2019 SESSION

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SENATE BILL NO. 1520

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Transportation

on January 30, 2019)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Senators Carrico and Deeds [SB 1476])

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-208 and 46.2-844 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Department of Motor Vehicle records; certain private vendors; penalty.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 46.2-208 and 46.2-844 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

10 § 46.2-208. Records of Department; when open for inspection; release of privileged information. 11 A. All records in the office of the Department containing the specific classes of information outlined below shall be considered privileged records: 12

1. Personal information, including all data defined as "personal information" in § 2.2-3801;

2. Driver information, including all data that relates to driver's license status and driver activity; and

14 15 3. Vehicle information, including all descriptive vehicle data and title, registration, and vehicle 16 activity data.

B. The Commissioner shall release such information only under the following conditions:

18 1. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, medical data included in personal data shall be 19 released only to a physician physician assistant, or nurse practitioner as provided in § 46.2-322. 20

2. Insurance data may be released as specified in §§ 46.2-372, 46.2-380, and 46.2-706.

21 3. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, information disclosed or furnished shall be assessed a fee as specified in § 46.2-214. 22

23 4. When the person requesting the information is (i) the subject of the information, (ii) the parent or 24 guardian of the subject of the information, (iii) the authorized representative of the subject of the 25 information, or (iv) the owner of the vehicle that is the subject of the information, the Commissioner shall provide him with the requested information and a complete explanation of it. Requests for such 26 27 information need not be made in writing or in person and may be made orally or by telephone, provided 28 that the Department is satisfied that there is adequate verification of the requester's identity. When so 29 requested in writing by (a) the subject of the information, (b) the parent or guardian of the subject of 30 the information, (c) the authorized representative of the subject of the information, or (d) the owner of 31 the vehicle that is the subject of the information, the Commissioner shall verify and, if necessary, correct 32 the personal information provided and furnish driver and vehicle information in the form of an abstract 33 of the record.

34 5. On the written request of any insurance carrier, surety, or representative of an insurance carrier or 35 surety, the Commissioner shall furnish such insurance carrier, surety, or representative an abstract of the 36 record of any person subject to the provisions of this title. The abstract shall include any record of any 37 conviction of a violation of any provision of any statute or ordinance relating to the operation or 38 ownership of a motor vehicle or of any injury or damage in which he was involved and a report of 39 which is required by § 46.2-372. No such report of any conviction or accident shall be made after 60 40 months from the date of the conviction or accident unless the Commissioner or court used the 41 conviction or accident as a reason for the suspension or revocation of a driver's license or driving 42 privilege, in which case the revocation or suspension and any conviction or accident pertaining thereto 43 shall not be reported after 60 months from the date that the driver's license or driving privilege has been 44 reinstated. This abstract shall not be admissible in evidence in any court proceedings.

6. On the written request of any business organization or its agent, in the conduct of its business, the 45 Commissioner shall compare personal information supplied by the business organization or agent with 46 that contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied by the business 47 organization or agent is different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the business **48** organization or agent with correct information as contained in the Department's records. Personal 49 50 information provided under this subdivision shall be used solely for the purpose of pursuing remedies 51 that require locating an individual.

7. The Commissioner shall provide vehicle information to any business organization or agent on such 52 53 business' or agent's written request. Disclosures made under this subdivision shall not include any 54 personal information and shall not be subject to the limitations contained in subdivision 6.

55 8. On the written request of any motor vehicle rental or leasing company or its designated agent, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by the company or agent with that 56 contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied by the company or agent is 57 different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the company or agent with correct 58 59 information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide the company or agent with driver

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60 information in the form of an abstract of any person subject to the provisions of this title. Such abstract 61 shall include any record of any conviction of a violation of any provision of any statute or ordinance relating to the operation or ownership of a motor vehicle or of any injury or damage in which the 62 63 subject of the abstract was involved and a report of which is required by § 46.2-372. No such abstract 64 shall include any record of any conviction or accident more than 60 months after the date of such 65 conviction or accident unless the Commissioner or court used the conviction or accident as a reason for 66 the suspension or revocation of a driver's license or driving privilege, in which case the revocation or suspension and any conviction or accident pertaining thereto shall cease to be included in such abstract 67 after 60 months from the date on which the driver's license or driving privilege was reinstated. No 68 69 abstract released under this subdivision shall be admissible in evidence in any court proceedings.

70 9. On the request of any federal, state, or local governmental entity, local government group 71 self-insurance pool, law-enforcement officer, attorney for the Commonwealth, court, or the authorized 72 agent of any of the foregoing, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by the governmental entity, local government group self-insurance pool, law-enforcement officer, attorney for 73 74 the Commonwealth, court, or the authorized agent of any of the foregoing, with that contained in the 75 Department's records and, when the information supplied by the governmental entity, local government group self-insurance pool, law-enforcement officer, attorney for the Commonwealth, court, or the 76 authorized agent of any of the foregoing, is different from that contained in the Department's records, 77 78 provide the governmental entity, local government group self-insurance pool, law-enforcement officer, 79 attorney for the Commonwealth, court, or the authorized agent of any of the foregoing, with correct 80 information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver and vehicle information in 81 the form of an abstract of the record showing all convictions, accidents, driver's license suspensions or 82 revocations, and other appropriate information as the governmental entity, local government group self-insurance pool, law-enforcement officer, attorney for the Commonwealth, court, or the authorized 83 84 agent of any of the foregoing, may require in order to carry out its official functions. The abstract shall 85 be provided free of charge.

86 10. On request of the driver licensing authority in any other state or foreign country, the
87 Commissioner shall provide whatever classes of information the requesting authority shall require in
88 order to carry out its official functions. The information shall be provided free of charge.

89 11. On the written request of any employer, prospective employer, or authorized agent of either, and 90 with the written consent of the individual concerned, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal 91 information supplied by the employer, prospective employer, or agent with that contained in the 92 Department's records and, when the information supplied by the employer, prospective employer, or 93 agent is different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the employer, prospective 94 employer, or agent with correct information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide the employer, prospective employer, or agent with driver information in the form of an abstract of an 95 96 individual's record showing all convictions, accidents, driver's license suspensions or revocations, and 97 any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses, provided that the individual's position or the position that the individual is being considered for involves the operation of a motor vehicle. 98

99 12. On the written request of any member of or applicant for membership in a volunteer fire 100 company or any volunteer emergency medical services personnel or applicant to serve as volunteer emergency medical services personnel, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information 101 102 supplied by the volunteer fire company or volunteer emergency medical services agency with that contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied by the volunteer fire company 103 104 or volunteer emergency medical services agency is different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the volunteer fire company or volunteer emergency medical services agency with 105 correct information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the 106 form of an abstract of the member's, personnel, or applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, 107 108 license suspensions or revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall be provided free of charge if the request is accompanied by appropriate 109 written evidence that the person is a member of or applicant for membership in a volunteer fire 110 company or a volunteer emergency medical services agency to serve as a member of a volunteer 111 112 emergency medical services agency and the abstract is needed by a volunteer fire company or volunteer 113 emergency medical services agency to establish the qualifications of the member, volunteer, or applicant 114 to operate equipment owned by the volunteer fire company or volunteer emergency medical services 115 agency.

116 13. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer with a Virginia affiliate
117 of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information
118 supplied by a Virginia affiliate of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America with that contained in the
119 Department's records and, when the information supplied by a Virginia affiliate of Big Brothers/Big
120 Sisters of America is different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the Virginia
121 affiliate of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America with correct information as contained in the

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122 Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the form of an abstract of the applicant's 123 record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions or revocations, and any type of driver's 124 license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall be provided at a fee that is one-half 125 the normal charge if the request is accompanied by appropriate written evidence that the person has 126 applied to be a volunteer with a Virginia affiliate of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America.

127 14. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer with a court-appointed 128 special advocate program pursuant to § 9.1-153, the Commissioner shall provide an abstract of the 129 applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions or revocations, and any type of 130 driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall be provided free of charge if 131 the request is accompanied by appropriate written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer 132 with a court-appointed special advocate program pursuant to § 9.1-153.

133 15. Upon the request of any employer, prospective employer, or authorized representative of either, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by the employer, prospective employer, or agent with that contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied 134 135 136 by the employer, prospective employer, or agent is different from that contained in the Department's 137 records, provide the employer, prospective employer, or agent with correct information as contained in 138 the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the form of an abstract of the driving 139 record of any individual who has been issued a commercial driver's license, provided that the 140 individual's position or the position that the individual is being considered for involves the operation of 141 a commercial motor vehicle. Such abstract shall show all convictions, accidents, license suspensions, 142 revocations, or disqualifications, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses.

143 16. Upon the receipt of a completed application and payment of applicable processing fees, the
144 Commissioner may enter into an agreement with any governmental authority or business to exchange
145 information specified in this section by electronic or other means.

146 17. Upon the request of an attorney representing a person in a motor vehicle accident, the147 Commissioner shall provide vehicle information, including the owner's name and address, to the148 attorney.

149 18. Upon the request, in the course of business, of any authorized representative of an insurance 150 company or of any not-for-profit entity organized to prevent and detect insurance fraud, or perform 151 rating and underwriting activities, the Commissioner shall provide to such person (i) all vehicle 152 information, including the owner's name and address, descriptive data and title, registration, and vehicle 153 activity data as requested or (ii) all driver information including name, license number and classification, 154 date of birth, and address information for each driver under the age of 22 licensed in the 155 Commonwealth of Virginia meeting the request criteria designated by such person, with such request 156 criteria consisting of driver's license number or address information. No such information shall be used 157 for solicitation of sales, marketing, or other commercial purposes.

158 19. Upon the request of an officer authorized to issue criminal warrants, for the purpose of issuing a
warrant for arrest for unlawful disposal of trash or refuse in violation of § 33.2-802 the Commissioner
shall provide vehicle information, including the owner's name and address.

161 20. Upon written request of the compliance agent of a private security services business, as defined
162 in § 9.1-138, which is licensed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Commissioner shall
163 provide the name and address of the owner of the vehicle under procedures determined by the
164 Commissioner.

165 21. Upon the request of the operator of a toll facility or traffic light photo-monitoring system acting 166 on behalf of a government entity, or of the Dulles Access Highway, or an authorized agent or employee of a toll facility operator or traffic light photo-monitoring system operator acting on behalf of a 167 168 government entity or the Dulles Access Highway, for the purpose of obtaining vehicle owner data under subsection M of § 46.2-819.1 or subsection H of § 15.2-968.1 or subsection N of § 46.2-819.5. 169 170 Information released pursuant to this subdivision shall be limited to the name and address of the owner 171 of the vehicle having failed to pay a toll or having failed to comply with a traffic light signal or having 172 improperly used the Dulles Access Highway and the vehicle information, including all descriptive 173 vehicle data and title and registration data of the same vehicle.

174 22. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer with a Virginia affiliate 175 of Compeer, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by a Virginia affiliate of 176 Compeer with that contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied by a 177 Virginia affiliate of Competer is different from that contained in the Department's records, provide the 178 Virginia affiliate of Compeer with correct information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the form of an abstract of the applicant's record showing all convictions, 179 180 accidents, license suspensions or revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall be provided at a fee that is one-half the normal charge if the 181 182 request is accompanied by appropriate written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer

183 with a Virginia affiliate of Compeer.

184 23. Upon the request of the Department of Environmental Quality for the purpose of obtaining
185 vehicle owner data in connection with enforcement actions involving on-road testing of motor vehicles,
186 pursuant to § 46.2-1178.1.

24. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with a 187 188 Virginia chapter of the American Red Cross, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information 189 supplied by a Virginia chapter of the American Red Cross with that contained in the Department's 190 records and, when the information supplied by a Virginia chapter of the American Red Cross is different 191 from that contained in the Department's records, provide the Virginia chapter of the American Red Cross 192 with correct information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in 193 the form of an abstract of the applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions or revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract 194 195 shall be provided at a fee that is one-half the normal charge if the request is accompanied by 196 appropriate written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with a 197 Virginia chapter of the American Red Cross.

198 25. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with a 199 Virginia chapter of the Civil Air Patrol, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by a Virginia chapter of the Civil Air Patrol with that contained in the Department's records 200 201 and, when the information supplied by a Virginia chapter of the Civil Air Patrol is different from that 202 contained in the Department's records, provide the Virginia chapter of the Civil Air Patrol with correct 203 information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the form of 204 an abstract of the applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions or revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall 205 206 be provided at a fee that is one-half the normal charge if the request is accompanied by appropriate 207 written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with a Virginia chapter of 208 the Civil Air Patrol.

209 26. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with 210 Faith in Action, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by Faith in Action 211 with that contained in the Department's records and, when the information supplied by Faith in Action is 212 different from that contained in the Department's records, provide Faith in Action with correct 213 information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in the form of 214 an abstract of the applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions or 215 revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract shall 216 be provided at a fee that is one-half the normal charge if the request is accompanied by appropriate 217 written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer vehicle operator with Faith in Action.

218 27. On the written request of the surviving spouse or child of a deceased person or the executor or
219 administrator of a deceased person's estate, the Department shall, if the deceased person had been issued
220 a driver's license or special identification card by the Department, supply the requestor with a hard copy
221 image of any photograph of the deceased person kept in the Department's records.

222 28. On the written request of any person who has applied to be a volunteer with a Virginia Council of the Girl Scouts of the USA, the Commissioner shall (i) compare personal information supplied by a 223 224 Virginia Council of the Girl Scouts of the USA with that contained in the Department's records and, 225 when the information supplied by a Virginia Council of the Girl Scouts of the USA is different from 226 that contained in the Department's records, provide a Virginia Council of the Girl Scouts of the USA 227 with correct information as contained in the Department's records and (ii) provide driver information in 228 the form of an abstract of the applicant's record showing all convictions, accidents, license suspensions 229 or revocations, and any type of driver's license that the individual currently possesses. Such abstract 230 shall be provided at a fee that is one-half the normal charge if the request is accompanied by 231 appropriate written evidence that the person has applied to be a volunteer with the Virginia Council of 232 the Girl Scouts of the USA.

233 29. Upon written agreement, the Commissioner may digitally verify the authenticity and validity of a
234 driver's license, learner's permit, or special identification card to the American Association of Motor
235 Vehicle Administrators, a motor vehicle dealer as defined in § 46.2-1500, or other organization approved
236 by the Commissioner.

30. Upon the request of the operator of a video-monitoring system as defined in § 46.2-844 acting on
behalf of a government entity, the Commissioner shall provide vehicle owner data pursuant to
subsection B of § 46.2-844. Information released pursuant to this subdivision shall be limited to the
name and address of the owner of the vehicle having passed a stopped school bus and the vehicle
information, including all descriptive vehicle data and title and registration data for such vehicle.

C. Whenever the Commissioner issues an order to suspend or revoke the driver's license or driving
 privilege of any individual, he may notify the National Driver Register Service operated by the United
 States Department of Transportation and any similar national driver information system and provide

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245 whatever classes of information the authority may require. 246

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D. Accident reports may be inspected under the provisions of §§ 46.2-379 and 46.2-380.

247 E. Whenever the Commissioner takes any licensing action pursuant to the provisions of the Virginia 248 Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.), he may provide information to the Commercial 249 Driver License Information System, or any similar national commercial driver information system, 250 regarding such action.

251 F. In addition to the foregoing provisions of this section, vehicle information may also be inspected 252 under the provisions of §§ 46.2-633, 46.2-644.02, 46.2-644.03, and §§ 46.2-1200.1 through 46.2-1237.

253 G. The Department may promulgate regulations to govern the means by which personal, vehicle, and 254 driver information is requested and disseminated.

255 H. Driving records of any person accused of an offense involving the operation of a motor vehicle 256 shall be provided by the Commissioner upon request to any person acting as counsel for the accused. If 257 such counsel is from the public defender's office or has been appointed by the court, such records shall 258 be provided free of charge.

259 I. The Department shall maintain the records of persons convicted of violations of § 18.2-36.2, 260 subsection B of § 29.1-738, and §§ 29.1-738.02, 29.1-738.2, and 29.1-738.4 which shall be forwarded by 261 every general district court or circuit court or the clerk thereof, pursuant to § 46.2-383. Such records 262 shall be electronically available to any law-enforcement officer as provided for under clause (ii) of 263 subdivision B 9.

264 J. Whenever the Commissioner issues a certificate of title for a motor vehicle, he may notify the 265 National Motor Vehicle Title Information System, or any other nationally recognized system providing 266 similar information, or any entity contracted to collect information for such system, and may provide 267 whatever classes of information are required by such system.

§ 46.2-844. Passing stopped school buses; penalty; prima facie evidence; penalty.

269 A. The driver of a motor vehicle approaching from any direction a clearly marked school bus that is 270 stopped on any highway, private road, or school driveway for the purpose of taking on or discharging 271 children, the elderly, or mentally or physically handicapped persons, who, in violation of § 46.2-859, 272 fails to stop and remain stopped until all such persons are clear of the highway, private road, or school 273 driveway is subject to a civil penalty of \$250, and any prosecution shall be instituted and conducted in 274 the same manner as prosecutions for traffic infractions.

275 A prosecution or proceeding under § 46.2-859 is a bar to a prosecution or proceeding under this 276 section for the same act, and a prosecution or proceeding under this section is a bar to a prosecution or 277 proceeding under § 46.2-859 for the same act.

278 In any prosecution for which a summons charging a violation of this section was issued within 10 279 days of the alleged violation, proof that the motor vehicle described in the summons was operated in 280 violation of this section, together with proof that the defendant was at the time of such violation the 281 registered owner of the vehicle, as required by Chapter 6 (§ 46.2-600 et seq.) shall give rise to a 282 rebuttable presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle was the person who operated the vehicle 283 at the place where, and for the time during which, the violation occurred. Such presumption shall be 284 rebutted if (i) the owner of the vehicle files an affidavit by regular mail with the clerk of the general 285 district court that he was not the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, (ii) the 286 owner testifies in open court under oath that he was not the operator of the vehicle at the time of the 287 alleged violation, or (iii) a certified copy of a police report showing that the vehicle had been reported 288 to the police as stolen prior to the time of the alleged violation of this section is presented prior to the 289 return date established on the summons issued pursuant to this section to the court adjudicating the 290 alleged violation. Nothing herein shall limit the admission of otherwise admissible evidence.

291 The testimony of the school bus driver, the supervisor of school buses, or a law-enforcement officer 292 that the vehicle was yellow, conspicuously marked as a school bus, and equipped with warning devices 293 as prescribed in § 46.2-1090 is prima facie evidence that the vehicle is a school bus.

294 B. 1. A locality may, by ordinance, authorize the school division of the locality to install and operate 295 a video-monitoring system in or on the school buses operated by the division or to contract with a 296 private vendor to do so on behalf of the school division for the purpose of recording violations of 297 subsection A. Such ordinance may direct that any civil penalty levied for a violation of subsection A 298 shall be payable to the local school division. In any locality that has adopted such an ordinance, a 299 summons for a violation of subsection A may be executed as provided in § 19.2-76.2 and, notwithstanding the provisions of § 19.2-76, the summons may be executed by mailing by first-class 300 301 mail a copy thereof to the address of the owner of the vehicle contained in the records of the 302 Department. Every such mailing shall include, in addition to the summons, a notice of (i) the summoned 303 person's ability to rebut the presumption that he was the operator of the vehicle at the time of the 304 alleged violation through the filing of an affidavit as provided in subsection A and (ii) instructions for 305 filing such an affidavit, including the address to which the affidavit is to be sent. If the summoned

306 person fails to appear on the date of return set out in the summons mailed pursuant to this section, the 307 summons shall be executed in the manner set out in § 19.2-76.3. No proceedings for contempt or arrest 308 of a person summoned by mailing shall be instituted for failure to appear on the return date of the 309 summons. Any summons executed for violation of this section shall provide to the person summoned at 310 least 30 business days from the mailing of the summons to inspect information collected by a 311 video-monitoring system in connection with the violation.

312 2. Any private vendor contracting with a school division pursuant to this subsection may enter into 313 an agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision 314 B 30 of § 46.2-208, to obtain vehicle owner information regarding the registered owners of vehicles that improperly pass stopped school buses. Information provided to such private vendor shall be protected in 315 a database with security comparable to that of the Department of Motor Vehicle's system and used only 316 for enforcement against individuals who violate the provisions of this section. The school division shall 317 318 annually certify compliance with this subdivision and make all records pertaining to such system available for inspection and audit by the Commissioner of Highways or the Commissioner of the 319 320 Department of Motor Vehicles or their designee. Any person who discloses personal information in 321 violation of the provisions of this subdivision shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 per disclosure. Any unauthorized use or disclosure of such personal information shall be grounds for termination of the 322 323 agreement between the Department of Motor Vehicles and the private vendor.

324 3. For purposes of this subsection, "video-monitoring system" means a system with one or more 325 camera sensors and computers installed and operated on a school bus that produces live digital and 326 recorded video of motor vehicles being operated in violation of § 46.2-859. All such systems installed 327 shall, at a minimum, produce a recorded image of the license plate and shall record the activation status 328 of at least one warning device as prescribed in § 46.2-1090 and the time, date, and location of the 329 vehicle when the image is recorded.