VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1994 SESSION

CHAPTER 617

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.1-132.1, relating to driving while impaired.

[S 451]

Approved April 10, 1994

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.1-132.1 as follows:

§ 15.1-132.1. Reimbursement for expenses of driving while impaired in certain cities.

Any city with a population of 350,000 or greater may provide by ordinance that any person who is convicted of violation of § 18.2-266 or § 29.1-738, or a similar ordinance, when his operation of a motor vehicle, engine, train or watercraft while so impaired is the proximate cause of any accident or incident resulting in an appropriate emergency response, may be liable in a separate civil action to the city or to any volunteer rescue squad, or both, which may provide such emergency response for the expenses thereof, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 in the aggregate for a particular accident or incident occuring in such city. As used in this section, "appropriate emergency response" includes all costs of providing law-enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue, and emergency medical services. The provisions of this section shall not preempt or limit any remedy available to the Commonwealth, to the city, or to any volunteer rescue squad to recover the reasonable expenses of an emergency response to an accident or incident not involving impaired driving or operation of a vehicle as set forth herein.