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SENATE BILL NO. 1553

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Local Government
on January 29, 2019)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Surovell)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-815.1, relating to urban county executive form of government; abandoned shopping carts.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-815.1 as follows:

§ 15.2-815.1. Disposition of abandoned shopping cart; penalties.

A. Any county that has adopted the urban county executive form of government may, by ordinance, provide that it shall be unlawful for any person to place, leave, or abandon on any real property in the county, or within specified districts within the county, any shopping cart as defined in § 18.2-102.1. The ordinance shall provide that any such shopping cart that remains on real property outside of the premises defined in 18.2-102.1 after a notice of violation is given to the owner of such shopping cart shall be presumed to be abandoned and subject to being removed from the real property by the county or its agents without further notice.

B. A notice of violation sent by registered or certified mail to the last known address of the shopping cart's owner or its registered agent reflected in state or county public records shall satisfy the notice requirement of this section. In the event that any such shopping cart is so removed, the cost of removal, including the cost of disposal, shall be charged to the owner of the shopping cart. Any such charge that is not paid within 30 days of the date on which it is billed to the owner shall constitute a lien upon the shopping cart and may be collected in any manner provided by law for the collection of taxes.

C. In addition to any other remedy provided herein, the county or its designee may institute legal action to enjoin the continuing violating of this section.