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HOUSE BILL NO. 2270

Offered January 17, 1997

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-1072 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 46.2-1072.1, relating to vehicle serial or identification numbers; fees for certain inspections.

Patrons—Abbitt, Nelms and Wardrup; Senator: Waddell

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-1072 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 46.2-1072.1 as follows:

§ 46.2-1072. Operation of vehicle without serial or identification number; requirements for stamping, cutting, or embossing numbers; regulations.

It shall be unlawful to sell or to drive on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor vehicle which does not have stamped on or cut into its motor its motor number or which does not bear a permanent serial or other identification number assigned by the manufacturer or by the Commissioner, or any trailer or semitrailer which does not bear a permanent serial or other identification number assigned by its manufacturer or the Commissioner. The number shall be stamped, cut, embossed, or attached in such a manner that it cannot be changed, altered, or removed without plainly showing evidence which would be readily detectable or which would destroy the attached plate. The number shall be die stamped, cut, or embossed into or attached to a permanent part of the vehicle which is easily accessible for verification. However, nonresident owners who are permitted to operate motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers without registration, under the registration provision relating to nonresidents contained in §§ 46.2-655 through 46.2-661 shall not be required to comply with this section before operating a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer on the highways in the Commonwealth.

The Commissioner may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.

The fee for the issuance of an identification number by the Department shall be five dollars. § 46.2-1072.1 Fees.

The Commissioner may charge an appropriate fee, not to exceed twenty-five dollars per vehicle, for the examination, verification, or identification of the serial or identification number of any vehicle, motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer. The Commissioner may also receive applications for the issuance of an identification number and investigate the circumstances of the application. When the Commissioner is satisfied that the applicant is entitled to the identification number, the fee for the issuance of such identification number shall be five dollars. If any inspection under this provision is done at the same time as an inspection under § 46.2-1605, then only one twenty-five-dollar fee shall be charged for both inspections.