

**Virginia Assembly of Independent Baptists**

**Rev. Eddy Aliff, Executive Director**  
**6050 Pond Grass Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111**  
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36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
September 20-21, 2012

Executive Director  
Rev. Eddy Aliff

Executive Director Emeritus  
Dr. Jack Knapp

Steering Committee

Moderator  
Pastor Frank Hall  
Stuarts Draft

Vice Moderator  
Pastor Lloyd Donica  
Hampton

Secretary/Treasurer  
Pastor Steve Huffman  
Mineral

Pastor James Baker  
Virginia Beach

Pastor Chad Branch  
Sutherlin

Pastor Lee Brown  
Culpeper

Pastor Cameron Cloud  
Dillwyn

Pastor Ryan Flanders  
Locust Grove

Pastor Ray Haskett  
Colonial Heights

January 27, 2012

Dear Pastor,

Debate continues on some hot-button issues: Sunday hunting, requiring an ultrasound prior to an abortion, and the elimination of the papillomavirus vaccine requirement. Some good bills which normally die in the Senate have passed this hurdle and will hopefully pass in the House, *something which has not happened in nearly twenty years.*

Other bills of importance are:

**HB 189-** Gilbert; providing a “conscience clause” protecting faith-based adoption agencies in the adoption process. This bill passed sub-committee. (Similar legislation: **SB 349-** McWaters; this bill was to be heard on Friday, Jan. 27, but was delayed until next Friday. This will be a difficult committee even with the supposed majority of conservatives on this committee.)

**HB 1208-** Pogge; simplifying the curriculum description for home schooled children when reporting to the local school board.

**SB 172-** Petersen; permitting poker as a legal form of gambling.

**HJ 3-** This is a state Constitutional amendment to protect citizens as to the taking of private property by the state. If this passes, it will be on the ballot in November since Constitutional amendments must be approved by the people. It would seem to be a good change to protect individual property rights. Part of the summary states:

The proposed amendment provides that private property can be taken or damaged only for a public use, only with just compensation to the owner, and only so much taken as is necessary for the public use. Just compensation must equal or exceed the value of the property taken, lost profits and lost access, and damages to the residue caused by the taking. A public service company, public service corporation, or railroad exercises the power of eminent domain for public use when such exercise is for the authorized provision of utility, common carrier, or railroad services.

**HB1115-** Englin; seeks to change who can perform marriages. Truly this bill does much more. *I will be speaking against this bill on Monday morning.*

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Pastor Les Ketron  
Abingdon

Pastor John Kinsey  
Emporia

Pastor Dave Martin  
Winchester

Pastor Joseph Peters  
Stewartsville

Pastor Rick Phillips  
Midlothian

Pastor Tim Wilcox  
Fredericksburg

Future Annual  
Meetings:  
September 20-21,  
2012  
September 19-20,  
2013  
September 18-19,  
2014

The web site now has a page listing some of the legislation we are following. Go to <http://www.vaib.org/page15294910.aspx>. This is on our web site under the Current Events tab, and click on Legislation. This page will be updated as each bill's status is finally determined or new bills need to be added.

On February 7 there will be a rally from 11:00am to noon for "School Choice Educational Scholarship" bills. Gov. Bob McDonnell will be the keynote speaker. You may want to come earlier to speak to your senator and delegate. Some groups involved are providing bus service from different parts of the state. If you would like to avail yourself of this service, please call the Family Foundation at 804-343-0010.

Anytime you plan to be in Richmond and want to visit with me, please feel free to do so. Just call the office in advance of your visit so I can make plans to meet you. I have already had someone spend the day with me and another coming this week. I understand one of our pastors will be praying to open the House session on Monday. Let me know if that is the case for you so that I can see you while you are here.

Thank you for the notes and calls indicating:

- You are praying for me as I work at the legislature.
- You are praying for my wife as she works in the office.
- You are contacting your elected officials to express your opinions.

In His Service,

*Eddy*

Rev. Eddy Aliff  
Executive Director