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HOUSE BILL NO. 1679

Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled December 8, 2006

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-1130 of the Code of Virginia, relating to crossing of bridges and culverts by certain fire and emergency medical apparatus responding to an emergency call.

Patrons-Cosgrove, Athey, Crockett-Stark, Gear, Jones, S.C., Landes, O'Bannon, Rust and Sherwood

Referred to Committee on Transportation

10 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

11 1. That § 46.2-1130 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

\$ 46.2-1130. Crossing bridge or culvert by vehicle heavier than allowed; where weight signs to beerected.

No vehicle shall cross any bridge or culvert in the Commonwealth if the gross weight of such vehicle is greater than the amount posted for the bridge or culvert as its carrying capacity. *This prohibition shall not apply to fire and emergency medical apparatus responding to an emergency call, provided that the weight of the vehicle is not such as to exceed the operating rating of the bridge or culvert. For the purposes of this section, "operating rating" means the maximum permissible live load to which the structure may be subjected to on an infrequent basis without causing damage.*

Signs stating the carrying capacity shall be erected and maintained near each end of the bridge or culvert on the approaches to such bridge or culvert. Whenever the weight capacity of any structure on the interstate or primary system is reduced below the weight limit permitted on the road of which it is a part, a sign indicating that there is a restricted structure shall be placed in advance of the last alternate route on the road upon which there is a restricted structure. Whenever the weight capacity of any structure is reduced below the weight limit permitted on the road of which it is a part, a sign indicating that there is a restricted structure, shall be placed in advance of the last alternate which there is a restricted structure.

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