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HOUSE BILL NO. 497

Offered January 11, 2006 Prefiled January 9, 2006

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-749.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to special license plates for clean special fuel vehicles.

Patron—Frederick

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-749.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-749.3. Special license plates for clean special fuel vehicles.

The owner of any motor vehicle, except a motorcycle, that may utilize clean special fuel may purchase special license plates indicating the motor vehicle utilizes clean special fuels. Upon receipt of an application, the Commissioner shall issue special license plates to the owners of such vehicles.

For those motor vehicles required by law to display official government-use license plates, the Commissioner shall provide by regulation for the issuance, display, and fee for issuance of an alternative device indicating that the vehicle displaying the device is a clean special fuel vehicle. For the purposes of § 33.1-46.2, vehicles displaying such a device as provided in such regulation shall be treated as vehicles displaying special license plates issued under this section.

As used in this section, "clean special fuel" means any product or energy source used to propel a highway vehicle, the use of which, that both (i) compared to conventional gasoline or reformulated gasoline, results in produces lower emissions of oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide or particulates or any combination thereof and (ii) has a fuel economy rating of not less than 50 miles per gallon. The term includes compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, hydrogen, hythane (a combination of compressed natural gas and hydrogen), and electricity.