**SB277S** 

SENATE BILL NO. 277

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Transportation on February 12, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Wampler)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-223.2:9, relating to maintenance of property acquired by Virginia Department of Transportation for construction of transportation projects.

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 33.1-223.2:9 as follows:

§ 33.1-223.2:9. Department to maintain property acquired for construction of transportation projects. Subject to requirements of federal law or regulations and prior to the initiation of project construction, the Department shall mow the grass and remove weeds and debris on property acquired for the construction of a transportation project by the Department. Such activities shall be performed in accordance with the same schedules used for these activities on other right-of-way maintained by the Department in the same locality. At the written request of the governing body or a locality, the Department shall provide additional services on the property acquired for the construction of a transportation project including removal of abandoned vehicles. Such additional services shall be funded from the construction allocations to the project.