

Pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, I veto House Bill 1088, which requires the Board of Education to adopt model policies related to climate change and environmental literacy.

The Standards of Learning already provides instructional material related to environmental issues.

The proposal imposes a significant and redundant task on the Department of Education and the Board of Education. It mandates a separate and independent review for a specific topic, in addition to the review of science Standards of Learning and instructional material.

Additionally, school divisions must integrate these new resources into their curriculum outside the standard process, necessitating purchasing instructional material and reallocating instructional time without additional funding.

Accordingly, I veto this bill.

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Pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, I veto Senate Bill 236, which allows college and university faculty members to request district court records.

In 2023, I signed Senate Bill 1089, which requires the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia to report to the General Assembly the number of writs of eviction by September 1, 2024. This report will provide information to address gaps in eviction-related data.

The proposal infringes upon the privacy rights of individuals who have faced an unlawful detainer, garnishment, or warrant in debt action. Additionally, the proposal does not effectively address the issue of incomplete eviction data, as garnishments and warrants in debt actions can involve various transactions, such as credit card or business-to-business disputes.

Accordingly, I veto this bill.

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Pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, I veto House Bill 47/ Senate Bill 306, which creates civil penalties for the retail sale of certain plant species.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (the Department) already publishes and distributes educational information related to invasive plant species and the benefits of planting native species. Virginia should continue to educate consumers about invasive plant species and encourage them to seek alternatives.

The proposal, however, places additional requirements and imposes civil penalties on Virginia's small businesses for the sale of plants with low levels of invasiveness, such as periwinkle and winter honeysuckle.

Additionally, the Department's invasive species list would function as the legally binding authority regarding invasive species, circumventing the Administrative Process Act, which involves a public notice and comment period.

Accordingly, I veto this bill.