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**HOUSE BILL NO. 724** 

Offered January 11, 2006 Prefiled January 10, 2006

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 33.1-23.1:01, relating to the State-Local Intersection Partnership Program.

Patron—McQuigg

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 33.1-23.1:01 as follows:

§ 33.1-23.1:01. State-Local Intersection Partnership Program; allocations and grants.

After making the allocations provided for in subsection A of § 33.1-23.1, but before funds are allocated for distribution for highway construction pursuant to subsections B 1, B 2, and B 3 of § 33.1-23.1, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall annually allocate \$100 million to the State-Local Intersection Partnership Program to be used exclusively for the purpose of undertaking highway improvement, construction, reconstruction, expansion, reconfiguration, and alteration projects to address issues associated with intersection congestion and safety by providing funding to counties, cities, and towns, subject to a local contribution of at least 25% of project cost, for the construction of turn lanes, extension of existing turn lanes, and construction of roundabouts and pedestrian safety facilities, including but not necessarily limited to pedestrian overpasses and underpasses.

Funding of projects from the Program shall be on a competitive basis, administered by the Department, with projects selected by the Board, based on the level of congestion, the impact of the project on that congestion, and the project's potential contribution to improvement of air quality. Funding shall be limited to projects involving intersections with level of service D or worse. No project shall receive more than \$2 million from the Fund in a single calendar year. All phases of projects approved for funding from the Fund, including right-of-way acquisition, shall be administered by the local governments within whose boundaries the projects are located. Local government may use their own general funds, cash proffers, or other nonfederal sources as matching funds for projects funded under this section.