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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 28
2 Offered January 14, 2026
3 Prefiled January 14, 20264 *Requesting the Department of Conservation and Recreation to study methods to mitigate flooding in Prince
5 Edward County. Report.*6 _____
7 Patron—Cifers
8 _____
9 Referred to Committee on Rules
10 _____
11 WHEREAS, flooding can damage critical infrastructure, including main thoroughfares, bridges, and
12 drainage systems, compromise the structural integrity of homes and businesses, critically disrupt power grids,
13 lead to extensive property damage and loss of valuable personal possessions and business inventory, and
14 inhibit economic investment; and
15 WHEREAS, the Town of Farmville is situated near the headwaters of the Appomattox River at the
16 intersection of U.S. Route 15, U.S. Route 460, and State Route 45 and is a community of approximately
17 8,000 permanent residents, two institutions of higher education, a full-service hospital system that serves a
18 multi-county region, and many businesses; and
19 WHEREAS, the Appomattox River and its tributaries have a history of significant flooding in and around
20 the Town of Farmville, with 103 flooding events recorded since 1928; these incidents of flooding prevented
21 travel across the major highways and smaller local roadways and the State Route 45 bridge until such flood
22 waters receded and caused damage to homes and businesses; and
23 WHEREAS, studies to determine mitigation strategies, and the resulting implementation of such
24 strategies, can provide a significant cost-savings for local communities and the Commonwealth, with research
25 indicating that for every dollar invested in flood mitigation, local communities can see a return on their
26 investment of five dollars or more in the future in avoided costs from losses and disaster recovery efforts; and
27 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has expanded efforts to study and address flooding impacts and
28 mitigation strategies across the Commonwealth in recent years, but no recent or current study addresses
29 flooding in Prince Edward County; and
30 WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be consulted on any potential flooding mitigation
31 efforts because it maintains jurisdiction over portions of the Appomattox River, gauges water levels and flow,
32 operates emergency response measures to control flooding, and provides permits for approved projects that
33 impact the river and wetlands; now, therefore, be it
34 RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Department of Conservation and
35 Recreation be requested to study methods to mitigate flooding in Prince Edward County. The Department of
36 Conservation and Recreation, in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, shall focus
37 specifically on mitigation strategies for flooding within the Town of Farmville and its surrounding areas
38 stemming from the Appomattox River and its tributaries.
39 In conducting its study, the Department of Conservation and Recreation shall work in collaboration with
40 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to (i) determine recent and historical areas of flooding within and around
41 the Town of Farmville and the areas of the Appomattox River, its tributaries, or its adjacent floodplains that
42 consistently experience flooding that impedes individual activity and negatively affects residential or
43 business infrastructure; (ii) identify feasible infrastructure additions or adaptations to mitigate severe flooding
44 while avoiding adverse environmental impacts to the extent possible; (iii) determine which permits from the
45 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, if any, would be required in order to implement study recommendations; and
46 (iv) determine potential sources of revenue for mitigation efforts, including cost-sharing between the locality
47 and the Commonwealth, federal funding or grant options, and any private funding sources available.
48 All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department of Conservation and
49 Recreation for this study, upon request.
50 The Department of Conservation and Recreation shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2026, and
51 shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings
52 and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report
53 shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the
54 processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2027 Regular Session of the
General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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