

LD1794633

**SENATE BILL NO. 139**

Offered January 19, 1994

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 33.1-221.1:3 and 58.1-815.1 of the Code of Virginia and § 2 of Chapter 391 of the Acts of Assembly of 1993, relating to the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program; the issuance of bonds to finance the costs of such program; the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund; the use of such fund to pay debt service; the amendments thereto relating to increasing the principal amount of bonds authorized to be issued to \$271,000,000 and redesignating the projects qualifying for such financing and the amounts allocated to each such project.*

Patrons—Gartlan, Andrews, Barry, Calhoun, Chichester, Colgan, Holland, E.M., Howell, Saslaw, Waddell and Woods; Delegates: Albo, Almand, Brickley, Callahan, Cohen, Connally, Darner, Dillard, Fisher, Harris, Hull, Keating, Marshall, May, Mayer, McClure, Mims, O'Brien, Parrish, Plum, Puller, Rollison, Scott and Van Landingham

Referred to the Committee on Finance

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

**1. That §§ 33.1-221.1:3 and 58.1-815.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 33.1-221.1:3. Northern Virginia Transportation District Program.

A. The General Assembly declares it to be in the public interest that the economic development needs and economic growth potential of Northern Virginia be addressed by a special transportation program to provide for the costs of providing an adequate, modern, safe and efficient transportation network in Northern Virginia which shall be known as the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program (the Program), including, without limitation, environmental and engineering studies, rights-of-way acquisition, construction, improvements to all modes of transportation, and financing costs. The Program consists of the following projects: the Fairfax County Parkway, Route 234 Bypass, and Metro Capital Improvements, including the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station, Route 7 improvements in Loudoun County between Route 15 and Route 28, and the Route 50/Courthouse Road interchange improvements in Arlington County.

B. Allocations to this Program from the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund established by § 58.1-815.1 shall be made annually by the Commonwealth Transportation Board for the creation and enhancement of a safe, efficient transportation system connecting the communities, businesses, places of employment, and residences of the Commonwealth, thereby enhancing the economic development potential, employment opportunities, mobility and quality of life in Virginia.

C. Except in the event that the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund is insufficient to pay for the costs of the Program, allocations to the Program shall not diminish or replace allocations made from other sources or diminish allocations to which any district, system, or locality would be entitled under other provisions of this title, but shall be supplemental to other allocations to the end that transportation improvements in the Northern Virginia Transportation District may be accelerated and augmented. Allocations under this subsection shall be limited to projects specified in § 33.1-268(2)(s).

D. The Commonwealth Transportation Board may expend such funds from all sources as may be lawfully available to initiate the Program and to support bonds and other obligations referenced in subsection E of this section.

E. The Commonwealth Transportation Board is authorized to receive, dedicate or use first from (i) revenues received from the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund, (ii) to the extent required, funds appropriated and allocated, pursuant to the highway allocation formula as provided by law, to the highway construction district in which the project or projects to be financed are located or to the city or county in which the project or projects to be financed are located, (iii) to the extent required, legally available revenues of the Transportation Trust Fund, and (iv) such other funds which may be appropriated by the General Assembly for the payment of bonds or other obligations, including interest thereon, issued in furtherance of the Program. No such bond or other obligations shall pledge the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth.

§ 58.1-815.1. Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund.

A. There is hereby created in the Department of the Treasury a special nonreverting fund which shall be a part of the Transportation Trust Fund and which shall be known as the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund, consisting of transfers pursuant to § 58.1-816 of annual collections of the state recordation taxes attributable to the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and

INTRODUCED

SB139

60 Manassas Park and the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William; however, this  
 61 dedication shall not affect the local recordation taxes under §§ 58.1-802 B and 58.1-814. The Fund shall  
 62 also include such other funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly from time to time and  
 63 designated for this Fund and all interest, dividends and appreciation which may accrue thereto. Any  
 64 moneys remaining in the Fund at the end of a biennium shall not revert to the general fund, but shall  
 65 remain in the Fund, subject to the determination by the Commonwealth Transportation Board that a  
 66 Category 2 or 3 project or projects may be funded.

67 B. Allocations from this Fund may be paid (i) to any authority, locality or commission for the  
 68 purposes of paying the costs of the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program which consists of  
 69 the following: the Fairfax County Parkway, Route 234 Bypass, and Metro Capital Improvements,  
 70 including the Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station, *Route 7 improvements in Loudoun County between*  
 71 *Route 15 and Route 28, and the Route 50/Courthouse Road interchange improvements in Arlington*  
 72 *County*, and (ii) for Category 2 3 projects as provided in § 2 of the act or acts authorizing the issuance  
 73 of Bonds for the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program.

74 C. On or before July 15, 1993, ~~\$9.5~~ 1994, \$19 million shall be transferred to the Fund. Such transfer  
 75 shall be made by the issuance of a treasury loan at no interest in the amount of ~~\$9.5~~ 19 million in the  
 76 event such an amount is not included for the Fund in the general appropriation act enacted by the 1993  
 77 1994 Session of the General Assembly. Such treasury loan shall be repaid from the Commonwealth's  
 78 portion of the state recordation tax imposed by Chapter 8 (§ 58.1-800 et seq.) of Title 58.1 designated  
 79 for the Fund by §§ 58.1-815.1 and 58.1-816.

80 **2. That § 2 of Chapter 391 of the Acts of Assembly of 1993 is amended and reenacted as follows:**

81 § 2. The Commonwealth Transportation Board is hereby authorized, by and with the consent of the  
 82 Governor, to issue, pursuant to the provisions of §§ 33.1-267 through 33.1-295, at one time or from time  
 83 to time, bonds of the Commonwealth to be designated "Commonwealth of Virginia Transportation  
 84 Revenue Bonds, Series .....", in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding ~~\$181,000,000~~ \$271,000,000  
 85 to finance the cost of the projects plus an amount for the issuance costs, capitalized interest, reserve  
 86 funds, and other financing expenses (the "Bonds"). The proceeds of the Bonds shall be used exclusively  
 87 for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for paying the costs incurred or to be  
 88 incurred for construction or funding of the projects which comprise the Northern Virginia Transportation  
 89 District Program as hereinafter defined and as established in Article 5 (§ 33.1-267 et seq.) of Chapter 3  
 90 of Title 33.1, consisting of environmental and engineering studies, rights-of-way acquisition,  
 91 improvements to all modes of transportation, construction and related improvements (the "projects").  
 92 Such costs may include the payment of interest on the Bonds for a period during construction and not  
 93 exceeding one year after completion of construction of the projects.

94 The projects shall be classified as Category 1 ~~and~~ , Category 2 and Category 3 projects, each  
 95 category being subject to different preconditions. Bonds to finance the cost of Category 1 projects may  
 96 be issued by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. *Bonds to finance the cost of Category 2 projects*  
 97 *may be issued by the Commonwealth Transportation Board only if the aggregate principal amount of*  
 98 *\$261,000,000 in bonds has been issued to finance the cost of Category 1 projects.* Category 2 3 projects  
 99 shall not be financed through the issuance of bonds; however, after all Bonds authorized have been  
 100 issued, ~~or if there is excess bond-issuing capacity,~~ then to the extent the Northern Virginia  
 101 Transportation District Fund contains amounts in excess of the amount needed to pay annual debt  
 102 service on such Bonds in a particular fiscal year, such excess amounts may be expended to pay the cost  
 103 of the work identified as Category 2 3 projects.

104 The projects, and the amount of bonds authorized to be issued for each such project, are as follows  
 105 and constitute the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program:

106 Category 1 projects	Bond amount	
107		
108 Metro Capital Improvements,		
109 including the		
110 Franconia-Springfield		
111 Metrorail Station	\$ 63,000,000	85,600,000
112 Fairfax County Parkway	\$ 64,000,000	87,000,000
113 Route 234 Bypass	\$ 54,000,000	73,400,000
114 Route 7 improvements between		
115 Route 15 and Route 28 in		
116 Loudoun County	\$ 15,000,000	
117		
118 Total	\$181,000,000	261,000,000
119		

Category 2 projects consist of the Route 50/Courthouse Road interchange improvements in Arlington County, in the amount of \$10,000,000.

The work identified as Category 2 3 projects to be funded from the Northern Virginia Transportation District Fund, to the extent there are sums in excess of the amount needed to pay debt service on the Bonds in a given fiscal year, is as follows:

Category 2 3 projects

Such ~~additional~~ projects as may be concurred in by the local jurisdictions participating in the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program, as evidenced by resolutions adopted by an affirmative vote of a majority of the jurisdictions participating in the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program and subject to such guidelines and conditions as may be promulgated by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

The Bonds shall be issued by the Commonwealth Transportation Board and sold through the Treasury Board, which is hereby designated the sales and paying agent of the Commonwealth Transportation Board with respect to the Bonds. The Treasury Board's duties shall include the approval of the terms and structure of the Bonds. In the event the aggregate principal amount of the ~~initial~~ issuance is less than \$181,000,000, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall allocate the proceeds of the Bonds to individual projects in proportion to the total amount of debt authorized under this section for such projects issuance, for the projects and amounts authorized by the 1994 amendments to Chapter 391 of the Acts of Assembly of 1993, is less than \$127,000,000, the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall cause each Category 1 project to be shared in the reduced issuance by reducing the proceeds of the Bonds for each of the Category 1 projects on a pro rata basis. For purposes of making such computation, the 1993 issuance of Bonds and the amount of bond proceeds allocated to each Category 1 project in 1993 shall be disregarded.

**3. That if any part of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.**