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HOUSE BILL NO. 947 Offered January 13, 2016 Prefiled January 12, 2016

A BILL to amend and reenact § 33.2-261 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of Transportation; induced demand considered in certain projects.

Patron—Keam

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 33.2-261 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 33.2-261. Value engineering required in certain projects.

The Department shall employ value engineering and consider the concept of induced demand as a factor in conjunction with any project on any highway system using criteria established by the Department, including all projects costing more than \$5 million. For the purposes of this section, "value engineering" means a systematic process of review and analysis of an engineering project by a team of persons not originally involved in the project. Such team may offer suggestions that would improve project quality and reduce total project cost, ranging from a combination or elimination of inefficient or expensive parts or steps in the original proposal to total redesign of the project using different technologies, materials, or methods. For purposes of this section, "induced demand" means that new roads will create new drivers, resulting in the intensity of traffic staying the same.

After a review, the Commissioner of Highways may waive the requirements of this section for any project for compelling reasons. Any such waiver shall be in writing, state the reasons for the waiver, and apply only to a single project.