



Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council

Records Subcommittee

June 16, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

House Room B, Room 205, General Assembly Building

foiacouncil.dls.virginia.gov

The Records Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) of the 1B Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council (the Council) met in Richmond with Lola Perkins, chair, presiding.¹ The meeting began with introductions and opening remarks followed by discussion. Materials presented at the meeting, as well as all written public comments, are accessible through the [Council's 2025 Subcommittees webpage](#).²

Presentation, Public Comment, and Discussion: HB 1590 (Kent, 2025)

Delegate Hillary P. Kent presented a brief overview of HB 1590, summarizing its intent to exclude from the mandatory disclosure requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) any personal information in a public record regarding the participation of a minor in a program run by a state public body, such as an internship, externship, or apprenticeship, except as otherwise prescribed by law. After hearing from Delegate Kent, Ms. Perkins inquired if it would be possible to narrow the focus to state agencies.

Megan Rhyne, Director of the Virginia Coalition of Open Government, inquired if the Subcommittee could clarify what is meant by personal information. Delegate Kent explained that the goal is to protect information such as names, addresses, birthdates, and driver's license numbers.

The Subcommittee directed staff to draft a revised version of the bill based on the structure of subdivision 21 of § 2.2-3705.7 of the Code of Virginia, which creates an exemption for certain parks and recreation records concerning minors, and the definition of "personal contact information" in subdivision 10 of § 2.2-3705.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Presentation, Public Comment, and Discussion: Other Issues

Council staff

Council staff provided an overview of a study request the subcommittee received from the Council directing committee members to study the definition of "personal information" and the possibility of drafting a general definition to be included in the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Subcommittee members agreed that the definition of personal information used in the Government Data Collection and Dissemination Practices Act (see § 2.2-3801 of the Code of Virginia), which is cross-referenced in some but not all FOIA exemptions that use the phrase "personal information," is too broad and discussed whether the definition needs to be examined on a case-by-case basis. The Subcommittee agreed to ask the Council for further direction.

¹ **Members Present:** Lola Perkins, Esq. (chair), Maria J.K. Everett, Dwayne Yancey

Members Absent: Corrine Loudon

² A recording of the meeting can be found on the [Virginia House of Delegates Committee archived page](#).

Additionally, Council staff summarized an issue that the Subcommittee had previously studied. The Council directed the Subcommittee to revisit the topic of vexatious requests and harassment by requesters. After a brief discussion, subcommittee members did not reach a conclusion, but agreed to give the issue further consideration and directed staff to update the multistate research conducted during the prior study in 2010.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Subcommittee is scheduled for July 7, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., or 15 minutes after adjournment of the Council.

For more information, see the [*Council's website*](#) or contact the Division of Legislative Services staff:

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