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HOUSE BILL NO. 1650

Offered January 16, 1995

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-1090 of the Code of Virginia, relating to warning devices on school buses.

Patrons—Abbitt and Crouch

Referred to Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-1090 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-1090. Warning devices on school buses; use thereof; penalties.

Every bus used for the principal purpose of transporting school children shall be equipped with a warning device of such type as may be prescribed by the State Board of Education after consultation with the Superintendent of State Police. Such a warning device shall indicate when such bus is either (i) stopped, is or about to stop, and when it is taking to take on or discharging discharge children, the elderly, or mentally or physically handicapped persons or (ii) stopped or about to stop behind another such bus that is stopped or about to stop to take on or discharge any such persons. Such warning device shall be used and in operation for at least 100 feet before any proposed stop of such bus if the lawful speed limit is less than thirty-five miles per hour, and for at least 200 feet before any proposed stop of such bus if the lawful speed limit is thirty-five miles per hour or more.

Failure of a warning device to function on any school bus shall not relieve any person operating a

motor vehicle from his duty to stop as provided in §§ 46.2-844 and 46.2-859.

Any person operating such bus who fails or refuses to equip such vehicle being driven by him with such equipment, or who fails to use such warning devices in the operation of such vehicle shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.