Oppose SB569 and HB847

Creating a redundant authority to oversee the Community Flood
Preparedness Fund
Senator Kiggans and Delegate Bloxom

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Reasons to oppose SB569 and HB847

These bills establish the Coastal Virginia Resiliency Authority to coordinate the execution of the Virginia
Coastal Resilience Master Plan and to administer the Community Flood Preparedness Fund.

Despite the fact that the Community Flood Preparedness Fund is available to all communities that need
to plan for and build resilience projects to protect people and property, this new Authority only has
representation from the coastal planning commissions and a few inland planning commissions, excluding
other parts of the state that have routinely experienced flood events.

This new Authority also removes responsibility for resiliency planning from the Natural Resources
Secretariat, which has traditionally had oversight for these plans and funds given its depth and breadth of
experience dealing with flooding.

This Authority is an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy that only benefits coastal communities, despite the
storm events and subsequent flooding being felt across the Commonwealth.

Also, any additional funding mechanisms (outside the Community Flood Preparedness Fund), would not
have the requirement that 25% of the funds go to low-income communities or that priority be given to
projects that implement community-scale hazard mitigation activities that use nature-based solutions to
reduce flood risk.

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building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural
resources today and for tomorrow.