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SENATE BILL NO. 737

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 10, 2018

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-270.1 and 18.2-271.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to driving under the influence; first offenders; license conditions.

Patron—Surovell

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-270.1 and 18.2-271.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-270.1. Ignition interlock systems; penalty.

A. For purposes of this section and § 18.2-270.2:

"Commission" means the Commission on VASAP.

"Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles.

"Ignition interlock system" means a device that (i) connects a motor vehicle ignition system to an analyzer that measures a driver's blood alcohol content; (ii) prevents a motor vehicle ignition from starting if a driver's blood alcohol content exceeds 0.02 percent; and (iii) is equipped with the ability to perform a rolling retest and to electronically log the blood alcohol content during ignition, attempted ignition, and rolling retest.

"Rolling retest" means a test of the vehicle operator's blood alcohol content required at random intervals during operation of the vehicle, which triggers the sounding of the horn and flashing of lights if (i) the test indicates that the operator has a blood alcohol content which exceeds 0.02 percent or (ii) the operator fails to take the test.

B. In addition to any penalty provided by law for a conviction under § 18.2-51.4 or 18.2-266 or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city, or town, any court of proper jurisdiction shall, as a condition of a restricted license, prohibit an offender from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system for any period of time not to exceed the period of license suspension and restriction, not less than six consecutive months without alcohol-related violations of the interlock requirements. However, if (i) the conviction was under § 18.2-266 or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city, or town; (ii) the conviction was for a first offense; (iii) the offender was an adult at the time of the offense; and (iv) the offender's blood alcohol content was less than 0.15, the only restriction of a restricted license that the court may impose is to prohibit the offender from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system for 12 consecutive months without alcohol-related violations of the interlock requirements. The court shall, as a condition of a restricted license for a conviction under § 18.2-51.4, a second or subsequent offense of § 18.2-266, or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city, or town, or as a condition of license restoration pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271.1 or § 46.2-391, require that such a system be installed on each motor vehicle, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to the offender, in whole or in part, for such any period of time, not less than six consecutive months without alcohol-related violations of the interlock requirements. Such condition shall be in addition to any purposes for which a restricted license may be issued pursuant to § 18.2-271.1. The Whenever an ignition interlock system is required, the court may order the installation of an ignition interlock system to commence immediately upon conviction. A fee of \$20 to cover court and administrative costs related to the ignition interlock system shall be paid by any such offender to the clerk of the court. The court shall require the offender to install an electronic log device with the ignition interlock system on a vehicle designated by the court to measure the blood alcohol content at each attempted ignition and random rolling retest during operation of the vehicle. The offender shall be enrolled in and supervised by an alcohol safety action program pursuant to § 18.2-271.1 and to conditions established by regulation under § 18.2-270.2 by the Commission during the period for which the court has ordered installation of the ignition interlock system. The offender shall be further required to provide to such program, at least quarterly during the period of court ordered ignition interlock installation, a printout from such electronic log indicating the offender's blood alcohol content during such ignitions, attempted ignitions, and rolling retests, and showing attempts to circumvent or tamper with the equipment. The period of time during which the offender (i) is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system or (ii) is required to have an ignition interlock system installed on each motor vehicle owned by or registered to the offender, in

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59 whole or in part, shall be calculated from the date the offender is issued a restricted license by the  
60 court; however, such period of time shall be tolled upon the expiration of the restricted license issued by  
61 the court until such time as the person is issued a restricted license by the Department.

62 C. In any case in which the court requires the installation of an ignition interlock system, the court  
63 shall order the offender not to operate any motor vehicle that is not equipped with such a system for the  
64 period of time that the interlock restriction is in effect. The clerk of the court shall file with the  
65 Department of Motor Vehicles a copy of the order, which shall become a part of the offender's  
66 operator's license record maintained by the Department. The Department shall issue to the offender for  
67 the period during which the interlock restriction is imposed a restricted license which shall appropriately  
68 set forth the restrictions required by the court under this subsection and any other restrictions imposed  
69 upon the offender's driving privilege, and shall also set forth any exception granted by the court under  
70 subsection F.

71 D. The offender shall be ordered to provide the appropriate ASAP program, within 30 days of the  
72 effective date of the order of court, proof of the installation of the ignition interlock system. The  
73 Program shall require the offender to have the system monitored and calibrated for proper operation at  
74 least every 30 days by an entity approved by the Commission under the provisions of § 18.2-270.2 and  
75 to demonstrate proof thereof. The offender shall pay the cost of leasing or buying and monitoring and  
76 maintaining the ignition interlock system. Absent good cause shown, the court may revoke the offender's  
77 driving privilege for failing to (i) timely install such system or (ii) have the system properly monitored  
78 and calibrated.

79 E. No person shall start or attempt to start a motor vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock  
80 system for the purpose of providing an operable motor vehicle to a person who is prohibited under this  
81 section from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. No person  
82 shall tamper with, or in any way attempt to circumvent the operation of, an ignition interlock system  
83 that has been installed in the motor vehicle of a person under this section. Except as authorized in  
84 subsection F, no person shall knowingly furnish a motor vehicle not equipped with a functioning  
85 ignition interlock system to any person prohibited under subsection B from operating any motor vehicle  
86 which is not equipped with such system. A violation of this subsection is punishable as a Class 1  
87 misdemeanor.

88 F. Any person prohibited from operating a motor vehicle under subsection B may, solely in the  
89 course of his employment, operate a motor vehicle that is owned or provided by his employer without  
90 installation of an ignition interlock system, if the court expressly permits such operation as a condition  
91 of a restricted license at the request of the employer; such person shall not be permitted to operate any  
92 other vehicle without a functioning ignition interlock system and, in no event, shall such person be  
93 permitted to operate a school bus, school vehicle, or a commercial motor vehicle as defined in  
94 § 46.2-341.4. This subsection shall not apply if such employer is an entity wholly or partially owned or  
95 controlled by the person otherwise prohibited from operating a vehicle without an ignition interlock  
96 system.

97 G. The Commission shall promulgate such regulations and forms as are necessary to implement the  
98 procedures outlined in this section.

99 **§ 18.2-271.1. Probation, education, and rehabilitation of person charged or convicted; person**  
100 **convicted under law of another state or federal law.**

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

120 B. The court shall require the person entering such program under the provisions of this section to

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

128 C. Upon conviction of a violation of § 18.2-266 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to  
 129 the provisions thereof, or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the court shall impose the sentence authorized  
 130 by § 18.2-270 or 46.2-341.28 and the license revocation as authorized by § 18.2-271. In addition, if the  
 131 conviction was for a second offense committed within less than 10 years after a first such offense, the  
 132 court shall order that restoration of the person's license to drive be conditioned upon the installation of  
 133 an ignition interlock system on each motor vehicle, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to  
 134 the person, in whole or in part, for a period of six months beginning at the end of the three year license  
 135 revocation, unless such a system has already been installed for six months prior to that time pursuant to  
 136 a restricted license order under subsection E. Upon a finding that a person so convicted is required to  
 137 participate in the program described herein, the court shall enter the conviction on the warrant, and shall  
 138 note that the person so convicted has been referred to such program. The court may then proceed to  
 139 issue an order in accordance with subsection E, if the court finds that the person so convicted is eligible  
 140 for a restricted license. If the court finds good cause for a person not to participate in such program or  
 141 subsequently that such person has violated, without good cause, any of the conditions set forth by the  
 142 court in entering the program, the court shall dispose of the case as if no program had been entered, in  
 143 which event the revocation provisions of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of § 46.2-391 shall be applicable  
 144 to the conviction. The court shall, upon final disposition of the case, send a copy of its order to the  
 145 Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. If such order provides for the issuance of a  
 146 restricted license, the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, upon receipt thereof, shall  
 147 issue a restricted license. The period of time during which the person (i) is prohibited from operating a  
 148 motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system or (ii) is required to have an  
 149 ignition interlock system installed on each motor vehicle owned by or registered to the person, in whole  
 150 or in part, shall be calculated from the date the person is issued a restricted license by the court;  
 151 however, such period of time shall be tolled upon the expiration of the restricted license issued by the  
 152 court until such time as the person is issued a restricted license by the Department of Motor Vehicles.  
 153 Appeals from any such disposition shall be allowed as provided by law. The time within which an  
 154 appeal may be taken shall be calculated from the date of the final disposition of the case or any motion  
 155 for rehearing, whichever is later.

156 D. Any person who has been convicted under the law of another state or the United States of an  
 157 offense substantially similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, and whose  
 158 privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this Commonwealth is subject to revocation under the provisions  
 159 of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of § 46.2-391, may petition the general district court of the county or  
 160 city in which he resides that he be given probation and assigned to a program as provided in subsection  
 161 A and that, upon entry into such program, he be issued an order in accordance with subsection E. If the  
 162 court finds that such person would have qualified therefor if he had been convicted in this  
 163 Commonwealth of a violation of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the court may grant the  
 164 petition and may issue an order in accordance with subsection E as to the period of license suspension  
 165 or revocation imposed pursuant to § 46.2-389 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. The court shall, as a  
 166 condition of a restricted license, prohibit such person from operating a motor vehicle that is not  
 167 equipped with a functioning certified ignition interlock system for a period of time not to exceed the  
 168 period of license suspension and restriction, not less than six consecutive months without alcohol-related  
 169 violations of interlock requirements. Such order shall be conditioned upon the successful completion of a  
 170 program by the petitioner. If the court subsequently finds that such person has violated any of the  
 171 conditions set forth by the court, the court shall dispose of the case as if no program had been entered  
 172 and shall notify the Commissioner, who shall revoke the person's license in accordance with the  
 173 provisions of § 46.2-389 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. A copy of the order granting the petition or  
 174 subsequently revoking or suspending such person's license to operate a motor vehicle shall be forthwith  
 175 sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. The period of time during which the  
 176 person is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock  
 177 system shall be calculated from the date the person is issued a restricted license by the court; however,  
 178 such period of time shall be tolled upon the expiration of the restricted license issued by the court until  
 179 such time as the person is issued a restricted license by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

180 No period of license suspension or revocation shall be imposed pursuant to this subsection which,  
 181 when considered together with any period of license suspension or revocation previously imposed for the

182 same offense under the law of another state or the United States, results in such person's license being  
183 suspended for a period in excess of the maximum periods specified in this subsection.

184 E. Except as otherwise provided herein, whenever a person enters a certified program pursuant to this  
185 section, and such person's license to operate a motor vehicle, engine or train in the Commonwealth has  
186 been suspended or revoked, the court may, in its discretion and for good cause shown, provide that such  
187 person be issued a restricted permit to operate a motor vehicle for any of the following purposes: (i)  
188 travel to and from his place of employment; (ii) travel to and from an alcohol rehabilitation or safety  
189 action program; (iii) travel during the hours of such person's employment if the operation of a motor  
190 vehicle is a necessary incident of such employment; (iv) travel to and from school if such person is a  
191 student, upon proper written verification to the court that such person is enrolled in a continuing  
192 program of education; (v) travel for health care services, including medically necessary transportation of  
193 an elderly parent or, as designated by the court, any person residing in the person's household with a  
194 serious medical problem upon written verification of need by a licensed health professional; (vi) travel  
195 necessary to transport a minor child under the care of such person to and from school, day care, and  
196 facilities housing medical service providers; (vii) travel to and from court-ordered visitation with a child  
197 of such person; (viii) travel to a screening, evaluation and education program entered pursuant to  
198 § 18.2-251 or subsection H of § 18.2-258.1; (ix) travel to and from court appearances in which he is a  
199 subpoenaed witness or a party and appointments with his probation officer and to and from any  
200 programs required by the court or as a condition of probation; (x) travel to and from a place of religious  
201 worship one day per week at a specified time and place; (xi) travel to and from appointments approved  
202 by the Division of Child Support Enforcement of the Department of Social Services as a requirement of  
203 participation in an administrative or court-ordered intensive case monitoring program for child support  
204 for which the participant maintains written proof of the appointment, including written proof of the date  
205 and time of the appointment, on his person; (xii) travel to and from jail to serve a sentence when such  
206 person has been convicted and sentenced to confinement in jail and pursuant to § 53.1-131.1 the time to  
207 be served is on weekends or nonconsecutive days; (xiii) travel to and from the facility that installed or  
208 monitors the ignition interlock in the person's vehicle; or (xiv) travel to and from a job interview for  
209 which he maintains on his person written proof from the prospective employer of the date, time, and  
210 location of the job interview. *However, if (a) the conviction was under § 18.2-266 or a substantially*  
211 *similar ordinance of any county, city, or town; (b) the conviction was for a first offense; (c) the offender*  
212 *was an adult at the time of the offense; and (d) the offender's blood alcohol content was less than 0.15,*  
213 *the only restriction of a restricted license that the court may impose is to prohibit the offender from*  
214 *operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system for*  
215 *12 consecutive months without alcohol-related violations of the interlock requirements.* No restricted  
216 license issued pursuant to this subsection shall permit any person to operate a commercial motor vehicle  
217 as defined in the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.). The court shall order  
218 the surrender of such person's license to operate a motor vehicle to be disposed of in accordance with  
219 the provisions of § 46.2-398 and shall forward to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor  
220 Vehicles a copy of its order entered pursuant to this subsection, which shall specifically enumerate the  
221 restrictions imposed and contain such information regarding the person to whom such a permit is issued  
222 as is reasonably necessary to identify such person. The court shall also provide a copy of its order to the  
223 person so convicted who may operate a motor vehicle on the order until receipt from the Commissioner  
224 of the Department of Motor Vehicles of a restricted license, if the order provides for a restricted license  
225 for that time period. A copy of such order and, after receipt thereof, the restricted license shall be  
226 carried at all times while operating a motor vehicle. Any person who operates a motor vehicle in  
227 violation of any restrictions imposed pursuant to this section shall be guilty of a violation of § 18.2-272.  
228 Such restricted license shall be conditioned upon enrollment within 15 days in, and successful  
229 completion of, a program as described in subsection A. No restricted license shall be issued during the  
230 first four months of a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of  
231 § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type described therein committed within 10 years of a first such  
232 offense. No restricted license shall be issued during the first year of a revocation imposed pursuant to  
233 subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type described  
234 therein committed within five years of a first such offense. No restricted license shall be issued during  
235 any revocation period imposed pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271 or subsection B of § 46.2-391.  
236 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-411, the fee charged pursuant to § 46.2-411 for reinstatement  
237 of the driver's license of any person whose privilege or license has been suspended or revoked as a  
238 result of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or of any ordinance of a county, city  
239 or town, or of any federal law or the laws of any other state similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or  
240 subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 shall be \$105. Forty dollars of such reinstatement fee shall be retained by  
241 the Department of Motor Vehicles as provided in § 46.2-411, \$40 shall be transferred to the Commission  
242 on VASAP, and \$25 shall be transferred to the Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund.

243 F. The court shall have jurisdiction over any person entering such program under any provision of

244 this section until such time as the case has been disposed of by either successful completion of the  
 245 program, or revocation due to ineligibility or violation of a condition or conditions imposed by the  
 246 court, whichever shall first occur. Revocation proceedings shall be commenced by notice to show cause  
 247 why the court should not revoke the privilege afforded by this section. Such notice shall be made by  
 248 first-class mail to the last known address of such person, and shall direct such person to appear before  
 249 the court in response thereto on a date contained in such notice, which shall not be less than 10 days  
 250 from the date of mailing of the notice. Failure to appear in response to such notice shall of itself be  
 251 grounds for revocation of such privilege. Notice of revocation under this subsection shall be sent  
 252 forthwith to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

253 G. For the purposes of this section, any court which has convicted a person of a violation of  
 254 § 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the  
 255 provisions of § 18.2-266 shall have continuing jurisdiction over such person during any period of  
 256 license revocation related to that conviction, for the limited purposes of (i) referring such person to a  
 257 certified alcohol safety action program, (ii) providing for a restricted permit for such person in  
 258 accordance with the provisions of subsection E, and (iii) imposing terms, conditions and limitations for  
 259 actions taken pursuant to clauses (i) and (ii), whether or not it took either such action at the time of the  
 260 conviction. This continuing jurisdiction is subject to the limitations of subsection E that provide that no  
 261 restricted license shall be issued during a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271 or  
 262 subsection B of § 46.2-391 or during the first four months or first year, whichever is applicable, of the  
 263 revocation imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. The  
 264 provisions of this subsection shall apply to a person convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A  
 265 of § 46.2-341.24 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 on,  
 266 after and at any time prior to July 1, 2003.

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

271 I. The Commission on VASAP, or any county, city, town, or any combination thereof may establish  
 272 and, if established, shall operate, in accordance with the standards and criteria required by this  
 273 subsection, alcohol safety action programs in connection with highway safety. Each such program shall  
 274 operate under the direction of a local independent policy board chosen in accordance with procedures  
 275 approved and promulgated by the Commission on VASAP. Local sitting or retired district court judges  
 276 who regularly hear or heard cases involving driving under the influence and are familiar with their local  
 277 alcohol safety action programs may serve on such boards. The Commission on VASAP shall establish  
 278 minimum standards and criteria for the implementation and operation of such programs and shall  
 279 establish procedures to certify all such programs to ensure that they meet the minimum standards and  
 280 criteria stipulated by the Commission. The Commission shall also establish criteria for the administration  
 281 of such programs for public information activities, for accounting procedures, for the auditing  
 282 requirements of such programs and for the allocation of funds. Funds paid to the Commonwealth  
 283 hereunder shall be utilized in the discretion of the Commission on VASAP to offset the costs of state  
 284 programs and local programs run in conjunction with any county, city or town and costs incurred by the  
 285 Commission. The Commission shall submit an annual report as to actions taken at the close of each  
 286 calendar year to the Governor and the General Assembly.

287 J. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section or of § 18.2-271, nothing in this section shall  
 288 permit the court to suspend, reduce, limit, or otherwise modify any disqualification from operating a  
 289 commercial motor vehicle imposed under the provisions of the Virginia Commercial Driver's License  
 290 Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.).

291 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**  
 292 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot**  
 293 **be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities; therefore, Chapter**  
 294 **836 of the Acts of Assembly of 2017 requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to**  
 295 **assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the**  
 296 **necessary appropriation is \$0 for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of**  
 297 **Juvenile Justice.**