



BETTER COMMUNITIES THROUGH SOUND GOVERNMENT

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November 13, 2023

HB1880 Workgroup  
Virginia Freedom of Information Act Council  
Via email only: foiaouncil@dls.virginia.gov

**Re: 2023 General Assembly HB1880 (Bennett-Parker)**

Members of the Workgroup:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation that was proposed in the 2023 General Assembly session. The Virginia Municipal League cannot attend the meeting on November 22nd but wanted to note concerns with this proposed legislation.

As noted in the fiscal impact statement several localities are concerned that this proposal could have an effect on confidential settlement agreements which could also add cost to settlements. This fiscal impact could include insurance rate increases which would result in local taxes having to be raised. It should also be noted that localities don't typically enter into settlement agreements their insurance providers do.

I am happy to discuss further and can be reached at [mgowdy@vml.org](mailto:mgowdy@vml.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MG", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michelle Gowdy  
Executive Director  
Virginia Municipal League

cc: The Honorable Delegate Elizabeth Bennett-Parker  
Gernhardt, Alan Executive Director FOIA Council  
Hensel, Marcus VRSA  
Rhyne, Megan Coalition for Open Government

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