

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-600.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to vehicle registration;*
3 *special communication needs indicator.*

[S 1470]

Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 46.2-600.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 46.2-600.1. Indication of special communication needs.**

9 A. As used in this section, "disability that can impair communication" means a condition with
10 symptoms that can impair the ability of a person with such condition to receive, send, process, or
11 comprehend concepts or verbal, nonverbal, or graphic symbol systems, including autism spectrum
12 disorders as defined in § 38.2-3418.17 and hearing loss.

13 B. The Department shall include on the application for registration of a motor vehicle an option for
14 the vehicle owner to, if applicable, voluntarily indicate that he *or a person who will regularly occupy*
15 *his vehicle* has a disability that can impair communication. ~~Any application on which the applicant~~
16 ~~indicates that he has such a disability shall be accompanied by a certification signed by a licensed~~
17 ~~physician that such individual has a disability that can impair communication~~ *On any application on*
18 *which the applicant indicates that a person who will regularly occupy his vehicle has such a disability,*
19 *the Department may require the applicant to certify that he has the consent of the regular occupant of*
20 *the vehicle to release information pursuant to subsection D.*

21 C. Any vehicle owner with a driver's license indicator authorized pursuant to subsection K of
22 § 46.2-342 or special identification card indicator authorized pursuant to subsection L of § 46.2-345 *or*
23 *whose vehicle is regularly occupied by an individual with such an indicator* shall be eligible for the
24 registration indicator. Vehicle owners with a driver's license indicator or special identification card
25 indicator *and vehicle owners whose vehicle is regularly occupied by an individual with a driver's license*
26 *indicator or special identification card indicator* may apply to the Department for a registration indicator
27 in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner.

28 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-208, the Department shall provide information regarding
29 vehicle registrants who have indicated, pursuant to subsection B or C, that they *or individuals who will*
30 *regularly occupy their vehicles* have a disability that can impair communication with employees and
31 agents of criminal justice agencies as defined in § 9.1-101. The Department shall confirm the presence
32 or absence of a registration indicator indicating that the registrant *or a person regularly occupying the*
33 *vehicle of a registrant* has a disability that can impair communication, but it shall not provide
34 information about the type of health condition or disability that the registrant *or a person regularly*
35 *occupying the vehicle of a registrant* has.

36 E. Any vehicle owner who has a registration indicator indicating that the registrant *or a person*
37 *regularly occupying the vehicle of a registrant* has a disability that can impair communication may have
38 *such indicator removed by requesting such removal, in writing, to the Department.*