

SUPPORT HB 793 Del. Henson Jr. (D), HB1071 Del Carr (D)

Topic: Speed limits; expands authority of any locality to reduce limit to less than 25 miles per hour.

Bill Patrons: Delegate Carr and Henson

Reasons to support:

- Only a few jurisdictions in Virginia (e.g., Alexandria City and Arlington County) are allowed to reduce speed limits from 25 mph to as low as 15 mph, at their local discretion.
- Many other jurisdictions must seek approval from VDOT.
- VDOT often requires the local jurisdiction to get a traffic study completed on the road in question.
- VDOT's process is slow and costs \$5K to \$10K for just one study.
- Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has asked Del Henson to sponsor HB 793 to gain the same rights as Arlington county and Alexandria.
- Similarly, Del Carr is sponsoring HB 1071 to allow the ability of Richmond to reduce speed limits in the City of Richmond.

What the bill does:

Reduction of speed limits; local authority. Expands the current authority of any locality to reduce the speed limit to less than 25 miles per hour, but not less than 15 miles per hour, on highways within its boundaries that are located in a business district or residence district to include highways within the state highway system, provided that such reduced speed limit is indicated by lawfully placed signs.

Why this matters:

- Lowering speed limits to 15 mph or even 20 mph can save lives.



**Northern Virginia Families for
Safe Street**

Mike Doyle
mike@novafss.org
<https://novasafestreeets.org>



Virginia Conservation Network

vcn@vcnva.org
(804) 644-0283
www.VCNVA.org

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.