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HOUSE BILL NO. 2604

Offered January 20, 1997

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 33.1-371.1, relating to control of certain vegetation on highway rights-of-way.

Patrons-Ruff, Albo, Baker, Behm, Bennett, Bryant, Callahan, Cantor, Christian, Clement, Cooper, Councill, Cranwell, Crittenden, Crouch, Darner, Davies, DeBoer, Deeds, Diamonstein, Dickinson, Dillard, Drake, Dudley, Griffith, Guest, Hargrove, Johnson, Katzen, Keating, Kilgore, Melvin, Moore, Nelms, Nixon, Orrock, Parrish, Phillips, Puller, Reid, Robinson, Rust, Stump, Tate, Thomas, Wardrup, Weatherholtz and Woodrum; Senators: Barry, Bolling, Chichester, Colgan, Earley, Edwards, Hawkins, Holland, Houck, Lambert, Lucas, Martin, Maxwell, Miller, K.G., Miller, Y.B., Newman, Norment, Quayle, Reasor, Reynolds, Saslaw, Stolle, Stosch, Trumbo, Wampler and Woods

Referred to Committee on Transportation

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Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 33.1-371.1 as follows:

§ 33.1-371.1. Control of certain vegetation.

The Department shall by permit authorize the selective trimming of vegetation obstructing motorists' views of outdoor advertising structures lawfully erected along a highway. No trees more than nine inches in diameter shall be cut down or removed unless they are diseased or unsightly, or they endanger the health or retard the growth of other desirable vegetation.

The Department shall adopt regulations not in conflict with the provisions of this section to govern the issuance of permits under this section.