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**SENATE BILL NO. 742** 

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Transportation on January 11, 2007)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Miller)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-1130 of the Code of Virginia, relating to crossing of bridges and culverts by certain emergency vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

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 be erected.

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 emergency response vehicles responding to and returning from an emergency call, provided a determination has been made by a licensed professional engineer that the emergency response vehicle can safely cross the bridge or culvert and documented via the issuance of an overweight permit by the agency responsible for the maintenance of the bridge or culvert. Such permit shall specify the posted bridges and culverts such vehicle is allowed to cross under emergency

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 route on the road upon which there is a restricted structure.