HOUSE BILL NO. 1648

Offered January 14, 2009 Prefiled December 12, 2008 A BILL to amend and reenact § 33.1-63 of the Code of Virginia, relating to consideration of impacts that projects of certain governmental entities might have upon roads designated Virginia byways.

Patrons—Ware, R.L. and Vanderhye

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Referred to Committee on Transportation Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 33.1-63 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 33.1-63. "Virginia byway" defined; preference in selecting.

For the purposes of this article, a "Virginia byway" is defined as a road, designated as such by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, having relatively high aesthetic or cultural value, leading to or within areas of historical, natural or recreational significance. In selecting a Virginia byway, the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation shall give preference to corridors controlled by zoning or otherwise, so as to reasonably protect the aesthetic or cultural value of the highway.

Whenever any road is designated a Virginia byway either (i) by the Commonwealth Transportation Board as provided for in this section or (ii) by an act of the General Assembly, every agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of the Commonwealth shall give due consideration to what impact or effect any of its plans or projects might have upon the scenic qualities of any road so designated.