2002 SESSION

028018836 **HOUSE BILL NO. 301** 1 2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE 3 (Proposed by the House Committee on Transportation 4 5 6 7 on January 22, 2002) (Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate McDonnell) A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-2000, 46.2-2001, 46.2-2001.1, 46.2-2011.4, 46.2-2011.10, 46.2-2011.14, 46.2-2011.15, 46.2-2011.16, 46.2-2011.22, and 46.2-2099.30 of the Code of Virginia, and to repeal §§ 46.2-2099.20, 46.2-2099.22, 46.2-2099.23, 46.2-2099.24, 46.2-2099.26 through 8 46.2-2099.29, 46.2-2099.31 through 46.2-2099.35 and 46.2-2099.37 through 36.2-2099.40 of the 9 10 Code of Virginia, relating to sight-seeing carriers by boat, special or charter party carriers by boat, 11 and motor carriers by launch. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 12 1. That §§ 46.2-2000, 46.2-2001, 46.2-2001.1, 46.2-2011.4, 46.2-2011.10, 46.2-2011.14, 46.2-2011.15, 13 14 46.2-2011.16, 46.2-2011.22, and 46.2-2099.30 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as 15 follows: 16 § 46.2-2000. (Effective July 1, 2002) Definitions. 17 Whenever used in this chapter unless expressly stated otherwise: "Authorized insurer" means, in the case of an interstate motor carrier whose operations may or may 18 19 not include intrastate activity, an insurer authorized to transact business in any one state, or, in the case 20 of a solely intrastate motor carrier, an insurer authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth. 21 "Broker" means any person not included in the term "motor carrier" and not a bona fide employee or 22 agent of any such carrier, who, as principal or agent, sells or offers for sale any transportation subject to this chapter, or negotiates for, or holds himself out by solicitation, advertisement, or otherwise as one 23 24 who sells, provides, furnishes, contracts, or arranges for such transportation. "Carrier by motor launch" means a common carrier or contract carrier authorized to transport 25 26 passengers under the provisions of this chapter, which carrier uses one or more motor launches operating 27 on the waters within the Commonwealth. 28 "Certificate" means a certificate of public convenience and necessity or a certificate of fitness. 29 "Certificate of fitness" means a certificate issued by the Department to a contract bus carrier. 30 "Certificate of public convenience and necessity" means a certificate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles to common carriers, certain restricted common carriers, contract passenger carriers, and 31 sight-seeing carriers, sight-seeing carriers by boat, special or charter party carriers by boat, and motor 32 earriers by launch under this chapter authorizing the transportation of passengers over the public 33 34 highways or waterways of the Commonwealth; but nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed 35 to mean that the Department can issue any such certificate authorizing intracity transportation. 36 "Charter bus" means a motor vehicle manufactured with a minimum seating capacity of thirty-two 37 passengers or more, excluding the driver. 38 "Common carrier " means any person who undertakes, whether directly or by a lease or any other 39 arrangement, to transport passengers for the general public by motor vehicle for compensation over the 40 highways of the Commonwealth, whether over regular or irregular routes, including such motor vehicle 41 operations of carriers by rail or water under this chapter. 42 "Contract bus carrier" means a motor carrier that operates solely charter buses, as defined in this section, to transport groups of passengers under a single contract made with one person for an agreed 43 charge for such transportation regardless of the number of passengers transported, and for which 44 transportation no individual or separate fares are solicited, charged, collected, or received by the carrier. 45 "Contract carrier" means any person who, under special and individual contracts or agreements, and 46 47 whether directly or by a lease or any other arrangement, transports passengers for compensation. "Contract passenger carrier" means a motor carrier that transports groups of passengers under a single **48** 49 contract made with one person for an agreed charge for such transportation, regardless of the number of 50 passengers transported, and for which transportation no individual or separate fares are solicited, 51 charged, collected, or received by the carrier. "Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles. 52 53 "Employee hauler" means a motor carrier operating for compensation and exclusively transporting 54 only bona fide employees directly to and from the factories, plants, office or other places of like nature where the employees are employed and accustomed to work. 55 "Excursion train" means any steam-powered train that carries passengers for which the primary 56 purpose of the operation of such train is the passengers' experience and enjoyment of this means of 57 transportation, and does not, in the course of operation, carry (i) freight other than the personal luggage 58 59

HB301H1

8/2/22 19:47

of the passengers or crew or supplies and equipment necessary to serve the needs of the passengers and

60 crew, (ii) passengers who are commuting to work, or (iii) passengers who are traveling to their final61 destination solely for business or commercial purposes.

62 "Financial responsibility" means the ability to respond in damages for liability thereafter incurred
63 arising out of the ownership, maintenance, use, or operation of a motor vehicle, in the amounts provided
64 for in this chapter.

"Highway" means every public highway or place of whatever nature open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel in the Commonwealth, including the streets and alleys in towns and cities.

⁶⁷ "Identification marker" means a decal or other visible identification issued by the Department to show (i) that the operator of the vehicle has registered with the Department for the payment of the road tax imposed under Chapter 27 (§ 58.1-2700 et seq.) of Title 58.1, (ii) proof of the possession of a certificate or permit issued pursuant to Chapter 20 (§ 46.2-2000 et seq.) of this title, and/or (iii) proof of compliance with the insurance requirements of this chapter.

72 "Interstate" means transportation of passengers between states.

73 "Intrastate" means transportation of passengers solely within a state.

74 "License" means a license issued by the Department to a broker.

75 "Minibus" means any motor vehicle having a seating capacity of not less than seven nor more than 76 sixteen passengers, including the driver, and used in the transportation of passengers.

77 "Motor carrier" means any person who undertakes, whether directly or by lease, to transport78 passengers for compensation over the highways of the Commonwealth.

"Motor launch" means a motor vessel that meets the requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard for the carriage of passengers for compensation, with a capacity of six or more passengers, but not in excess of fifty passengers. Motor launch, as defined herein, shall not include sight-seeing vessels, special or charter party vessels within the provisions of this chapter. A carrier by motor launch shall not be regarded as a steamship company.

84 "Nonprofit/tax-exempt passenger carrier" means a bona fide nonprofit corporation organized or 85 existing under Chapter 10 (§ 13.1-801 et seq.) of Title 13.1, or a tax-exempt organization as defined in 86 §§ 501 (c) (3) and 501 (c) (4) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, as from time to time 87 amended, who undertakes, whether directly or by lease, to control and operate minibuses exclusively in 88 the transportation, for compensation, of members of such organization if it is a membership corporation, 89 or of elderly, disabled, or economically disadvantaged members of the community if it is not a 89 membership corporation.

91 "Operation" or "operations" includes the operation of all motor vehicles, whether loaded or empty,
92 whether for compensation or not, and whether owned by or leased to the motor carrier who operates
93 them or causes them to be operated.

94 "Operator" means the employer or person actually driving a motor vehicle or combination of 95 vehicles.

96 "Permit" means a permit issued by the Department to carriers operating as employee haulers or
 97 nonprofit/tax-exempt passenger carriers or to operators of taxicabs or other vehicles performing taxicab
 98 service under this chapter.

99 "Person" means any individual, firm, copartnership, corporation, company, association or joint-stock100 association, and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or personal representative thereof.

101 "Restricted common carrier" means any person who undertakes, whether directly or by a lease or
 102 other arrangement, to transport passengers for compensation, whereby such transportation service has
 103 been restricted.

"Route," when used in connection with or with respect to a certificate of public convenience and necessity, means the road or highway, or segment thereof, operated over by the holder of a certificate of public convenience and necessity or proposed to be operated over by an applicant therefore, whether
such road or highway is designated by one or more highway numbers.

108 "Services" and "transportation" include the service of, and all transportation by, all vehicles operated
109 by, for, or in the interest of any motor carrier irrespective of ownership or contract, expressed or
110 implied, together with all facilities and property operated or controlled by any such carrier or carriers
111 and used in the transportation of passengers or the performance of any service in connection therewith.

112 "Sight-seeing carrier" means a restricted common carrier authorized to transport passengers under the 113 provisions of this chapter, whereby the primary purpose of the operation is the passengers' experience 114 and enjoyment and/or the promotion of tourism.

115 "Sight-seeing carrier by boat" means a restricted common carrier authorized to transport passengers 116 under the provisions of this chapter, which restricted common carrier uses a boat or boats operating on 117 waters within the Commonwealth, and whereby the primary purpose of the operation is the passengers' 118 experience and enjoyment and/or the promotion of tourism. Sight-seeing carriers by boat shall not be 119 regarded as steamship companies.

"Single state insurance receipt" means any receipt issued pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 367 evidencing that the carrier has the required insurance and paid the requisite fees to the Commonwealth and other

HB301H1

122 qualified jurisdictions.

123 "Special or charter party carrier by boat" for purposes of this chapter shall mean a restricted common 124 carrier authorized to transport groups of persons under a single contract made with one person for an 125 agreed charge for such movement regardless of the number of persons transported. Special or charter 126 party carriers by boat shall not be regarded as steamship companies.

127 "Taxicab or other motor vehicle performing a taxicab service" means any motor vehicle having a 128 seating capacity of not more than six passengers, excluding the driver, not operating on a regular route 129 or between fixed terminals used in the transportation of passengers for hire or for compensation, and not 130 a common carrier or restricted common carrier as defined in this chapter.

131 § 46.2-2001. (Effective July 1, 2002) Regulation by Department; reports; prevention of 132 discrimination; regulation of leasing of motor vehicles.

133 The Department shall supervise, regulate and control all motor carriers, carriers by water or rail, and 134 brokers not exempted under this chapter doing business in the Commonwealth, and all matters relating 135 to the performance of their public duties and their charges therefor as provided by this chapter, and shall 136 correct abuses therein by such carriers; and to that end the Department may prescribe reasonable rules, 137 regulations, forms and reports for such carriers and brokers in furtherance of the administration and 138 operation of this chapter, and the Department shall have the right at all times to require from such 139 motor carriers, carriers by water or rail, and brokers special reports and statements, under oath, 140 concerning their business.

141 The Department shall make and enforce such requirements, rules and regulations as may be 142 necessary to prevent unjust or unreasonable discriminations by any carrier or broker in favor of, or 143 against, any person, locality, community or connecting carrier in the matter of service, schedule, 144 efficiency of transportation or otherwise, in connection with the public duties of such carrier or broker. 145 The Department shall administer and enforce all provisions of this chapter, and may prescribe reasonable 146 rules, regulations and procedure looking to that end.

147 The Department may prescribe and enforce such reasonable requirements, rules and regulations in the 148 matter of leasing of motor vehicles as are necessary to prevent evasion of the Department's regulatory 149 powers.

150 § 46.2-2001.1. License, permit, or certificate required.

151 It shall be unlawful for any person to operate, offer, advertise, provide, procure, furnish, or arrange 152 by contract, agreement, or arrangement to transport passengers for compensation as a broker, motor 153 carrier, or excursion train operator, sight seeing carrier by boat, special or charter party carrier by boat, 154 or a carrier by motor launch without first obtaining a license, permit, or certificate, unless otherwise 155 exempted, as provided in this chapter.

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§ 46.2-2011.4. Conversion of old licenses, permits, and certificates.

157 A. All holders of a license, permit, or certificate issued prior to July 1, 2002, shall be issued a 158 replacement license, permit, or certificate that shall reflect the same or new classification for and contain the same requirements and restrictions as the original license, permit, or certificate. The holder of such 159 160 license, permit, or certificate shall apply for a replacement license, permit, or certificate prior to October 1, 2002. If such application is not received by the Department or received in an envelope bearing a 161 162 postmark showing it was mailed prior to midnight, September 30, 2002, then the license, permit, or 163 certificate shall expire.

164 B. If a broker, motor carrier, or water or rail passenger carrier does not request a replacement license, permit, or certificate prior to October 1, 2002, and allows the original to expire, any application 165 166 received thereafter shall be treated as an original application.

167 C. Replacement certificates issued for limousine, executive sedan, and special or charter party 168 certificates shall be reclassified as contract passenger certificates.

169 § 46.2-2011.10. Advertisements.

170 A. No person shall advertise or permit to be advertised by any means a transportation service unless 171 such person first obtains a license, permit, or certificate as provided in this chapter. Whenever any 172 licensee, permittee, or certificate holder places an advertisement in any newspaper or publication 173 advertising a transportation service, there shall appear within such advertisement the license, permit, or 174 certificate number. If multiple licenses, permits, or certificates are held, only one number must appear.

175 B. It shall be unlawful for any licensee, permittee, or certificate holder to knowingly advertise by any 176 means any assertion, representation, or statement of fact that is untrue, misleading, or deceptive relating 177 to the conduct of the business for which a license, permit, or certificate is held.

178 C. The requirement of subsection A of this section to include a license, permit, or certificate number 179 in advertisements shall not apply to excursion train operators, sight seeing carriers by boat, special or 180 charter party carriers by boat, and carriers by motor launch.

181 § 46.2-2011.14. Notice of abandonment of service.

182 Every motor carrier, broker, or excursion train operator, sight-seeing carrier by boat, special or 183 charter party carrier by boat, or carrier by motor launch who ceases operation or abandons his rights 184 under a license, certificate, or permit issued shall notify the Department within thirty days of such

185 cessation or abandonment.

186 § 46.2-2011.15. Department may seek judgment for refunds due public and collect and distribute 187 same.

188 If any motor carrier, or broker, sight-seeing carrier by boat, or carrier by motor launch, upon the 189 final decision of an appeal from the action of the Department prescribing rates, charges, tariffs, or 190 classification of traffic, confirming or modifying the action of the Department, fails to refund in the 191 manner and within the time prescribed in the notice of the Department all amounts that the appealing 192 carrier or broker may have collected, pending the appeal, in excess of that authorized by such final 193 decision, upon notice to such carrier or broker by the Department of such final decision, then the Department, after thirty days' notice to any such carrier or broker, may, unless the amount required by 194 195 such final decision is paid to the Department, seek judgment in the name of the Commonwealth, for the use of the persons, firms and corporations entitled to the same, against any such carrier or broker for the 196 197 aggregate amount of such collections and for costs, and may enforce the amount of such judgment and 198 costs by process of execution, as provided by law. The Department shall, upon the collection of such 199 judgment, forthwith distribute the amount thereof among the parties entitled thereto, respectively, in such 200 manner as it may by its rules or regulations prescribe, and shall, upon the payment or collection of any 201 such judgment, mark the same satisfied upon its records, and have the same entered satisfied on the 202 judgment lien docket of the court where the same may have been docketed; the satisfaction of any such 203 judgment shall be a bar to any further action or recovery against any such carrier or broker to the extent 204 of such recovery. 205

§ 46.2-2011.16. Reports, records, etc.

206 A. The Department is hereby authorized to require annual, periodical, or special reports from motor 207 carriers, except such as are exempt from the operation of the provisions of this chapter; to prescribe the 208 manner and form in which such reports shall be made; and to require from such carriers specific 209 answers to all questions upon which the Department may deem information to be necessary. Such 210 reports shall be under oath whenever the Department so requires. The Department may also require any 211 motor carrier to file with it a true copy of each or any contract, agreement, or arrangement between 212 such carrier and any other carrier or person in relation to the provisions of this chapter.

213 B. The Department may, in its discretion, prescribe (i) the forms of any and all accounts, records, and memoranda to be kept by motor carriers and (ii) the length of time such accounts, records, and 214 215 memoranda shall be preserved, as well as of the receipts and expenditures of money. The Department or 216 its employees shall at all times have access to all lands, buildings, or equipment of motor carriers used 217 in connection with their operations and also all accounts, records, and memoranda, including all 218 documents, papers, and correspondence now or hereafter existing, and kept, or required to be kept, by 219 motor carriers. The Department and its employees shall have authority to inspect and examine any and 220 all such lands, buildings, equipment, accounts, records, and memoranda, including all documents, papers, 221 and correspondence now or hereafter existing and kept or required to be kept by such carriers. These 222 provisions shall apply to receivers of carriers and to operating trustees and, to the extent deemed 223 necessary by the Department, to persons having control, direct or indirect, over or affiliated with any 224 motor carrier.

225 C. As used in this section the term "motor carriers" includes brokers, and excursion train operators, 226 sight-seeing carriers by boat, special or charter party carriers by boat, and carriers by motor launch. 227

§ 46.2-2011.22. Violation; criminal penalties.

228 A. Any person knowingly and willfully violating any provision of this chapter, or any rule or 229 regulation thereunder, or any term or condition of any certificate, permit, or license, for which a penalty 230 is not otherwise herein provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined 231 not more than \$2,500 for the first offense and not more than \$5,000 for any subsequent offense. Each 232 day of such violation shall constitute a separate offense.

233 B. Any person, whether carrier, broker, or any officer, employee, agent, or representative thereof, 234 who shall knowingly and willfully by any such means or otherwise fraudulently seek to evade or defeat 235 regulation as in this chapter, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, be 236 fined not more than \$500 for the first offense and not more than \$2,000 for any subsequent offense.

237 C. Any motor carrier, broker, or excursion train operator, sight seeing carrier by boat, special or 238 charter party carrier by boat, or carrier by motor launch or any officer, agent, employee, or 239 representative thereof who willfully fails or refuses to make a report to the Department as required by 240 this chapter or to keep accounts, records, and memoranda in the form and manner approved or 241 prescribed by the Department, or knowingly and willfully falsifies, destroys, mutilates, or alters any such report, account, record or memorandum, or knowingly and willfully files any false report, account, 242 243 record or memorandum, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, be subject for each 244 offense to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$5,000.

245 § 46.2-2099.30. Insurance to be kept in force.

Each holder of a certificate issued by the Department pursuant to this article Sight-seeing carriers by boat, special or charter party carriers by boat shall keep in force at all times marine protection and indemnity insurance in an amount not less than \$500,000 for bodily injury and property damage.

- indemnity insurance in an amount not less than \$500,000 for bodily injury and property damage.
 249 2. That §§ 46.2-2099.20, 46.2-2099.22, 46.2-2099.23, 46.2-2099.24, 46.2-2099.26 through
- 250 46.2-2099.29, 46.2-2099.31 through 46.2-2099.35 and 46.2-2099.37 through 46.2-2099.40 of the Code
- 251 of Virginia are repealed.