

# Visiting the General Assembly at the Pocahontas Building

## COVID Precautions, Access & Security, Special Needs Accommodations

### COVID PRECAUTIONS

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Virginia Health Department guidelines will be followed regarding masks and social distancing. Fully vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks in most indoor settings. A member, staff person or other person may wear a mask, if that is their preference.

Temperature check stations have been removed from entrances but are available in other parts of the building for those who would like to check their own temperature.

### ACCESS AND SECURITY

In accordance with local, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations, [interim rules regarding the Pocahontas Building](#) and a [Virginia General Assembly Accessibility Policy](#) have been established jointly by the Clerk of the House and the Clerk of the Senate at the direction of the General Assembly's Committee on Joint Rules.

Individuals and groups visiting the Pocahontas Building may enter the building through the doors marked public entrance on the south side of the building. Visitors with special needs may use the wheelchair accessible entrance.

To ensure the safety of employees and visitors, all non credentialed visitors are required to pass through a security screening and have their personal items screened by an x-ray machine prior to entry to the building. Please note that all packages and bags are subject to physical search.

### ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

#### Access to the Pocahontas Building

Individuals, groups, and visitors with special needs may enter the Pocahontas Building through the Main Street entrance. Please ring the bell located at that door and the Capitol Police will provide entry.

#### Elevators

All elevators in the Pocahontas Building are wheelchair accessible.

#### Hearing Impairments

Individuals desiring the use of an interpreter during committee meetings should contact Senate Committee Operations at (804) 698-7450 or [Committeeoperation@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:Committeeoperation@senate.virginia.gov) and House Committee Operations at (804) 698-1540 or [CommitteeOps@house.virginia.gov](mailto:CommitteeOps@house.virginia.gov) for assistance. Individuals requiring the services of an interpreter should make this request known as far in advance as possible since legislative proceedings will not be delayed to provide this accommodation. Larger committee rooms are equipped with a personal listening system. Individuals may check out a receiver for use during meetings. The TDD number for the Senate is toll free 1(866) 267-1474 and the House is (804) 786-2369. Additional information is available in the [Virginia General Assembly Policy: Accessibility for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#).

