

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

982559685

SENATE BILL NO. 71

Offered January 14, 1998

A *BILL* to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-174 and 18.2-175 of the Code of Virginia, relating to impersonation of a police officer; penalty.

Patron—Houck

Referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 18.2-174 and 18.2-175 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-174. Impersonating officer.

Any person who shall falsely assume or exercise the functions, powers, duties and privileges incident to the office of sheriff, police officer, marshal, or other peace officer, or who shall falsely assume or pretend to be any such officer, shall be deemed guilty of a Class 4 ~~misdemeanor~~ 6 felony.

§ 18.2-175. Unlawful wearing of officer's uniform or insignia; unlawful use of vehicle with word "police" shown thereon.

No person, ~~not such other than~~ an officer as is referred to in § 19.2-78, shall wear any such uniform as is designated pursuant to the provisions of such section or wear an insignia or markings containing the Seal of the Commonwealth or the insignia of any such officer's uniform, ~~nor shall any~~. No person ~~not other than~~ such an officer, or ~~not a person~~ authorized by such an officer, ~~or not authorized~~ by the military police of the armed forces or of the National Guard, or ~~not authorized~~ by the military police of other governmental agencies, shall use or cause to be used on the public roads or highways of this Commonwealth, any motor vehicle (i) bearing markings ~~with including~~ the word "police" ~~shown thereon~~ or (ii) equipped with and exhibiting a flashing blue light. However, the prohibition against wearing an insignia or markings containing the Seal of the Commonwealth shall not apply to any certified firefighter or to any certified or licensed emergency medical personnel. Any violation of this section shall be a Class 4 ~~misdemeanor~~ 6 felony.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state correctional facilities. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is \$ 0.

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