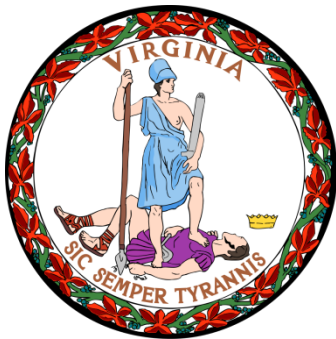


**2020 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF**

**THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL STRESS**



**TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



**Commonwealth of Virginia**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
RICHMOND

December 28, 2020

TO: Members of the General Assembly

Pursuant to budget language (Chapter 836, 2017 Acts of Assembly, Item 1, U.) the Joint Subcommittee on Local Government Fiscal Stress is required to submit on or before the first day of the General Assembly session an executive summary of its findings and recommendations. This Executive Summary includes the activities performed by the Joint Subcommittee, as well as recommended areas for further analysis and consideration by the Joint Subcommittee.

Thank you for accepting this submission of the Executive Summary of the Joint Subcommittee on Local Government Fiscal Stress. Documents related to the Joint Subcommittee are available on the Senate Finance Committee's web page (located here): <http://sfc.virginia.gov/subcommittees.shtml>

In addition, requests for further information regarding the Joint Subcommittee can be made to staff members of the Senate Finance Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and the Division of Legislative Services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.".

Emmett W. Hanger, Jr., Chair

---

**2020**

**JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT FISCAL STRESS**

---

**SENATE OF VIRGINIA**

**THE HONORABLE EMMETT W. HANGER, JR., CHAIR**

**THE HONORABLE JANET D. HOWELL**

**THE HONORABLE L. LOUISE LUCAS**

**THE HONORABLE THOMAS K. NORMENT, JR.**

**THE HONORABLE RICHARD L. SASLAW**

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**THE HONORABLE LASCHRECSE D. AIRD**

**THE HONORABLE BETSY B. CARR**

**THE HONORABLE STEPHEN E. HERETICK**

**THE HONORABLE DELORES L. MCQUINN**

**THE HONORABLE ROSLYN C. TYLER**

**THE HONORABLE R. LEE WARE**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

---

### **THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL STRESS - BACKGROUND**

---

#### **ENABLING AUTHORITY**

(CHAPTER 836, 2017 ACTS OF ASSEMBLY)

Established in budget language contained in Chapter 836 of the 2017 Acts of Assembly, the goals and objectives of the Joint Subcommittee on Local Government Fiscal Stress are to review the following:

- i. Savings opportunities from increased regional cooperation and consolidation of services;
- ii. Local responsibilities for service delivery of state-mandated or other high priority items, including by jointly operating or merging small school divisions;
- iii. Causes of fiscal distress among local governments;
- iv. Potential financial incentives and other governmental reforms to encourage increased regional cooperation; and
- v. The different taxing authorities of cities and counties

The Joint Subcommittee on Local Government Fiscal Stress is comprised of 11 members of the General Assembly. Five members of the Senate Finance Committee are appointed by the Co-Chairs of the Senate Finance Committee, and four members of the House Appropriations Committee, and two members of the House Finance Committee are appointed by the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Both a Chairman and Vice-Chairman are elected among the membership of the Joint Subcommittee.

#### **MEETINGS OF THE JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE**

No meetings of the Joint Subcommittee on Local Government Fiscal Stress took place during 2020.