

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-961.4, relating to land*
3 *development; solar canopies in surface parking areas.*

4 [H 2037]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-961.4 as follows:**8 **§ 15.2-961.4. Solar canopies in surface parking areas.**9 *A. For purposes of this section, "solar canopy" means an area with a raised structure that contains solar*
10 *photovoltaic panels.*11 *B. Any locality may include in its land development ordinances a provision that requires as a condition of*
12 *land development approval that an applicant shall install a solar canopy over designated surface parking*
13 *areas. Such provisions shall apply only to nonresidential surface parking areas with 100 parking spaces or*
14 *more and may require coverage of up to 50 percent of the surface parking area.*15 *C. The ordinance shall allow for deviations, in whole or in part, from the requirements of the ordinance*
16 *when its strict application would prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the*
17 *locality's zoning or development ordinance.*18 *D. The applicant or developer may use the electric energy generated from such solar canopy for its own*
19 *consumption. Any such solar canopy shall be interconnected pursuant to 20VAC5-314 or 20VAC5-315 of the*
20 *Virginia Administrative Code at the election of the developer.*21 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.**

ENROLLED

HB2037ER