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HOUSE BILL NO. 2611

Offered January 9, 2019

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 10.1-1184.1, relating to Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative; prohibition on participation by Commonwealth.

Patrons—Poindexter, Head, LaRock, Marshall and Wright

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 10.1-1184.1 as follows: § 10.1-1184.1. Participation in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative prohibited.

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, neither the Governor nor any state agency, including the State Air Pollution Control Board, the Department, or any commission or political subdivision of the Commonwealth, shall adopt any regulation, rule, or guidance document that establishes a carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program or brings about the participation by the Commonwealth in a regional market for the trading of carbon dioxide allowances, whether such market is established through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a successor organization, or another carbon program.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, the Commonwealth shall be allowed to participate in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative or other carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program if the House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia each adopt by a two-thirds vote a resolution that specifically

references and approves the regulatory text that is proposed for adoption by a state agency.