

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-223 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Commissioner of the*  
3 *Department of Motor Vehicles; powers and duties.*

4 [H 1828]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 46.2-223 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 46.2-223. Additional powers and duties of Commissioner.**

9 The Commissioner shall have the following powers and duties related to transportation safety:

10 1. To evaluate safety measures currently in use by all transport operators in all modes which operate  
11 in or through the Commonwealth, with particular attention to the safety of equipment and appliances and  
12 methods and procedures of operation;13 2. To engage in training and educational activities aimed at enhancing the safe transport of  
14 passengers and property in and through the Commonwealth;15 3. To cooperate with all relevant entities of the federal government, including, but not limited to, the  
16 Department of Transportation, the Federal Railway Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration,  
17 the Coast Guard, and the Independent Transportation Safety Board in matters concerning transportation  
18 safety;

19 4. To initiate, conduct, and issue special studies on matters pertaining to transportation safety;

20 5. To evaluate transportation safety efforts, practices, and procedures of the agencies or other entities  
21 of the government of the Commonwealth and make recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation,  
22 the Governor, and the General Assembly on ways to increase transportation safety consciousness or  
23 improve safety practices;24 6. To assist entities of state government and political subdivisions of the Commonwealth in  
25 enhancing their efforts to ensure safe transportation, including the dissemination of relevant materials  
26 and the rendering of technical or other advice;27 7. To collect, tabulate, correlate, analyze, evaluate, and review the data gathered by various entities  
28 of the state government in regard to transportation operations, management, and accidents, especially the  
29 information gathered by the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of State Police, and the  
30 State Corporation Commission;31 8. To develop, implement, and review, in conjunction with relevant state and federal entities, a  
32 comprehensive highway safety program for the Commonwealth, and to inform the public about it;33 9. To assist towns, counties and other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth in the  
34 development, implementation, and review of local highway safety programs as part of the state program;35 10. To review the activities, role, and contribution of various state entities to the Commonwealth's  
36 highway safety program and to report annually and in writing to the Governor and General Assembly on  
37 the status, progress, and prospects of highway safety in the Commonwealth;38 11. To recommend to the Secretary of Transportation, the Governor, and the General Assembly any  
39 corrective measures, policies, procedures, plans, and programs which are needed to make the movement  
40 of passengers and property on the highways of the Commonwealth as safe as practicable;41 12. To design, implement, administer, and review special programs or projects needed to promote  
42 highway safety in the Commonwealth;

43 13. To integrate highway safety activities into the framework of transportation safety in general; and

44 14. To administer the Traffic Safety Fund established pursuant to § 46.2-749.2:10 and to accept  
45 grants, gifts, bequests, and other moneys contributed to, deposited in, or designated for deposit in the  
46 Fund; and47 15. *Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, for the duration of a declared state of*  
48 *emergency as defined in § 44-146.16 and for up to 90 days after the declaration of a state of emergency*  
49 *has been rescinded or expires, (i) to extend the validity or delay the cancellation of driver's licenses,*  
50 *special identification cards, and vehicle registrations; (ii) to extend the time frame during which a*  
51 *driver improvement clinic or payment plan may be completed; (iii) to extend the maximum number of*  
52 *days of residency permitted before a new resident must be licensed in Virginia pursuant to § 46.2-308 to*  
53 *operate a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth; and (iv) to extend the time frame during which a new*  
54 *resident may operate a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth that has been duly registered in another*  
55 *jurisdiction before registering the vehicle in the Commonwealth.*