# 1998 SESSION

### **ENROLLED**

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## VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact §§ 62.1-198, 62.1-203, 62.1-204, 62.1-206 through 62.1-210, 62.1-213 through 62.1-216, and 62.1-219 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia 3 4 by adding a section numbered 62.1-216.1, relating to powers of the Virginia Resource Authority.

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#### Approved

[S 487]

#### 7 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

8 1. That §§ 62.1-198, 62.1-199, 62.1-203, 62.1-204, 62.1-206 through 62.1-210, 62.1-213 through 9 62.1-216, and 62.1-219 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of 10 Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 62.1-216.1 as follows:

§ 62.1-198. Legislative findings and purposes.

12 The General Assembly finds that there exists in the Commonwealth a critical need for additional 13 sources of funding to finance the present and future needs of the Commonwealth for water supply, wastewater treatment facilities, drainage facilities, solid waste treatment, disposal and management 14 15 facilities, recycling facilities, resource recovery facilities and certain heavy rail transportation facilities. This need can be alleviated in part through the creation of a resources authority. Its purpose is to 16 encourage the investment of both public and private funds and to make loans and, grants, and credit 17 enhancements available to local governments to finance water and sewer projects, drainage projects, 18 19 solid waste treatment, disposal and management projects, recycling projects, and resource recovery 20 projects. The General Assembly determines that the creation of an authority for this purpose is in the 21 public interest, serves a public purpose and will promote the health, safety, welfare, convenience or 22 prosperity of the people of the Commonwealth. 23

§ 62.1-199. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

"Authority" means the Virginia Resources Authority created by this chapter.

"Board of Directors" means the Board of Directors of the Authority.

27 "Bonds" means any bonds, notes, debentures, interim certificates, bond, grant or revenue anticipation notes, lease and sale-leaseback transactions or any other evidences of indebtedness of the Authority. 28

29 "Capital Reserve Fund" means the reserve fund created and established by the Authority in 30 accordance with § 62.1-215.

"Cost," as applied to any project financed under the provisions of this chapter, means the total of all 31 32 costs incurred by the local government as reasonable and necessary for carrying out all works and 33 undertakings necessary or incident to the accomplishment of any project. It includes, without limitation, all necessary developmental, planning and feasibility studies, surveys, plans and specifications, architectural, engineering, financial, legal or other special services, the cost of acquisition of land and 34 35 36 any buildings and improvements thereon, including the discharge of any obligations of the sellers of 37 such land, buildings or improvements, site preparation and development, including demolition or 38 removal of existing structures, construction and reconstruction, labor, materials, machinery and 39 equipment, the reasonable costs of financing incurred by the local government in the course of the 40 development of the project, including the cost of any credit enhancements, carrying charges incurred 41 before placing the project in service, interest on local obligations issued to finance the project to a date 42 subsequent to the estimated date the project is to be placed in service, necessary expenses incurred in 43 connection with placing the project in service, the funding of accounts and reserves which the Authority may require and the cost of other items which the Authority determines to be reasonable and necessary. 44 45 It also includes the amount of any contribution, grant or aid which a local government may make or give to any adjoining state, the District of Columbia or any department, agency or instrumentality 46 47 thereof to pay the costs incident and necessary to the accomplishment of any project, including, without **48** limitation, the items set forth above.

49 "Credit enhancements" means surety bonds, insurance policies, letters of credit, guarantees and other 50 forms of collateral or security.

"Local government" means any county, city, town, municipal corporation, authority, district, 51 commission or political subdivision created by the General Assembly or pursuant to the Constitution and 52 53 laws of the Commonwealth or any combination of any two or more of the foregoing.

54 "Local obligations" means any bonds, notes, debentures, interim certificates, bond, grant or revenue 55 anticipation notes, leases or any other evidences of indebtedness of a local government.

56 "Minimum capital reserve fund requirement" means, as of any particular date of computation, the

amount of money designated as the minimum capital reserve fund requirement which may be established 57 58 in the resolution of the Authority authorizing the issuance of, or the trust indenture securing, any 59 outstanding issue of bonds or credit enhancement.

60 "Project" means any water supply or wastewater treatment facility including a facility for receiving 61 and stabilizing septage or a soil drainage management facility and any solid waste treatment, disposal, or management facility, recycling facility, or resource recovery facility located or to be located in the 62 Commonwealth, the District of Columbia or any adjoining state, all or part of which facility serves or is 63 64 to serve any local government. The term includes, without limitation, water supply and intake facilities; water treatment and filtration facilities; water storage facilities; water distribution facilities; sewage and 65 66 wastewater (including surface and ground water) collection, treatment and disposal facilities; drainage 67 facilities and projects; solid waste treatment, disposal or management facilities; recycling facilities; 68 resource recovery facilities; related office, administrative, storage, maintenance and laboratory facilities; and interests in land related thereto. The term also means any heavy rail transportation facilities operated 69 70 by a transportation district, created under the Transportation District Act of 1964 (§ 15.1-1342 15.2-4500 et seq.), which operates heavy rail freight service, including rolling stock, barge loading facilities, and 71 72 any related marine or rail equipment. 73

§ 62.1-203. Powers of Authority.

74 The Authority is granted all powers necessary or appropriate to carry out and to effectuate its 75 purposes, including the following:

76 1. To have perpetual succession as a public body corporate and as a political subdivision of the 77 Commonwealth;

78 2. To adopt, amend and repeal bylaws, and rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this chapter 79 for the administration and regulation of its affairs and to carry into effect the powers and purposes of 80 the Authority and the conduct of its business; 81

3. To sue and be sued in its own name;

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4. To have an official seal and alter it at will although the failure to affix this seal shall not affect 82 83 the validity of any instrument executed on behalf of the Authority; 84

5. To maintain an office at any place within the Commonwealth which it designates;

85 6. To make and execute contracts and all other instruments and agreements necessary or convenient 86 for the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers and functions under this chapter;

7. To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, transfer and otherwise dispose of all or any 87 88 part of its properties and assets:

89 8. To employ officers, employees, agents, advisers and consultants, including without limitations, 90 attorneys, financial advisers, engineers and other technical advisers and public accountants and, the 91 provisions of any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, to determine their duties and compensation 92 without the approval of any other agency or instrumentality;

93 9. To procure insurance, in amounts and from insurers of its choice, or provide self-insurance, 94 against any loss, cost, or expense in connection with its property, assets or activities, including insurance 95 or self-insurance against liability for its acts or the acts of its directors, employees or agents and for the 96 indemnification of the members of its Board of Directors and its employees and agents;

97 10. To procure insurance, guarantees, letters of credit and other forms of collateral or security credit 98 enhancements from any public or private entities, including any department, agency or instrumentality of 99 the United States of America or the Commonwealth, for the payment of any bonds issued by the Authority, including the power to pay premiums or fees on any such insurance, guarantees, letters of 100 101 credit and other forms of collateral or security credit enhancements;

102 11. To receive and accept from any source aid, grants and contributions of money, property, labor or 103 other things of value to be held, used and applied to carry out the purposes of this chapter subject to the 104 conditions upon which the aid, grants or contributions are made;

105 12. To enter into agreements with any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States of America or, the Commonwealth, the District of Columbia or any adjoining state for the purpose of 106 107 planning, regulating and providing for the financing of any projects;

13. To collect, or to authorize the trustee under any trust indenture securing any bonds or any other 108 109 fiduciary to collect, amounts due under any local obligations owned or credit enhanced by the 110 Authority, including taking the action required by § 15.1-227.61 15.2-2659 or § 62.1-217 to obtain 111 payment of any sums in default;

14. To enter into contracts or agreements for the servicing and processing of local obligations owned 112 by the Authority; 113

15. To invest or reinvest its funds as provided in this chapter or permitted by applicable law;

115 16. Unless restricted under any agreement with holders of bonds, to consent to any modification with 116 respect to the rate of interest, time and payment of any installment of principal or interest, or any other 117 term of any local obligations owned by the Authority;

118 17. To establish and revise, amend and repeal, and to charge and collect, fees and charges in 119 connection with any activities or services of the Authority;

120 18. To do any act necessary or convenient to the exercise of the powers granted or reasonably 121 implied by this chapter; and

122 19. To pledge as security for the payment of any or all bonds of the Authority, all or any part of the 123 Capital Reserve Fund transferred to a trustee for such purpose from the Water Facilities Revolving Fund 124 pursuant to § 62.1-231 or from the Water Supply Revolving Fund pursuant to § 62.1-240 or from the 125 Virginia Solid Waste or Recycling Revolving Fund pursuant to § 62.1-241.9. 126

§ 62.1-204. Power to borrow money and issue bonds and credit enhancements.

127 The Authority shall have the power to borrow money and issue its bonds in amounts the Authority 128 determines to be necessary or convenient to provide funds to carry out its purposes and powers and to 129 pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of bonds. The total Authority shall 130 also have the power to issue credit enhancements with respect to local obligations issued to finance or 131 refinance the cost of any project. The total outstanding aggregate principal amount of bonds outstanding 132 at any one time, issued by the Authority, and local obligations guaranteed by the Authority pursuant to 133 credit enhancements shall not exceed the sum of \$550 million without prior approval of the General 134 Assembly.

135 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Authority shall not exceed the sum of eight million dollars in the 136 total principal amount of bonds outstanding at any one time for the purpose of financing any heavy rail 137 transportation facilities. 138

§ 62.1-206. Sources of payment and security for bonds and credit enhancements.

139 The Authority shall have the power to pledge any revenue or funds of or under the control of the 140 Authority to the payment of its bonds and credit enhancements, subject only to any prior agreements with the holders of particular bonds or the beneficiaries of particular credit enhancements pledging 141 142 money or revenue. Bonds or credit enhancements issued by the Authority may be secured by a pledge of 143 any local obligation owned by the Authority, any grant, contribution or guaranty from the United States 144 of America, the Commonwealth or any corporation, association, institution or person, any other property 145 or assets of or under the control of the Authority, or a pledge of any money, income or revenue of the 146 Authority from any source. 147

§ 62.1-207. Liability of Commonwealth, political subdivisions and members of board of directors.

148 No bonds or credit enhancements issued by the Authority under this chapter shall constitute a debt 149 or a pledge of the faith and credit of the Commonwealth, or any political subdivision thereof other than 150 the Authority, but shall be payable solely from the revenue, money or property of the Authority as 151 provided for in this chapter. No member of the board of directors or officer, employee or agent of the 152 Authority or any person executing bonds or credit enhancements of the Authority shall be liable 153 personally on the bonds or credit enhancements by reason of their issuance or execution. Each bond or 154 credit enhancement issued under this chapter shall contain on its face a statement to the effect (i) that 155 neither the Commonwealth, nor any political subdivision thereof, nor the Authority shall be obligated to 156 pay the principal of, or interest or premium on, the bond or *credit enhancement or* other costs incident to the bond or credit enhancement except from the revenue, money or property of the Authority pledged 157 158 and (ii) that neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the Commonwealth, or any political 159 subdivision thereof, is pledged to the payment of the principal of or interests or premium on the bond or 160 credit enhancement.

161 § 62.1-208. Authorization, content and sale of bonds and credit enhancements.

162 A. The bonds and credit enhancements of the Authority shall be authorized by a resolution of the 163 Board of Directors.

164 The bonds shall bear the date or dates and mature at the time or times that the resolution В. 165 provides, except that no bond shall mature more than fifty years from its date of issue. The bonds may be in the denominations, be executed in the manner, be payable in the medium of payment, be payable 166 at the place or places and at the time or times, and be subject to redemption or repurchase and contain 167 168 such other provisions as may be determined by the Authority prior to their issuance. The bonds may 169 bear interest payable at such time or times and at such rate or rates as determined by the Authority or as 170 determined in such manner as the Authority may provide, including the determination by agents 171 designated by the Authority under guidelines established by it. Bonds may be sold by the Authority at 172 public or private sale at the price or prices that the Authority determines and approves.

C. The Authority may bring action pursuant to Article 6 (§ 15.1-227.52 15.2-2650 et seq.) of 173 174 Chapter 5.1 26 of Title 15.1 15.2 to determine the validity of any issuance or proposed issuance of its 175 bonds or credit enhancements under this chapter and the legality and validity of all proceedings 176 previously taken, or proposed in a resolution of the Authority to be taken, for the authorization, 177 issuance, sale and delivery of bonds or credit enhancements and for the payment of the principal of and 178 premium, if any, and interest on bonds or payments of amounts due under credit enhancements of the

179 Authority.

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§ 62.1-209. Provisions of resolution or trust indenture authorizing issuance of bonds.

181 A. Bonds may be secured by a trust indenture between the Authority and a corporate trustee, which 182 may be any bank having the power of a trust company or any trust company within or without the 183 Commonwealth. A trust indenture may contain provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and 184 remedies of the bondholders that are reasonable and proper and not in violation of law, including covenants setting forth the duties of the Authority in relation to the exercise of its powers and the 185 186 custody, safekeeping and application of all money. The Authority may provide by the trust indenture for 187 the payment of the proceeds of the bonds and all or any part of the revenues of the Authority to the 188 trustee under the trust indenture or to some other depository, and for the method of their disbursement 189 with whatever safeguards and restrictions as the Authority specifies. All expenses incurred in carrying 190 out the trust indenture may be treated as part of the operating expenses of the Authority.

191 B. Any resolution or trust indenture pursuant to which bonds are issued may contain provisions, 192 which shall be part of the contract or contracts with the holders of such bonds as to:

193 1. Pledging all or any part of the revenue of the Authority to secure the payment of the bonds, 194 subject to any agreements with bondholders that then exist;

195 2. Pledging all or any part of the assets of, or funds under control of the Authority, including local 196 obligations owned by the Authority, to secure the payment of the bonds, subject to any agreements with 197 bondholders that then exist;

198 3. The use and disposition of the gross income from, and payment of the principal of and premium, 199 if any, and interest on local obligations owned by the Authority;

200 4. The establishment of reserves, sinking funds and other funds and accounts and the regulation and 201 disposition thereof;

202 5. Limitations on the purposes to which the proceeds from the sale of the bonds may be applied, and 203 limitations pledging the proceeds to secure the payment of the bonds;

204 6. Limitations on the issuance of additional bonds, the terms on which additional bonds may be 205 issued and secured, and the refunding of outstanding or other bonds;

206 7. The procedure, if any, by which the terms of any contract with bondholders may be amended or 207 abrogated, the amount of bonds, if any, the holders of which must consent thereto, and the manner in 208 which any consent may be given;

209 8. Limitations on the amount of money to be expended by the Authority for operating expenses of 210 the Authority:

211 9. Vesting in a trustee or trustees any property, rights, powers and duties in trust that the Authority 212 may determine, and limiting or abrogating the right of bondholders to appoint a trustee or limit the 213 rights, powers and duties of the trustees;

214 10. Defining the acts or omissions which shall constitute a default, the obligations or duties of the 215 Authority to the holders of the bonds, and the rights and remedies of the holders of the bonds in the 216 event of default, including as a matter of right the appointment of a receiver; these rights and remedies may include the general laws of the Commonwealth and other provisions of this chapter; 217

218 11. Requiring the Authority or the trustees under the trust indenture to file a petition with the 219 Governor and to take any and all other actions required under § 15.1-227.61 15.2-2659 or § 62.1-217 to 220 obtain payment of all sums necessary to cover any default as to any principal of and premium, if any, 221 and interest on local obligations owned by the Authority or held by a trustee to which § 15.1-227.61 222 15.2-2659 or § 62.1-217 shall be applicable; and

223 12. Any other matter, of like or different character, relating to the terms of the bonds or the security 224 or protection of the holders of the bonds. 225

§ 62.1-210. Pledge by Authority.

226 Any pledge made by the Authority shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is 227 made. The revenue, money or property so pledged and thereafter received by the Authority shall 228 immediately be subject to the lien of such a pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act. 229 Furthermore, the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims 230 of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the Authority, irrespective of whether the parties have 231 notice of the pledge. No recording or filing of the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds or credit 232 enhancements, the trust indenture securing bonds or any other instrument, including filings under Title 8.9 (§ 8.9-101 et seq.) of the Uniform Commercial Code of Virginia, shall be necessary to create or 233 234 perfect any pledge or security interest granted by the Authority to secure any bonds or credit 235 enhancements. 236

§ 62.1-213. Validity of signatures of prior members or officers.

237 In the event that any of the members of the board of directors or any officers of the Authority cease 238 to be members or officers before the delivery of any bonds or credit enhancements signed by them, their signatures or authorized substitute signatures shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all 239

240 purposes as if the members or officers had remained in office until delivery.

241 § 62.1-214. Bondholder protection.

242 Subsequent amendments to this chapter shall not limit the rights vested in the Authority with respect 243 to any agreements made with, or remedies available to, the holders of bonds or the beneficiaries of 244 credit enhancements issued under this chapter before the enactment of the amendments until the bonds, 245 together with all premium and interest thereon, and the credit enhancements, and all costs and expenses 246 in connection with any proceeding by or on behalf of the holders or the beneficiaries, are fully met and 247 discharged. 248

§ 62.1-215. Establishment of capital reserve funds.

A. 1. The Authority may create and establish one or more capital reserve funds and may pay into 249 250 each capital reserve fund (i) any moneys appropriated and made available by the Commonwealth for the 251 purpose of such a fund, (ii) any proceeds of the sale of bonds of the Authority, to the extent provided in 252 the resolution authorizing the issuance of, or the trust indenture securing, the bonds, and (iii) any other 253 moneys which may be made available to the Authority for the purpose of such a fund from any other 254 source. All moneys held in any capital reserve fund, except as hereinafter provided, shall be used solely 255 for the payment when due of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the bonds or 256 obligations under credit enhancements issued by the Authority secured in whole or in part by such a 257 fund. If, however, moneys in any such fund are ever less than the minimum capital reserve fund 258 requirement established for the fund, the Authority shall not use the moneys for any optional purchase 259 or redemption of bonds. Any income or interest earned on, or increment to, any capital reserve fund due 260 to its investment may be transferred by the Authority to other funds or accounts of the Authority to the 261 extent it does not reduce the amount of the capital reserve fund below its minimal requirement.

262 2. The Authority shall not at any time issue bonds or credit enhancements secured in whole or in 263 part by any capital reserve fund, if upon the issuance of the bonds or credit enhancements, the amount 264 in the capital reserve fund will be less than its minimal requirement unless the Authority, at the time of 265 issuance of the bonds or credit enhancements, deposits in the fund an amount which, together with the 266 amount then in the fund, will not be less than the fund's minimal capital reserve requirement.

B. In order to assure further the maintenance of capital reserve funds, the chairman of the Authority 267 268 shall annually, on or before December 1, make and deliver to the Governor and the Secretary of 269 Administration a certificate stating the sum, if any, required to restore each capital reserve fund to its 270 minimal requirement. Within five days after the beginning of each session of the General Assembly, the 271 Governor shall submit to the presiding officer of each House of the General Assembly printed copies of 272 a budget including the sum, if any, required to restore each capital reserve fund to its minimal 273 requirement. All sums, if any, which may be appropriated by the General Assembly for any restoration 274 and paid to the Authority shall be deposited by the Authority in the applicable capital reserve fund. All 275 amounts paid to the Authority by the Commonwealth pursuant to the provisions of this section shall 276 constitute and be accounted for as advances by the Commonwealth to the Authority and, subject to the 277 rights of the holders of any bonds of the Authority or the beneficiaries of credit enhancements of the 278 Authority, shall be repaid to the Commonwealth without interest from available operating revenues of 279 the Authority in excess of amounts required for the payment of bonds, credit enhancements or other 280 obligations of the Authority, the maintenance of capital reserve funds, and operating expenses.

281 C. The Authority may create and establish other funds as necessary or desirable for its corporate 282 purposes.

283 D. Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the power of the Authority to issue bonds or 284 credit enhancements not secured by a capital reserve fund. 285

§ 62.1-216. Purchase and credit enhancements of local obligations.

286 The Authority shall have the power and authority, with any funds of the Authority available for such 287 a purpose, to purchase and acquire, on terms which the Authority determines, local obligations to 288 finance or refinance the cost of any project. The Authority may pledge to the payment of any bonds all 289 or any portion of the local obligations so purchased. The Authority may also, subject to any such 290 pledge, sell any local obligations so purchased and apply the proceeds of such a sale to the purchase of 291 other local obligations for financing or refinancing the cost of any project or for any other corporate 292 purpose of the Authority.

293 The Authority shall also have the power and authority to issue credit enhancements, on terms which 294 the Authority determines, to credit enhance local obligations issued to finance or refinance the cost of 295 any project.

296 The Authority may require, as a condition to the purchase or credit enhancement of any local 297 obligation obligations, that the local government issuing an obligation the local obligations covenant to 298 perform any of the following:

299 A. Establish and collect rents, rates, fees and charges to produce revenue sufficient to pay all or a 300 specified portion of (i) the costs of operation, maintenance, replacement, renewal and repairs of the

301 project; (ii) any outstanding indebtedness incurred for the purposes of the project, including the principal 302 of and premium, if any, and interest on the local obligations issued by the local government to the 303 Authority; and (iii) any amounts necessary to create and maintain any required reserve, including any 304 rate stabilization fund deemed necessary or appropriate by the Authority to offset the need, in whole or 305 part, for future increases in rents, rates, fees or charges;

306 B. Create and maintain a special fund or funds for the payment of the principal of and premium, if 307 any, and interest on any the local obligations and any other amounts becoming due under any agreement 308 entered into in connection with the local obligation obligations, or for the operation, maintenance, repair 309 or replacement of the project or any portions thereof or other property of the local government, and 310 deposit into any fund or funds amounts sufficient to make any payments as they become due and 311 payable; 312

C. Create and maintain other special funds as required by the Authority; and

313 D. Perform other acts, including the conveyance of real and personal property together with all right, 314 title and interest therein to the Authority, or take other actions as may be deemed necessary or desirable 315 by the Authority to secure payment of the principal of and premium, if any, and interest on the local 316 obligations or obligations to the Authority with respect to any credit enhancement and to provide for the remedies of the Authority or other holder of the local obligations in the event of any default by the 317 318 local government in the payment, including, without limitation, any of the following:

319 1. The procurement of insurance, guarantees, letters of credit and other forms of collateral, security, 320 credit enhancements or liquidity arrangements or credit supports for local obligations from any source, 321 public or private, and the payment therefor of premiums, fees or other charges.

322 2. The payment of the allocable shares of the local governments, as determined by the Authority, of 323 any costs, fees, charges or expenses attributable to insurance, guarantees, letters of credit and other 324 forms of collateral, security, liquidity arrangements or credit supports incurred in connection with the 325 issuance of bonds by the Authority to acquire local obligations of one or more local governments. The 326 determination of such allocable shares may be made by the Authority on any reasonable basis.

327 3. The combination of one or more projects, or the combination of one or more projects with one or 328 more other undertakings, facilities, utilities or systems, for the purpose of operations and financing, and 329 the pledging of the revenues from such combined projects, undertakings, facilities, utilities and systems 330 to secure local obligations issued in connection with such combination or any part or parts thereof.

331 4. The payment of the allocable shares of the local governments, as determined by the Authority on 332 any reasonable basis, of rate stabilization funds established or required by the Authority in connection 333 with the issuance of bonds by the Authority to acquire or provide credit enhancement for local 334 obligations of two or more local governments.

335 All local governments issuing and selling local obligations to the Authority or to be credit enhanced 336 by the Authority are authorized to perform any acts, take any action, adopt any proceedings and make and carry out any contracts with the Authority that are contemplated by this chapter. Such contracts 337 338 need not be identical among all participants in financings of the Authority, but may be structured as 339 determined by the Authority according to the needs of the contracting local governments and the 340 Authority.

341 § 62.1-216.1. Investigation by Governor of alleged defaults; withholding state funds from defaulting 342 locality; payment of funds withheld; receipts, reports, etc.

343 Whenever it appears to the Governor from an affidavit filed with him by or on behalf of the 344 Authority as the holder or credit enhancer of local obligations (regardless of the security therefor) 345 issued by any county, city or town that the county, city or town has defaulted in its payment of the 346 principal of or premium, if any, or interest on any of its outstanding local obligations held or credit 347 enhanced by the Authority, the Governor shall immediately make a summary investigation into the facts 348 set forth in the affidavit. The Authority may, but shall not be required to, file such an affidavit unless 349 the Authority has otherwise contracted to make such filing for the benefit of the holders of any of its 350 bonds or the local obligations credit enhanced by it.

351 If it is established to the satisfaction of the Governor that the county, city or town is in default in the 352 payment of such local obligations or the interest on them, the Governor shall immediately make an 353 order directing the Comptroller to withhold all further payment to the county, city or town of all funds, 354 or of any part of them, appropriated and payable by the Commonwealth to the county, city or town for 355 any and all purposes, until the default is cured. The Governor shall, while the default continues, direct 356 in writing the payment of all sums withheld by the Comptroller, or as much of them as is necessary, to 357 the Authority, so as to cure, or cure insofar as possible, the default as to the local obligations or 358 interest on them.

359 The Governor shall, as soon as practicable, give notice of the default and of the availability of funds 360 with the Comptroller in writing to the Authority. Any payment so made by the Comptroller to the 361 Authority shall be credited as if made directly by the county, city or town and shall be charged by the

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362 Comptroller against the first appropriations otherwise payable to the county, city or town as if paid to the county, city or town. The Authority, at the time of payment or at the time of each payment shall 363 364 receipt for the payment and deliver to the Comptroller all local obligations or other instruments or documents, in a form satisfactory to the Comptroller, evidencing the Authority's right to receive the 365 366 amounts satisfied by the payment. The Comptroller shall report each payment made to the governing 367 body of the defaulting county, city or town and deliver or send by registered mail to the governing body all local obligations, or other instruments or documents received by the Comptroller under the 368 369 provisions of this section.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to create any obligation on the part of the Comptroller or
the Commonwealth to make any payment on behalf of the defaulting county, city or town other than
from funds appropriated and payable to the defaulting county, city or town.

**373** § 62.1-219. Exemption from taxation.

374 As set forth in § 62.1-200, the Authority will be performing an essential governmental function in the 375 exercise of the powers conferred upon it by this chapter. Accordingly, the Authority shall not be 376 required to pay any taxes or assessments upon any project or any property or upon any operations of the Authority or the income therefrom, or any taxes or assessments upon any project or any property or 377 378 local obligation acquired, credit enhanced or used by the Authority under the provisions of this chapter 379 or upon the income therefrom. Any bonds and credit enhancements issued by the Authority under the 380 provisions of this chapter, the transfer thereof and the income therefrom, including any profit on the sale 381 thereof, shall at all times be free from taxation and assessment of every kind by the Commonwealth and 382 by the local governments and other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth.