

SUPPORT HB1340

Topic: VA Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program code amendments

Bill Patron: Delegate Gretchen Bulova

OVERVIEW:

HB1340 amends the existing code for the VA Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program to allow moneys from the Fund to be awarded to public, private, or nonprofit entities. The bill also removes a provision that requires federal funds to be added to the Fund before state funds.

REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- The Virginia Electric Vehicle Grant Fund, also known as the Clean Vehicle Fund (“CVF”, “Fund”), was established in the Virginia State Statute during the 2021 General Assembly session, with the bill, patronized by former Delegate Keam, passing both the House and Senate and being signed into law by then-governor, Ralph Northam. However, it has not been funded in the four years since its establishment due to the lack of a funding mechanism. Various attempts in the General Assembly to allocate funds to the CVF have been unsuccessful to date. The CVF directs the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to manage the grant fund. However, without a proper financing mechanism, this goal cannot be achieved—leaving benefits on the table, such as cleaner air for children who ride school buses daily, protecting vulnerable Virginians’ health, cost savings for school districts and fleet operators, and resilience tools unavailable with today’s traditionally fueled fleet.



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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.