



Dear {{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

Things are heating up in the General Assembly, we are in full swing! There are still 592 bills to hear in committees before crossover. More than half of my bills have passed through the hurdle of reporting from committee!



## Bills Report Out of Committee



On Monday, I presented [SB 393 MEI Project Approval Commission; board-level gender and diversity requirements](#) to the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee. This bill requires the MEI Project Approval Commission to consider, prior to recommending approval of any major employment and investment (MEI) project, whether a business commits to maintaining a balanced board of directors based upon gender and racial diversity.



On Thursday, I presented two bills in the Subcommittee on Public Education, [SB 225 School board policies; parental notification; safe storage of firearms in the household](#) and [SB 395 Public elementary and secondary schools; student athletes; pre-participation mental health assessment required](#).

SB 225 would require school boards to develop and implement a policy for or an annual parental notification regarding: the importance of safely storing firearms in the home, state laws and regulations relating to safe firearm storage, and information on the role of firearms in suicide, including youth suicide, and tips and resources for seeking help for a child that may pose a risk to themselves or others.

SB 395 would require elementary and secondary school students to submit a report signed by a licensed physician, attesting that the student has received a physical and mental health evaluation in the past 14 months before participating in an athletic team or group.



In a show of bi-partisanship, my bill [SB 387 Public elementary and secondary schools; policies and requirements relating to naloxone](#) was rolled into Sen. Todd Pillion's bill [SB 726 Public secondary schools; naloxone procurement, possession, and administration; school board employee training and certification; opioid overdose prevention and reversal instruction; guidelines and requirements](#) during Thursday's Subcommittee on Public Education. These bills would require school boards to develop a plan for the procurement, storage, maintenance, and administration by a trained nurse or school employee of opioid antagonists for the purposes of opioid overdose reversal in every public elementary and secondary school.



Today, I presented [SJ 26 JLARC; scope and cost of penalizing possession of drugs as a felony](#) in the Rules Committee which directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the scope and cost of the current laws in the Commonwealth penalizing possession of drugs as a felony.



Lastly, I also presented in the Rules Committee [SB 389 Autism Advisory Council; reestablished](#) which reestablishes the Autism Advisory Council, which expired July 1, 2022, to promote coordination of services and resources among agencies involved in delivering services to Virginians with autism spectrum disorders (“ASDs”) and to increase public awareness of services and resources.

## Meeting with Constituents



I met with the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations to discuss housing prices, ESOL programs, and healthcare.

I also met with SEIU members to discuss their legislative priorities.



I really enjoyed meeting with the FFA students from Amelia County. Each student presented individually and spoke about the FFA program and their legislative priorities.



I spoke with members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) and heard their concerns. I love getting the opportunity to hear from constituents and members of the community who make the time to come to Richmond!

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# SD 36 Resolution Nominations

Please send nominations for  
Commending and Memorial  
Resolutions to  
[info@stellapekarsky.com](mailto:info@stellapekarsky.com)



Nominations can include: A new business that has opened in the community, a local group that has started a new project, an individual that has received an award, or, at the family's request, a memorial resolution honoring the life of a constituent in the district, and more!

**Please send all nominations to:**  
[info@stellapekarsky.com](mailto:info@stellapekarsky.com)

While a resolution cannot be guaranteed for all nominations due to the volume we receive, I am looking forward to honoring some of the incredible constituents I will soon represent.





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**Schedule a meeting with me in Richmond and reach out to our office about legislation that is important to you!**

Email: senatorpekarsky@senate.virginia.gov  
Phone: (804) 698-7536

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**Cheers,  
Stella Pekarsky  
Senator, District 36**

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