

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21101300D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1850

Offered January 13, 2021

Prefiled January 7, 2021

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-1129.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to motor vehicle weight limits; vehicles powered primarily by electric battery power or fueled primarily by natural gas.

Patrons—Reid, Mugler, Delaney, Keam and Lopez

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-1129.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-1129.2. Further extension of weight limits for vehicles fueled by natural gas or powered by means of electric battery power.

A. On any highway other than an interstate highway, any motor vehicle that is fueled, wholly or partially, by natural gas *or powered primarily by means of electric battery power* shall be allowed up to an additional 2,000 pounds total in gross, single axle, tandem axle, or bridge formula weight limits.

To be eligible for this exception, the operator of the vehicle must be able to demonstrate that the vehicle is a natural gas vehicle, a bi-fuel vehicle using natural gas, ~~or~~ a vehicle that has been converted to a natural gas vehicle, *or a vehicle that is powered primarily by means of electric battery power.*

B. On an interstate highway, any motor vehicle that is fueled primarily by natural gas *or powered primarily by means of electric battery power* may exceed the weight limits provided in § 46.2-1127 by an amount equal to the difference between (i) the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system carried by that vehicle and (ii) the weight of a comparable diesel fuel tank and fueling system *by up to an additional 2,000 pounds.* However, the gross weight of such vehicle shall not exceed 82,000 pounds.

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