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SENATE BILL NO. 1475

Offered January 21, 2009

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-229 and 33.1-23.03 of the Code of Virginia, relating to responsibilities of the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment and the Statewide Transportation Plan.*

Patron—McEachin

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 2.2-229 and 33.1-23.03 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-229. Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment of the Secretary of Transportation.

A. There is hereby established the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment of the Secretary of Transportation, consisting of a director, appointed by the Secretary of Transportation, and such additional transportation professionals as the Secretary of Transportation shall determine. The goals of the Office are to provide solutions that link existing systems; *promote the coordination of transportation investments and land use planning*; reduce congestion; improve safety, mobility, and accessibility; and provide for greater travel options. It shall be the duty of the director of the office to advise the Secretary, *the Virginia Aviation Board, the Virginia Port Authority Board, and the Commonwealth Transportation Board on intermodal issues, generally.*

The ~~purpose responsibilities~~ of the Office shall be:

1. To ~~coordinate and oversee major multimodal corridor studies as directed by the Secretary~~ *identify transportation solutions to promote economic development and all transportation modes, intermodal connectivity, environmental quality, accessibility for people and freight, and transportation safety;*

2. To assist the Commonwealth Transportation Board in the Development of the Statewide Transportation Plan pursuant to § 33.1-23.03;

3. To ~~advocate multimodal planning solutions as part of~~ *coordinate and oversee studies of potential highway, transit, rail, and other improvements or strategies, such as access management, to help address mobility and accessibility within corridors of statewide significance and regional networks, and promote commuter choice inclusion in the six-year improvement program;*

4. To work with and coordinate action of the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Virginia Port Authority, and the Virginia Department of Aviation to promote intermodal and multimodal solutions in each agency's strategic and long-range plans;

5. To work with ~~and~~, review, *and incorporate* plans of regional transportation agencies and authorities to promote intermodal and multimodal solutions;

6. To ~~assess implementation of intermodal planning, including periodic comparisons between and among statewide and regional multimodal plans;~~

7. To work with and coordinate actions of the agencies of the transportation Secretariat to assess freight movements and promote intermodal and multimodal solutions to address freight needs, *including assessment of intermodal facilities;*

8. To assess and coordinate transportation safety needs related to passenger and freight movements by all transportation modes;

9. To coordinate the adequate accommodation of pedestrian, bicycle, and other forms of nonmotorized transportation in the six-year improvement program and other state and regional transportation plans;

9. To work with and coordinate actions of the agencies of the transportation Secretariat to implement a comprehensive, multimodal federal transportation policy;

10. To develop *quantifiable and achievable goals pursuant to § 33.1-23.03 and transportation and land use performance measures and prepare an annual performance report on state and regional efforts. The Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment shall work with applicable regional organizations to develop such goals;*

11. To ~~inventory and assess intermodal facilities of statewide importance, prioritize new facilities, and recommend facilities for consideration in the six-year improvement program; and~~

12. To identify and facilitate public and private partnerships to achieve the goals of state and regional plans;

12. To provide technical assistance to local governments and regional entities to establish and promote urban development areas pursuant to § 15.2-2223.1; and

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SB1475

59 13. To establish standards for the coordination of transportation investments and land use planning
60 to promote commuter choice and transportation system efficiency.

61 B. In conjunction with the update of the Statewide Transportation Plan, but not more than once
62 every five years, the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment shall collect and report data
63 regarding the modal share of peak hour trips for driving, transit, carpooling, telecommuting, walking,
64 and bicycling for the portions of any metropolitan planning organization study area within the
65 Commonwealth for (i) any metropolitan planning organization whose member jurisdictions have a
66 combined population of at least 750,000 as measured by the latest study by the Weldon Cooper Center
67 for Public Service of the University of Virginia, and (ii) any metropolitan planning organization
68 adjacent thereto. In addition, the Office shall collect and report data regarding the modal share for
69 freight movement within the Commonwealth.

70 § 33.1-23.03. Board to develop and update Statewide Transportation Plan.

71 A. The Commonwealth Transportation Board shall, with the assistance of the Office of Intermodal
72 Planning and Investment, conduct a comprehensive review of statewide transportation needs in a
73 Statewide Transportation Plan setting forth an inventory of all construction assessment of capacity needs
74 for all systems, and based upon this inventory, establishing goals, objectives, and priorities covering a
75 twenty-year planning horizon, in accordance with federal transportation planning requirements. This plan
76 shall embrace all modes of transportation and include technological initiatives corridors of statewide
77 significance, regional networks, and improvements to promote urban development areas established
78 pursuant to § 15.2-2223.1. The assessment shall consider all modes of transportation. This Statewide
79 Transportation Plan shall be updated as needed, but no less than once every five years. The plan shall
80 promote economic development and all transportation modes, intermodal connectivity, environmental
81 quality, accessibility for people and freight, and transportation safety.

82 B. The Statewide Transportation Plan shall establish goals, objectives, and priorities that cover at
83 least a 20-year planning horizon, in accordance with federal transportation planning requirements. The
84 plan shall include quantifiable measures and achievable goals relating to, but not limited to, congestion
85 reduction and safety, transit and high-occupancy vehicle facility use, job-to-housing ratios, job and
86 housing access to transit and pedestrian facilities, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, movement of
87 freight by rail, and per capita vehicle miles traveled. The Board shall consider such goals in evaluating
88 and selecting transportation improvement projects for inclusion in the Six-Year Improvement Program
89 pursuant to § 33.1-12.

90 C. The plan shall incorporate the approved long-range plans' measures and goals developed by the
91 Northern Virginia Transportation Authority and the Hampton Roads Transportation Authority applicable
92 regional organizations. Each such plan shall be summarized in a public document and made available to
93 the general public upon presentation to the Governor and General Assembly.

94 D. It is the intent of the General Assembly that this plan assess transportation needs and assign
95 priorities to projects on a statewide basis, avoiding the production of a plan which is an aggregation of
96 local, district, regional, or modal plans.

97 2. That the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment may require that appropriate regional
98 organizations develop as part of a long-range plan quantifiable measures and achievable goals for
99 the urban region relating to, but not limited to, congestion reduction and safety, transit and
100 high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) usage, job-to-housing ratios, job and housing access to transit and
101 pedestrian facilities, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, movement of freight by rail, and
102 per capita vehicle miles traveled.