



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

 News Releases  Podcasts



- Senator John Watkins speaks on the importance of the upcoming public hearings

**For immediate release:**

June 3, 2008

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## Community invited to speak on immigration issues

*Virginia Commission on Immigration to hold public hearing in Roanoke*

Roanoke, Va. – Area residents are invited to present comments to the Virginia Commission on Immigration at its next public hearing, scheduled for Tuesday, June 17 from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers in Roanoke. The Commission is seeking public input on how immigration issues are affecting Virginia.

The public is encouraged to comment on immigration issues specifically related to the Roanoke Valley and Western Virginia, as the Commission will conduct additional hearings in other parts of the Commonwealth. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per person. Sign up for public comment will be onsite at 5:00 p.m. Written comments can also be submitted in advance for Commission review prior to the meeting via email at [immigration.commission@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:immigration.commission@governor.virginia.gov), or by mail to:

Virginia Commission on Immigration  
c/o Matt Gross  
7 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219

The Roanoke public hearing is the only one scheduled for the area. Other hearings will be held in Norfolk, Harrisonburg and Richmond.

The Virginia Commission on Immigration is charged with studying, reporting and making recommendations to address the costs and benefits of immigration on the Commonwealth related to education, health care, law enforcement, local demands for services, the economy and the effects of federal immigration and funding policies. The Commission is chaired by Senator John Watkins (R-Powhatan) and co-chaired by Delegate Jackson Miller (R-Manassas).

For more information, contact Matt Gross at (804) 726-7087, or [matt.gross@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:matt.gross@dss.virginia.gov) or visit <http://www.hhr.virginia.gov/Initiatives/ImmigrationCommission/>

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