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**HOUSE BILL NO. 19** 

Offered January 14, 1998 Prefiled December 16, 1997

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-336 of the Code of Virginia as it is currently effective and as it may become effective, relating to issuing driver's licenses to minors.

Patron—Guest

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-336 of the Code of Virginia as it is currently effective and as it may become effective is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-336. Manner of issuing original driver's licenses to minors.

The Department shall forward all original driver's licenses issued to applicants under the age of eighteen years to the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court in the city or county in which the licensee resides. The judge or a substitute judge shall issue to each person to be licensed the license so forwarded, and shall, at the time of issuance, conduct a formal, appropriate ceremony, in which he shall illustrate to the licensee the responsibility attendant on the privilege of driving a motor vehicle. If the licensee was under the age of eighteen years at the time his application was made, he shall be accompanied at the ceremony by a parent, his guardian, spouse, or other person in loco parentis. However, the judge, for good cause shown, may mail or otherwise deliver the driver's license to any person who is a student at any educational institution outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia at the time such license is received by the judge as prescribed in this section.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the issuance of Virginia driver's licenses to persons who hold valid driver's licenses issued by other states.

§ 46.2-336. (Delayed effective date) Manner of issuing original driver's licenses to minors.

The Department shall forward all original driver's licenses issued to applicants under the age of eighteen years to the judge of the family court in the city or county in which the licensee resides. The judge or substitute judge shall issue to each person to be licensed the license so forwarded, and shall, at the time of issuance, conduct a formal, appropriate ceremony, in which he shall illustrate to the licensee the responsibility attendant on the privilege of driving a motor vehicle. If the licensee was under the age of eighteen years at the time his application was made, he shall be accompanied at the ceremony by a parent, his guardian, spouse, or other person in loco parentis. However, the judge, for good cause shown, may mail or otherwise deliver the driver's license to any person who is a student at any educational institution outside of the Commonwealth of Virginia at the time such license is received by the judge as prescribed in this section.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the issuance of Virginia driver's licenses to persons who hold valid driver's licenses issued by other states.