




VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS

TO: Members, Virginia House Finance Subcommittee #1
FROM: Virginia League of Conservation Voters
DATE: January 24, 2023
RE:  VaLCV Bill Positions | H Finance Subcommittee #1

Tomorrow, January 29, the House House Finance Subcommittee #1 will consider: HB1183, HB1223.

We encourage you to SUPPORT HB1183 and HB1223.

[HB1183 \(Carr\) / HB1223 \(Higgins\) Land preservation tax credit; maximum amount increase.](#)

This legislation would:

Increase the maximum amount of annual land preservation tax credits from \$75 million to \$100 million.

Reasons to SUPPORT HB1183/HB1223

- Each year, an average of 38,000 acres are voluntarily conserved by landowners through the Virginia Land Preservation Tax Credit. Over 1 million acres have been conserved since the VLPTC's inception.
- The VLPTC cap was reduced from \$100 million to \$75 million in 2015. The limit has been reached in each of the past 5 years. This causes many land conservation efforts pursued in Q4 to stall due to tax credits already being fully enrolled for the year.
- Land preserved through the VLPTC accounts for roughly 1/4 of all managed conservation lands in Virginia (National Parks and State Parks included) and more than 80% of all conservation easements.
- The VLPTC has helped the Commonwealth of Virginia achieve its Chesapeake Bay Program goals, support its top three industries—agriculture, tourism, and forestry, and help localities conserve natural and historic resources.

If you have any questions about our position, please contact Michael Town, Executive Director of Virginia LCV, at mtown@valcv.org, or Chris Leyen, Policy Director, at cleyen@valcv.org, or 925-354-1433 (mobile).