

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2011 SESSION

CHAPTER 275

An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-1077 of the Code of Virginia, relating to televisions in motor vehicles.

[H 2420]

Approved March 18, 2011

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-1077 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-1077. Motor vehicles not to be equipped with television within view of driver; viewing motion pictures or similar displays while driving.

A. No motor vehicle registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be equipped with, nor shall there be used therein, a television receiver ~~forward of the driver's seat or when the screen of which would otherwise be moving images are~~ visible to the driver while driving the vehicle is in motion. The operator of a motor vehicle ~~which~~ that is not required to be registered in Virginia shall not operate a television receiver ~~which~~ that violates the provisions of this section while driving in the Commonwealth.

The prohibitions contained in this subsection shall not, however, include:

1. Electronic displays used in conjunction with vehicle navigation *and mapping* systems, *or as part of a digital dispatch system*;
2. Closed circuit video monitors designed to operate only in conjunction with dedicated video cameras and used in rear-view systems on trucks, motor homes, and other motor vehicles;
3. Television receivers or monitors used in government-owned vehicles by law-enforcement officers and employees of the Virginia Department of Transportation in the course of their official duties; ~~and~~
4. Visual displays used to enhance or supplement the driver's view forward, behind, or to the sides of a motor vehicle for the purpose of maneuvering the vehicle;
5. *A vehicle information display;*
6. *A visual display used to enhance or supplement a driver's view of vehicle occupants;*
7. *Television-type receiving equipment used exclusively for safety or traffic engineering information;*
or
8. *A television receiver, video monitor, television or video screen, or any other similar means of visually displaying a television broadcast or signal, if that equipment has an interlock device that, when the motor vehicle is driven, disables the equipment for all uses except as a visual display described in subdivisions 1 through 7.*

B. Except for displays explicitly authorized in subsection A, no driver of any motor vehicle shall view any motion picture or similar video display while driving.