



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE



## News From VPCGA at the General Assembly

January 15, 2010

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Dear Member,

### General Assembly Begins

It is a new year for the Virginia General Assembly but three days in, most of the bills impacting the industry are revised versions of legislation we have seen in previous years including: indexing fuels taxes, increasing the rate of the Northern Virginia motor fuels tax, imposing a \$17.50 per device fee on devices subject to weights and measures inspections, and legislation which eliminates the one percent motor fuels allowance. However, these bills would fulfill policy goals outlined in the budget of Governor Kaine who leaves office tomorrow at noon. Until we have a sense of how the administration of Governor Bob McDonnell will approach these issues it is difficult to estimate how many of these issues will pose a serious threat to the industry. We have issue briefs and letters prepared for you to send to your legislators on each of them and will be asking for your contacts to legislators in the near future.

There does seem to be some consensus around the General Assembly building that issues related to transportation funding and government reform may be the subject of a special legislative session to convene in the late spring or early summer. If that is the case, it is likely that issues such as fuels tax increases and privatization of the state ABC stores may be delayed until that time.

To date, more than 1,850 bills have been introduced for the 2010 session and we have identified many with a direct impact on your business. You may view that list by clicking [here](#). However, recent experience shows that the most problematic bills will likely be filed between Monday and the filing deadline of next Friday. Stay tuned.

## Legislative Reception

Please make plans to attend the General Assembly reception to be held at the Omni Hotel in downtown Richmond on January 26th. Once again this year the event is being co-sponsored with our colleagues at the Propane Gas Association. The 2010 session will feature many issues impacting your business - including outgoing Governor Kaine's second attempt to eliminate the motor fuel allowance. Tickets for this year's reception are \$75 per person and can be ordered with [this form](#).

## Vpcga.com

If you have not already had a chance to do do. Check out the changes we have made at <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=ab9gkgdab.0.0.t8speybab.0&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.vpcga.com%2Fi4a%2Fpages%2Findex.cfm%3Fpageid%3D1>. Should you have suggestions or comments on the website please email [elizabeth@vpcga.com](mailto:elizabeth@vpcga.com).