

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-1239.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Potomac River Bridge*  
3 *Towing Compact.*

4 [S 131]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 46.2-1239.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 46.2-1239.1. Potomac River Bridge Towing Compact.**

9 Article I. Parties and Titles.

10 The Parties to this Compact are the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland and the  
11 District of Columbia. This agreement shall be known as the Potomac River Bridge Towing Compact.

12 Article II. Findings and Purpose.

13 The Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge, Rochambeau Memorial Bridge, George Mason Memorial  
14 Bridge, Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge, Francis Scott Key Bridge, Chain Bridge, Harry W. Nice  
15 Bridge, Sandy Hook Bridge, Brunswick Bridge, Point of Rocks Bridge, *Arland D. Williams, Jr.*  
16 *Memorial Bridge*, and American Legion Memorial Bridge (*the Potomac River bridges*) all pass through  
17 the territorial jurisdiction of two or more of the three Parties. Experience has shown that traffic back-ups  
18 often prevent state troopers or police officers of the appropriate jurisdiction from arriving at the scene of  
19 a disabled or abandoned vehicle to take corrective action. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate  
20 the prompt and orderly removal of disabled and abandoned vehicles from the *Potomac River* bridges, *as*  
21 *they are currently named or may subsequently be renamed*, by giving all three Parties jurisdiction to  
22 exercise appropriate authority anywhere on the bridges.

23 Article III. Authority to Direct Traffic and Authorize Removal of Vehicles.

24 The Parties hereby give one another all necessary power and authority to have their respective state  
25 troopers or local law-enforcement officers direct traffic and authorize the removal of disabled or  
26 abandoned vehicles, trailers, semitrailers or the parts or contents thereof, from any part of the Potomac  
27 River bridges, to the same extent and in the same manner that such troopers and local law-enforcement  
28 officers may exercise such authority in their own jurisdictions. However, no Party, acting through its  
29 troopers or local law-enforcement officers, shall have the authority to direct or authorize the towing or  
30 removal of any vehicle or other thing to a destination outside its own jurisdiction, unless the consent of  
31 an officer or trooper of the destination jurisdiction has been obtained.

32 Article IV. Disposition of Towed Vehicles.

33 All vehicles and their contents towed or removed from the Potomac River bridges pursuant to this  
34 Compact shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the place to which such vehicle and its contents  
35 are taken, and the handling and disposition of such vehicle and its contents shall be governed by the  
36 laws and procedures of that jurisdiction.

37 Article V. No Agency.

38 Each of the Parties shall act solely on its own authority within the jurisdiction granted. This Compact  
39 shall not be construed as creating any agency relationship between the Parties.

40 Article VI. Effective Date.

41 The provisions of this Compact shall take effect thirty days after the legislative bodies of the Parties  
42 having jurisdiction over one or several of the bridges identified in Article II have enacted Compacts  
43 substantially identical to this Compact.

44 Article VII. Termination.

45 The Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia or State of Maryland, or the Mayor of the District  
46 of Columbia may withdraw from this Compact at any time upon thirty days' written notice to the other  
47 Parties.48 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective only upon enactment by the legislative**  
49 **bodies of the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia of legislation substantially similar to**  
50 **this act.**