

## **SUPPORT SB 25/SB 266 + HB 111**

Short Title: Public Service Corporation Campaign Contribution Ban

Patrons: Sen. Chap Petersen/Sen. John Bell + Del. Joshua Cole

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### **Reasons to support SB 25/SB 266 +HB 111**

1. Utility public service corporations are natural monopolies that the General Assembly often directly regulates. Without market competition, Virginians cannot simply “walk away” if they disagree with their utility’s political practices.
2. That means that captured ratepayers and customers are forced to subsidize political activity they may disagree with or that may not be in their best interests.
3. Dominion Energy is the largest corporate contributor to members of the General Assembly, and those donations have given the appearance of a conflict of interest in recent legislative pushes.
4. Such a ban is completely Constitutional. 28 states ban utility campaign contributions either explicitly or through an outright corporation contribution ban.

### **Overview**

SB 25/SB 266 + HB 111 bans candidates, campaign committees, political party committees, political action committees (PACs), and other political committees from accepting campaign contributions from utility public service corporations such as electric, gas, pipeline, water, and sewer companies. It also prevents candidates and political committees from accepting donations from any PAC established by these utility public service corporations or their affiliates.

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