

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2008 SESSION

CHAPTER 714

An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-1098 of the Code of Virginia, relating to use of child-restraint devices in motor vehicles; penalties.

[H 131]

Approved March 27, 2008

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 46.2-1098 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-1098. Penalties; violations not negligence per se.

Any person, including those subject to jurisdiction of a juvenile and domestic relations district court, found guilty of violating this article shall be subject to a civil penalty of ~~fifty dollars~~ \$50, which shall not be suspended in whole or in part, for a violation of § 46.2-1095, ~~or, if applicable, a~~; *however, any person found guilty of violating § 46.2-1095 a second or subsequent time when the violations occurred on different dates shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$500. An additional civil penalty of ~~twenty dollars~~ \$20 shall be imposed* for failure to carry a statement as required by § 46.2-1096. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of § 46.2-1095, the court may waive or suspend the imposition of the penalty for a violation of § 46.2-1095 if it finds that the failure of the defendant to comply with the section was due to his financial inability to acquire a child restraint system. All civil penalties collected pursuant to this section shall be paid into the Child Restraint Device Special Fund as provided for in § 46.2-1097.

No assignment of demerit points shall be made under Article 19 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of this title and no court costs shall be assessed for violation of § 46.2-1095.

Violations of this article shall not constitute negligence per se; nor shall violation of this article constitute a defense to any claim for personal injuries to a child or recovery of medical expenses for injuries sustained in any motor vehicle accident.