

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to establish the Virginia-North Carolina Interstate High-Speed Rail Compact.*

3 [S 126]

4 Approved

5 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

6 1. § 1. Short title.

7 *This act shall be known and may be cited as the Virginia-North Carolina Interstate High-Speed Rail*
8 *Compact.*

9 § 2. Compact established.

10 *Pursuant to the invitation in 49 U.S.C. § 24101 Interstate Compacts, in which the United States*
11 *Congress grants consent to states with an interest in a specific form, route, or corridor of intercity*
12 *passenger rail service (including high-speed rail service) to enter into interstate compacts, there is*
13 *hereby established the Virginia-North Carolina Interstate High-Speed Rail Compact.*

14 § 3. Agreement.

15 *The Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of North Carolina agree, upon adoption of this*
16 *compact:*17 1. *To study, develop, and promote a plan for the design, construction, financing, and operation of*
18 *interstate high-speed rail service through and between points in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the*
19 *State of North Carolina and adjacent states;*20 2. *To coordinate efforts to establish high-speed rail service at the federal, state, and local*
21 *governmental levels;*22 3. *To advocate for federal funding to support the establishment of high-speed interstate rail service*
23 *within and through Virginia and North Carolina and to receive federal funds made available for rail*
24 *development; and*25 4. *To provide funding and resources to the Virginia-North Carolina High-Speed Rail Compact*
26 *Commission from funds that are or may become available and are appropriated for that purpose.*27 § 4. Commission established; appointment and terms of members; chairman; reports; Commission
28 *funds; staff.*29 *The Virginia-North Carolina High-Speed Rail Compact Commission is hereby established as a*
30 *regional instrumentality and a common agency of each signatory party, empowered in a manner*
31 *hereinafter set forth to carry out the purposes of the Compact.*32 *The Virginia members of the Commission shall be appointed as follows: three members of the House*
33 *of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and two members of the Senate*
34 *appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The North Carolina members of the Commission shall be*
35 *composed of five members as follows: two members of the Senate appointed by the General Assembly*
36 *upon recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, two members of the House of*
37 *Representatives appointed by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Speaker of the House*
38 *of Representatives, and one appointed by the Governor.*39 *The chairman of the Commission shall be chosen by the members of the Commission from among its*
40 *membership for a term of one year, and shall alternate between the member states.*41 *The Commission shall meet at least twice each year, at least once in Virginia and once in North*
42 *Carolina, and shall issue a report of its activities each year.*43 *The Commission may utilize, for its operation and expenses, funds appropriated to it therefor by the*
44 *legislatures of Virginia and North Carolina or received from federal sources.*45 *Virginia members of the Commission shall receive compensation and reimbursement for the*
46 *necessary and actual expenses as provided in the general appropriations act; North Carolina members*
47 *of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence and travel allowances in accordance with*
48 *applicable statutes of North Carolina, as appropriate.*49 *Primary staff to the Commission shall be provided by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public*
50 *Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.*51 2. **This act shall become effective upon its enactment by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the**
52 **State of North Carolina, and in accordance with federal law authorizing the compact.**