

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-1110 of the Code of Virginia, relating to vertical clearance of*
3 *bridges; signage.*

4 [H 1726]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 46.2-1110 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 46.2-1110. Height of vehicles; damage to overhead obstruction; penalty.

9 No loaded or unloaded vehicle shall exceed a height of 13 feet, six inches.

10 Nothing contained in this section shall require either the public authorities or railroad companies to
11 provide vertical clearances of overhead bridges or structures in excess of 12 feet, six inches, or to make
12 any changes in the vertical clearances of existing overhead bridges or structures crossing highways. The
13 driver or owner of vehicles on highways shall be held financially responsible for any damage to
14 overhead bridges or structures that results from collisions therewith.

15 The driver or owner of any vehicle colliding with an overhead bridge or structure shall immediately
16 notify, either in person or by telephone, a law-enforcement officer or the public authority or railroad
17 company, owning or maintaining such overhead bridge or structure of the fact of such collision, and his
18 name, address, driver's license number, and the registration number of his vehicle. Failure to give such
19 notice immediately, either in person or by telephone, shall constitute a Class 1 misdemeanor.

20 On any highway *maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation* over which there is a
21 bridge or structure having a vertical clearance of less than 14 feet, the Commonwealth Transportation
22 Commissioner shall have at least two signs erected setting forth the height of the bridge or structure.
23 Such signs shall be located at least 1,500 feet ahead of the bridge or structure.

24 *On any highway maintained by a county, city, or town over which a bridge or structure has a*
25 *vertical clearance of less than 14 feet, the local governing body shall have at least two signs erected*
26 *setting forth the height of the bridge or structure. Such signs shall be located at least 1,500 feet ahead*
27 *of the bridge or structure.*

28 The Virginia Department of Transportation may install and use overheight vehicle optical detection
29 systems to identify vehicles that exceed the overhead clearance of the westbound tunnel of the Hampton
30 Roads Bridge Tunnel on Interstate Route 64. When the optical system sensor located closest to the
31 westbound tunnel entrance is used in identifying such vehicles, the system shall be installed at the
32 specified height as determined by measurement standards that have been certified by the Commissioner
33 of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and are traceable to national
34 standards of measurement. Such identification by such system shall, for all purposes of law, be
35 equivalent to having measured the height of the vehicle with a tape measure or other measuring device.

36 Any person who drives or attempts to drive any vehicle or combination of vehicles into or through
37 any tunnel when the height of such vehicle, any vehicle in a combination of vehicles, or any load on
38 any such vehicle exceeds that permitted for such tunnel, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, in
39 addition, shall be assessed three driver demerit points. In addition, the driver of any such vehicle shall
40 be fined \$1,000, of which \$1,000 shall be a mandatory minimum. For subsequent offenses, the owner of
41 any such vehicle shall be fined \$2,500, of which \$2,500 shall be a mandatory minimum.

42 A violation of this section shall be deemed for all purposes a moving violation.