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March 23, 2020

The Honorable Ralph Northam
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

Re: House Bill 882

Dear Governor Northam,

The Stormwater Equipment Manufacturer's Association (SWEMA) represents a diverse group of innovative stormwater solution providers, as well as other associate and professional members. Our membership is extremely vested in, and affected by, actions taken by the State Legislature to improve water quality in Virginia. On behalf of our association, we are writing in support of House Bill 882 (HB882) and request that you sign the bill into law.

HB882 seeks to clarify how proprietary best management practices (BMP) can be approved for use in Virginia by allowing only those proprietary practices that have been robustly tested for sediment and nutrient removal performance. HB882 also contains a critically needed 18-month sunset provision requiring proprietary BMP manufacturers to provide documentation to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality demonstrating such performance. It also allows manufacturers without that information sufficient time to test their technologies and provide the results to Virginia DEQ. Combined, these elements will significantly strengthen the process for proprietary BMP evaluation within Virginia without limiting the use of innovative BMPs or compromising water quality.

SWEMA wants to see Virginia's waterways protected and believes HB882 will help achieve that goal. We appreciate your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JD", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jacob Dorman, AICP
SWEMA Government and Regulatory Committee
jdorman@conteches.com; 757.374.4321

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Holtz", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jay Holtz, P.E.
SWEMA Government and Regulatory Committee
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