

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact §§ 22.1-181 and 46.2-339 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school bus*
3 *operators; training.*

4 [H 810]

5 Approved

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

7 **1. That §§ 22.1-181 and 46.2-339 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**
8 **§ 22.1-181. Training program for school bus operators.**

9 The Board of Education shall develop a training program for persons applying for employment, and
10 employed, to operate school buses and shall promote its implementation. *For applicants not currently*
11 *possessing a commercial driver's license, such regulations shall require (i) a minimum of 24 hours of*
12 *classroom training administered pursuant to this section and (ii) six hours of behind-the-wheel training*
13 *on a school bus that contains no pupil passengers. For applicants currently possessing a commercial*
14 *driver's license, such regulations shall require (a) a minimum of four hours of classroom training*
15 *administered pursuant to this section and (b) three hours of behind-the-wheel training on a school bus*
16 *that contains no pupil passengers. Behind-the-wheel training shall be administered under the direct*
17 *on-board supervision of a designated school bus driver trainer.*

18 **§ 46.2-339. Qualifications of school bus operators; training; examination.**

19 A. No person shall ~~drive operate~~ any school bus on a highway in the Commonwealth unless he has
20 had a reasonable amount of experience in ~~driving operating~~ motor vehicles, and has passed a special
21 examination pertaining to his ability to ~~drive operate~~ a school bus with safety to its passengers and to
22 other persons using the highways. Such person shall obtain a commercial driver's license with the
23 applicable classifications and endorsements, issued pursuant to the Virginia Commercial Driver's License
24 Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.), if the school bus he ~~drives operates~~ is a commercial motor vehicle as defined
25 in the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act. For the purpose of preparing for the examination
26 required by this section, any person holding a valid driver's license issued under Article 4 of this
27 chapter, may drive, under the direct supervision of a person holding a valid school bus license
28 endorsement, a school bus which contains no other passengers, provided that, on and after April 1,
29 1992, only persons holding a valid commercial driver's license or instruction permit issued under the
30 provisions of the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act, may operate, under the direct supervision of
31 a person holding a valid commercial driver's license with a school bus endorsement, a school bus which
32 that is a commercial motor vehicle as defined in the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act and
33 which that contains no pupil passengers.

34 B. The Department may adopt regulations necessary to provide for the examination of persons
35 desiring to qualify to ~~drive operate~~ school buses in the Commonwealth and for the granting of permits
36 to qualified applicants.

37 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section otherwise, no person shall ~~drive operate~~ any school
38 bus on a highway in the Commonwealth during any period in which he is a person for whom
39 registration with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry is required pursuant to Chapter 9
40 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1.

41 **2. That the State Board of Education and the Department of Motor Vehicles' initial adoption of**
42 **regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act shall be exempt from the**
43 **Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia), except that the State Board**
44 **of Education and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide an opportunity for public**
45 **comment on the regulations prior to adoption.**

ENROLLED

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