



January 26, 2021

Members, House Appropriations Committee  
Members, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee  
Pocahontas Building  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

RE: VIRGINIAforever support for important budget amendments

Dear Chair Torian, Chair Howell, and Members of the Committees:

VIRGINIAforever remains grateful that Governor Northam and the General Assembly continue to be supportive of natural resources investments.

VIRGINIAforever is comprised of leading business and environmental organizations, and we advocate for state investments in land conservation and water quality. Our budget advocacy is based on VIRGINIAforever's unanimously adopted Five-Year Plan. This plan has been communicated to you and can be found on our website, [www.VIRGINIAforever.org](http://www.VIRGINIAforever.org).

This year, we strongly encourage you to support the following budget amendments.

### Governor's Budget

Gov. Northam Item 373	Natural Heritage (DCR)	\$1,038,331
Gov. Northam Item 375	Land Protection (DEQ)	various increases for DEQ staff support
Gov. Northam Item 377	Water Protection (DEQ)	various increases for DEQ staff support

*Continued on page 2*



Individual Members: Elizabeth Andrews • Robert Burnley • Pamela Faggert • Adrienne Kotula • Maureen Matsen • Dr. Mamie A. Parker  
Emeritus Members: Robert Dunn • Johnny C. Finch • Henry P. Long • Carol Wampler

### **House Amendments**

Del. Bulova Item 373 #4h	Fund Ag BMP Needs	\$63,615,469
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Del. Bulova Item C-70 #1h	Fund Stormwater Needs	\$50,910,884
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Del. Bulova Item C-70#2h	Fund WQIF Needs	\$39,792,860
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### **Senate Amendments**

Sen. Hanger Item 373 #2s	Fund Ag BMP Needs	\$63,615,469
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Sen. Hanger Item C-70 #2s	Fund Stormwater Needs	\$50,910,884
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Sen. Hanger Item C-70 #1s	Fund WQIF Needs	\$39,792,860
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Taken together, these budget items represent a significant investment in the Commonwealth's land and waterways. These appropriations are critical to ensure that our natural resources stay protected today, tomorrow and into the future. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Wells', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Matthew Wells  
Chair, Board of Directors  
VIRGINIA*forever*