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**HOUSE BILL NO. 485** 

Offered January 14, 2004 Prefiled January 13, 2004

A BILL to amend and reenact § 33.1-23.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to allocation of funds for secondary system highway construction.

Patron—Cole

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 33.1-23.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 33.1-23.4. Allocation of construction funds within secondary system.

Such funds as are allocated to the secondary system of state highways pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection B of § 33.1-23.1 shall be apportioned among the several counties in the secondary system by the Commonwealth Transportation Board so that each such county shall be allocated a share of such funds equal to the proportion that such county bears to the Commonwealth as a whole in terms of area and population with population being weighted 80 percent, and area being weighted 20 percent. For the purpose of this section, "area" means the total land area of a county reduced by the area of any military reservations and state or national parks or forests within its boundaries and such other similar areas and facilities of five square miles in area or more, as may be determined by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

For the purposes of this section, the term "population" shall mean either population according to the latest United States census or the latest population estimate of the Center for Public Service of the University of Virginia, whichever is more recent.

If so requested in a resolution adopted by the local governing body, funds allocated to any county under this section may be used to support primary highway system construction projects within the county.

Before allocating funds under the foregoing provisions of this section, the Board may provide for exceptionally heavy expenditures for repairs or replacements made necessary by highway damage resulting from accidents, severe weather conditions, acts of God or vandalism.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, no more than one-half of the allocation for secondary system highway construction in any one year shall be used to reimburse any county for debt service for bonds or eligible project costs incurred on approved projects included in the Commonwealth Transportation Board's Six-Year Improvement Program and the locality's capital improvement program.