

VIRGINIA Federation of CHAPTERS

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Virginia Federation of
Chapters

**Over 20,000 Members
Throughout Virginia**

57 Chapters

**20% of the Members Are
Active Federal Employees**

Mission Statement:

**Protecting
Earned Benefits of
Active and Retired
Federal Employees
and Spousal Annuitants**



**National Active and Retired
Federal Employees
Association**

**Virginia Federation
Of Chapters**

2010

State Legislative Plan

Reenact the Uniform Power of Attorney Act that was passed during the 2009 session

A uniform power of attorney would allow individuals with accounts at several institutions to execute only one power of attorney rather than needing to use institution specific instruments. Also, since the uniform power of attorney is being adopted by many states, one power of attorney should be acceptable across state lines.

Encourage VDOT to alter transportation policies to accommodate the needs of the rapidly increasing senior population

Previous legislative actions have called for changes in state transportation policy to recognize the special needs of the increasingly aging population, but there is little evidence that this is happening. Policy should call for larger and more visible signage for street signs and route numbers. Lane markers and edge designators should be clearer and visible under adverse weather conditions. Public transportation to meet the needs of seniors should be developed in all areas of the state. Seniors who rely on private transportation options need help converting to the use of public transportation modes.

Create a Bipartisan Redistricting Commission to redraw the district lines for the State Senate, the House of Delegates, and the Virginia Congressional Districts based on the census of 2010.

The constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia places the authority for setting district lines after every census in the hands of the members of the General Assembly. During past decades, there have been numerous examples where the majority party has used this authority to markedly improve their advantage in elections. It is time for a bipartisan approach.

Support the passage of a Constitutional Amendment as featured in HJ688 passed during the 2009 session

An amendment to the Constitution of Virginia is required to allow the General Assembly to authorize localities to either waive or establish their own income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting real property tax relief for persons 65 or older or for persons permanently and/or totally disabled. Currently, only localities in two regions of the state, Northern Virginia and Central Virginia, have the authority to offer reduced rates to seniors and disabled citizens.

Aging issues in the State are still a concern. Many issues identified in the JLARC10 study still need addressing.

Implementation and enforcement of geriatric certification requirements for both professional and non-professional workers needs to be addressed:

- ◆ Implement and enforce adequate caregiver to patient ratio in elderly care facilities.
- ◆ Require nursing homes to provide more options to patients for obtaining prescriptions and other needed drugs and medications.
- ◆ Implement programs to secure and encourage greater utilization of ombudsmen for patients.
- ◆ Implement requirements for geriatric training for medical professionals and support personnel.
- ◆ Expand and implement Medicaid coverage to assisted living situations. As seniors are living longer, this coverage is vital to assure that adequate coverage is available regardless of age.

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