1 2

9

HOUSE BILL NO. 2849

Offered January 20, 2005

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-749.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to special license plates for vehicles powered by clean special fuels.

Patron-McQuigg

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-749.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-749.3. Special license plates for clean special fuel vehicles.

The owner of any motor vehicle, except a motorcycle, that may utilize clean special fuel may purchase special license plates indicating the motor vehicle utilizes clean special fuels. Upon receipt of an application, the Commissioner shall issue special license plates to the owners of such vehicles.

For those motor vehicles required by law to display official government-use license plates, the Commissioner shall provide by regulation for the issuance, display, and fee for issuance of an alternative device indicating that the vehicle displaying the device is a clean special fuel vehicle. For the purposes of § 33.1-46.2, vehicles displaying such a device as provided in such regulation shall be treated as vehicles displaying special license plates issued under this section.

As used in this section, "clean special fuel" means any product or energy source used to propel a highway vehicle, the use of which, compared to conventional gasoline or reformulated gasoline, results in lower emissions of oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide or particulates or any combination thereof. The term includes compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, hydrogen, hythane (a combination of compressed natural gas and hydrogen), and electricity.

The provisions of this section shall expire on July 1, 2005, and no new license plates provided for in this section shall be issued after that date.

2. That the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles shall develop guidelines to ensure that all potential purchasers of clean special fuel vehicles receive adequate notice of the risks and timelines required for the issuance of clean special fuel vehicle license plates.