

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 46.2-203.2, relating to the*
3 *Department of Motor Vehicles; emergency contact program.*

4 [H 1392]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 46.2-203.2 as follows:**8 **§ 46.2-203.2. Emergency contact information program.**9 *A. As used in this section, "emergency contact" means a person 18 years of age or older whom the*
10 *customer may designate to be contacted by a law-enforcement officer in an emergency situation.*11 *B. The Department may establish an emergency contact information program to assist*
12 *law-enforcement personnel in emergency situations. To establish such a program, a person who*
13 *currently holds a learner's permit, temporary driver's license, driver's license, commercial driver's*
14 *license, or special identification card issued by the Department or completes an application for the same*
15 *may voluntarily submit emergency contact information for inclusion in his customer record with the*
16 *Department. Such emergency contact information may include the name, relationship to the customer,*
17 *address, and telephone number for an individual the customer designates as a contact in the event of an*
18 *emergency situation.*19 *C. Any person voluntarily submitting emergency contact information to the Department for inclusion*
20 *in the applicant's customer record is responsible for maintaining current emergency contact information*
21 *with the Department. Each applicant submitting emergency contact information to the Department shall*
22 *certify in his application that he has notified the person he has designated as an emergency contact that*
23 *such information will be supplied to the Department. The Department shall provide a method by which*
24 *applicants submitting emergency contact information to the Department may submit such information*
25 *electronically pursuant to § 46.2-216.1. Customers may add, modify, or delete information at any time.*
26 *Such modifications or deletions will overwrite all previously provided information.*27 *D. In the event of an emergency situation, the Department shall make emergency contact information*
28 *in customer records electronically available to a law-enforcement officer who in the exercise of his*
29 *official duties requires assistance in reaching a customer's emergency contact. Emergency contact*
30 *information provided to the Department by the customer shall only be disclosed as permitted in this*
31 *section and shall not be considered a public record subject to disclosure under the Freedom of*
32 *Information Act and shall not be subject to disclosure by court order or other means of discovery.*33 *E. In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, the Department, its employees, and*
34 *law-enforcement officers shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability in connection with the*
35 *maintenance and use of emergency contact information voluntarily provided by customers for use in an*
36 *emergency situation.*37 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2016.**

ENROLLED

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