

# Virginia Association of Counties

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Accomack County

**Executive Director**

James D. Campbell, CAE

**General Counsel**

Phyllis A. Errico, Esq., CAE

February 24, 2011

The Honorable William C. Wampler, Jr.

Dear Senator Wampler:

As a Senate member of the Conference Committee appointed to reconcile differences between HB 2527 and SB 1446, the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) respectfully requests that you consider the significance of the transportation revenue sharing program to Virginia's counties.

Specifically VACo supports a final transportation funding bill that will remove the tiered system for awarding transportation revenue sharing funds to localities. Under this tiered system, adopted by the General Assembly in 2006, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is required to consider, as the highest ranking priority, the award of revenue sharing funds to localities that administer their own programs. This requirement has placed many counties at a disadvantage when applying for revenue sharing funds.

The second ranking priority causing difficulties for counties has been the awarding of funds to localities that commit "more local funding than the amount of revenue sharing funding requested." VACo also respectfully requests that the final bill will strike the term "from its general fund" as currently provided on line 142 of the House substitute to SB 1446. Striking this language will provide flexibility, and allow localities to commit other revenue sources than general funds as a match for revenue sharing funds received from the state.

VACo supports provisions in both bills allowing for a maximum state match of \$10 million for a project constructed under the revenue sharing program. VACo also supports the maximum of \$200 million that the Commonwealth Transportation Board may allocate to the revenue sharing program.

Thank you very much for your consideration of VACo's position as you negotiate the provisions of HB 2527 and SB 1446. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions over the matters addressed in this letter.

Sincerely,

Larry Land, CAE

Director of

Policy Development

1207 E. Main St., Suite 300  
Richmond, Va. 23219-3627

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February 24, 2011

The Honorable Richard L. Saslaw

Dear Senator Saslaw:

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February 24, 2011

The Honorable Charles J. Colgan, Sr.

Dear Senator Colgan:

As a Senate member of the Conference Committee appointed to reconcile differences between HB 2527 and SB 1446, the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) respectfully requests that you consider the significance of the transportation revenue sharing program to Virginia's counties.

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