

Submitter: Henry Balensifer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Commerce and General Government

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1585

Senators Manning Jr., Anderson, Sollman, Prozanski, and Representative Diel,

The City of Warrenton strongly supports House Bill 1585, which caps the matching fund requirements for small cities seeking legislative capital construction and municipal infrastructure grants.

Warrenton is a small community with 6,500 people. We also are the 17th largest city by area in the state with a major wetland in the middle of the city necessitating all the infrastructure serving the city being in a big circle instead of a grid. This equates to a lot of infrastructure!

A major impediment to our ability to fund infrastructure is our permanent tax rate of \$1.67/\$1,000 AV. Property tax equates to \$1.2 million in annual revenues to the city. This is despite having sawmills, multiple fish processing plants, an airport with air freight, two marinas, and all of the major big box retailers in the North Coast region. This bill expands the impact of grant amounts to cities, and for this reason the City of Warrenton supports HB 1585.

Thank you,
Henry Balensifer
Mayor
City of Warrenton