

*Report of the
House Appropriations
Subcommittee*

on

Transportation



House Bill 1600

February 4, 2001

**Respectfully Submitted by the House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Transportation:**

John A. Rollison, III, Chairman

Riley E. Ingram

Beverly J. Sherwood

Phillip A. Hamilton

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Franklin P. Hall

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Whittington W. Clement

Kenneth R. Plum

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE on TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Chairmen and Members of the Committee:

Compared to the 2000 Session, it was a quiet year for the Transportation Subcommittee. Still, we place before the Committee a set of recommendations that make progress on our shared commitment to excellence in transportation.

Our recommendations address many of the priorities we have heard from our members. For example, we recommend directing \$12.0 million to secondary road improvements to make up for a dip in the fiscal year 2002 allocation. The additional revenue will result from the passage of House Bill 2046, which changes the fee structure for overweight vehicles on our state roads. We also recommend clarifying the language we included last year on the use of federal mass transit funds and directing the development of a mass transit capital improvement program.

We also identify alternative sources of funds to meet selected transportation priorities and, as a result, are able to redirect general fund appropriations to meet needs in other areas of the budget.

As you know, the introduced budget included an unspecified general fund reduction of \$70.0 million in transportation. This was money the General Assembly appropriated last year to put the six-year transportation plan back on track. While the Governor authorized additional debt to make up the difference, the Subcommittee is concerned that this reduction might affect road projects across the state. Therefore, the Subcommittee recommends allocating the \$70.0 million reduction to the Route 288 project in Richmond. This will ensure that the remaining transportation funds will be there to meet other statewide priorities.

Finally, the Subcommittee recommends language that would give the Commonwealth Transportation Board some flexibility to

transfer transportation funds among projects identified in the Virginia Transportation Act of 2000. With this flexibility will come accountability, in the form of periodic reports to this Committee on which projects have been affected by these transfers.

The details of the Subcommittee's report are contained in the attachments. Committee staff will review the report and the attached listing of our recommendations at this time, and we hope it will be your pleasure to adopt the report.

Budget Amendment Recommendations

<u>Amendment</u>	2000-02 BIENNIAL TOTAL		
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Nongeneral Fund</u>	<u>FTE</u>

Transportation

Secretary Of Transportation

Min. Guarantee Funds for Va. Railway Express	Language
Minimum Guarantee for Transit	Language
Harborlink Assistance	Language

Department Of Aviation

Baggage Claim Facilities at NN/Wmsbg	Language
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Department Of Motor Vehicles

Transfer of Weigh State Operations	5,350,000		50.00
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Department Of Rail And Public Transportation

Capital Assistance Program	7,400,000
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Department Of Transportation

Transfer GF to Mass Transit Capital Fund	(14,700,000)		
Additional Revenues from Liquidated Damages		17,271,385	
Secondary Road Funds	Language		
VDOT Study of I-95 Exit 78	Language		
Transfer of VARLF Funds	(2,000,000)		
Transfer of Smithsonian Funds	(2,000,000)	2,000,000	
Transfer of Port Funds	(3,052,000)	3,052,000	
Reduction of \$70 Million to Route 288	Language		
Flexibility Language	Language		
NVTD Bond Language	Language		
Louisa Bypass Language	Language		
Route 54 Improvements Language	Language		
Route 37 Bypass Language	Language		

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Total	(14,352,000)		27,673,385
			50.00