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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1440**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled November 23, 2016

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-665, 46.2-666, and 46.2-670 of the Code of Virginia, relating to farm use vehicles; registration exemptions.*

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Patron—Bell, Richard P.

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Referred to Committee on Transportation

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 46.2-665, 46.2-666, and 46.2-670 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 46.2-665. Vehicles used for agricultural or horticultural purposes.**

A. No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, license plates, or decals for or pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used exclusively for agricultural or horticultural purposes on lands owned or leased by the vehicle's owner.

B. This exemption shall only apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii) sport utility vehicles, (iii) vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 7,500 pounds, and (iv) trailers and semitrailers that are not operated on or over any public highway in the Commonwealth for any purpose other than:

1. Crossing a highway;
2. Operating along a highway for a distance of no more than 50 miles from one part of the owner's land to another, irrespective of whether the tracts adjoin;
3. Taking the vehicle or attached fixtures to and from a repair shop for repairs;
4. Taking another vehicle exempt from registration under any provision of §§ 46.2-664 through 46.2-668 or 46.2-672, or any part or subcomponent of such a vehicle, to or from a repair shop for repairs, including return trips;
5. Operating along a highway to and from a refuse disposal facility for the purpose of disposing of trash and garbage generated on a farm; or
6. Operating along a highway for a distance of no more than 50 miles for the purpose of obtaining supplies for agricultural or horticultural purposes, seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, or animal feed and returning.

*C. A violation of subsection B shall constitute a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of \$250.*

**§ 46.2-666. Vehicles used for seasonal transportation of farm produce and livestock; penalty.**

No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, license plates, or decals for or pay a registration fee prescribed for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned by the owner or lessee of a farm and used by him on a seasonal basis in transporting farm produce and livestock along public highways for a distance of no more than 50 miles including the distance to the nearest storage house, packing plant, or market. The provisions of this section shall only apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii) sport utility vehicles, (iii) vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 7,500 pounds, and (iv) trailers and semitrailers.

*A violation of this section shall constitute a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of \$250.*

**§ 46.2-670. Vehicles owned by farmers and used to transport certain wood products; penalty.**

No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, license plates, or decals for or pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned by a farm owner when the vehicle is operated or moved along a highway for no more than twenty miles between a sawmill or sawmill site and his farm to transport sawdust, wood shavings, slab wood, and other wood wastes. The provisions of this section shall only apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii) sport utility vehicles, (iii) vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 7,500 pounds, and (iv) trailers and semitrailers.

*A violation of this section shall constitute a traffic infraction punishable by a fine of \$250.*

INTRODUCED

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