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HOUSE BILL NO. 2037

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
on January 24, 2025)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Bulova)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-961.4, relating to land development; solar canopies in surface parking areas.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-961.4 as follows:

§ 15.2-961.4. Solar canopies in surface parking areas.

A. For purposes of this section, "solar canopy" means an area with a raised structure that contains solar photovoltaic panels.

B. Any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires as a condition of land development approval that an applicant shall install a solar canopy over designated surface parking areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential surface parking areas with 100 parking spaces or more and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the surface parking area.

C. The ordinance shall allow for deviations, in whole or in part, from the requirements of the ordinance when its strict application would prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the locality's zoning or development ordinance.

D. The applicant or developer may use the electric energy generated from such solar canopy for its own consumption, and the ordinance shall not require participation in a power purchase agreement.

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

HB2037H1