



Dear {{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

The Senate adjourned on Saturday 3/11, officially ending my first session as Senator! See what bills I successfully passed, highlights from the session, and what's next.


Join us for a Town Hall!

[Sign up here](#)


A graphic for a town hall event. On the left, a dark blue hexagonal shape with white text reads: 'Senator Stella Pekarisky SD 36 & Delegate Karrie Delaney HD 9'. To the right, a dark blue rectangular box contains the text: '2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WRAP UP TOWN HALL Sully Government Center 4900 Stonecroft Blvd'. Below this, another dark blue rectangular box contains: 'Thursday March 28th 7:00pm'. At the bottom right, there are two small portrait photos of women in blue blouses.

Legislative Updates

I am proud to have 9 bills pass out of the General Assembly in my very first session! Now, the Governor will consider whether to sign my bills into law. From helping keep our children safe from gun violence, supporting first responders,

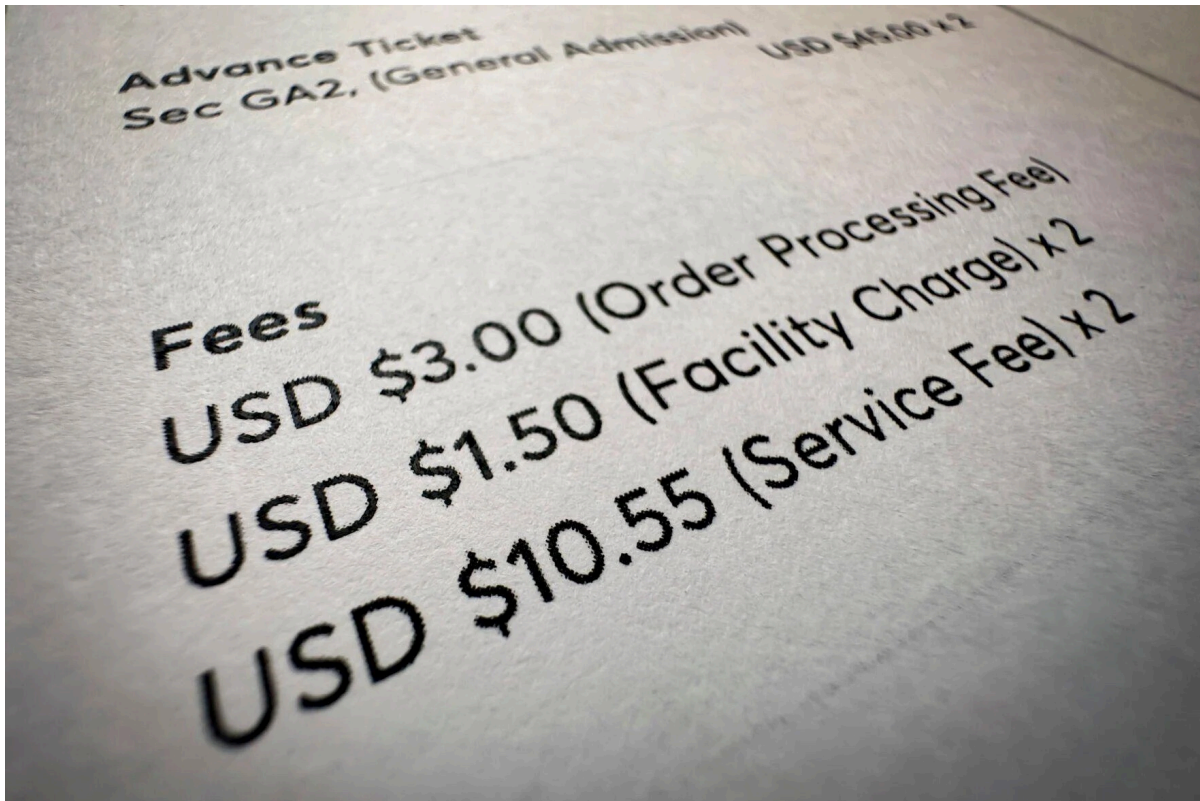


All Legislation Heading to the Governor

<p>SB 225 Notifying parents about safe storage of guns</p>	<p>SB 608 Creates the Office of Community Schools at the Department of Education</p>	<p>SB 586 Codifies the use of restorative disciplinary practices in public schools</p>
<p>SB 391 Protects public employees using medicinal cannabis products</p>	<p>SB 610 Allows individuals with a Developmental Disability waiver slot request slot-retention requests for a period up to 365 calendar days</p>	<p>SB 393 MEI Project Approval Commission to consider diversity of boards</p>
<p>SB 392 Mandates at least one doctor on duty in ERs</p>	<p>SB 389 Reestablishes and expands the Autism Advisory Council</p>	

In the News

This session, I introduced legislation that would ban undisclosed Junk Fees in Virginia. Protecting consumers and creating a level playing field for small businesses is one of my top priorities. Despite having bipartisan support, the SB 388 died in the House on the last day of the legislative session. [Listen here to learn more about it and my commitment to continuing to push for this change until it passes.](#)



What's Next?

The Governor has until Midnight on Monday April 8th to act on all legislation. He must either veto or sign all bills. We return to Richmond on April 17th for a special veto session where all members will vote on whether or not to uphold the Governor's changes / vetos.

This year is a budget year where Virginia will pass the biannual budget. Currently, the Governor has the budget that was passed by both the Senate and the House. He must vote to approve or veto the budget by April 8th. I was proud to vote for a budget that prioritizes education and hardworking families across Virginia.

We are currently on step 10 of the budget process. You can read more about the different versions of the proposed budget and compare what was agreed upon by both chambers and how it compares to the Governor's proposed budget here

VIRGINIA'S BUDGET PROCESS



**YOUR VOICE MATTERS
AT EVERY STEP**




Session Highlights

Thank you to everyone who shared their priorities, had a meeting with me, helped keep our office informed, and supported us this session!



Legislation I was Proud to Support



Voted YES on HB 466
Repeals reciprocity for out of state concealed carry permits.

Voted YES on SB 105
Provides support and funding for disadvantaged students, recruiting teachers, hiring support staff, and more.

Voted YES on SB 2
Bans assault weapons in the Commonwealth

Voted YES on SB 274
Creates a prescription drug affordability board to lower prices.

Voted YES on SB 235
Prohibits censorship of books in our schools.

Voted YES on SB 1
Raises the minimum wage

Voted YES on SB 373
Creates a paid family and medical leave program

Our Democratic majority was hard at work this session. I was so proud to vote yes on these bills.

Community Updates, Information, & Opportunities

Help Available for Filing the 2024 Tax Relief Application

SCAM JAM FAIRFAX

Community members with questions about the [2024 tax relief application](#) will be able to receive help from county staff courtesy of Sup. Kathy Smith's office. On **Wednesday, April 3**

at the Sully District
Governmental Center (4900
Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly) This
 event is free and open to the
 public, but appointments must be
 scheduled in advance by calling
 703-324-3747 or emailing
taxrelief@fairfaxcounty.gov.



2024
SCAM JAM FAIRFAX

You're Invited to Fraud-Buster Friday

Learn how to spot scams and protect yourself, your family, and your savings.

Hear a first-hand account of fraud so you're prepared when criminals try to scam you or your loved ones.

Get tips from the FBI to help you protect yourself and warn others.

Learn how artificial intelligence is enabling scammers to steal your hard-earned money.

Stay a step ahead and bring sensitive documents for secure paper shredding.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024

Information Sessions 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Shred Truck 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, Virginia 22035

Complimentary morning refreshments and lunch will be provided for all registered participants.



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please scan the QR code, call 1-877-926-8300, or visit events.aarp.org/FFXSJ24

The 7th Annual Scam Jam is hosted by AARP Virginia and the Fairfax County Silver Shield Task Force



Learn how to spot scams and protect yourself, your family, and your savings. Get tips from the FBI to help you protect yourself and warn others. Learn how artificial intelligence is enabling scammers to steal your hard-earned money. Stay a step ahead and bring sensitive documents for secure paper shredding.

Save Electricity. Save Money. Go Solar.

- Streamlined Process.** Solarize VA makes it easy.
- Trusted Installers.** Work with vetted companies.
- Exclusive Discounts.** More bang for your buck.

SOLARIZE VIRGINIA
 Presented by **leap**

In partnership with **nvrc**

Simplify Solar with Solarize Virginia. Sign up for free at www.solarizeva.org.

College Scholarships for Conservation and the Environment

The Educational Foundation of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annually offers four scholarships to graduating high school seniors or college freshmen for college study. In

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Solarize NoVA, a campaign dedicated to accelerating Virginia's transition to solar energy. From April 1st to June 30th, we're partnering with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Local Energy Alliance Program and local solar installers

2024, four **\$2000 scholarships** are available. The scholarships support studies related to natural resource conservation. Applications must arrive at the NVSWCD office by **April 1, 2024**.

[Learn more and apply here](#)

Are you a resident of the 36th District and have a problem I can help with? Get in touch with my district office!

PO Box 231191 Centreville, Virginia 20120

Phone: (571) 449-6794

Subscribe to my Newsletter!

Fill Out this Form to Subscribe!

Stay informed about what is happening in Richmond and around the 36th District.



**It has been a pleasure to serve you in the
2024 Session!**

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

2/18/25, 11:00 AM

Preview - 3/8 Newsletter #9

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*Friends of Stella G Pekarsky
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