



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
RICHMOND

**DON SCOTT**  
**SPEAKER**

**SPEAKER'S ROOM**  
**STATE CAPITOL**

POST OFFICE BOX 406  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218  
EIGHTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**  
**RULES (CHAIR)**

April 22, 2026

The Honorable G. Paul Nardo  
Clerk of the House of Delegates  
State Capitol  
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Clerk Nardo:

In January 2024, I appointed a Select Committee on Advancing Rural and Small Town Health Care to study and develop recommendations to strengthen access to care in rural communities across the Commonwealth. That work has proven to be both timely and essential.

Since the Committee began its work, the health care delivery system serving rural and underserved communities has entered a period of unprecedented disruption. As a result of H.R. 1, health systems across the Commonwealth have already begun closing labor and delivery units and ancillary outpatient clinics. Those same systems are now projecting hospital closures once the most significant effects of H.R. 1 take hold next year. Rural hospitals and clinics, most of which are already operating on thin or negative margins, are particularly vulnerable to these multi-million-dollar funding reductions.

These developments make clear that the work of the Select Committee remains unfinished and that continued legislative analysis and bipartisan engagement are necessary to protect access to essential health services in rural and small-town Virginia.

Thus, I am extending the work of the Select Committee on Advancing Rural and Small Town Health Care for an additional two years and appointing the following members: Rodney Willett (Chair), Nadarius Clark, Josh Cole, Amy Laufer, Rozia Henson, Garrett McGuire, Lily Franklin, Israel O'Quinn (Vice-Chair), Ellen McLaughlin, Chris Runion, Otto Wachsmann, and Wendell Walker.

The Select Committee shall continue to evaluate the evolving impacts of federal health care policy changes, hospital and clinic closures, workforce shortages, and patient displacement, and shall develop recommendations for consideration by the 2028 General Assembly Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Scott".

Don Scott