SUPPORT HB 1510

Topic: Urban green space; local incentives

Bill Patron: Adams

Overview:

Loss of urban green space in areas of rapid development contributes to poor air quality, increased noise and air pollution, and excessive heat. This bill authorizes localities to establish programs to grant tax incentives or provide regulatory flexibility to encourage the preservation, restoration, or development of urban green space, including greenways.

Reasons to support:

- By providing safe and low-street walking and biking facilities, urban greenways promote
 these travel modes for both transportation, with corresponding environmental benefits,
 and recreation, with corresponding health benefits
- Urban green space "regulates extreme temperatures, freshens air, reduces runoff and improves water quality" ¹
- Accesses to urban green space has been shown to be positively correlated with health and well being.²





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This position was taken by Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)'s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors and is supported by Virginia's conservation community. For a complete list of VCN positions, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.

¹ 8 Positive Effects of Urban Green Spaces on the Environment and the People, accessed 01/19/2023

² Environmental, health, wellbeing, social and equity effects of urban green space interventions: A meta-narrative evidence synthesis accessed 01/19/2023