



# Report of the Subcommittee on Transportation

Senate Finance Committee  
Virginia General Assembly

February 21, 2010



SENATE OF VIRGINIA

## Senate Finance Committee

### **2010 Report of the Transportation Subcommittee**

**The Honorable Richard L Saslaw, Chairman**

**February 21, 2009**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Your Transportation Subcommittee struggled throughout this session to address the challenges resulting from the continued deterioration of Virginia's transportation revenue sources while making efforts to address the ever growing demands placed on the Commonwealth's transportation infrastructure.

Since 2008, recessionary conditions accelerated the reductions to Virginia's faltering transportation revenues by more than \$3.9 billion, with more than \$1 billion in transportation spending eliminated since last biennium. As a result, Virginia's transportation agencies will have shed more than 2,000 jobs by the end of this June. In the face of such dire reductions and the resulting reorganization, your subcommittee has not recommended any spending priorities or further reductions.

Your subcommittee acknowledges the pressure being placed on local transit operators to be able to keep busses on the road with current economic constraints. In an effort to help the Commonwealth's transit providers maintain current operating levels without allocating any new funding, your subcommittee directs the Commonwealth Transportation Board to allow transit properties to temporarily divert up to 20 percent of capital grant monies to support ongoing operational costs. Similarly, your subcommittee recommends eliminating proposals contained in the introduced budget that would have reduced the amount of funding available for the acquisition of new transit capital. Finally, your subcommittee encourages the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to continue exploring cost effective ways to further expand rail transit opportunities as part of their ongoing pilot project.

Mr. Chairman, this completes the report of your subcommittee.

Respectfully Submitted,

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The Honorable Richard L. Saslaw, Chairman

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The Honorable William C. Wampler, Jr.

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The Honorable R. Edward Houck

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The Honorable John C. Watkins

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The Honorable Yvonne B. Miller

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The Honorable Mary Margaret Whipple

**Report of the Subcommittee on Transportation**  
 (Recommended Amendments to SB 29 and SB 30, As Introduced)

Amendment	NGF	Non-General Funds		
	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	Biennium
1 <b>Department of Motor Vehicles</b>		Language		
2 Weights & Measure Fees				
3				
4				
5 <b>Department of Transportation</b>				
6 Dulles Access Toll Road Connector Soundwalls		Language		
7 Historic Georgetown Pike		Language		
8				
9				
10 <b>Department of Rail and Public Transportation</b>				
11 Eliminate Transit Capital Reductions		Language		
12 Transit Operating Funding Flexibility		Language		
13 Rte. 29 Amtrak Roanoke Shuttle Service		Language		
14				
15 <b>Virginia Port Authority</b>				
16				
17				
18 <b>Department of Aviation</b>				
19				
20				
21 <b>Motor Vehicle Dealer Board</b>				
22				
23				
24 <b>Board of Towing and Recovery Operations</b>				
25				
26				
27 <b>Part 4 (General Provisions)</b>				
28 Remove Motor Fuel Tax Allowance from Dealer Discount		Language		

**Transportation**

Department Of Motor Vehicles

Language

**Language:**

Page 309, line 45, before "The" insert "A."

Page 309, after line 46, insert:

"B. In addition to all other fees imposed under § 62.1-44.34:13, Code of Virginia, there is hereby imposed an additional fee of one-tenth of one cent on each gallon of fuel for which the fee under subsection A of § 62.1-44.34:13, Code of Virginia is imposed. The fee shall be remitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles in the same manner as provided under subsection B of § 62.1-44.34:13, Code of Virginia. The Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles shall collect the fee and shall remit the revenues from the fee into the state treasury. As soon as practicable after such remittance, the Comptroller shall deposit the revenues from the fee into the Weights and Measures Fund established under § 3.2-5628 to be used as provided in § 3.2-5609, Code of Virginia."

**Explanation:**

(This amendment is a companion amendment to Item 88 to fund the Weights and Measures Inspection program pursuant to Senate Bill 261, which passed the Senate.)

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**Transportation**

Department Of Rail And Public  
Transportation

Language

**Language:**

Page 312, strike lines 3 through 21.

**Explanation:**

(This amendment removes language to dedicate a portion of transit capital funding authorized under the CPR debt obligation from HB 3202 (2007) to fund land use and development grants authorized by Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment within the Department of Transportation.)

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**Transportation**

Department Of Rail And Public  
Transportation

Language

**Language:**

page 311, following line 28, insert:

"c. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph A.1.a and A.1.b of this Item, prior to the annual adoption of the Six-Year Improvement Program, the Commonwealth Transportation Board may allocate up to 20 percent of the Commonwealth Mass Transit Fund dedicated for capital purposes to transit operating assistance if operating funds for the next fiscal year are estimated to be less than the current fiscal year's allocation, in an effort to maintain transit operations at approximately the same level as the previous fiscal share."

**Explanation:**

(This amendment provides the Commonwealth Transportation Board the flexibility to temporarily dedicate up to 20 percent of transit capital improvement funds to transit operating grant funds.)

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Item 448 #1s

**Transportation**

Department Of Rail And Public  
Transportation

Language

**Language:**

Page 312, following line 40, insert:

D. Not later than December 31, 2010, the Director shall provide the Commonwealth Transportation Board an assessment of the anticipated ridership and funding required to support a pilot project of daily bus connector service from the Roanoke Valley to the Kemper Street Station in Lynchburg as part of the on-going three year passenger rail demonstration project. Any support of this transit connector service shall be terminated if the Route 29 rail corridor project is not continued at the conclusion of the three year demonstration period.

**Explanation:**

(This amendment directs the DRPT to work with the City of Roanoke and local transit providers to identify funding and positions for a pilot program providing

commuter bus connector service between Roanoke and the Kemper Street Station in Lynchburg as part of the on-going passenger rail demonstration project.)

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Item 452 #2s

**Transportation**

Department Of Transportation

Language

**Language:**

Page 314, following line 47, insert:

"G. Pursuant to the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Transportation and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority, in conjunction with the construction of rail mass transit in the right of way of the Dulles Access/Toll Road Connector (DATRC), sound walls shall be constructed along residential properties from the beginning of the DATRC to Interstate Route 495 with funding from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund."

**Explanation:**

(This amendment directs the construction of sound barriers along the Dulles Access Toll Road corridor as part of the current rail mass transit project.)

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Item 453 #1s

**Transportation**

Department Of Transportation

Language

**Language:**

Page 315, following line 28 insert:

"F. Prior to undertaking any network capacity improvements or other enhancements to roads intersecting with State Route 193 (the "Georgetown Pike"), including the intersection with State Route 7, the Commissioner, in coordination with the Director of the Department of Historic Resources, shall ensure that any proposed improvements respect the historic nature of Georgetown Pike."

**Explanation:**

(This amendment requires VDOT to respect the historic nature of Georgetown Pike, including its intersection with Route 7.)

**Adjustments and Modifications to Tax Collections**

Discounts and Allowances

Language

**Language:**

Page 381, line 13, after "58.1-1021.03," strike "58.1-1720,".

Page 381, line 16, after "rate", strike the remainder of the line and insert "."

Page 381, strike line 17.

**Explanation:**

(This amendment restores the motor fuel dealer allowance for shrinkage and evaporation that is provided since these taxes are imposed at the terminal rack and not on the retail distributor.)

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