

SUPPORT HB1618

Topic: Creating a Microplastics workgroup

Bill Patron: Delegate Nadarius Clark

OVERVIEW:

Directs the Commissioner of Health to convene a work group to study the occurrence of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water and develop recommendations for the reduction of microplastics in the Commonwealth's public drinking water.

REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- Growing awareness about the ubiquity of microplastics has driven growing concern about the impacts to human health.
- Recent studies have shown microplastics can be found throughout the human body and scientists have said early research points to potential harm to human reproductive, digestive and respiratory health, with a possible link to colon and lung cancer.
- Microplastics are also aggregating in the Chesapeake Bay. Research shows that more than 90% of microplastics that make their way into the Bay watershed never leave.
- When it comes to public health we cannot afford to wait for additional research. This bill will begin the process of identifying ways to reduce microplastics making it into Virginians through our drinking water.



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure

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**VIRGINIA
CONSERVATION
NETWORK**

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