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SENATE BILL NO. 756
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
 (Proposed by the House Committee on General Laws
 on February 24, 2026)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Surovell)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 33.2-3401, 58.1-4032, 58.1-4100, 58.1-4101, 58.1-4107 through 58.1-4111, 58.1-4123, 58.1-4124, and 58.1-4125 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 8 of Chapter 41 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-4123.1, relating to casino gaming; eligible host localities.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 33.2-3401, 58.1-4032, 58.1-4100, 58.1-4101, 58.1-4107 through 58.1-4111, 58.1-4123, 58.1-4124, and 58.1-4125 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 8 of Chapter 41 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-4123.1 as follows:

§ 33.2-3401. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital Fund.

A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund for the benefit of the Northern Virginia Transportation District to be known as the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital Fund. The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All revenues dedicated to the Fund pursuant to §§ 33.2-2400, 33.2-3404, 58.1-802.3, 58.1-1741, 58.1-1743, ~~and 58.1-2299.20, and 58.1-4125~~ shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund as set forth in subsection B and shall be used for the payment of capital purposes incurred, or to be incurred, by WMATA. Interest on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. The Comptroller shall disburse funds to WMATA on a monthly basis if NVTC has provided the certification required by subsection B of § 33.2-3402.

B. 1. Within the Fund, there shall be established a separate, segregated account into which revenues dedicated to the Fund pursuant to §§ 33.2-2400 and 58.1-1741 shall be deposited (the Restricted Account). Revenues deposited into the Restricted Account shall be available for use by WMATA for capital purposes other than for the payment of, or security for, debt service on bonds or other indebtedness of WMATA.

2. Within the Fund, there shall be established a separate, segregated account into which revenues dedicated to the Fund pursuant to §§ 33.2-3404, 58.1-802.3, 58.1-1743, ~~and 58.1-2299.20, and 58.1-4125~~ shall be deposited (the Non-Restricted Account). Revenues deposited into the Non-Restricted Account shall be available for use by WMATA for capital purposes, including for the payment of, or security for, debt service on bonds or other indebtedness of WMATA, or for any other WMATA capital purposes.

C. The amounts deposited into the Fund and the distribution and expenditure of such amounts shall not be used to calculate or reduce the share of federal, state, or local revenues otherwise available to participating jurisdictions. Further, such revenues and moneys shall not be included in any computation of, or formula for, a locality's ability to pay for public education, upon which appropriations of state revenues to local governments for public education are determined.

§ 58.1-4032. Application for a sports betting permit; penalty.

A. An applicant for a sports betting permit shall:

1. Submit an application to the Director, on forms prescribed by the Director, containing the information prescribed in subsection B; and

2. Pay to the Department a nonrefundable fee of \$50,000 for each principal at the time of filing to defray the costs associated with the background investigations conducted by the Department. If the reasonable costs of the investigation exceed the application fee, the applicant shall pay the additional amount to the Department. The Board may establish regulations calculating the reasonable costs to the Department in performing its functions under this article and allocating such costs to the applicants for licensure at the time of filing. The fees for each principal and any additional investigation costs paid to the Department shall be deposited into the Gaming Regulatory Fund established pursuant to § 58.1-4048.

B. An application for a sports betting permit shall include the following information:

1. The applicant's background in sports betting;

2. The applicant's experience in wagering activities in other jurisdictions, including the applicant's history and reputation of integrity and compliance;

3. The applicant's proposed internal controls, including controls to ensure that no prohibited or voluntarily excluded person will be able to participate in sports betting;

4. The applicant's history of working to prevent compulsive gambling, including training programs for its employees;

5. If applicable, any supporting documentation necessary to establish eligibility for substantial and

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60 preferred consideration pursuant to the provisions of this section;

61 6. The applicant's proposed procedures to detect and report suspicious or illegal betting activity; and

62 7. Any other information the Director deems necessary.

63 C. The Department shall conduct a background investigation on the applicant. The background
64 investigation shall include a credit history check, a tax record check, and a criminal history records check.

65 D. 1. The Director shall not issue any permit pursuant to this article until the Board has established a
66 consumer protection program and published a consumer protection bill of rights pursuant to the provisions of
67 subdivision A 14 of § 58.1-4007.

68 2. The Director shall issue no fewer than four and no more than 12 permits pursuant to this section;
69 however, if an insufficient number of applicants apply for the Director to satisfy the minimum, this provision
70 shall not be interpreted to direct the Director to issue a permit to an unqualified applicant. A permit shall not
71 count toward the minimum or maximum if it (i) is issued pursuant to subdivision 4 or 5 to a major league
72 sports franchise or to the operator of a facility; (ii) is issued pursuant to subdivision 6 to an applicant that
73 operates or intends to operate a casino gaming establishment; or (iii) is revoked, expires, or otherwise
74 becomes not effective.

75 3. In issuing permits to operate sports betting platforms and sports betting facilities, the Director shall
76 consider the following factors:

77 a. The contents of the applicant's application as required by subsection B;

78 b. The extent to which the applicant demonstrates past experience, financial viability, compliance with
79 applicable laws and regulations, and success with sports betting operations in other states;

80 c. The extent to which the applicant will be able to meet the duties of a permit holder, as specified in
81 § 58.1-4034;

82 d. Whether the applicant has demonstrated to the Department that it has made serious, good-faith efforts
83 to solicit and interview a reasonable number of investors that are minority individuals, as defined in
84 § 2.2-1604;

85 e. The amount of adjusted gross revenue and associated tax revenue that an applicant is expected to
86 generate;

87 f. The effect of issuing an additional permit on the amount of gross revenue and associated tax revenue
88 generated by all existing permit holders, considered in the aggregate; and

89 g. Any other factor the Director considers relevant.

90 4. In issuing permits to operate sports betting platforms prior to July 1, 2025, the Director shall give
91 substantial and preferred consideration to any applicant that is a major league sports franchise headquartered
92 in the Commonwealth that remitted personal state income tax withholdings based on taxable wages in the
93 Commonwealth in excess of \$200 million for the 2019 taxable year. Any permit holder granted a permit
94 pursuant to this subdivision shall receive substantial and preferred consideration of its first, second, and third
95 applications for renewal pursuant to the provisions of § 58.1-4033; however, such permit holder shall not
96 receive substantial and preferred consideration of its fourth and subsequent applications for renewal. Any
97 permit granted pursuant to this subdivision shall expire if the permit holder ceases to maintain its
98 headquarters in the Commonwealth.

99 5. In issuing permits to operate sports betting platforms prior to July 1, 2025, the Director shall give
100 substantial and preferred consideration to any applicant that is a major league sports franchise that plays five
101 or more regular season games per year at a facility in the Commonwealth or that is the operator of a facility in
102 the Commonwealth where a major league sports franchise plays five or more regular season games per year;
103 however, the Director shall give such substantial and preferred consideration only if the applicant (i) is
104 headquartered in the Commonwealth, (ii) has an annualized payroll for taxable wages in the Commonwealth
105 that is in excess of \$10 million over the 90-day period prior to the application date, and (iii) the total number
106 of individuals working at the facility in the Commonwealth where the major league sports franchise plays
107 five or more regular season games is in excess of 100.

108 6. If casino gaming is authorized under the laws of the Commonwealth, then in issuing permits to operate
109 sports betting platforms and sports betting facilities, the Director shall give substantial and preferred
110 consideration to any applicant that (i) has made or intends to make a capital investment of at least \$300
111 million in a casino gaming establishment, including the value of the real property upon which such
112 establishment is located and all furnishings, fixtures, and other improvements; (ii) has had its name submitted
113 as a preferred casino gaming operator to the Department by an eligible host ~~city~~ locality; and (iii) has been
114 certified by the Department to proceed to a local referendum on whether casino gaming will be allowed in the
115 locality in which the applicant intends to operate a casino gaming establishment.

116 7. In issuing permits to operate sports betting platforms prior to July 1, 2025, the Director shall give
117 substantial and preferred consideration to any applicant that demonstrates in its application (i) a description of
118 any equity interest owned by minority individuals or minority-owned businesses, (ii) a detailed plan to
119 achieve increased minority equity investment, (iii) a description of all efforts made to seek equity investment
120 from minority individuals or minority-owned businesses, or (iv) a plan detailing efforts made to solicit
121 participation of minority individuals or minority-owned businesses in the applicant's purchase of goods and

services related to the sports betting platform or to provide assistance to a historically disadvantaged community or historically black colleges and universities located within the Commonwealth. As used in this subdivision, "historically black colleges and universities," "minority individual," and "minority-owned business" mean the same as those terms are defined in § 2.2-1604.

8. In a manner as may be required by Board regulation, any entity that applies pursuant to subdivision 4, 5, 6, or 7 may demonstrate compliance with the requirements of an application, the duties of a permit holder, and any other provision of this article through the use of a partner, subcontractor, or other affiliate of the applicant.

E. The Director shall make a determination on an initial application for a sports betting permit within 90 days of receipt. The Director's action shall be final unless appealed in accordance with § 58.1-4007.

F. The following shall be grounds for denial of a permit or renewal of a permit:

1. The Director reasonably believes the applicant will be unable to satisfy the duties of a permit holder as described in subsection A of § 58.1-4034;

2. The Director reasonably believes that the applicant or its directors lack good character, honesty, or integrity;

3. The Director reasonably believes that the applicant's prior activities, criminal record, reputation, or associations are likely to (i) pose a threat to the public interest, (ii) impede the regulation of sports betting, or (iii) promote unfair or illegal activities in the conduct of sports betting;

4. The applicant or its directors knowingly make a false statement of material fact or deliberately fail to disclose information requested by the Director;

5. The applicant or its directors knowingly fail to comply with the provisions of this article or any requirements of the Director;

6. The applicant or its directors were convicted of a felony, a crime of moral turpitude, or any criminal offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust within the 10 years prior to the submission date of the permit application;

7. The applicant's license, registration, or permit to conduct a sports betting operation issued by any other jurisdiction has been suspended or revoked;

8. The applicant defaults in payment of any obligation or debt due to the Commonwealth; or

9. The applicant's application is incomplete.

G. The Director shall have the discretion to waive any of the grounds for denial of a permit or renewal of a permit if he determines that denial would limit the number of applicants or permit holders in a manner contrary to the best interests of the Commonwealth.

H. Prior to issuance of a permit, each permit holder shall either (i) be bonded by a surety company entitled to do business in the Commonwealth in such amount and penalty as may be prescribed by the regulations of the Board or (ii) provide other surety, letter of credit, or reserve as may be satisfactory to the Director. Such surety shall be prescribed by Board regulations and shall not exceed a reasonable amount.

I. Any person who knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or misrepresents a material fact or knowingly and willfully makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in any application pursuant to this article is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

J. In addition to the fee required pursuant to subdivision A 2, any applicant to which the Department issues a permit shall pay a nonrefundable fee of \$250,000 to the Department prior to the issuance of such permit. Such fees shall be deposited by the Department into the Gaming Regulatory Fund established pursuant to § 58.1-4048.

§ 58.1-4100. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Adjusted gross receipts" means the gross receipts from casino gaming less winnings paid to winners.

"Board" means the Virginia Lottery Board established in the Virginia Lottery Law (§ 58.1-4000 et seq.).

"Casino gaming" or "game" means baccarat, blackjack, twenty-one, poker, craps, dice, slot machines, roulette wheels, Klondike tables, Mah Jongg, electronic table games, hybrid table games, punchboards, faro layouts, numbers tickets, push cards, jar tickets, or pull tabs, or any variation of the aforementioned games, and any other activity that is authorized by the Board as a wagering game or device under this chapter. "Casino gaming" or "game" includes on-premises mobile casino gaming.

"Casino gaming establishment" means the premises, including the entire property, *such as a conference center, hotel, or entertainment district or large-scale concert venue*, located at the address of the licensed casino, upon which lawful casino gaming is authorized and licensed as provided in this chapter. "Casino gaming establishment" does not include a riverboat or similar vessel.

"Casino gaming operator" means any person issued a license by the Board to operate a casino gaming establishment.

"Cheat" means to alter the selection criteria that determine the result of a game or the amount or frequency of payment in a game for the purpose of obtaining an advantage for one or more participants in a game over other participants in a game.

"Counter check" means an interest-free negotiable instrument for a specified amount executed by a player

184 and held by the casino that serves as evidence of the casino gaming patron's obligation to pay the casino and
185 that can be exchanged by the casino gaming patron for the specified amount in chips, tokens, credits,
186 electronic credits, electronic cash, or electronic cards.

187 "Department" means the independent agency responsible for the administration of the Virginia Lottery
188 created in the Virginia Lottery Law (§ 58.1-4000 et seq.).

189 "Director" means the Director of the Virginia Lottery.

190 "Eligible host ~~city~~ locality" means any ~~city~~ locality described in § 58.1-4107 in which a casino gaming
191 establishment is authorized to be located.

192 "Entity" means a person that is not a natural person.

193 "Gaming operation" means the conduct of authorized casino gaming within a casino gaming
194 establishment.

195 "Gross receipts" means the total amount of money exchanged for the purchase of chips, tokens, electronic
196 credits, electronic cash, or electronic cards by casino gaming patrons. "Gross receipts" ~~shall~~ does not include
197 the cash value of promotions or credits provided to and exchanged by casino gaming patrons for chips,
198 tokens, electronic credits, electronic cash, or electronic cards. "Gross receipts" ~~shall~~ also does not include
199 uncollectable counter checks.

200 "Immediate family" means (i) a spouse and (ii) any other person residing in the same household as an
201 officer or employee and who is a dependent of the officer or employee or of whom the officer or employee is
202 a dependent.

203 "Individual" means a natural person.

204 "Labor organization" means the same as that term is defined in 29 U.S.C. § 152(5).

205 "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement with a labor organization that contains, at a minimum,
206 provisions prohibiting the labor organization and its members from engaging in any picketing, work
207 stoppage, boycott, or other economic interference with the proposed casino gaming establishment's
208 operations.

209 "Licensee" or "license holder" means any person holding an operator's license under § 58.1-4111.

210 "On-premises mobile casino gaming" means casino gaming offered by a casino gaming operator at a
211 casino gaming establishment using a computer network of both federal and nonfederal interoperable packet-
212 switched data networks through which the casino gaming operator may offer casino gaming to individuals
213 who have established an on-premises mobile casino gaming account with the casino gaming operator and
214 who are physically present on the premises of the casino gaming establishment, as authorized by regulations
215 promulgated by the Board.

216 "Permit holder" means any person holding a supplier or service permit pursuant to this chapter.

217 "Person" means an individual, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, stock
218 corporation, or nonstock corporation and includes any person that directly or indirectly controls or is under
219 common control with another person.

220 "Preferred casino gaming operator" means the proposed casino gaming establishment and operator thereof
221 submitted by an eligible host ~~city~~ locality to the Board as an applicant for licensure.

222 "Prepaid access instrument" means a system device that allows a casino gaming patron access to funds
223 that have been paid in advance and can be retrieved or transferred at some point in the future through such a
224 device. In order to transfer funds for gaming purposes, a prepaid access instrument shall be redeemed for
225 tokens, chips, credits, electronic credits, electronic cash, electronic cards, or used in conjunction with an
226 approved cashless wagering system or interactive gaming account.

227 "Principal" means any individual who solely or together with his immediate family members (i) owns or
228 controls, directly or indirectly, five percent or more of the pecuniary interest in any entity that is a licensee or
229 (ii) has the power to vote or cause the vote of five percent or more of the voting securities or other ownership
230 interests of such entity, and any person who manages a gaming operation on behalf of a licensee.

231 "Professional sports" means the same as ~~such~~ that term is defined in § 58.1-4030.

232 "Security" has the same meaning as provided in § 13.1-501. If the Board finds that any obligation, stock,
233 or other equity interest creates control of or voice in the management operations of an entity in the manner of
234 a security, then such interest shall be considered a security.

235 "Sports betting" means the same as ~~such~~ that term is defined in § 58.1-4030.

236 "Sports betting facility" means an area, kiosk, or device located inside a casino gaming establishment
237 licensed pursuant to this chapter that is designated for sports betting.

238 "Supplier" means any person that sells or leases, or contracts to sell or lease, any casino gaming
239 equipment, devices, or supplies, or provides any management services, to a licensee.

240 "Voluntary exclusion program" means a program established by the Board pursuant to § 58.1-4103 that
241 allows individuals to voluntarily exclude themselves from engaging in the activities described in subdivision
242 B 1 of § 58.1-4103 by placing their names on a voluntary exclusion list and following the procedures set forth
243 by the Board.

244 "Youth sports" means the same as ~~such~~ that term is defined in § 58.1-4030.

245 **§ 58.1-4101. Regulation and control of casino gaming; limitation.**

A. Casino gaming shall be licensed and permitted as herein provided to benefit the people of the Commonwealth. The Board is vested with control of all casino gaming in the Commonwealth, with authority to prescribe regulations and conditions under this chapter. The purposes of this chapter are to assist economic development, promote tourism, and provide for the implementation of casino gaming operations of the highest quality, honesty, and integrity and free of any corrupt, incompetent, dishonest, or unprincipled practices.

B. The conduct of casino gaming shall be limited to the qualified locations established in § 58.1-4107. The Board shall be limited to the issuance of a single operator's license for each such qualified location.

C. The conduct of any casino gaming and entrance to such establishment is a privilege that may be granted or denied by the Board or its duly authorized representatives in its discretion in order to effectuate the purposes set forth in this chapter. Any proposed site for a casino gaming establishment shall be privately owned property subject to the local land use and property taxation authority of the eligible host ~~city~~ locality in which the casino gaming establishment is located.

Article 2.

Eligible Host ~~City~~ Locality; Certification of Preferred Casino Gaming Operator.

§ 58.1-4107. Eligible host locality; certification of preferred casino gaming operator.

A. The conduct of casino gaming shall be limited to the following eligible host ~~cities~~ localities:

1. Any city (i) in which at least 40 percent of the assessed value of all real estate in such city is exempt from local property taxation, according to the Virginia Department of Taxation Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2018, and (ii) that experienced a population decrease of at least seven percent from 1990 to 2016, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau;

2. Any city that had (i) an annual unemployment rate of at least five percent in 2018, according to data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; (ii) an annual poverty rate of at least 20 percent in 2017, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; and (iii) a population decrease of at least 20 percent from 1990 to 2016, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau;

3. Any city that (i) had an annual unemployment rate of at least 3.6 percent in 2018, according to data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; (ii) had an annual poverty rate of at least 20 percent in 2017, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; (iii) experienced a population decrease of at least four percent from 1990 to 2016, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; and (iv) is located adjacent to a state that has adopted a Border Region Retail Tourism Development District Act;

4. Any city (i) with a population greater than 200,000 according to the 2018 population estimates from the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service of the University of Virginia; (ii) in which at least 24 percent of the assessed value of all real estate in such city is exempt from local property taxation, according to the Virginia Department of Taxation Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2018; and (iii) that experienced a population decrease of at least five percent from 1990 to 2016, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; ~~and~~

5. Any city (i) in which at least 17 percent of the assessed value of all real estate in such city is exempt from local property taxation, according to the Virginia Department of Taxation Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016; (ii) that had a poverty rate of at least 21 percent in 2019, according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; and (iii) that had an annual unemployment rate of at least 13 percent in 2020, according to data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics; *and*

6. *Any county (i) with a population greater than 1.15 million in 2020 according to data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau; (ii) in which at least six percent of the assessed value of all real estate is exempt from local property taxation, according to the Virginia Department of Taxation Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021; and (iii) that has adopted the urban county executive form of government.*

B. In selecting a preferred casino gaming operator, ~~an~~ any eligible host ~~city~~ locality shall have considered and given substantial weight to factors such as:

1. The potential benefit and prospective revenues of the proposed casino gaming establishment.

2. The total value of the proposed casino gaming establishment.

3. The proposed capital investment and the financial health of the proposer and any proposed development partners.

4. The experience of the proposer and any development partners in the operation of a casino gaming establishment.

5. Security plans for the proposed casino gaming establishment.

6. The economic development value of the proposed casino gaming establishment and the potential for community reinvestment and redevelopment in an area in need of such.

7. Availability of ~~city-owned~~ locality-owned assets and privately owned assets, such as real property, including where there is only one location practicably available or land under a development agreement between a potential operator and the ~~city~~ locality, incorporated in the proposal.

8. The best financial interest of the ~~city~~ locality.

9. The proposer's status as a minority-owned business as defined in § 2.2-1604 or the proposer's commitment to solicit equity investment in the proposed casino gaming establishment from one or more minority-owned businesses and the proposer's commitment to solicit contracts with minority-owned

308 businesses for the purchase of goods and services.

309 10. The proposer's and any party contracted to perform construction at the proposed casino gaming
310 establishment's history of or commitment to paying or contracting for the payment of a prevailing wage rate
311 to those individuals providing construction labor during the initial construction of the casino gaming
312 establishment, and any hospitality facilities on the premises. For purposes of this subdivision, "prevailing
313 wage rate" means the rate, amount, or level of wages, salaries, benefits, and other remuneration prevailing
314 for the corresponding class of workers, as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry on the
315 basis of applicable prevailing wage rate determinations made by the U.S. Secretary of Labor under the
316 provisions of the federal Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. § 3141 et seq., as amended.

317 11. The proposer's and any party contracted to perform casino gaming or hospitality operations at the
318 proposed casino gaming establishment's history of or commitment to entering into labor peace agreements
319 with one or more labor organizations that is actively engaged in representing or seeking to represent
320 employees in the casino gaming or hospitality industries in the Commonwealth.

321 C. The eligible host locality described in subdivision A 6 shall select a proposed casino gaming operator
322 that has voluntarily proffered the construction, funding, or dedication of at least one public safety capital
323 facility, such as a police precinct or headquarters or a fire and emergency medical services station, to be
324 located within the jurisdictional bounds of the eligible host locality. Any voluntary proffer accepted pursuant
325 to this subsection shall be reasonably related to the projected impacts of a casino gaming establishment on
326 public safety services in the eligible host locality and shall be proportional in nature and extent to such
327 impacts.

328 D. The Department shall, upon request of any eligible host ~~city~~ locality, provide a list of resources that
329 may be of assistance in evaluating the technical merits of any proposal submitted pursuant to this section,
330 provided that selection of the preferred casino gaming operator shall be at the ~~city's~~ locality's sole discretion.

331 ~~D. E.~~ The eligible host ~~city~~ locality described in subdivision A 4 shall provide substantial and preferred
332 consideration to a proposer who is a Virginia Indian tribe recognized in House Joint Resolution No. 54
333 (1983) and acknowledged by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs for the U.S. Department of the Interior as
334 an Indian tribe within the meaning of federal law that has the authority to conduct gaming activities as a
335 matter of claimed inherent authority or under the authority of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. §
336 2701 et seq.).

337 ~~E. F.~~ The eligible host locality described in subdivision A 6 shall be limited to a proposed site for a casino
338 gaming establishment that is part of a coordinated mixed-use project development consisting of no less than
339 1.5 million square feet.

340 G. An eligible host ~~city~~ locality shall promptly submit notice of its preferred casino gaming operator to the
341 Department for review prior to scheduling the referendum required by § 58.1-4123 or 58.1-4123.1. An
342 eligible host ~~city~~ locality shall include with the submission ~~any~~:

343 1. Any written or electronic documentation considered as part of the criteria in subsection B, including any
344 memorandums of understanding, incentives, development agreements, land purchase agreements, or local
345 infrastructure agreements. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1 of § 2.2-3705.3, the Department
346 shall make publicly available such documentation; however, the Department shall redact specific information
347 excluded from public disclosure pursuant to the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act
348 (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.).

349 2. An executed agreement entered into between the eligible host locality and its preferred casino gaming
350 operator certifying that such casino gaming operator and any subcontractor or sublessee responsible for the
351 performance of casino gaming or hospitality operations at the proposed casino gaming establishment will
352 enter into a labor peace agreement with each labor organization actively engaged in representing or seeking
353 to represent employees in the casino gaming or hospitality industries in the Commonwealth that requests
354 such labor peace agreement, and evidence of all such signed labor peace agreements.

355 H. The Department shall conduct a preliminary review of the financial status and ability of the preferred
356 casino gaming operator to operate and properly support ongoing operations in an eligible host ~~city~~ locality, as
357 well as current casino operations in other states and territories. The Department shall conduct such review
358 within 45 days of receipt of the submission by the eligible host ~~city~~ locality. An eligible host ~~city~~ locality and
359 preferred casino gaming operator shall fully cooperate with all necessary requests by the Department in that
360 regard. Upon successful preliminary review, the Department shall certify approval for the eligible host ~~city~~
361 locality to proceed to the referendum required by § 58.1-4123. The Department shall develop guidelines
362 establishing procedures and criteria for conducting the preliminary review required by this subsection.
363 Certification by the Department to proceed to referendum shall in no way entitle the preferred casino gaming
364 operator to approval of any application to operate a casino gaming establishment.

365 **§ 58.1-4107.1. Regional Improvement Commission.**

366 There is hereby established the Regional Improvement Commission (the Commission). The membership
367 of the Commission shall consist of one member appointed by the local governing body of each jurisdiction
368 composing the transportation district created pursuant to the Transportation District Act of 1964 (§ 33.2-1900
369 et seq.) that includes the eligible host ~~city~~ locality described in subdivision A 3 of § 58.1-4107. Each member

shall be appointed to serve a two-year term. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision B 1 of § 58.1-4125, for a casino gaming establishment located in the eligible host ~~city~~ locality described in subdivision A 3 of § 58.1-4107, such transfer, otherwise returned to the ~~city~~ locality where it was collected, shall instead be made to the Commission. The purpose of the Commission shall be to (i) receive disbursements made to it; (ii) establish funding priorities for member localities related to improvements in the areas of education, transportation, and public safety; and (iii) make annual payments divided equally among the jurisdictions to fund the established priorities as determined by the Commission.

§ 58.1-4108. Operator's license required; capital investment; equity interest; transferability; fee.

A. No person shall operate a casino gaming establishment unless he has obtained an operator's license issued by the Department in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and the regulations promulgated hereunder.

B. To obtain an operator's license issued under the provisions of this chapter, the applicant shall (i) make a capital investment of at least \$300 million in a casino gaming establishment, including the value of the real property upon which such establishment is located and all furnishings, fixtures, and other improvements, and (ii) possess an equity interest equal to at least 20 percent of the casino gaming establishment.

C. A license issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be transferable, provided that the Department has approved the proposed transfer and all licensure requirements are satisfied at the time the transfer takes effect.

D. *A 1. With respect to any casino gaming establishment located in an eligible host locality described in subdivisions A 1 through 5 of § 58.1-4107, a nonrefundable fee of \$15 million shall be paid by the applicant to the Department upon the issuance of a license and upon any subsequent transfer of a license to operate a casino gaming establishment. Such fees shall be deposited by the Department into the Gaming Regulatory Fund established pursuant to § 58.1-4048.*

2. With respect to a casino gaming establishment located in an eligible host locality described in subdivision A 6 of § 58.1-4107, a nonrefundable fee of \$150 million shall be paid by the applicant to the Department upon the issuance of a license and upon any subsequent transfer of a license to operate a casino gaming establishment.

Such fee shall be distributed by the Department as follows: (i) 50 percent to the eligible host locality described in subdivision A 6 of § 58.1-4107 and (ii) 50 percent to the Gaming Regulatory Fund established pursuant to § 58.1-4048.

E. No person issued a license pursuant to this chapter shall be precluded from obtaining a license for online sports betting pursuant to the Virginia Lottery Law (§ 58.1-4000 et seq.) or any subsequently created online sports betting license.

§ 58.1-4109. Submission of preferred casino gaming operator by eligible host locality; application for operator's license; penalty.

A. If a majority of those voting in a referendum held pursuant to § 58.1-4123 or 58.1-4123.1 vote in the affirmative, the eligible host ~~city~~ locality shall certify its preferred casino gaming operator and submit such certification to the Department within 30 days.

B. Any preferred casino gaming operator desiring to operate a casino gaming establishment shall file with the Department an application for an operator's license. Such application shall be filed at the place prescribed by the Department and shall be in such form and contain such information as prescribed by the Department, including but not limited to the following:

1. The name and address of such person; if a corporation, the state of its incorporation, the full name and address of each officer and director thereof, and, if a foreign corporation, whether it is qualified to do business in the Commonwealth; if a partnership or joint venture, the name and address of each general partner thereof; if a limited liability company, the name and address of each manager thereof; or, if another entity, the name and address of each person performing duties similar to those of officers, directors, and general partners;

2. The name and address of each principal and of each person who has contracted to become a principal of the applicant, including providing management services with respect to any part of gaming operations; the nature and cost of such principal's interest; and the name and address of each person who has agreed to lend money to the applicant;

3. Such information as the Department considers appropriate regarding the character, background, and responsibility of the applicant and the principals, officers, and directors of the applicant;

4. A description of the casino gaming establishment in which such gaming operations are to be conducted, the ~~city~~ locality where such casino gaming establishment will be located, and the applicant's capital investment plan for the site. The Board shall require such information about a casino gaming establishment and its location as it deems necessary and appropriate to determine whether it complies with the minimum standards provided in this chapter and whether gaming operations at such location will be in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter;

5. Such information relating to the financial responsibility of the applicant, including the applicant's financing plan for the casino gaming establishment, and the applicant's ability to perform under its license as

the Department considers appropriate;

6. If any of the facilities necessary for the conduct of gaming operations are to be leased, the terms of such lease;

7. Evidence of compliance by the applicant with the economic development and land use plans and design review criteria of the local governing body of the ~~city~~ *locality* in which the casino gaming establishment is proposed to be located, including certification that the project complies with all applicable land use ordinances pursuant to Chapter 22 (§ 15.2-2200 et seq.) of Title 15.2;

8. Such information necessary to enable the Department to review the application based upon the best financial interests of the Commonwealth;

9. Such information necessary to enable the Department to authorize on-premises mobile casino gaming pursuant to Article 11 (§ 58.1-4131 et seq.);

10. Submission of the following: (i) a minority investment plan disclosing any equity interest owned by a minority individual or minority-owned business or the applicant's efforts to seek equity investment from minority individuals or minority-owned businesses and (ii) a plan for the participation of minority individuals or minority-owned businesses in the applicant's purchase of goods and services related to the casino gaming establishment. As used in the subdivision, "minority individual" and "minority-owned business" mean the same as those terms are defined in § 2.2-1604; and

11. Any other information that the Department in its discretion considers appropriate.

C. A nonrefundable application fee of \$50,000 shall be paid for each principal at the time of filing to defray the costs associated with the background investigation conducted for the Department. If the reasonable costs of the investigation exceed the application fee, the applicant shall pay the additional amount to the Department. The Board may establish regulations calculating the reasonable costs to the Department in performing its functions under this chapter and allocating such costs to the applicants for licensure at the time of filing.

D. Any license application from an Indian tribe as described in subsection ~~D~~ *E* of § 58.1-4107 shall certify that the material terms of the relevant development agreements between the Indian tribe and any development partner have been determined in the opinion of the Office of General Counsel of the National Indian Gaming Commission after review not to deprive the Indian tribe of the sole proprietor interest in the gaming operations for purposes of federal Indian gaming law.

E. Any application filed hereunder shall be verified by the oath or affirmation of the applicant. Any person who knowingly makes a false statement on an application is guilty of a Class 4 felony.

F. The licensed operator shall be the person primarily responsible for the gaming operations under its license and compliance of such operations with the provisions of this chapter.

G. The Department may use or rely on any application, supporting documentation, or information submitted pursuant to § 58.1-4032, in reviewing and verifying an application submitted pursuant to this chapter.

§ 58.1-4110. Issuance of operator's license to preferred casino gaming operator; standards for licensure; temporary casino gaming allowed under certain conditions.

A. If a preferred casino gaming operator, as certified by the applicable eligible host ~~city~~ *locality*, submits an application that meets the standards for licensure set forth in this article, the Board shall issue an operator's license to such preferred casino gaming operator. The Board shall not consider an application from any applicant that has not been certified as a preferred casino gaming operator by an eligible host ~~city~~ *locality*.

B. The Board may issue an operator's license to an applicant only if it finds that:

1. The applicant submits a plan for addressing responsible gaming issues, including the goals of the plan, procedures, and deadlines for implementation of the plan;

2. The applicant has established a policy requiring all license and permit holders who interact directly with the public in the casino gaming establishment to complete a training course acceptable to the Department in how to recognize and report suspected human trafficking;

3. The casino gaming establishment the applicant proposes to use on a permanent basis is or will be appropriate for gaming operations consistent with the purposes of this chapter;

4. The ~~city~~ *locality* where the casino gaming establishment will be located certifies that the proposed project complies with all applicable land use ordinances pursuant to Chapter 22 (§ 15.2-2200 et seq.) of Title 15.2;

5. Any required local infrastructure or site improvements, including necessary sewerage, water, drainage facilities, or traffic flow, are to be paid exclusively by the applicant without state or local financial assistance;

6. If the applicant is an entity, its securities are fully paid and, in the case of stock, nonassessable and have been subscribed and will be paid for only in cash or property to the exclusion of past services;

7. All principals meet the criteria of this subsection and have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Virginia courts, and all nonresident principals have designated the Director as their agent for receipt of process;

8. If the applicant is an entity, it has the right to purchase at fair market value the securities of, and require the resignation of, any person who is or becomes disqualified under subsection C;

9. The applicant meets any other criteria established by this chapter and the Board's regulations for the

granting of an operator's license;

10. The applicant is qualified to do business in Virginia or is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the Commonwealth; and

11. The applicant has not previously been denied a license pursuant to subsection C.

C. The Board shall deny a license to an applicant if it finds that for any reason the issuance of a license to the applicant would reflect adversely on the honesty and integrity of the casino gaming industry in the Commonwealth or that the applicant, or any officer, principal, manager, or director of the applicant:

1. Is or has been guilty of any illegal act, conduct, or practice in connection with gaming operations in this or any other state or has been convicted of a felony;

2. Has had a license or permit to hold or conduct a gaming operation denied for cause, suspended, or revoked, in this or any other state or country, unless the license or permit was subsequently granted or reinstated;

3. Has at any time during the previous five years knowingly failed to comply with the provisions of this chapter or any Department regulation;

4. Has knowingly made a false statement of material fact to the Department or has deliberately failed to disclose any information requested by the Department;

5. Has defaulted in the payment of any obligation or debt due to the Commonwealth and has not cured such default; or

6. Has operated or caused to be operated a casino gaming establishment for which a license is required under this chapter without obtaining such license.

D. The Board shall make a determination regarding whether to issue the operator's license within 12 months of the receipt of a completed application.

E. The Board shall be limited to the issuance of one operator's license for each eligible host ~~city~~ *locality*.

F. If, at the time of application, the applicant has not satisfied the capital investment requirement of at least \$300 million pursuant to subsection B of § 58.1-4108 but otherwise meets the standards for licensure set forth in this article, the Department shall issue the operator's license, which, prior to satisfying the capital investment requirement, may not be used to conduct gaming other than temporary casino gaming pursuant to subsection G.

G. The Department may authorize casino gaming to occur on a temporary basis for a period of one year under the following conditions:

1. The request to authorize casino gaming is made by a preferred casino gaming operator that has been issued a license consistent with this section.

2. The preferred casino gaming operator has submitted as a part of its application for licensure a construction schedule for a casino gaming establishment that has been approved by the eligible host ~~city~~ *locality* and the Department.

3. The temporary casino gaming is to be conducted at the same site referenced in the referendum held pursuant to § 58.1-4123 or 58.1-4123.1.

4. The preferred casino gaming operator has secured suppliers and employees holding the appropriate permits required by this chapter and sufficient for the routine operation of the site where the temporary casino gaming is authorized.

5. A performance bond is posted in an amount acceptable to the Board.

H. No portion of any facility developed with the assistance of any grants or loans provided by a redevelopment and housing authority created pursuant to § 36-4 shall be used as a casino gaming establishment.

The Department may renew the authorization to conduct temporary casino gaming for an additional year if it determines that the preferred casino gaming operator has made a good faith effort to comply with the approved construction schedule.

I. An operator issued a license under this chapter shall not be precluded from operating a sports betting facility for individuals to participate in sports betting activities in a casino gaming establishment, which may include in-person sports betting where the bettor places a bet directly with an employee of the casino or the sports betting permit holder, or through a kiosk or device.

§ 58.1-4111. Duration and form of operator's license; bond.

A. A casino gaming operator license under this chapter shall be valid for a period of 10 years from its date of issuance but shall be reviewed no less frequently than annually to determine compliance with this chapter and Department regulations. Such annual review shall include a certification by the eligible host ~~city~~ *locality* of the status of the operator's compliance with local ordinances and regulations. If the certification states that the operator is not in compliance, the Department shall require the operator to submit a plan of compliance, corrective action, or request for variance.

B. The Board shall establish by regulation the criteria and procedures for license renewal and for amending licenses to conform to changes in a licensee's gaming operations. Such regulations shall require the operator to submit to the Board any updates or revisions to the capital investment plan provided with the initial license application pursuant to subdivision B 4 of § 58.1-4109. Renewal shall not be unreasonably

556 refused.

557 C. The Department shall require a bond with surety acceptable to it, and in an amount determined by it, to
558 be sufficient to cover any indebtedness incurred by the licensee to the Commonwealth.

559 **§ 58.1-4123. Local referendum required.**

560 A. The Department shall not grant any initial license to operate a gaming operation in ~~an~~ any eligible host
561 ~~city~~ locality described in subdivisions A 1 through 5 of § 58.1-4107 until a referendum on the question of
562 whether casino gaming shall be permitted in such ~~city~~ locality is approved by the voters of such ~~city~~ locality.

563 B. The governing body of any ~~city~~ locality containing an eligible host ~~city~~ locality shall petition the court,
564 by resolution, asking that a referendum be held on the question of whether casino gaming shall be permitted
565 within the ~~city~~ locality. The court, by order entered of record in accordance with Article 5 (§ 24.2-681 et seq.)
566 of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2, shall require the regular election officials of the ~~city~~ locality to open the polls and
567 take the sense of the voters on the question as herein provided.

568 C. The clerk of such court of record of such ~~city~~ locality shall publish notice of such election in a
569 newspaper of general circulation in such ~~city~~ locality once a week for three consecutive weeks prior to such
570 election.

571 D. The regular election officers of such ~~city~~ locality shall open the polls at the various voting places in
572 such ~~city~~ locality on the date specified in such order and conduct such election in the manner provided by
573 law. The election shall be by ballot, which shall be prepared by the electoral board of the ~~city~~ locality and on
574 which shall be printed the following question:

575 "Shall casino gaming be permitted at a casino gaming establishment in (name of ~~city~~ locality and location)
576 as may be approved by the Virginia Lottery Board?

577 [] Yes

578 [] No"

579 In the blank shall be inserted the name of the ~~city~~ locality in which such election is held and the proposed
580 location of the casino gaming establishment. Any voter desiring to vote "Yes" shall mark in the square
581 provided for such purpose immediately preceding the word "Yes," leaving the square immediately preceding
582 the word "No" unmarked. Any voter desiring to vote "No" shall mark in the square provided for such purpose
583 immediately preceding the word "No," leaving the square immediately preceding the word "Yes" unmarked.

584 E. The ballots shall be counted, the returns made and canvassed as in other elections, and the results
585 certified by the electoral board to the court ordering such election. Thereupon, such court shall enter an order
586 proclaiming the results of such election and a duly certified copy of such order shall be transmitted to the
587 Department and to the governing body of such ~~city~~ locality.

588 F. A subsequent local referendum shall be required if a license has not been granted by the Board within
589 five years of the court order proclaiming the results of the election.

590 G. The governing body of any eligible host ~~city~~ locality that holds a local referendum pursuant to this
591 section that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another local referendum on the same
592 question for a period of three years from the date of the last referendum.

593 **§ 58.1-4123.1. Local referendum required; exception for certain eligible host locality.**

594 A. The Department shall not grant any initial license to operate a gaming operation in any eligible host
595 locality described in subdivision A 6 of § 58.1-4107 until a referendum on the question of whether casino
596 gaming shall be permitted in such locality is approved by the voters of such locality in accordance with the
597 provisions of subsection E.

598 B. The governing body of any locality containing any eligible host locality described in subsection A shall
599 petition the court, by resolution, asking that a referendum be held on the question of whether casino gaming
600 shall be permitted within the locality. The court, by order entered of record in accordance with Article 5
601 (§ 24.2-681 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2, shall require the regular election officials of the locality to
602 open the polls and take the sense of the voters on the question as herein provided.

603 C. The clerk of such court of record of such locality shall publish notice of such election in a newspaper
604 of general circulation in such locality once a week for three consecutive weeks prior to such election.

605 D. The regular election officers of such locality shall open the polls at the various voting places in in such
606 locality on the date specified in such order and conduct such election in the manner provided by law. The
607 election shall be by ballot, which shall be prepared by the electoral board of the locality and on which shall
608 be printed the following question:

609 "Shall casino gaming be permitted at a casino gaming establishment in _____
610 (name of locality, magisterial district, and location) as may be approved by the Virginia Lottery Board?

611 [] Yes

612 [] No"

613 In the blank shall be inserted the name of the locality in which such election is held and the proposed
614 location of the casino gaming establishment, including the magisterial district within the locality in which
615 such casino gaming establishment is proposed to be located. Any voter desiring to vote "Yes" shall mark in
616 the square provided for such purpose immediately preceding the word "Yes," leaving the square immediately
617 preceding the word "No" unmarked. Any voter desiring to vote "No" shall mark in the square provided for

such purpose immediately preceding the word "No," leaving the square immediately preceding the word "Yes" unmarked.

E. Notwithstanding a vote in the affirmative by a majority of the voters of the locality in which the referendum was held, a referendum held pursuant to this section shall not be successful if a majority of the voters in the magisterial district in which the proposed casino gaming establishment is to be located do not vote in the affirmative.

F. The ballots shall be counted in accordance with subsection E, the returns made and canvassed as in other elections, and the results certified by the electoral board to the court ordering such election. Thereupon, such court shall enter an order proclaiming the results of such election and a duly certified copy of such order shall be transmitted to the Department and to the governing body of such locality.

G. If a referendum held pursuant to this section is successful, a preferred casino gaming operator that is licensed pursuant to § 58.1-4110 shall be prohibited from conducting casino gaming operations at any site not located within the magisterial district noted on the ballot.

H. The governing body of any eligible host locality that holds a local referendum pursuant to this section that subsequently fails shall be prohibited from holding another local referendum on the same question.

§ 58.1-4124. Tax rate on adjusted gross receipts.

A. A With respect to a licensed operator for the eligible host localities described in subdivisions A 1 through 5 of § 58.1-4107, a tax on the adjusted gross receipts of each licensed operator received from games authorized under this chapter shall be imposed as follows:

1. On the first \$200 million of adjusted gross receipts of an operator each calendar year, a rate of 18 percent.

2. On the adjusted gross receipts of an operator that exceed \$200 million but do not exceed \$400 million each calendar year, a rate of 23 percent.

3. On the adjusted gross receipts of an operator that exceed \$400 million each calendar year, a rate of 30 percent.

B. With respect to a licensed operator for the eligible host locality described in subdivision A 6 of § 58.1-4107, a 40 percent tax shall be imposed on the adjusted gross receipts of such licensed operator received from games authorized under this chapter.

C. All tax revenues collected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall accrue to the Gaming Proceeds Fund and be allocated as provided in § 58.1-4125.

~~C.~~ D. The taxes imposed by this section shall be paid by the licensed operator to the Department no later than the close of the fifth day of each month for the preceding month when the adjusted gross receipts were received and shall be accompanied by forms and returns prescribed by the Board. Revenues collected pursuant to this section shall be credited to the Gaming Proceeds Fund to be appropriated as set forth in § 58.1-4125. The Department may suspend or revoke the license of an operator for willful failure to submit the wagering tax payment or the return within the specified time.

~~D.~~ E. The tax imposed under this section shall not apply to the receipts of a licensed operator from sports betting, whether such receipts were generated from a sports betting facility or sports betting platform; instead, such receipts shall be taxable under § 58.1-4037.

§ 58.1-4125. Gaming Proceeds Fund; distribution of revenue.

A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Gaming Proceeds Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All moneys required to be deposited into the Fund pursuant to this chapter shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund.

B. Revenues ~~from~~ accrued to the Fund in accordance with the tax imposed pursuant to subsection A of § 58.1-4124 shall be apportioned by the Comptroller as follows:

1. The following amounts shall be distributed to the ~~city~~ locality in which they were collected by warrants of the Comptroller drawn on the Treasurer of Virginia on a quarterly basis:

a. An amount equal to a six percent tax on the first \$200 million of adjusted gross receipts;

b. An amount equal to a seven percent tax on the adjusted gross receipts that exceed \$200 million but do not exceed \$400 million; and

c. An amount equal to an eight percent tax on the adjusted gross receipts that exceed \$400 million.

2. For any casino gaming establishment operated by a Virginia Indian tribe recognized in House Joint Resolution No. 54 (1983) and acknowledged by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior as an Indian tribe within the meaning of federal law that has the authority to conduct gaming activities as a matter of claimed inherent authority or under the authority of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. § 2701 et seq.), an amount equal to a tax of one percent on the adjusted gross receipts of such establishment shall be deposited in the Virginia Indigenous People's Trust Fund established pursuant to § 2.2-401.01.

3. Eight-tenths of one percent of the Fund shall be deposited in the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund established pursuant to § 37.2-314.2.

680 4. Two-tenths of one percent of the Fund shall be deposited in the Family and Children's Trust Fund
681 established pursuant to § 63.2-2100.

682 5. Any remaining revenues not apportioned pursuant to subdivisions 1 through 4 shall be deposited in the
683 School Construction Fund established pursuant to § 22.1-140.1.

684 *C. Revenues accrued to the Fund in accordance with the tax imposed pursuant to subsection B of §*
685 *58.1-4124 shall be apportioned by the Comptroller as follows:*

686 1. *Fifty percent shall be distributed to the locality in which they were collected by warrants of the*
687 *Comptroller drawn on the State Treasurer on a quarterly basis.*

688 2. *Five percent shall be deposited in the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund established*
689 *pursuant to § 37.2-314.2.*

690 3. *Five percent shall be deposited into the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital Fund*
691 *established pursuant to § 33.2-3401.*

692 4. *One percent to the Virginia Indigenous People's Trust Fund established pursuant to § 2.2-401.01.*

693 5. *Eight-tenths of one percent to the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund established pursuant to*
694 *§ 10.1-1801.1.*

695 6. *Two-tenths of one percent to the Family and Children's Trust Fund established pursuant to*
696 *§ 63.2-2100.*

697 7. *Any remaining revenues not apportioned pursuant to subdivisions 1 through 6 shall be deposited in the*
698 *School Construction Fund established pursuant to § 22.1-140.1.*

699 **2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2029, if, by such date, a referendum held**
700 **pursuant to § 58.1-4123.1 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, is not successful.**