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SENATE BILL NO. 384

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Joint Conference Committee
on March 13, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Norment)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-270, 19.2-294.1, 46.2-391 and 46.2-391.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to punishment for DUI; joint prosecution of DUI and reckless driving; consecutive sentences and administrative license suspension; penalties.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-270, 19.2-294.1, 46.2-391 and 46.2-391.2 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-270. Penalty for driving while intoxicated; subsequent offense; prior conviction.

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, any person violating any provision of § 18.2-266 shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. If the person's blood alcohol level as indicated by the chemical test administered as provided in this article was at least ~~0.20~~ 0.15, but not more than ~~0.25~~ 0.20, he shall be confined in jail for an additional mandatory, minimum period of five days or, if the level was more than ~~0.25~~ 0.20, for an additional mandatory, minimum period of 10 days. The additional mandatory, minimum period of confinement shall not be suspended by the court. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory, minimum fine of \$250, which shall not be suspended by the court.

B. 1. Any person convicted of a second offense committed within less than five years after a first offense under § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of the second offense be punished by a mandatory, minimum fine of \$500, which shall not be suspended by the court, and by confinement in jail for not less than one month nor more than one year. ~~Five~~ Twenty days of such confinement shall be a mandatory, minimum sentence not subject to suspension by the court.

2. Any person convicted of a second offense committed within a period of five to ~~ten~~ 10 years of a first offense under § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of the second offense be punished by a mandatory, minimum fine of \$500, which shall not be suspended by the court, and by confinement in jail for not less than one month. *Ten days of such confinement shall be a mandatory minimum sentence.*

3. Upon conviction of a second offense within 10 years of a first offense, if the person's blood alcohol level as indicated by the chemical test administered as provided in this article was at least ~~0.20~~ 0.15, but not more than ~~0.25~~ 0.20, he shall be confined in jail for an additional ~~minimum~~, mandatory, minimum period of 10 days or, if the level was more than ~~0.25~~ 0.20, for an additional mandatory, minimum period of 20 days. The additional mandatory, minimum period of confinement shall not be suspended by the court. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory, minimum fine of \$500, which shall not be suspended by the court.

C. Any person convicted of three or more offenses of § 18.2-266 committed within a 10-year period shall upon conviction of the third offense be guilty of a Class 6 felony, ~~and the~~ *The sentence of any person convicted of three offenses of § 18.2-266 committed within a 10-year period shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of 90 days, unless the three offenses were committed within a five-year period, in which case the sentence shall include a mandatory, minimum sentence of confinement for 10 days six months that shall not be subject to suspension by the court. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory, minimum fine of \$1,000, which shall not be suspended by the court. Any person convicted of a third offense committed within five years of an offense under § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of the third offense be guilty of a Class 6 felony, and the sentence shall include a mandatory, minimum sentence of confinement for 30 days that shall not be subject to suspension by the court. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory, minimum fine of \$1,000, which shall not be suspended by the court.* The punishment of any person convicted of a fourth or subsequent offense under § 18.2-266 committed within a 10-year period shall, upon conviction, include a mandatory, minimum term of imprisonment of one year, none of which may be suspended in whole or in part. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory, minimum fine of \$1,000, which shall not be suspended by the court. Unless otherwise modified by the court, the defendant shall remain on probation and under the terms of any suspended sentence for the same period as his operator's license was suspended, not to exceed three years.

D. In addition to the penalty otherwise authorized by this section or § 16.1-278.9, any person convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266 committed while transporting a person 17 years of age or younger shall be (i) fined an additional minimum of \$500 and not more than \$1000 and (ii) sentenced to a mandatory, minimum period of confinement of five days.

E. For the purpose of this section, an adult conviction of any person, or finding of guilty in the case of a juvenile, under the following shall be considered a ~~prior~~ conviction of § 18.2-266: (i) the provisions

60 of § 18.2-36.1 or the substantially similar laws of any other state or of the United States, (ii) the
61 provisions of §§ 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, former § 18.1-54 (formerly § 18-75), the ordinance of any county,
62 city or town in this Commonwealth or the laws of any other state or of the United States substantially
63 similar to the provisions of §§ 18.2-51.4, and or § 18.2-266 through 18.2-269, or (iii) the provisions of
64 subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or the substantially similar laws of any other state or of the United States.

65 § 19.2-294.1. Dismissal of one of dual charges for driving while intoxicated and reckless driving
66 upon conviction of other charge.

67 Whenever any person is charged with a violation of ~~§ 18.2-51.4~~ or § 18.2-266 or any similar
68 ordinances of any county, city, or town and with reckless driving in violation of § 46.2-852 or any
69 ordinance of any county, city or town incorporating § 46.2-852, growing out of the same act or acts and
70 is convicted of one of these charges, the court shall dismiss the remaining charge.

71 § 46.2-391. Revocation of license for multiple convictions of driving while intoxicated; exception;
72 petition for restoration of privilege.

73 A. The Commissioner shall forthwith revoke and not thereafter reissue for three years the driver's
74 license of any person on receiving a record of the conviction of any person who (i) is adjudged to be a
75 second offender in violation of the provisions of subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 (driving a commercial
76 motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or intoxicants), or § 18.2-266 (driving under the influence of
77 drugs or intoxicants), if the subsequent violation occurred within ten 10 years from the prior violation, or
78 (ii) is convicted of any two or more offenses of § 18.2-272 (driving while the driver's license has been
79 forfeited for a conviction under § 18.2-266) if the second or subsequent violation occurred within ten 10
80 years of the prior offense. However, if the Commissioner has received a copy of a court order
81 authorizing issuance of a restricted license as provided in subsection E of § 18.2-271.1, he shall proceed
82 as provided in the order of the court. For the purposes of this subsection, an offense in violation of a
83 valid local ordinance, or law of any other jurisdiction, which ordinance or law is substantially similar to
84 any provision of Virginia law herein shall be considered an offense in violation of such provision of
85 Virginia law. Additionally, in no event shall the Commissioner reinstate the driver's license of any
86 person convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266, or of a substantially similar valid local ordinance or law
87 of another jurisdiction, until receipt of notification that such person has successfully completed an
88 alcohol safety action program if such person was required by court order to do so unless the requirement
89 for completion of the program has been waived by the court for good cause shown.

90 B. The Commissioner shall forthwith revoke and not thereafter reissue the driver's license of any
91 person after receiving a record of the conviction of any person (i) convicted of a violation of § 18.2-36.1
92 or § 18.2-51.4 or (ii) adjudged to be a third or subsequent offender within a period of ten 10 years in
93 violation of the provisions of subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or § 18.2-266, or a substantially similar
94 ordinance or law of any other jurisdiction.

95 C. Any person who has had his driver's license revoked in accordance with subsection B of this
96 section may petition the circuit court of his residence, or, if a nonresident of Virginia, any circuit court:

97 1. For restoration of his privilege to drive a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth after the expiration
98 of five years from the date of his last conviction. On such petition, and for good cause shown, the court
99 may, in its discretion, restore to the person the privilege to drive a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth
100 on condition that such person install an ignition interlock system in accordance with § 18.2-270.1 on all
101 motor vehicles, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to him, in whole or in part, for a
102 period of at least six months, and upon whatever other conditions the court may prescribe, subject to the
103 provisions of law relating to issuance of driver's licenses, if the court is satisfied from the evidence
104 presented that: (i) at the time of his previous convictions, the petitioner was addicted to or
105 psychologically dependent on the use of alcohol or other drugs; (ii) at the time of the hearing on the
106 petition, he is no longer addicted to or psychologically dependent on the use of alcohol or other drugs;
107 and (iii) the defendant does not constitute a threat to the safety and welfare of himself or others with
108 regard to the driving of a motor vehicle. However, prior to acting on the petition, the court shall order
109 that an evaluation of the person, to include an assessment of his degree of alcohol abuse and the
110 appropriate treatment therefor, if any, be conducted by a Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program and
111 recommendations therefrom be submitted to the court. The court may, in lieu of restoring the person's
112 privilege to drive, authorize the issuance of a restricted license for a period not to exceed five years in
113 accordance with the provisions of § 18.2-270.1 and subsection E of § 18.2-271.1. The court shall notify
114 the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program which shall during the term of the restricted license monitor
115 the person's compliance with the terms of the restrictions imposed by the court. Any violation of the
116 restrictions shall be reported to the court, and the court may then modify the restrictions or revoke the
117 license.

118 2. For a restricted license to authorize such person to drive a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth in
119 the course of his employment and to drive a motor vehicle to and from his home to the place of his
120 employment after the expiration of three years from the date of his last conviction. The court may order
121 that a restricted license for such purposes be issued in accordance with the procedures of subsection E

122 of § 18.2-271.1, if the court is satisfied from the evidence presented that (i) at the time of the previous
 123 convictions, the petitioner was addicted to or psychologically dependent on the use of alcohol or other
 124 drugs; (ii) at the time of the hearing on the petition, he is no longer addicted to or psychologically
 125 dependent on the use of alcohol or such other drugs; and (iii) the defendant does not constitute a threat
 126 to the safety and welfare of himself and others with regard to the driving of a motor vehicle. The court
 127 shall prohibit the person to whom a restricted license is issued from operating a motor vehicle that is
 128 not equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system during all or any part of the term for
 129 which the restricted license is issued, in accordance with the provisions set forth in § 18.2-270.1.
 130 However, prior to acting on the petition, the court shall order that an evaluation of the person, to
 131 include an assessment of his degree of alcohol abuse and the appropriate treatment therefor, if any, be
 132 conducted by a Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program and recommendations therefrom be submitted
 133 to the court. The Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program shall during the term of the restricted license
 134 monitor the person's compliance with the terms of the restrictions imposed by the court. Any violation
 135 of the restrictions shall be reported to the court, and the court may then modify the restrictions or
 136 revoke the license.

137 The ignition interlock system installation requirement under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this subsection
 138 need only be satisfied once as to any single revocation under subsection B of this section for any person
 139 seeking restoration under subdivision 1 following the granting of a restricted license under subdivision 1
 140 or 2.

141 D. Any person convicted of driving a motor vehicle or any self-propelled machinery or equipment (i)
 142 while his license is revoked pursuant to subsection A or B or (ii) in violation of the terms of a restricted
 143 license issued pursuant to subsection C shall, provided such revocation was based on at least one
 144 conviction for an offense committed after July 1, 1999, be punished as follows:

145 1. If such driving does not of itself endanger the life, limb, or property of another, such person shall
 146 be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by a minimum, mandatory term of confinement in jail
 147 for no less than ~~ten~~ 10 days which shall not be suspended except in cases designated in subdivision 2 b
 148 (ii) of this subsection.

149 2. a. If such driving (i) of itself endangers the life, limb, or property of another or (ii) takes place
 150 while such person is in violation of §§ 18.2-36.1, 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, or
 151 a substantially similar law or ordinance of another jurisdiction, irrespective of whether the driving of
 152 itself endangers the life, limb or property of another and the person has been previously convicted of a
 153 violation of §§ 18.2-36.1, 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, or a substantially similar
 154 local ordinance, or law of another jurisdiction, such person shall be guilty of a felony punishable by
 155 confinement in a state correctional facility for not less than one year nor more than five years or, in the
 156 discretion of the jury or the court trying the case without a jury, by confinement in jail for ~~twelve~~ 12
 157 months and no portion of such sentence shall be suspended *or run concurrently with any other sentence.*

158 b. However, (i) if the sentence is more than one year in a state correctional facility, any portion of
 159 such sentence in excess of one year may be suspended or (ii) in cases wherein such operation is
 160 necessitated in situations of apparent extreme emergency ~~which~~ that require such operation to save life or
 161 limb, said sentence, or any part thereof may be suspended.

162 3. If any such offense of driving is a second or subsequent violation, such person shall be punished
 163 as provided in subdivision 2 of this subsection, irrespective of whether the offense, of itself, endangers
 164 the life, limb, or property of another.

165 E. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 2 and 3 of subsection D, following conviction and
 166 prior to imposition of sentence with the consent of the defendant, the court may order the defendant to
 167 be evaluated for and to participate in the Boot Camp Incarceration Program pursuant to § 19.2-316.1, or
 168 the Detention Center Incarceration Program pursuant to § 19.2-316.2, or the Diversion Center
 169 Incarceration Program pursuant to § 19.2-316.3.

170 F. Any period of driver's license revocation imposed pursuant to this section shall not begin to expire
 171 until the person convicted has surrendered his license to the court or to the Department of Motor
 172 Vehicles.

173 G. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person from operating any farm tractor on the highways
 174 when it is necessary to move the tractor from one tract of land used for agricultural purposes to another
 175 such tract of land when the distance between the tracts is no more than five miles.

176 H. Any person who operates a motor vehicle or any self-propelled machinery or equipment (i) while
 177 his license is revoked pursuant to subsection A or B, or (ii) in violation of the terms of a restricted
 178 license issued pursuant to subsection C, where the provisions of subsection D do not apply, shall be
 179 guilty of a violation of § 18.2-272.

180 § 46.2-391.2. Administrative suspension of license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle.

181 A. If a breath test is taken pursuant to § 18.2-268.2 or any similar ordinance of any county, city or
 182 town and (i) the results show a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more by weight by volume or

183 0.08 grams or more per 210 liters of breath, or (ii) the results, for persons under 21 years of age, show
184 a blood alcohol concentration of 0.02 percent or more by weight by volume or 0.02 grams or more per
185 210 liters of breath or (iii) the person refuses to submit to the breath test in violation of § 18.2-268.3 or
186 any similar local ordinance, and upon issuance of a petition or summons, or upon issuance of a warrant
187 by the magistrate, for a violation of §§ 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or § 18.2-266.1, or any substantially similar
188 local ordinance, or upon the issuance of a warrant or summons by the magistrate or by the arresting
189 officer at a medical facility for a violation of § 18.2-268.3, or any similar local ordinance, the person's
190 license shall be suspended immediately ~~for seven days~~ or in the case of (i) an unlicensed person, (ii) a
191 person whose license is otherwise suspended or revoked, or (iii) a person whose driver's license is from
192 a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, such person's privilege to operate a motor vehicle in the
193 Commonwealth shall be suspended immediately ~~for seven days~~. *The period of suspension of the person's*
194 *license or privilege to drive shall be seven days, unless the petition, summons or warrant issued charges*
195 *the person with a second or subsequent offense. If the person is charged with a second offense the*
196 *suspension shall be for 60 days. If not already expired, the period of suspension shall expire on the day*
197 *and time of trial of the offense charged on the petition, summons or warrant, except that it shall not so*
198 *expire during the first seven days of the suspension. If the person is charged with a third or subsequent*
199 *offense the suspension shall be until the day and time of trial of the offense charged on the petition,*
200 *summons or warrant.*

201 A law-enforcement officer, acting on behalf of the Commonwealth, shall serve a notice of suspension
202 personally on the arrested person. When notice is served, the arresting officer shall promptly take
203 possession of any driver's license held by the person and issued by the Commonwealth and shall
204 promptly deliver it to the magistrate. Any driver's license taken into possession under this section shall
205 be forwarded promptly by the magistrate to the clerk of the general district court or, as appropriate, the
206 court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made together with any
207 petition, summons or warrant, the results of the breath test, if any, and the report required by subsection
208 B. A copy of the notice of suspension shall be forwarded forthwith to both (a) the general district court
209 or, as appropriate, the court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was
210 made and (b) the Commissioner. Transmission of this information may be made by electronic means.

211 The clerk shall promptly return the suspended license to the person at the expiration of the ~~seven-day~~
212 suspension. Whenever a suspended license is to be returned under this section or § 46.2-391.4, the
213 person may elect to have the license returned in person at the clerk's office or by mail to the address on
214 the person's license or to such other address as he may request.

215 B. Promptly after arrest and service of the notice of suspension, the arresting officer shall forward to
216 the magistrate a sworn report of the arrest that shall include (i) information which adequately identifies
217 the person arrested and (ii) a statement setting forth the arresting officer's grounds for belief that the
218 person violated §§ 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or § 18.2-266.1, or a similar local ordinance or refused to submit
219 to a breath test in violation of § 18.2-268.3 or a similar local ordinance. The report required by this
220 subsection shall be submitted on forms supplied by the Supreme Court.

221 C. Any person whose license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended under
222 subsection A may, during the period of the suspension, request the general district court or, as
223 appropriate, the court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made to
224 review that suspension. The court shall review the suspension within the same time period as the court
225 hears an appeal from an order denying bail or fixing terms of bail or terms of recognizance, giving this
226 matter precedence over all other matters on its docket. If the person proves to the court by a
227 preponderance of the evidence that the arresting officer did not have probable cause for the arrest, that
228 the magistrate did not have probable cause to issue the warrant, or that there was not probable cause for
229 issuance of the petition, the court shall rescind the suspension, *or that portion of it that exceeds seven*
230 *days if there was not probable cause to charge a second offense or 60 days if there was not probable*
231 *cause to charge a third or subsequent offense, and the clerk of the court shall forthwith, or at the*
232 *expiration of the reduced suspension time, (i) return the suspended license, if any, to the person unless*
233 *the license has been otherwise suspended or revoked, (ii) deliver to the person a notice that the*
234 *suspension under § 46.2-391.2 has been rescinded or reduced, and (iii) forward to the Commissioner a*
235 *copy of the notice that the suspension under § 46.2-391.2 has been rescinded or reduced. Otherwise, the*
236 *court shall affirm the suspension. If the person requesting the review fails to appear without just cause,*
237 *his right to review shall be waived.*

238 The court's findings are without prejudice to the person contesting the suspension or to any other
239 potential party as to any proceedings, civil or criminal, and shall not be evidence in any proceedings,
240 civil or criminal.

241 D. If a person whose license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle is suspended under subsection A
242 is convicted under §§ 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or § 18.2-266.1, or any similar local ordinance during the
243 ~~seven-day~~ suspension imposed by subsection A, and if the court decides to issue the person a restricted
244 permit under subsection E of § 18.2-271.1, such restricted permit shall not be issued to the person before

245 the expiration of the ~~seven-day~~ *first seven days of the* suspension imposed under subsection A.
246 **2. That the Department of Motor Vehicles shall determine the impact on its recordkeeping system**
247 **if the penalties currently applicable to a third conviction of § 18.2-266 were applicable without**
248 **regard to the time period in which the offenses were committed.**