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HOUSE BILL NO. 51

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled December 31, 2021

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-146 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-97.2, relating to damage to motor vehicles; penalties.

Patrons—Fariss and Wyatt

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-146 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-97.2 as follows:

§ 18.2-146. Breaking, injuring, defacing, destroying or preventing the operation of vehicle, aircraft or boat; penalties.

Any person who shall individually or in association with one or more others willfully break, injure, tamper with, or remove any part or parts of any vehicle, aircraft, boat, or vessel for the purpose of injuring, defacing, or destroying said vehicle, aircraft, boat, or vessel, or temporarily or permanently preventing its useful operation, or for any purpose against the will or without the consent of the owner of such vehicle, aircraft, boat, or vessel, or who shall in any other manner willfully or maliciously interfere with or prevent the running or operation of such vehicle, aircraft, boat, or vessel, ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, *unless such violation of this section caused damage to such vehicle, aircraft, boat, or vessel of \$1,000 or more, then he is guilty of a Class 6 felony.*

§ 18.2-97.2. Larceny of a catalytic converter from a motor vehicle; penalty.

Any person who commits larceny of a catalytic converter from a motor vehicle, regardless of the catalytic converter's value, is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities; therefore, Chapter 552 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I, requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

INTRODUCED

HB51