



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION

October 28, 2024

Statement from Nancy Agee, Chairman, Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board and Todd Stottlemeyer, President, Virginia Growth and Opportunity Foundation on the Passing of Senator Frank Ruff

“Virginia, and particularly rural Virginia, has lost a dedicated servant and passionate advocate for economic development with the passing of Senator Frank Ruff. In addition to his many legislative and budget accomplishments in the Commonwealth, Senator Ruff was an early supporter of the GO Virginia initiative, both serving as a patron of components of the legislation that launched the regional economic development initiative and serving on the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board since its inception in 2016 until his retirement from the Virginia Senate in 2023. It was Senator Ruff’s leadership that prompted the creation of the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Foundation to maintain awareness and support of GO Virginia and its accomplishments to ensure continued support of the business-led initiative to enhance the state’s economic competitiveness. While on the Board, Senator Ruff championed efforts to expand broadband access, develop sites for new and expanding businesses, and to enhance talent pathways programs like GO-TEC to help train the next generation workforce. His support and counsel will certainly be missed.”