



GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE



News From VPCGA at the General Assembly

February 11, 2010

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Dear Member,

Senate Blocks Indian Compacts Bill

Measure to Be Brought Back in 2011

This afternoon the Virginia Senate derailed Senate bill 672, legislation which would have allowed Virginia Indian tribes to enter into compacts with the Governor on fuels and tobacco tax collection. The bill was on the Senate floor for consideration, but instead of advancing, it was sent back to the Senate Finance Committee for carry-over to 2011. The industry owes a special debt of thanks to Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel for her tireless efforts in convincing Senators that this bill was not good public policy for Virginia. Today's action is even more significant in that the bill passed committee last week and had been endorsed by Governor McDonnell. Last week a similar bill was withdrawn from House consideration. Action on the issue now moves back to Washington DC where we are still awaiting word from Senators Warner and Webb regarding an amendment to ban tax evasion by recognized tribes.