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SENATE BILL NO. 959

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 7, 2013

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-924 of the Code of Virginia, relating to crossing of certain highways by pedestrians and other shared-path users; local ordinances.*

Patrons—Favola; Delegate: Ramadan

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-924 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-924. Drivers to stop for pedestrians; installation of certain signs; penalty.

A. The driver of any vehicle on a highway shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian crossing such highway:

1. At any clearly marked crosswalk, whether at mid-block or at the end of any block;
2. At any regular pedestrian crossing included in the prolongation of the lateral boundary lines of the adjacent sidewalk at the end of a block;
3. At any intersection when the driver is approaching on a highway or street where the legal maximum speed does not exceed 35 miles per hour.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, at intersections or crosswalks where the movement of traffic is being regulated by law-enforcement officers or traffic control devices, the driver shall yield according to the direction of the law-enforcement officer or device.

No pedestrian shall enter or cross an intersection in disregard of approaching traffic.

The drivers of vehicles entering, crossing, or turning at intersections shall change their course, slow down, or stop if necessary to permit pedestrians to cross such intersections safely and expeditiously.

Pedestrians crossing highways at intersections shall at all times have the right-of-way over vehicles making turns into the highways being crossed by the pedestrians.

C. The governing body of Arlington County, Fairfax County, Loudoun County and any town therein, the City of Alexandria, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church may by ordinance provide for the installation and maintenance of highway signs at marked crosswalks specifically requiring operators of motor vehicles, at the locations where such signs are installed, to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing or attempting to cross the highway. Any operator of a motor vehicle who fails at such locations to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians as required by such signs shall be guilty of a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of no less than \$100 or more than \$500. The Commonwealth Transportation Board shall develop criteria for the design, location, and installation of such signs. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any limited access highway.

D. Where a shared-use path crosses a highway with a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour or more at a clearly marked crosswalk and there are no traffic control devices at such crossing, the local governing body may by ordinance require pedestrians, cyclists, and any other users of such shared-used path to come to a complete stop prior to entering such crosswalk. Such local ordinance may provide for a fine not to exceed \$250 for violations. Any locality adopting such an ordinance shall install and maintain stop signs, consistent with standards developed by the Commonwealth Transportation Board, at such crosswalks, and no user of such shared-use path shall enter the crosswalk in disregard of approaching traffic.

INTRODUCED

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