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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1006** 

Offered January 9, 2002 Prefiled January 9, 2002

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-223.2:5, relating to power of the Governor to waive certain state statutory mandates and regulations to expedite highway construction required to meet an emergency.

## Patron—McDonnell

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-223.2:5 as follows:

§ 33.1-223.2:5. Governor to waive certain state statutory mandates and regulations to expedite certain highway construction projects.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Code of Virginia, whenever the Governor finds in his emergency preparedness planning that certain transportation improvements are necessary to avert or respond to a natural disaster, prevent or respond to an act of terrorism, or contribute to military operations during a time of war or state of emergency as defined in § 44-146.16, the Governor may, to the maximum extent not inconsistent with federal law, waive statutory mandates and regulations of any state agency, institution, instrumentality, or political subdivision concerning the issuance of permits or related approvals in order to expedite the construction, reconstruction, alteration, or relocation of such highways, bridges, tunnels, and associated facilities or structures as he deems necessary.