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HOUSE BILL NO. 2260

Offered January 19, 2015

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-271.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to DUI; persons convicted under federal law; restricted license.

Patron—Lindsey

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-271.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-271.1. Probation, education, and rehabilitation of person charged or convicted; person convicted under law of another state or federal law.

A. Any person convicted of a first or second offense of § 18.2-266, or any ordinance of a county, city, or town similar to the provisions thereof, or provisions of subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, shall be required by court order, as a condition of probation or otherwise, to enter into and successfully complete an alcohol safety action program in the judicial district in which such charge is brought or in any other judicial district upon such terms and conditions as the court may set forth. However, upon motion of a person convicted of any such offense following an assessment of the person conducted by an alcohol safety action program, the court, for good cause, may decline to order participation in such a program if the assessment by the alcohol safety action program indicates that intervention is not appropriate for such person. In no event shall such persons be permitted to enter any such program which is not certified as meeting minimum standards and criteria established by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP) pursuant to this section and to § 18.2-271.2. However, any person charged with a violation of a first or second offense of § 18.2-266, or any ordinance of a county, city, or town similar to the provisions thereof, or provisions of subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, may, at any time prior to trial, enter into an alcohol safety action program in the judicial district in which such charge is brought or in any other judicial district. Any person who enters into such program prior to trial may pre-qualify with the program to have an ignition interlock system installed on any motor vehicle owned or operated by him. However, no ignition interlock company shall install an ignition interlock system on any such vehicle until a court issues to the person a restricted license with the ignition interlock restriction.

B. The court shall require the person entering such program under the provisions of this section to pay a fee of no less than \$250 but no more than \$300. A reasonable portion of such fee, as may be determined by the Commission on VASAP, but not to exceed 10 percent, shall be forwarded monthly to be deposited with the State Treasurer for expenditure by the Commission on VASAP, and the balance shall be held in a separate fund for local administration of driver alcohol rehabilitation programs. Upon a positive finding that the defendant is indigent, the court may reduce or waive the fee. In addition to the costs of the proceeding, fees as may reasonably be required of defendants referred for intervention under any such program may be charged.

C. Upon conviction of a violation of § 18.2-266 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the provisions thereof, or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the court shall impose the sentence authorized by § 18.2-270 or 46.2-341.28 and the license revocation as authorized by § 18.2-271. In addition, if the conviction was for a second offense committed within less than 10 years after a first such offense, the court shall order that restoration of the person's license to drive be conditioned upon the installation of an ignition interlock system on each motor vehicle, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to the person, in whole or in part, for a period of six months beginning at the end of the three year license revocation, unless such a system has already been installed for six months prior to that time pursuant to a restricted license order under subsection E of this section. Upon a finding that a person so convicted is required to participate in the program described herein, the court shall enter the conviction on the warrant, and shall note that the person so convicted has been referred to such program. The court may then proceed to issue an order in accordance with subsection E of this section, if the court finds that the person so convicted is eligible for a restricted license. If the court finds good cause for a person not to participate in such program or subsequently that such person has violated, without good cause, any of the conditions set forth by the court in entering the program, the court shall dispose of the case as if no program had been entered, in which event the revocation provisions of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of § 46.2-391 shall be applicable to the conviction. The court shall, upon final disposition of the case, send a copy of its order to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. If such order provides for the issuance of a restricted license, the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, upon receipt

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59 thereof, shall issue a restricted license. Appeals from any such disposition shall be allowed as provided
60 by law. The time within which an appeal may be taken shall be calculated from the date of the final
61 disposition of the case or any motion for rehearing, whichever is later.

62 D. Any person who has been convicted ~~in~~ *under the law of* another state *or the United States* of ~~the~~
63 ~~violation of a law of such state~~ *an offense* substantially similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or
64 subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, and whose privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this Commonwealth is
65 subject to revocation under the provisions of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of § 46.2-391, may petition
66 the general district court of the county or city in which he resides that he be given probation and
67 assigned to a program as provided in subsection A of this section and that, upon entry into such
68 program, he be issued an order in accordance with subsection E of this section. If the court finds that
69 such person would have qualified therefor if he had been convicted in this Commonwealth of a violation
70 of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the court may grant the petition and may issue an
71 order in accordance with subsection E of this section as to the period of license suspension or revocation
72 imposed pursuant to § 46.2-389 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. Such order shall be conditioned upon
73 the successful completion of a program by the petitioner. If the court subsequently finds that such
74 person has violated any of the conditions set forth by the court, the court shall dispose of the case as if
75 no program had been entered and shall notify the Commissioner, who shall revoke the person's license
76 in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-389 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. A copy of the order
77 granting the petition or subsequently revoking or suspending such person's license to operate a motor
78 vehicle shall be forthwith sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

79 No period of license suspension or revocation shall be imposed pursuant to this subsection which,
80 when considered together with any period of license suspension or revocation previously imposed for the
81 same offense ~~in any~~ *under the law of* another state *or the United States*, results in such person's license
82 being suspended for a period in excess of the maximum periods specified in this subsection.

83 E. Except as otherwise provided herein, whenever a person enters a certified program pursuant to this
84 section, and such person's license to operate a motor vehicle, engine or train in the Commonwealth has
85 been suspended or revoked, the court may, in its discretion and for good cause shown, provide that such
86 person be issued a restricted permit to operate a motor vehicle for any of the following purposes: (i)
87 travel to and from his place of employment; (ii) travel to and from an alcohol rehabilitation or safety
88 action program; (iii) travel during the hours of such person's employment if the operation of a motor
89 vehicle is a necessary incident of such employment; (iv) travel to and from school if such person is a
90 student, upon proper written verification to the court that such person is enrolled in a continuing
91 program of education; (v) travel for health care services, including medically necessary transportation of
92 an elderly parent or, as designated by the court, any person residing in the person's household with a
93 serious medical problem upon written verification of need by a licensed health professional; (vi) travel
94 necessary to transport a minor child under the care of such person to and from school, day care, and
95 facilities housing medical service providers; (vii) travel to and from court-ordered visitation with a child
96 of such person; (viii) travel to a screening, evaluation and education program entered pursuant to §
97 18.2-251 or subsection H of § 18.2-258.1; (ix) travel to and from court appearances in which he is a
98 subpoenaed witness or a party and appointments with his probation officer and to and from any
99 programs required by the court or as a condition of probation; (x) travel to and from a place of religious
100 worship one day per week at a specified time and place; (xi) travel to and from appointments approved
101 by the Division of Child Support Enforcement of the Department of Social Services as a requirement of
102 participation in a court-ordered intensive case monitoring program for child support for which the
103 participant maintains written proof of the appointment, including written proof of the date and time of
104 the appointment, on his person; (xii) travel to and from jail to serve a sentence when such person has
105 been convicted and sentenced to confinement in jail and pursuant to § 53.1-131.1 the time to be served
106 is on weekends or nonconsecutive days; or (xiii) travel to and from the facility that installed or monitors
107 the ignition interlock in the person's vehicle. No restricted license issued pursuant to this subsection shall
108 permit any person to operate a commercial motor vehicle as defined in the Virginia Commercial Driver's
109 License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.). The court shall order the surrender of such person's license to operate
110 a motor vehicle to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-398 and shall forward to
111 the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles a copy of its order entered pursuant to this
112 subsection, which shall specifically enumerate the restrictions imposed and contain such information
113 regarding the person to whom such a permit is issued as is reasonably necessary to identify such person.
114 The court shall also provide a copy of its order to the person so convicted who may operate a motor
115 vehicle on the order until receipt from the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles of a
116 restricted license, if the order provides for a restricted license for that time period. A copy of such order
117 and, after receipt thereof, the restricted license shall be carried at all times while operating a motor
118 vehicle. Any person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of any restrictions imposed pursuant to
119 this section shall be guilty of a violation of § 18.2-272. Such restricted license shall be conditioned upon
120 enrollment within 15 days in, and successful completion of, a program as described in subsection A of

121 this section. No restricted license shall be issued during the first four months of a revocation imposed
122 pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type
123 described therein committed within 10 years of a first such offense. No restricted license shall be issued
124 during the first year of a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of
125 § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type described therein committed within five years of a first
126 such offense. No restricted license shall be issued during any revocation period imposed pursuant to
127 subsection C of § 18.2-271 or subsection B of § 46.2-391. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-411,
128 the fee charged pursuant to § 46.2-411 for reinstatement of the driver's license of any person whose
129 privilege or license has been suspended or revoked as a result of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A
130 of § 46.2-341.24 or of any ordinance of a county, city or town, or of any federal law or the laws of any
131 other state similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 shall be \$105. Forty
132 dollars of such reinstatement fee shall be retained by the Department of Motor Vehicles as provided in
133 § 46.2-411, \$40 shall be transferred to the Commission on VASAP, and \$25 shall be transferred to the
134 Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund.

135 F. The court shall have jurisdiction over any person entering such program under any provision of
136 this section until such time as the case has been disposed of by either successful completion of the
137 program, or revocation due to ineligibility or violation of a condition or conditions imposed by the
138 court, whichever shall first occur. Revocation proceedings shall be commenced by notice to show cause
139 why the court should not revoke the privilege afforded by this section. Such notice shall be made by
140 first-class mail to the last known address of such person, and shall direct such person to appear before
141 the court in response thereto on a date contained in such notice, which shall not be less than 10 days
142 from the date of mailing of the notice. Failure to appear in response to such notice shall of itself be
143 grounds for revocation of such privilege. Notice of revocation under this subsection shall be sent
144 forthwith to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

145 G. For the purposes of this section, any court which has convicted a person of a violation of
146 § 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the
147 provisions of § 18.2-266 shall have continuing jurisdiction over such person during any period of
148 license revocation related to that conviction, for the limited purposes of (i) referring such person to a
149 certified alcohol safety action program, (ii) providing for a restricted permit for such person in
150 accordance with the provisions of subsection E, and (iii) imposing terms, conditions and limitations for
151 actions taken pursuant to clauses (i) and (ii), whether or not it took either such action at the time of the
152 conviction. This continuing jurisdiction is subject to the limitations of subsection E that provide that no
153 restricted license shall be issued during a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271 or
154 subsection B of § 46.2-391 or during the first four months or first year, whichever is applicable, of the
155 revocation imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. The
156 provisions of this subsection shall apply to a person convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A
157 of § 46.2-341.24 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 on,
158 after and at any time prior to July 1, 2003.

159 H. The State Treasurer, the Commission on VASAP or any city or county is authorized to accept any
160 gifts or bequests of money or property, and any grant, loan, service, payment or property from any
161 source, including the federal government, for the purpose of driver alcohol education. Any such gifts,
162 bequests, grants, loans or payments shall be deposited in the separate fund provided in subsection B.

163 I. The Commission on VASAP, or any county, city, town, or any combination thereof may establish
164 and, if established, shall operate, in accordance with the standards and criteria required by this
165 subsection, alcohol safety action programs in connection with highway safety. Each such program shall
166 operate under the direction of a local independent policy board chosen in accordance with procedures
167 approved and promulgated by the Commission on VASAP. Local sitting or retired district court judges
168 who regularly hear or heard cases involving driving under the influence and are familiar with their local
169 alcohol safety action programs may serve on such boards. The Commission on VASAP shall establish
170 minimum standards and criteria for the implementation and operation of such programs and shall
171 establish procedures to certify all such programs to ensure that they meet the minimum standards and
172 criteria stipulated by the Commission. The Commission shall also establish criteria for the administration
173 of such programs for public information activities, for accounting procedures, for the auditing
174 requirements of such programs and for the allocation of funds. Funds paid to the Commonwealth
175 hereunder shall be utilized in the discretion of the Commission on VASAP to offset the costs of state
176 programs and local programs run in conjunction with any county, city or town and costs incurred by the
177 Commission. The Commission shall submit an annual report as to actions taken at the close of each
178 calendar year to the Governor and the General Assembly.

179 J. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section or of § 18.2-271, nothing in this section shall
180 permit the court to suspend, reduce, limit, or otherwise modify any disqualification from operating a
181 commercial motor vehicle imposed under the provisions of the Virginia Commercial Driver's License

182 Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.).

183 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
184 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is \$0**
185 **for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities and cannot be determined for**
186 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**