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HOUSE BILL NO. 1740

Offered January 12, 2011 Prefiled January 10, 2011

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 13 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1315, relating to designation of special safety corridors for vehicles transporting explosives or inflammable gas or liquid.

Patrons—Bulova and Watts; Senator: Petersen

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 13 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1315 as follows:

§ 46.2-1315. Safety corridor program for vehicles transporting explosives or inflammable gas or liquid.

The governing body of any county or city may by ordinance designate any portion of the primary or secondary road system as a special safety corridor if (i) the number of motor vehicles, tractor trucks, trailers, or semitrailers transporting explosives or inflammable gas or liquid within the corridor averages in excess of 200 per business day and (ii) the corridor is located within a quarter mile of a school, or is adjacent to or traverses any census tract with a population density that exceeds 1,500 per square mile.

Any county or city adopting such an ordinance shall erect signs, as approved by the Department, that designate the corridor and the penalties for violations committed within the designated corridor.

In addition to any other penalty imposed, when the driver of any motor vehicle, tractor truck, trailer, or semitrailer is convicted of any violation subject to the provisions of § 46.2-397 within a designated corridor, the otherwise applicable fines for the violations listed in § 46.2-397 shall be doubled.

Any motor vehicle, tractor truck, trailer, or semitrailer bearing a U. S. Department of Transportation hazardous materials transportation placard shall be considered to be carrying an explosive or inflammable gas or liquid for the purpose of enforcing this section.