2024 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1526

Offered January 19, 2024

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 56-1145.1, relating to motor vehicles; overweight permits for certain trucks operated by electric utilities.

Patrons—Sewell, Laufer and Reid

Referred to Committee on Transportation

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Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

That Article 18 of Title 46.2, Chapter 10 the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted to include a new section numbered § 46.2-1145.1 follows:

§ 46.2-1145.1. Overweight permits for certain trucks operated by electric utilities.

In addition to other permits provided for in this article, the Commissioner, upon written application by an electric utility as defined in § 56-576, shall issue a permit authorizing the electric utility's operation of vehicles used for the construction, operation, or maintenance of electrical facilities and infrastructure upon the highway at gross weights exceeding those set forth in § 46.2-1126. Permits issued hereunder shall specify that vehicles with two axles may have a maximum gross weight of no more than 48,000 pounds and a single axle weight of not more than 24,000 pounds and a single axle weight of not more than 60,000 pounds and a single axle weight of not more than 24,000 pounds.

The fee for such permit shall be as provided in § 46.2-1140.1.

The permit shall not designate the route to be traversed nor contain restrictions or conditions not applicable to other vehicles in their general use of the highways. Each vehicle, when loaded according to the provisions of a permit issued under this section, shall be operated at a reduced speed of 10 miles per hour slower than the legal speed limit in 55, 45, and 35 miles per hour speed limit zones.