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SENATE BILL NO. 234

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 6, 2016

A BILL to amend and reenact § 33.2-309 of the Code of Virginia, relating to tolls on Interstate 66.

Patrons—Petersen and Wexton

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 33.2-309 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 33.2-309. Tolls for use of Interstate System components.**

A. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this title and in accordance with all applicable federal and state statutes and requirements, the Board may impose and collect tolls from all classes of vehicles in amounts established by the Board for the use of any component of the Interstate System within the Commonwealth. However, prior approval of the General Assembly shall be required prior to the imposition and collection of any toll for use of all or any portion of Interstate 81. Prior approval of the General Assembly shall also be required prior to the imposition or collection of any toll for use of Interstate 95 south of Fredericksburg pursuant to the Interstate System Reconstruction or Rehabilitation Pilot Program. ~~Such funds so collected shall be deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund established pursuant to § 33.2-1524, subject to allocation by the Board as provided in this section~~ *No toll shall be imposed or collected for the use of any existing component of Interstate 66 east of mile marker 67. Toll revenue from additional capacity constructed after January 1, 2017, shall be used only for the construction and maintenance of such additional capacity.*

B. The toll facilities authorized by this section shall be subject to the provisions of federal law for the purpose of tolling motor vehicles to finance interstate construction and reconstruction, promote efficiency in the use of highways, reduce traffic congestion, and improve air quality and for such other purposes as may be permitted by federal law.

C. In order to mitigate traffic congestion in the vicinity of the toll facilities, no toll facility shall be operated without high-speed automated toll collection technology designed to allow motorists to travel through the toll facilities without stopping to make payments. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit a toll facility from retaining means of nonautomated toll collection in some lanes of the facility. The Board shall also consider traffic congestion and mitigation thereof and the impact on local traffic movement as factors in determining the location of the toll facilities authorized pursuant to this section.

D. The revenues collected from each toll facility established pursuant to this section shall be deposited into segregated subaccounts in the Transportation Trust Fund and may be allocated by the Board as the Board deems appropriate to:

1. Pay or finance all or part of the costs of programs or projects, including the costs of planning, operation, maintenance, and improvements incurred in connection with the toll facility, provided that such allocations shall be limited to programs and projects that are reasonably related to or benefit the users of the toll facility. The priorities of metropolitan planning organizations, planning district commissions, local governments, and transportation corridors shall be considered by the Board in making project allocations from such revenues deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund.

2. Repay funds from the Toll Facilities Revolving Account or the Transportation Partnership Opportunity Fund.

3. Pay the Board's reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the administration and management of the toll facility.

INTRODUCED

SB234