VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2018 SESSION

CHAPTER 324

An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-1233.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to towing; fees.

Approved March 19, 2018

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
1. That § 46.2-1233.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:
   § 46.2-1233.1. Limitation on charges for towing and storage of certain vehicles.
   A. Unless different limits are established by ordinance of the local governing body pursuant to § 46.2-1233, as to vehicles towed or removed from private property, no charges imposed for the towing, storage, and safekeeping of any passenger car removed, towed, or stored without the consent of its owner shall be in excess of the maximum charges provided for in this section. No hookup and initial towing fee *of any passenger car* shall exceed ~~$135~~ *$150*. For towing a vehicle between seven o'clock p.m. and eight o'clock a.m. or on any Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, an additional fee of no more than $25 per instance may be charged; however, in no event shall more than two such fees be charged for towing any such vehicle. No charge shall be made for storage and safekeeping for a period of ~~twenty-four~~ *24* hours or less. Except for fees or charges imposed by this section or a local ordinance adopted pursuant to § 46.2-1233, no other fees or charges shall be imposed during the first 24-hour period.
   B. The governing body of any county, city, or town may by ordinance, with the advice of an advisory board established pursuant to § 46.2-1233.2, (i) provide that no towing and recovery business having custody of a vehicle towed without the consent of its owner impose storage charges for that vehicle for any period during which the owner of the vehicle was prevented from recovering the vehicle because the towing and recovery business was closed and (ii) place limits on the amount of fees charged by towing and recovery operators. Any such ordinance limiting fees shall also provide for periodic review of and timely adjustment of such limitations.