

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

995129146

HOUSE BILL NO. 1927

Offered January 18, 1999

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 33.1-206.1, relating to design, installation, and costs of certain memorials; erection of unauthorized memorials prohibited; penalty.

Patrons—Cantor, Albo, Byron, Hamilton, Howell, McEachin, Orrock, Reid and Wardrup; Senators: Chichester and Stosch

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 33.1-206.1 as follows:

§ 33.1-206.1. Department to establish uniform design and installation criteria for memorials; payment of costs; private memorials prohibited; penalty.

The Department shall prescribe a uniform design and installation criteria for memorial walls, plaques, or other devices to list the names of those persons killed in vehicle crashes on highways maintained by the Department. Such walls or other devices shall be installed within highway rest areas or other suitable locations that are off the roadway but accessible to the public. On such walls or devices, separate listings shall be provided for (i) those whose deaths are attributable to drunk driving by another person; (ii) public service personnel killed in the line of duty; and (iii) all other victims of fatal vehicle crashes. The Department shall bear the costs associated with the production and installation of any memorial wall or other device on which names of the deceased are to be inscribed. However, all costs associated with the inscription of names on such memorial wall and costs associated with the production and installation of individual plaques or other similar devices shall be borne by the family of the deceased or by such other person or persons requesting the inclusion of the name of the deceased on any memorial erected in accordance with this section. In no case shall the name of any deceased be inscribed on any memorial erected in accordance with this section without written authorization from the immediate family of the deceased.

Erection of any sign, object, material, or other item memorializing any person or persons within the right-of-way of any highway maintained by the Department except as described in this section shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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