



## **Governor's Aerospace Advisory Council Concept Paper**

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The Aerospace Advisory Council (§ 2.2-2699.1), commonly referred to as the Governor's Aerospace Advisory Council, or GAAC, was created to serve as a policy recommending body with the purpose of advising the Executive and Legislative branches of Virginia government on aerospace economic development, workforce training, educational programs, and educational curriculum.

Through the past decade, the GAAC has not proposed to the Governor nor to the Virginia General Assembly policy recommendations or positions. Numerous legislators have individually proposed legislation because of presentations to the GAAC. Since a change in House Leadership, the GAAC has met less often. While Virginia Code specifically outlines the responsibilities of the GAAC, industry has hoped that the GAAC can evolve to a strong representative body for the entire aviation and aerospace industry, civilian and military in the Commonwealth.

Statutory structure designates a legislative member to be the GAAC chair. This has resulted in infrequent meetings, usually called in conjunction with other legislative meetings. The lack of regularly scheduled meetings makes it difficult for many in industry to meet and does not allow the GAAC to take appropriate action on public policy recommendations to be initiated at either administrative or legislative levels of government.

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

Provide statutory and administrative amendments that provide guidance for assisting industry and developing policy that will strengthen aviation and aerospace growth in Virginia to include:

1. The GAAC will meet quarterly.
2. The GAAC would report in October of each year to the Governor and appropriate Chairs and Committees of the House and Senate its recommendations.
3. Reports will outline policy recommendations for action by the Governor and the legislature categorized into a) requiring legislative action, and b) requiring administrative action.
4. Amend the Code to require, when invited by the Chair, the participation and reporting by agencies of Virginia government regarding agency involvement in industry growth issues in Virginia.

**INITIAL COST** – (Cost are estimated within existing amount budgeted by the Department of Aviation

**PROJECT TIMELINE** – July 1, 2025