

SB141 • Virginia

Political campaign advertisements; synthetic media, penalty.

In Committee

Risk: Medium

Narrow/Targeted

Last Action (Mar 14, 2026): Failed to Pass from conference

Summary

SB141 prohibits electioneering communications with synthetic media without a specific statement, imposing penalties for violations.

Business Impact

If you produce political advertisements using synthetic media in Virginia, you must include a disclosure statement or face penalties up to \$25,000.

Key Provisions

- Prohibition on electioneering communications with synthetic media without a specific statement
- Civil penalty up to \$25,000 for violations
- Class 1 misdemeanor for willful violations
- Registered voters may seek injunctive relief

Compliance Checklist

- Include a disclosure statement on synthetic media advertisements | Who: Political campaign operators and advertisers | Penalty: Up to \$25,000 for non-compliance
- Ensure all electioneering communications comply with the new regulations | Who: Political campaign operators | Penalty: Class 1 misdemeanor for willful violations

Industries Affected

General

Legal Services

Political Campaigns

Political Advertising

Media Broadcasting

Media

Topics

AI Deepfakes

AI in Political Advertising

Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
J. Chapman Petersen		Primary
Richard H. Stuart	Republican	Primary
John S. Edwards		Primary
David R. Suetterlein	Republican	Cosponsor
Frank M. Ruff-resigned 1/10		Primary
Tammy Brankley Mulchi	Republican	Cosponsor
Saddam Azlan Salim	Democratic	Primary
Scott A. Surovell	Democratic	Cosponsor
Russet Perry	Democratic	Cosponsor
Kannan Srinivasan	Democratic	Cosponsor

Roll Call Votes

Date	Description	Yea	Nay	Result
2026-03-12	H VOTE:	62	34	Passed
2026-03-12	Accede Conference Committee R	40	0	Passed
2026-03-12	Concur House Substitute R	0	40	Failed
2026-03-09	Reported from Communications, Technology and Innov	15	6	Passed
2026-02-16	Passage R	34	4	Passed
2026-02-12	Constitutional reading dispensed R	40	0	Passed
2026-02-10	Reported from Privileges and Elections with substi	9	6	Passed

Related Bills

- SB775 (VA)
- HB2479 (VA)
- HB982 (VA)
- HB868 (VA)

Official Source

<https://lis.virginia.gov/bill-details/20261/SB141>

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