

SUPPORT HB 393

Improving Anti-Degradation Policy for Protection of Virginia's Water
Patroned by Delegate Rodney Willett

Reasons to support HB 393 :

Delegate Willett's **HB 393** "Water quality; consideration of economic or social development." improves the tools available to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and State Water Control Board to analyze impacts to communities from new or increased discharges of effluent into high quality water.

Overview:

Specifically, the bill:

- Introduces consideration of social and economic demographics during anti-degradation analyses by adding language to § 62.1-44.4. *Control by Commonwealth as to water quality.*
- Prevents further disproportionate impacts to the water resources of typically overburdened populations., including rural populations.
- Provides for analysis under the State Water Control Board's authorities similar to what exists under the Air Pollution Control Board's authorities at [Va. Code § 1307 E](#), appropriately aligning water permitting code with air permitting code.



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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.