



Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Capitol Contact ALERT - Call and email NOW to oppose HB 801

Bill prohibits local governments from imposing 'fees'

[HB 801 \(Morris\)](#) is before [Subcommittee #4](#) of the House General Laws Committee on Thursday and your call or email to [subcommittee members](#) to **oppose** is very important.

The bill –

- Prohibits localities and the state from imposing a charge and calling it a "fee" unless the charge relates to a direct and immediate specific service, good, or permit received by the person paying the charge.
- Redefines the term "fee" in state code.
- Purports to tie all other government entities such as water and sewer authorities who charge fees to "direct and immediate" benefits or services or permits.

VACo Members - please contact Delegates of [Subcommittee #4](#) of the House General Laws Committee and encourage them to **oppose** [HB 801 \(Morris\)](#) at Thursday's meeting.

TALKING POINTS

- The bill reopens all of the litigation defining the standards under which localities set and charge fees.
- The bill threatens the ability of a locality to create maintenance, replacement, pay-go and debt service reserve funds. For example,

a locality would not be able to charge connection fees that are intended to be collected to fund a plant expansion.

- The bill affects existing bond indentures with revenue covenants which may affect a locality's bond rating.

KEY CONTACTS

[House General Laws Committee Subcommittee #4](#)

[House General Laws Committee](#)

[House of Delegates](#)

VACo Contacts: [Dean Lynch, CAE](#), [Phyllis Errico, CAE](#), and [Beau Blevins](#)