2016 Session Summary

**HJ 84 / SJ 58 - PASSED**

Study; Joint Subcommittee to Formulate Recommendations for the Development of a Comprehensive and Coordinated Planning Effort to Address Recurrent Flooding continued; report. Continues the study of recurrent flooding for two additional years and renames the Joint Subcommittee as the joint subcommittee on coastal flooding to more accurately reflect its mission.

**SB 282 - PASSED**

**Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund.** Establishes the Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund for the purpose of creating a low-interest loan program to help residents and businesses that are subject to recurrent flooding. Moneys from the Fund may be used to mitigate future flood damage.

**HB 903 - PASSED**

**Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency.** Designates the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency jointly at Old Dominion University, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and The College of William and Mary to (i) serve, advise, and support the Commonwealth by conducting interdisciplinary studies and investigations and (ii) provide training, technical and nontechnical services, and outreach in the area of recurrent flooding and resilience research to the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions.

**HB 526 - PASSED**

**Living shorelines; tax exemption.** Provides that any living shoreline project approved by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission or the applicable local wetlands board and not prohibited by local ordinance shall qualify for full exemption from local property taxes.

**HB 739 - Tabled by Appropriations Subcommittee**

**Virginia Flooding Adaptation Office.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish the Virginia Flooding Adaptation Office and designate a Chief Resiliency Officer to oversee the operations of such office. The Chief Resiliency Officer, who shall hold no other position, shall serve as the primary coordinator of resilience and adaptation initiatives in Virginia and as the primary point of contact regarding issues related to resilience, sea-level rise, and flooding.

**HB 1048 - Tabled by House Agriculture Subcommittee**

**Chief Resiliency Officer.** Directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to designate a Chief Resiliency Officer. The Chief Resiliency Officer, who shall hold no other position, shall serve as the primary coordinator of resilience and adaptation initiatives in Virginia and as the primary point of contact regarding issues related to resilience and recurrent flooding.