to re-introduce "pay-to-play" legislation that would substantially increase point-of-sale display spending and materials changes. That early action may have helped assure that the legislation was ultimately never introduced. The VCBG was also prepared for potential legislation to require rural structures at farm breweries to comply with the Uniform Building Code (UBC), but those bills also were never introduced due to the leadership of VCBG Farm Brewery Committee members that worked throughout the year on a UBC working group established from a bill last session. The point of these examples is that the VCBG government affairs work throughout the year paid dividends by assuring that two major legislative challenges never materialized.

This early action assured that we could focus on priority bills, educate newly elected Delegates about the fundamentals of the craft beer industry, and build relationships with key members of the House General Laws Committee and Senate Rehabilitation Committee which regulate alcohol. We were also able to use this valuable time to continue to build close working relationships with the leadership of the ABC which is critical to reforms in development for the coming years.

Thank you to the 100+ members that participated in the "Day on the Hill" and Virginia Craft Beer Caucus. Your advocacy makes a difference. The 2020 Virginia General Assembly session will be here in no time, so please join the VCBG Government Affairs Committee and help us keep Virginia craft beer growing.

Best Wishes,

Brett A. Vassey

President & CEO

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Welcome to the Virginia Craft Brewers Guild “VCBG” [2019 Last Call Legislative Report](#). This report is produced annually to detail the highlights of each Virginia legislative session from the VCBG’s perspective. The Table of Contents is a quick reference to key sections of the report.

Page 3 VCBG Priority Bills

This is the proactive section of the report where details of each bill the VCBG requested to be introduced or was part of a coalition or commission that requested the bill to be introduced are found. These were the top priorities of the VCBG during this General Assembly session.

Page 4 VCBG Defensive Bills

This section identifies bills that the VCBG monitored and/or acted upon in order to support, amend, neutralize, or stop from negatively impacting the craft beer industry or the VCBG’s legislative agenda.

Page 10 ABC Bills & Regulations

This section identifies all ABC-related bills directly and indirectly affecting the craft beer industry that were monitored by the VCBG. It also details ABC regulatory activities that require VCBG engagement.

Page 11 Summary

This is a brief narrative of the 2019 Virginia General Assembly Session in order to provide members some understanding of the “taste and texture” of this year’s session.



PRIORITY BILLS

Priority bills represent legislation that has been introduced on our behalf or a coalition to which we belong. These bills directly relate to VCBG legislative priorities and generally involve member committees and the Leadership Council.

Number: VA [R] HB 2073 - Updated (Text, Status 03/07/2019)

Sponsor: Del. John Bell (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising. Expands the ability of retail on-premises licensees to advertise happy hours by allowing them to advertise the prices of featured alcoholic beverages and to use creative marketing techniques, provided that such techniques do not tend to induce overconsumption or consumption by minors. This bill is identical to SB 1726.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 02/15/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1170 - Updated (Text, Status 01/19/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Jeremy McPike (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising. Expands the ability of retail on-premises licensees to advertise happy hours by allowing them to advertise the prices of featured alcoholic beverages and to use creative marketing techniques, provided that such techniques do not tend to induce overconsumption or consumption by minors. This bill was incorporated into SB 1726.

Status: [Incorporated by Rehabilitation and Social Services - 01/18/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1726 - Updated (Text, Status 03/06/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Ryan McDougle (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; happy hour advertising. Expands the ability of retail on-premises licensees to advertise happy hours by allowing them to advertise the prices of featured alcoholic beverages and to use creative marketing techniques, provided that such techniques do not tend to induce overconsumption or consumption by minors. This bill incorporates SB 1170 and is identical to HB 2073.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 02/13/2019](#)

Position: Support

Notes: See Summary section.

DEFENSIVE BILLS

This section identifies bills that involved VCBG monitoring and/or action in order to support, amend, neutralize, or stop from negatively impacting the craft beer industry or the VCBG's legislative agenda.

Number: VA [R] HB 1960 - Updated (Text, Status 03/22/2019)

Sponsor: Del. David Toscano (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; manufacture/sale of low alcohol beverage cooler.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; low alcohol beverage coolers. Allows low alcohol beverage coolers to be manufactured by a licensed distiller or a distiller located outside of the Commonwealth. The bill also allows licensed distillers to use spirits manufactured by another licensed distiller in the manufacture of low alcohol beverage coolers. In addition, the bill allows (i) low alcohol beverage coolers to be sold in government stores and (ii) distillers to sell low alcohol beverage coolers that are manufactured or blended by such distillers at government stores established on their licensed premises.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 03/18/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2013 - Updated (Status 02/06/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Christopher Peace (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; definition of confectionery.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; definition of confectionery. Defines "confectionery," as used in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, as sweet foods, including baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, puddings, ice creams, sorbets, and yogurts.

Status: [Left in General Laws - 02/05/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2156 - Updated (Status 02/06/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Kenneth Plum (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; definition of "day spa."](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; definition of "'day spa.'" Removes the requirement that in order to qualify as a day spa for ABC purposes, a commercial establishment must offer to the public both licensed massage therapy and licensed barbering or cosmetology services. The bill provides that a commercial establishment qualifies as a day spa so long as the commercial establishment offers to the public licensed barbering or cosmetology services.

Status: [Left in General Laws - 02/05/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2179 - Updated (Status 02/06/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Debra Rodman (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; creates coworking establishment license.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; coworking establishment license. Creates a coworking establishment license that allows facilities that have at least 25 members and offer shared office space to serve wine and beer to members and guests on the licensed

premises. The bill imposes a \$100 annual state tax and a \$20 annual local tax on the license.

Status: [Left in General Laws - 02/05/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2301 - Updated (Status 02/10/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Christopher Collins (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; creates retail cigar shop license.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; limited mixed beverage license for retail cigar shops. Creates a new limited mixed beverage license for retail cigar shops and sets out the privileges of this new license, including a requirement that at least 60 percent of the licensee's annual gross revenue be from the sale of premium tobacco products. The bill defines "'cigar shop'" and sets out the state and local license taxes for this license.

Status: [Failed to report - 02/08/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2367 - Updated (Text, Status 04/03/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Barry Knight (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; delivery permittees.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; delivery permits. Provides that a delivery permittee is only required to collect the taxes due to the Commonwealth and remit any excise taxes monthly to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (the Authority) and any sales taxes to the Department of Taxation for each delivery the permittee makes if such taxes have not already been paid. The bill specifies that delivery permittees must keep records of all deliveries for a period of at least two years and, in addition to current recordkeeping requirements, requires delivery permittees to keep records of the brands of wine and beer delivered and the signatures of the purchasers to whom the wine and beer is delivered. The bill provides that delivery permittees are only required to submit a monthly report.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 03/21/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2522 - Updated (Status 02/06/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Hyland Fowler (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage special events licenses, etc.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage special events licenses; combined annual mixed beverage special events and mixed beverage caterer's licenses; agritourism resorts. Allows "'agritourism resorts,'" as defined in the bill, to obtain annual mixed beverage special events licenses, which authorize such resorts to (i) sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption in areas upon the licensed premises approved by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and (ii) permit the consumption of lawfully acquired alcoholic beverages by persons to whom overnight lodging is being provided in bedrooms and private guest rooms. The bill also creates a combined annual mixed beverage special events and mixed beverage caterer's license.

Status: [Left in General Laws - 02/05/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2634 - Updated (Text, Status 03/12/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Chris Hurst (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; local referendums.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; local referendums. Allows the sale of mixed beverages by licensed restaurants and the sale of alcoholic beverages by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority in any county, town, or supervisor's election district unless a referendum is held and a majority of the voters voting in such referendum vote to prohibit such sales. Under current law, such sales are prohibited unless they have been approved through the referendum process. The bill includes a grandfathering provision that allows the granting of a mixed beverage license to any establishment described in § 4.1-126, as it was in effect prior to the effective date of this bill, notwithstanding the provisions of the bill related to local referendums.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 02/27/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] HB 2703 - Updated (Status 02/06/2019)

Sponsor: Del. Nicholas Freitas (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensees, commissions and fees.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensees; commissions and fees. Requires the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to pay a licensed distiller a commission of 25 percent of the retail price of any spirits sold by the distiller at a government store on his licensed premises. The bill provides that monthly revenue transfers resulting from such sales (i) may be submitted electronically and through other methods approved by the Board and (ii) shall be limited to the amount due to the Board in applicable taxes and markups. The bill prohibits the Board from (a) imposing a markup on spirits sold during an organized tasting event, provided that such spirits are manufactured on the licensed premises or on contiguous premises of the licensed distillery.

Status: [Left in General Laws - 02/05/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1064 - Updated (Status 01/19/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. William Stanley (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; expands privileges of farm winery licensees & limited brewery licensees.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; privileges of farm winery licensees and limited brewery licensees. Expands the privileges of farm winery licensees by allowing them to sell at retail beer manufactured by limited brewery licensees for on-premises consumption. The bill also expands the privileges of limited brewery licensees by allowing them to sell at retail wine manufactured by farm winery licensees for on-premises consumption.

Status: [Passed by indefinitely in Rehabilitation and Social Services - 01/18/2019](#)

Position: Oppose

Notes: To be allowed unlimited retail sales in craft brewery and farm brewery tasting rooms, the industry agreed to oppose efforts to make brewery tasting rooms into bars. Selling wine not manufactured by the brewer (under a winery license) violates that principle. If a brewery wants to sell all alcohol products, specifically those not manufactured by that brewer, it can get obtain a restaurant license to accomplish that goal. Further, the ABC has regulatory authority to allow a winery license to be procured for these purposes - statutory change is not needed.

Number: VA [R] SB 1110 - Updated (Text, Status 03/07/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Bryce Reeves (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; local referendums.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; local referendums. Allows the sale of mixed beverages by licensed restaurants and the sale of alcoholic beverages by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority in any county, town, or supervisor's election district unless a referendum is held and a majority of the voters voting in such referendum vote to prohibit such sales. Under current law, such sales are prohibited unless they have been approved through the referendum process. The bill includes a grandfathering provision that allows the granting of a mixed beverage license to any establishment described in § 4.1-126, as it was in effect prior to the effective date of this bill, notwithstanding the provisions of the bill related to local referendums.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 02/19/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1171 - Updated (Text, Status 04/02/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Jeremy McPike (D-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; creates local special events license.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; local special events license. Creates a local special events license, which allows a locality, business improvement district, or nonprofit organization to permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages within the area designated by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for a special event, provided that such alcoholic beverages are purchased from a permanent retail on-premises licensee located within such designated area and are contained in disposable containers that clearly display the selling licensee's name or logo. The bill limits local special events licensees to 12 events per year and provides that the area designated for the special event may include sidewalks and the premises of businesses not licensed to sell.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 03/19/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1242 - Updated (Status 02/15/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Bryce Reeves (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; mixed beverage restaurant license, penalties.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; mixed beverage restaurant license; penalties. Allows mixed beverage restaurant licensees that specialize in the sale of high-end spirits to calculate, for purposes of the food-to-beverage ratio, gross receipts from the sale of mixed beverages by multiplying the liters of spirits sold by such licensee by the average price charged for one liter of spirits by mixed beverage restaurant licensees in the Commonwealth. The bill prohibits categorizing a restaurant as specializing in high-end spirits unless it has been licensed as a mixed beverage restaurant for not less than 12 months and had food and nonalcoholic beverage sales for the immediately preceding 12 months that would have met the food-to-beverage ratio imposed on restaurants.

Status: [Failed to report - 02/14/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1245 - Updated (Status 01/19/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Bryce Reeves (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage special events licenses, etc.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; annual mixed beverage special events licenses; combined annual mixed beverage special events and mixed beverage caterer's licenses; agritourism resorts. Allows "agritourism resorts," as defined in the bill, to obtain annual mixed beverage special events licenses, which authorizes such resorts to (i) sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption in areas upon the licensed premises approved by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority and (ii) permit the consumption of lawfully acquired alcoholic beverages by persons to whom overnight lodging is being provided in bedrooms and private guest rooms. The bill also creates a combined annual mixed beverage special events and mixed beverage caterer's license.

Status: [Stricken at request of Patron in Rehabilitation and Social Services - 01/18/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1420 - Updated (Text, Status 04/02/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. Glen Sturtevant (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; alcoholic beverage licenses.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; alcoholic beverage licenses. Creates a coworking establishment license that allows facilities that have at least 100 members and offer shared office space to serve wine and beer to members and guests on the licensed premises. The bill imposes a \$500 annual state tax and a \$50 annual local tax on the license. The bill also creates a bespoke clothier establishment license that allows permanent retail establishments that offer, by appointment only, custom made apparel and that offer a membership program to customers to serve wine or beer for on-premises consumption upon the licensed premises approved by the Board to any member. The bill imposes a \$100 annual state tax and a \$20 annual local tax on the license.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 03/19/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1683 - Updated (Text, Status 01/26/2019)

Sponsor: Sen. John Cosgrove (R-VA)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; food-to-beverage ratio. Provides an alternative to the food-to-beverage ratio for mixed beverage restaurant licensees by allowing such licensees to meet applicable food sale requirements by demonstrating at least \$500,000 in annual food sales.

Status: [Failed to report - 01/25/2019](#)

Number: VA [R] SB 1709 - Updated (Text, Status 04/05/2019)

Sponsor: Mark J. Peake (by request)

Title: [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensees, commissions and fees.](#)

Abstract: Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensees; monthly revenue transfers; case fees. Provides that monthly revenue transfers from a licensed distiller to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (i) may be submitted electronically and through other methods approved by the Board and (ii) shall be limited to the amount due to the Board in applicable taxes and markups. The bill prohibits the Board from charging a case fee for moving spirits to the tasting area of a government store established on the premises of a licensed distillery when such spirits are moved by employees of the licensed distiller. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2020.

Status: [Acts of Assembly Chapter text - 03/26/2019](#)

ABC BILLS & REGULATIONS

All ABC-related bills directly and indirectly affecting the craft beer industry that were monitored by the VCBG are available here - <http://www.cgstatetrack.com/texis/viewrpt/main.html?event=4f03771132>.

However, the majority of VCBG government affairs activities now involve ABC (and other agencies such as VDACS and VDOH) regulatory matters rather than legislative matters. In particular, the VCBG is a primary stakeholder in the multi-year ABC License Reform Working Group and ABC transition into a public authority. This working group will specifically tackle the issue of consolidating ABC licenses and permits as well as reforming the agency's own business practices in everything from online registrations to tax payments. There is even an evaluation of how to differentiate between ABC special agent law enforcement vs. permit and license processing activities that could allow for the hiring of different levels of special agents (and reduce ABC operational costs).

These matters are essential to maintaining the flexible environment in which craft beer currently operates. We have also had tremendous success in this area of government affairs. Just last year we were successful in getting clear guidance on dogs in breweries by VDACS. We were also able to get ABC clarity on homebrewing competitions held at breweries as well as incredible flexibility on the retail sale of crowlers.

The current list of ABC priorities that the VCBG is engaging in over the next two years is as follows:

- 20% tasting room retail sales rule guidance
- CBD ingredients and labeling guidance
- Distributor performance regulation
- Expedited distributor agreement termination process/hearing
- Labeling approvals, exemptions and online transactions reform
- License and permit consolidation reform
- Novelty items – brewery brand limitations for on-premise and off-premise (gourmet bottle ships) distribution
- Tasting events – serving size limitation
- Temporary or limited distribution agreement reform
- Trade practices enforcement – glassware, tap fees and trade spending at retailers
- Happy Hour regulation guidance

SUMMARY

This was another positive legislative session for the VCBG. It was successful in passing its priority bills and neutralizing 100% of its targeted defensive bills. **In total, the VCBG monitored and managed 20 bills this legislative session.**

This year 61% of the 3,128 bills introduced in the 2019 regular session by members of the General Assembly passed. However, if one removes resolutions from the bill list, 2,000 total bills were introduced in 2019 and the pass rate was 88%. It should also be noted that 3,722 total bills were introduced in the 2018 regular General Assembly session; 2,959 bills were introduced in 2017; 3,286 bills were introduced in 2016; 2,776 in 2015; 2,888 in 2014 and 2,575 in 2013. So, between 2013 and 2019, the number of bills introduced that were not resolutions and passed the General Assembly grew from 715 to 1,765, and the pass rate went from 41% to 88%. This means that Virginia's legislature is creating more laws and passing them at a higher rate than any time in recent history.

The VCBG focuses exclusively on legislation directly affecting craft brewing and all ABC bills. This year the VCBG managed and monitored 20 bills – three priority bills and 17 defensive priority bills. The three priority bills were also lobbied during the “Day on the Hill” and VCBG Craft Beer Caucus.



HB2073, SB1170 and SB1726 amend the ABC “happy hour” advertising regulations to allow brewery tasting rooms and brewpubs to advertise the prices of featured alcoholic beverages and to use creative marketing techniques if such techniques do not induce overconsumption or consumption by minors. The VCBG will participate in the ABC rulemaking process to implement this new statute. This is the first time in several years the VCBG has dealt with legislation involving beer advertising. The last time resulted in the ability of brewers to participate in outdoor advertising (billboards) and VDOT/VTC roadside advertising programs (blue and brown road signs). Prior to our successful legislation in cooperation with Lamar Advertising, all these advertising activities were illegal.

SB1420 will now allow coworking spaces to obtain a license to sell beer and wine. SB1171 creates a local special events license, which allows a locality, business improvement district, or nonprofit organization to permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages for a special event, provided that such alcoholic beverages are purchased from a permanent retail on-premises licensee located within such designated area and are contained in disposable containers that clearly display the selling licensee's name or logo. The bill limits local special events licensees to 12 events per year. The good news is that SB1420 will create an entirely new retail opportunity for our products and SB1171 now firmly establishes a precedent upon which the VCBG can petition for expanding the manufacturers special event licenses from 8 to 12 per year.

SB1064 would have allowed farm brewery licensees to sell at retail wine manufactured by farm winery licensees for on-premises consumption. To be allowed unlimited retail sales of beer in craft brewery and farm brewery tasting rooms, the industry agreed to oppose efforts to make brewery tasting rooms into bars. Selling wine not manufactured by the brewery violates that principle, so the VCBG did not support this bill nor did other segments of the alcohol industry. This legislation was also unnecessary because if a brewery wants to sell other alcohol products, specifically those not manufactured by that brewery, it can get obtain a restaurant license to accomplish that goal. Further, the ABC has regulatory authority to allow a winery license to be procured for these purposes as well – a statutory change was not needed.

HB2013 was an oddity because the purpose of the bill was to define a “confectionary” so that these businesses could purchase beer and wine directly from manufacturers for use in their products. The bill’s purpose was not well understood and did not receive a positive reaction from the committee. Ultimately, the bill failed but is likely to return in a future session.

The VCBG depends upon legislators understanding the unique needs of the craft beer industry. We further depend upon them to uphold “SB 604” tasting room retails sales and other VCBG priority statutes such as brewery-to-brewery transfers, contract brewing, farm breweries and ABC regulatory flexibility. This year the entire Virginia General is up for election. It is also possible that one or both bodies may switch to Democratic control. If that were to happen, the House General Laws Committee and/or Senate Rehabilitation and Social Service Committee leadership and committee members would change – these are the committees that regulate alcohol. We cannot assume that the newly elected or potential new leadership will be as supportive of the independent craft beer industry as has the previous leadership. However, we have eight months to develop that confidence.

Over this period, we will also be tackling a substantial regulatory reform agenda. We are primary participants in the ABC License Reform working group and have begun a multi-year process of reforming everything from labeling to CBD ingredients (see ABC section for details).

In closing, the VCBG will continue to face challenges in government affairs. We must expand our education of new General Assembly members about the unique aspects of the independent craft beer industry. We will continue to develop our productive relationships with the other tiers. We will also be implementing a new initiative to strategically offer legislators a “be a craft brewer for a day” experience at select breweries, encourage breweries to host legislative fundraisers, and build the VCBG retailer relations program. The Guild has a strong government affairs program in place and is prepared to face all challenges.

To join the VCBG government affairs committee, farm brewery committee or marketing and tourism committee, please contact Member Services at barnold@vacraftbrewersguild.com.