

2022 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

22106857D

HOUSE BILL NO. 847

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources
on March 1, 2022)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Bloxom)

A BILL to develop strategies to coordinate resiliency efforts in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *The Chief Resilience Officer, in conjunction with the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, shall convene a work group to consider and assess strategies and policies for the Commonwealth to improve intergovernmental and interagency coordination and to maximize the procurement of federal and private funding opportunities in planning for and implementing flood resilience throughout the Commonwealth. The work group shall focus on improving the flood resilience of both human and natural systems and infrastructures. Recognizing Virginia's long-standing statutory and financial obligations to Chesapeake Bay restoration, recommendations shall prioritize strategies to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's water quality objectives, as well as natural systems. The Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency shall facilitate the work of the work group. The work group shall include the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources and the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, or their designees. The work group shall also include representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation; the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development; the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; the Virginia Department of Emergency Management; the Virginia Marine Resources Commission; the Soil and Water Conservation Board; the Chesapeake Bay Commission; the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; planning district commissions, including representatives from at least two inland communities; local governments; Tribal Nations; nonprofit environmental groups; the agriculture industry; the engineering and architecture industry; public and private institutions of higher education; and any other stakeholder groups deemed necessary. The United States Department of Defense shall be requested to designate a representative for the work group.*

§ 2. *The Chief Resilience Officer, in coordination with the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, shall report the results of the examination conducted by the work group to the Governor, the Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Virginia Delegation of the Chesapeake Bay Commission no later than November 1, 2023.*

2. *That the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating the provisions of this act is included in a general appropriation act passed in 2022 by the General Assembly that becomes law.*

3. *That the provisions of this act shall expire on January 1, 2024.*

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