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Date: Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 1:56 PM
Subject: VCOG comments, 1
To: FOIA Council <foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov>

As to the redline, we would oppose the elimination of the number of times a person can call into a meeting for a “personal matter.”

Without any definition of “personal matter,” this sets up a situation where a member could call into every single meeting. There is no reason the statute should accommodate someone who cannot or is not willing to engage with fellow public body members and/or the public. It is cavalier to say that the voters will correct any abuses of this section because it ignores the fact that the law applies to ALL public bodies, including those with appointed members who are not subject to the will of the people.

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