Other Savings of Note

- **HB 2089 (2015)**
  Restricting exposure to costly litigation up to $75,000 per lawsuit

- **HB 2360 (2015), SB 111 (2016)**
  Defeating an increased punitive damages cap up to $75,000 per case

  Stalling withheld interest on local tax refunds

- **HB 2313 (2013)**
  Regional transportation funding legislation that finally started the critical construction of major highway projects from Virginia Beach to Williamsburg. These new roads and bridge projects save businesses thousands of dollars in annual commuting costs and make moving goods and services in and out of the region easier.

*Data provided by the Virginia Chamber*
A fundamental component of the Hampton Roads Chamber’s mission is to advocate the views of the business community to our elected officials in the Virginia General Assembly. The Chamber takes an active role in developing and promoting policy positions on critical issues impacting businesses large and small. As the leading business organization in the region, our business driven advocacy work over the past 3 years saved employers an estimated $2.5 Billion

These savings average $2,700 per employee

**Minimum wage increases** // DEFEATED // $1.92 BILLION SAVED

**Position:** The Hampton Roads Chamber remains firm in the belief that raising the minimum wage rate above the federal level would place Virginia’s businesses at a greater disadvantage. The Chamber opposes efforts that would establish as minimum wage in Virginia or any of its localities that is higher than the federally-mandated minimum wage.

**Employer mandates** // DEFEATED // $598 MILLION SAVED

**Position:** The Hampton Roads Chamber recognizes the effects of business costs and tax burdens on businesses as well as the region’s challenges in job creation. To encourage economic growth and investment, the Chamber supports fiscal policies and business cost reforms designed to increase competitiveness and job creation.

**Increases to employer’s unemployment insurance**
DEFEATED // $5.6 MILLION SAVED
HB 1382 (2015), HB 411 (2016)

**Position:** Unemployment insurance programs are developed to assist persons temporarily unemployed through no fault of their own. The Chamber supports legislation to limit the circumstances in which an employer can be held liable vicariously for an employee’s intentional or criminal acts.

**Increased economic and investment incentives**
APPROVED // $5 MILLION SAVED

**Position:** The Hampton Roads Chamber is a leading advocate for diversifying the regional economy and takes an active role in advocating for fair business taxes and incentives to encourage business expansion. The Chamber supports policies that strengthen Virginia’s business climate and economic competitiveness.

**Increased taxes**
DEFEATED // $1.2 MILLION SAVED
HB 1762/SB 1210 (2015)

**Position:** The Hampton Roads Chamber believes that fair and reasonable taxation is necessary to ensure that a level playing field is maintained for our local businesses throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Chamber supports policies that balance the need to provide for essential services and the need to minimize the relative tax burden on businesses.

**Workforce training programs**
APPROVED // $2.5 MILLION SAVED
HB 66/SB 576 (2016)

**Position:** Given the accelerating integration of advanced technologies in products and services and the rapid growth of skill requirements in today’s workplace, the Hampton Roads Chamber supports innovative policies focused on developing career-ready citizens and enhancing Virginia’s skilled workforce.

**TOTAL SAVINGS**
$2.532 BILLION