

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Department of Transportation to identify opportunities for siting certain transmission*
3 *lines in existing state highway rights-of-way; report.*

4 [H 889]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. § 1.** *That in the siting of new electric transmission facilities, including high-voltage transmission lines, it*
8 *is the policy of the Commonwealth that existing linear infrastructure corridors, including existing utility*
9 *corridors and highways corridors, shall be prioritized over new corridors. Consideration of priority*
10 *corridors shall be done to the greatest extent such prioritization is feasible and in a manner that is (i)*
11 *consistent with economic and engineering considerations, (ii) ensuring reliability of the electric grid, and*
12 *(iii) protective of cultural and historical resources and the environment.*

13 **§ 2.** *That the Department of Transportation shall convene a work group of relevant stakeholders,*
14 *including the State Corporation Commission and members of the Virginia Utility Coordinating Committee, to*
15 *identify opportunities and develop recommendations to amend regulations and permitting processes to*
16 *facilitate the expedient and efficient siting of new electrical transmission infrastructure in existing state*
17 *highway rights-of-way. The work group shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the*
18 *Chairs of the House Committees on Labor and Commerce and Transportation and the Senate Committees on*
19 *Commerce and Labor and Transportation by November 1, 2026.*

ENROLLED

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