

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

18102396D

SENATE BILL NO. 283

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 5, 2018

A *BILL to create a process for identifying and relocating fiber optics and other communications infrastructure during road construction projects; Department of Transportation.*

Patron—Black

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That the Department of Transportation shall convene a work group of stakeholders to examine the current statutory and regulatory processes for identifying the location of, and the owners or leaseholders of, fiber optic cable and conduit, as well as other similar communications infrastructure and utilities, that are located under or across from public property or in close proximity to or in an existing or newly acquired public easement or right-of-way, in order to determine whether the current process for relocating such infrastructure as necessary for the construction of a public roadway and associated appurtenances, whether such project is locally or state administered, is appropriately efficient, timely, and cost effective, in order to avoid unnecessary and costly delays in construction. Stakeholders shall include, but are not limited to, representatives from local government, cable and telecommunications industries, the road construction industry, underground utility locating contractors, and the State Corporation Commission. The Department shall assess whether the current permitting and utility registration and relocation procedures and requirements are adequate and reasonable and shall submit its findings and any recommendations for improving such process to the General Assembly by November 30, 2018.*

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