



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Motor Vehicles

2300 West Broad Street

Richard D. Holcomb
Commissioner

Post Office Box 27412
Richmond, VA 23269-0001

November 21, 2016

The Honorable Jeremy S. McPike
Senate of Virginia
General Assembly Building, Room 317
Richmond, VA 23218

Senator McPike:

During the 2016 session of the General Assembly, you introduced SB 526, which attempted to synchronize the Virginia State Police (VSP)'s safety inspection sticker with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)'s registration decal in order to simplify the lives of Virginia's residents. While supportive of increased efficiency, DMV and VSP expressed concern over how to implement SB 526. As a result, you requested DMV, in consultation with VSP and other stakeholders, study potential efficiencies in the vehicle inspection and registration processes.

In July, DMV met with VSP and members of the Virginia Sheriffs Association, the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia, the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association, and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. At the meeting, DMV presented its research on other states' programs. Each state uses slightly different combinations of license plates, number of decals, location of decals, safety inspection stickers, and location of safety inspection stickers. As a result, DMV focused on states that do not have either a registration decal or a safety inspection sticker.

North Carolina and Texas require one registration decal located on the license plate and windshield respectively. Both states require inspection before registration. Texas requires that the state inspection take place no more than 90 days before registration. New Jersey requires only a windshield safety inspection sticker, while Pennsylvania will do the same starting as of January 1, 2017. Pennsylvania's current format requires one registration decal on a single license plate and a windshield safety inspection sticker. Both states require valid registration before a safety inspection can occur. Pennsylvania estimates a cost savings of \$3.1 million due to the change.

Based on this research, the stakeholders considered potential changes the General Assembly may wish to consider. The stakeholders determined a system similar to that in Pennsylvania could work. This option would eliminate the month and year registration decals currently used on license plates and would require vehicle owners to have a valid registration in order to get their vehicle's annual safety inspection completed. To accomplish this, an electronic verification system would be established that would allow vehicle inspection stations to verify the current status of the vehicle registration. This verification would be the first step of the inspection process, taking place before any inspection of the vehicle. Exceptions would need to be included in the legislative proposal, to exclude vehicles in dealership inventory and salvage vehicles.

This option provides some benefits. First, the elimination of the manufacture and storage of registration decals would represent a substantial cost reduction for DMV. DMV would save more than \$1.2 million in decal production and mailing costs per annum. In addition, customers would no longer have to deal with going to DMV to get the decals or waiting for them to come in the mail. They also would not have the hassle of applying them. Further, by requiring a valid registration before an inspection, there is no need to sync registration with inspection. Residents would not have to worry about trying to match their registration renewal month with their safety inspection renewal month. This is particularly beneficial for residents that prefer multi-year registrations.

However, the stakeholder group expressed some concerns. VSP identified three specific issues, which were echoed by other law enforcement representatives. First, the Safety Inspection Program historically does not turn away anyone wishing to have their vehicle inspected. The vehicle could still have remaining months on the current inspection, or even be registered in another state. If an individual wants to get the vehicle inspected, stations oblige; regardless of whether the vehicle has expired tags and should not be operated. Turning away a vehicle in this manner could pose a safety risk to the motoring public. Second, there could be a rise in conflicts when individuals are told they cannot get an inspection. Finally, decals on license plates, especially on the rear, aid in enforcement. They are visible at night-time as opposed to an inspection sticker which cannot be seen. Further, VADA expressed concern that customers in areas requiring emissions tests may find the new system confusing. In localities that require emissions testing, customers must complete the emissions tests before registering their vehicles. However, this proposal requires valid registration in order to complete a safety inspection. Overall, the stakeholders expressed a preference for the current system. Despite this, DMV recognizes that this proposal could result in significant cost savings and would benefit Virginia residents by creating a more efficient process.

Included with this report are draft legislation and a chart explaining any excluded sections concerning decals. The proposed legislation:

1. eliminates registration decals from all mentions in the *Code of Virginia*;
2. allows the Commissioner discretion to transition the Department and its customers from license plates with decals to license plates without decals;
3. requires State Inspection Stations to verify valid registration before inspecting a vehicle;

Senator Jeremy S. McPike

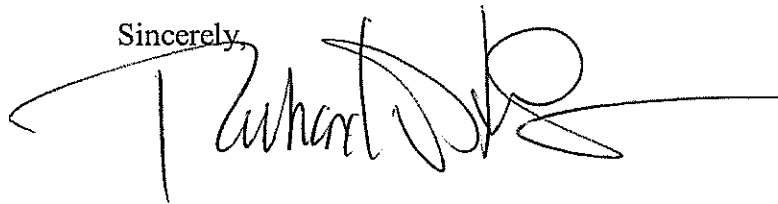
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4. requires customers who allow their vehicle registrations to expire to pay for the time the vehicle should have been registered; and
5. excludes any vehicles that are not required to be registered from being penalized by these new requirements.

I hope this report and draft legislation prove helpful. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy S. McPike", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

1 **§ 46.2-100 Definitions**

2 As used in this title, unless the context requires a different meaning:

3 "All-terrain vehicle" means a motor vehicle having three or more wheels that is powered by a
4 motor and is manufactured for off-highway use. "All-terrain vehicle" does not include four-
5 wheeled vehicles commonly known as "go-carts" that have low centers of gravity and are
6 typically used in racing on relatively level surfaces, nor does the term include any riding lawn
7 mower.

8 "Antique motor vehicle" means every motor vehicle, as defined in this section, which was
9 actually manufactured or designated by the manufacturer as a model manufactured in a calendar
10 year not less than 25 years prior to January 1 of each calendar year and is owned solely as a
11 collector's item.

12 "Antique trailer" means every trailer or semitrailer, as defined in this section, that was actually
13 manufactured or designated by the manufacturer as a model manufactured in a calendar year not
14 less than 25 years prior to January 1 of each calendar year and is owned solely as a collector's
15 item.

16 "Autocycle" means a three-wheeled motor vehicle that has a steering wheel and seating that does
17 not require the operator to straddle or sit astride and is manufactured to comply with federal
18 safety requirements for motorcycles. Except as otherwise provided, an autocycle shall not be
19 deemed to be a motorcycle.

20 "Automobile or watercraft transporters" means any tractor truck, lowboy, vehicle, or
21 combination, including vehicles or combinations that transport motor vehicles or watercraft on
22 their power unit, designed and used exclusively for the transportation of motor vehicles or
23 watercraft.

24 "Bicycle" means a device propelled solely by human power, upon which a person may ride either
25 on or astride a regular seat attached thereto, having two or more wheels in tandem, including
26 children's bicycles, except a toy vehicle intended for use by young children. For purposes of
27 Chapter 8 (§ 46.2-800 et seq.), a bicycle shall be a vehicle while operated on the highway.

28 "Bicycle lane" means that portion of a roadway designated by signs and/or pavement markings
29 for the preferential use of bicycles, electric power-assisted bicycles, and mopeds.

30 "Business district" means the territory contiguous to a highway where 75 percent or more of the
31 property contiguous to a highway, on either side of the highway, for a distance of 300 feet or
32 more along the highway, is occupied by land and buildings actually in use for business purposes.

33 "Camping trailer" means every vehicle that has collapsible sides and contains sleeping quarters
34 but may or may not contain bathing and cooking facilities and is designed to be drawn by a
35 motor vehicle.

36 "Cancel" or "cancellation" means that the document or privilege cancelled has been annulled or
37 terminated because of some error, defect, or ineligibility, but the cancellation is without
38 prejudice and reapplication may be made at any time after cancellation.

39 "Chauffeur" means every person employed for the principal purpose of driving a motor vehicle
40 and every person who drives a motor vehicle while in use as a public or common carrier of
41 persons or property.

42 "Circular intersection" means an intersection that has an island, generally circular in design,
43 located in the center of the intersection, where all vehicles pass to the right of the island. Circular
44 intersections include roundabouts, rotaries, and traffic circles.

45 "Commission" means the State Corporation Commission.

46 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles of the
47 Commonwealth.

48 "Converted electric vehicle" means any motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or autocycle, that
49 has been modified subsequent to its manufacture to replace an internal combustion engine with
50 an electric propulsion system. Such vehicles shall retain their original vehicle identification
51 number, line-make, and model year. A converted electric vehicle shall not be deemed a
52 "reconstructed vehicle" as defined in this section unless it has been materially altered from its
53 original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of new or used essential parts other
54 than those required for the conversion to electric propulsion.

55 "Crosswalk" means that part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of
56 the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or, in
57 the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; or any portion of a roadway at
58 an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other
59 markings on the surface.

60 "Decal" means a device to be attached to a license plate that validates the license plate for a
61 predetermined registration period.

62 "Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles of the Commonwealth.

63 "Disabled parking license plate" means a license plate that displays the international symbol of
64 access in the same size as the numbers and letters on the plate and in a color that contrasts with
65 the background.

66 "Disabled veteran" means a veteran who (i) has either lost, or lost the use of, a leg, arm, or hand;
67 (ii) is blind; or (iii) is permanently and totally disabled as certified by the U.S. Department of
68 Veterans Affairs. A veteran shall be considered blind if he has a permanent impairment of both
69 eyes to the following extent: central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye, with
70 corrective lenses, or central visual acuity of more than 20/200, if there is a field defect in which
71 the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter of visual field
72 subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees in the better eye.

73 "Driver's license" means any license, including a commercial driver's license as defined in the
74 Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.), issued under the laws of the
75 Commonwealth authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle.

76 "Electric personal assistive mobility device" means a self-balancing two-nontandem-wheeled
77 device that is designed to transport only one person and powered by an electric propulsion
78 system that limits the device's maximum speed to 15 miles per hour or less. For purposes of
79 Chapter 8 (§ 46.2-800 et seq.), an electric personal assistive mobility device shall be a vehicle
80 when operated on a highway.

81 "Electric power-assisted bicycle" means a vehicle that travels on not more than three wheels in
82 contact with the ground and is equipped with (i) pedals that allow propulsion by human power
83 and (ii) an electric motor with an input of no more than 1,000 watts that reduces the pedal effort
84 required of the rider. For the purposes of Chapter 8 (§ 46.2-800 et seq.), an electric power-
85 assisted bicycle shall be a vehicle when operated on a highway.

86 "Essential parts" means all integral parts and body parts, the removal, alteration, or substitution
87 of which will tend to conceal the identity of a vehicle.

88 "Farm tractor" means every motor vehicle designed and used as a farm, agricultural, or
89 horticultural implement for drawing plows, mowing machines, and other farm, agricultural, or
90 horticultural machinery and implements, including self-propelled mowers designed and used for
91 mowing lawns.

92 "Farm utility vehicle" means a vehicle that is powered by a motor and is designed for off-road
93 use and is used as a farm, agricultural, or horticultural service vehicle, generally having four or
94 more wheels, bench seating for the operator and a passenger, a steering wheel for control, and a
95 cargo bed. "Farm utility vehicle" does not include pickup or panel trucks, golf carts, low-speed
96 vehicles, or riding lawn mowers.

97 "Federal safety requirements" means applicable provisions of 49 U.S.C. § 30101 et seq. and all
98 administrative regulations and policies adopted pursuant thereto.

99 "Financial responsibility" means the ability to respond in damages for liability thereafter incurred
100 arising out of the ownership, maintenance, use, or operation of a motor vehicle, in the amounts
101 provided for in § 46.2-472.

102 "Foreign market vehicle" means any motor vehicle originally manufactured outside the United
103 States, which was not manufactured in accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 30101 et seq. and the
104 policies and regulations adopted pursuant to that Act, and for which a Virginia title or
105 registration is sought.

106 "Foreign vehicle" means every motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer that is brought into the
107 Commonwealth otherwise than in the ordinary course of business by or through a manufacturer
108 or dealer and that has not been registered in the Commonwealth.

109 "Golf cart" means a self-propelled vehicle that is designed to transport persons playing golf and
110 their equipment on a golf course.

111 "Governing body" means the board of supervisors of a county, council of a city, or council of a
112 town, as context may require.

113 "Gross weight" means the aggregate weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles and the load
114 thereon.

115 "Highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place open to the
116 use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel in the Commonwealth, including the streets and
117 alleys, and, for law-enforcement purposes, (i) the entire width between the boundary lines of all
118 private roads or private streets that have been specifically designated "highways" by an
119 ordinance adopted by the governing body of the county, city, or town in which such private roads
120 or streets are located and (ii) the entire width between the boundary lines of every way or place
121 used for purposes of vehicular travel on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the United
122 States government and located in the Commonwealth.

123 "Intersection" means (i) the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral
124 curblines or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways that join
125 one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling on
126 different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict; (ii) where a highway
127 includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such
128 divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection, in the
129 event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every
130 crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection; or (iii)
131 for purposes only of authorizing installation of traffic-control devices, every crossing of a
132 highway or street at grade by a pedestrian crosswalk.

133 "Lane-use control signal" means a signal face displaying indications to permit or prohibit the use
134 of specific lanes of a roadway or to indicate the impending prohibition of such use.

135 "Law-enforcement officer" means any officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make
136 arrests for violations of this title or local ordinances authorized by law. For the purposes of
137 access to law-enforcement databases regarding motor vehicle registration and ownership only,
138 "law-enforcement officer" also includes city and county commissioners of the revenue and
139 treasurers, together with their duly designated deputies and employees, when such officials are
140 actually engaged in the enforcement of §§ 46.2-752, 46.2-753, and 46.2-754 and local ordinances
141 enacted thereunder.

142 "License plate" means a device containing letters, numerals, or a combination of both, attached
143 to a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer to indicate that the vehicle is properly registered with
144 the Department.

145 "Light" means a device for producing illumination or the illumination produced by the device.

146 "Low-speed vehicle" means any four-wheeled electrically-powered vehicle, except a motor
147 vehicle or low-speed vehicle that is used exclusively for agricultural or horticultural purposes or
148 a golf cart, whose maximum speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but not greater than 25 miles
149 per hour and is manufactured to comply with safety standards contained in Title 49 of the Code
150 of Federal Regulations, § 571.500 .

151 "Manufactured home" means a structure subject to federal regulation, transportable in one or
152 more sections, which in the traveling mode is eight body feet or more in width or 40 body feet or
153 more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 or more square feet, and which is built on a

154 permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation
155 when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning,
156 and electrical systems contained therein.

157 "Moped" means every vehicle that travels on not more than three wheels in contact with the
158 ground that (i) has a seat that is no less than 24 inches in height, measured from the middle of the
159 seat perpendicular to the ground; (ii) has a gasoline, electric, or hybrid motor that (a) displaces
160 50 cubic centimeters or less or (b) has an input of 1500 watts or less; (iii) is power-driven, with
161 or without pedals that allow propulsion by human power; and (iv) is not operated at speeds in
162 excess of 35 miles per hour. For purposes of this title, a moped shall be a motorcycle when
163 operated at speeds in excess of 35 miles per hour. For purposes of Chapter 8 (§ 46.2-800 et seq.),
164 a moped shall be a vehicle while operated on a highway.

165 "Motor-driven cycle" means every motorcycle that has a gasoline engine that (i) displaces less
166 than 150 cubic centimeters; (ii) has a seat less than 24 inches in height, measured from the
167 middle of the seat perpendicular to the ground; and (iii) has no manufacturer-issued vehicle
168 identification number.

169 "Motor home" means every private motor vehicle with a normal seating capacity of not more
170 than 10 persons, including the driver, designed primarily for use as living quarters for human
171 beings.

172 "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle as defined in this section that is self-propelled or designed
173 for self-propulsion except as otherwise provided in this title. Any structure designed, used, or
174 maintained primarily to be loaded on or affixed to a motor vehicle to provide a mobile dwelling,
175 sleeping place, office, or commercial space shall be considered a part of a motor vehicle. Except
176 as otherwise provided, for the purposes of this title, any device herein defined as a bicycle,
177 electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or moped shall be
178 deemed not to be a motor vehicle.

179 "Motorcycle" means every motor vehicle designed to travel on not more than three wheels in
180 contact with the ground and is capable of traveling at speeds in excess of 35 miles per hour.

181 "Motorcycle" does not include any "autocycle," "electric personal assistive mobility device,"
182 "electric power-assisted bicycle," "farm tractor," "golf cart," "moped," "motorized skateboard or
183 foot-scooter," "utility vehicle," or "wheelchair or wheelchair conveyance" as defined in this
184 section.

185 "Motorized skateboard or foot-scooter" means every vehicle, regardless of the number of its
186 wheels in contact with the ground, that (i) has no seat, but is designed to be stood upon by the
187 operator, (ii) has no manufacturer-issued vehicle identification number, and (iii) is powered by
188 an electric motor having an input of no more than 1,000 watts or a gasoline engine that displaces
189 less than 36 cubic centimeters. "Motorized skateboard or foot-scooter" includes vehicles with or
190 without handlebars but does not include "electric personal assistive mobility devices."

191 "Nonresident" means every person who is not domiciled in the Commonwealth, except: (i) any
192 foreign corporation that is authorized to do business in the Commonwealth by the State
193 Corporation Commission shall be a resident of the Commonwealth for the purpose of this title; in
194 the case of corporations incorporated in the Commonwealth but doing business outside the

195 Commonwealth, only such principal place of business or branches located within the
196 Commonwealth shall be dealt with as residents of the Commonwealth; (ii) a person who
197 becomes engaged in a gainful occupation in the Commonwealth for a period exceeding 60 days
198 shall be a resident for the purposes of this title except for the purposes of Chapter 3 (§ 46.2-300
199 et seq.); (iii) a person, other than a nonresident student as defined in this section, who has
200 actually resided in the Commonwealth for a period of six months, whether employed or not, or
201 who has registered a motor vehicle, listing an address in the Commonwealth in the application
202 for registration shall be deemed a resident for the purposes of this title, except for the purposes of
203 the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.).

204 "Nonresident student" means every nonresident person who is enrolled as a full-time student in
205 an accredited institution of learning in the Commonwealth and who is not gainfully employed.

206 "Off-road motorcycle" means every motorcycle designed exclusively for off-road use by an
207 individual rider with not more than two wheels in contact with the ground. Except as otherwise
208 provided in this chapter, for the purposes of this chapter off-road motorcycles shall be deemed to
209 be "motorcycles."

210 "Operation or use for rent or for hire, for the transportation of passengers, or as a property carrier
211 for compensation," and "business of transporting persons or property" mean any owner or
212 operator of any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer operating over the highways in the
213 Commonwealth who accepts or receives compensation for the service, directly or indirectly; but
214 these terms do not mean a "truck lessor" as defined in this section and do not include persons or
215 businesses that receive compensation for delivering a product that they themselves sell or
216 produce, where a separate charge is made for delivery of the product or the cost of delivery is
217 included in the sale price of the product, but where the person or business does not derive all or a
218 substantial portion of its income from the transportation of persons or property except as part of a
219 sales transaction.

220 "Operator" or "driver" means every person who either (i) drives or is in actual physical control of
221 a motor vehicle on a highway or (ii) is exercising control over or steering a vehicle being towed
222 by a motor vehicle.

223 "Owner" means a person who holds the legal title to a vehicle; however, if a vehicle is the
224 subject of an agreement for its conditional sale or lease with the right of purchase on
225 performance of the conditions stated in the agreement and with an immediate right of possession
226 vested in the conditional vendee or lessee or if a mortgagor of a vehicle is entitled to possession,
227 then the conditional vendee or lessee or mortgagor shall be the owner for the purpose of this title.
228 In all such instances when the rent paid by the lessee includes charges for services of any nature
229 or when the lease does not provide that title shall pass to the lessee on payment of the rent
230 stipulated, the lessor shall be regarded as the owner of the vehicle, and the vehicle shall be
231 subject to such requirements of this title as are applicable to vehicles operated for compensation.
232 A "truck lessor" as defined in this section shall be regarded as the owner, and his vehicles shall
233 be subject to such requirements of this title as are applicable to vehicles of private carriers.

234 "Passenger car" means every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle or autocyte designed and
235 used primarily for the transportation of no more than 10 persons, including the driver.

236 "Payment device" means any credit card as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1602 (k) or any "accepted
237 card or other means of access" set forth in 15 U.S.C. § 1693a (1). For the purposes of this title,
238 this definition shall also include a card that enables a person to pay for transactions through the
239 use of value stored on the card itself.

240 "Pickup or panel truck" means every motor vehicle designed for the transportation of property
241 and having a registered gross weight of 7,500 pounds or less.

242 "Private road or driveway" means every way in private ownership and used for vehicular travel
243 by the owner and those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other
244 persons.

245 "Reconstructed vehicle" means every vehicle of a type required to be registered under this title
246 materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of new
247 or used essential parts. Such vehicles, at the discretion of the Department, shall retain their
248 original vehicle identification number, line-make, and model year. Except as otherwise provided
249 in this title, this definition shall not include a "converted electric vehicle" as defined in this
250 section.

251 "Replica vehicle" means every vehicle of a type required to be registered under this title not fully
252 constructed by a licensed manufacturer but either constructed or assembled from components.
253 Such components may be from a single vehicle, multiple vehicles, a kit, parts, or fabricated
254 components. The kit may be made up of "major components" as defined in § 46.2-1600, a full
255 body, or a full chassis, or a combination of these parts. The vehicle shall resemble a vehicle of
256 distinctive name, line-make, model, or type as produced by a licensed manufacturer or
257 manufacturer no longer in business and is not a reconstructed or specially constructed vehicle as
258 herein defined.

259 "Residence district" means the territory contiguous to a highway, not comprising a business
260 district, where 75 percent or more of the property abutting such highway, on either side of the
261 highway, for a distance of 300 feet or more along the highway consists of land improved for
262 dwelling purposes, or is occupied by dwellings, or consists of land or buildings in use for
263 business purposes, or consists of territory zoned residential or territory in residential subdivisions
264 created under Chapter 22 (§ 15.2-2200 et seq.) of Title 15.2.

265 "Revoke" or "revocation" means that the document or privilege revoked is not subject to renewal
266 or restoration except through reapplication after the expiration of the period of revocation.

267 "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular
268 travel, exclusive of the shoulder. A highway may include two or more roadways if divided by a
269 physical barrier or barriers or an unpaved area.

270 "Safety zone" means the area officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of
271 pedestrians and that is protected or is so marked or indicated by plainly visible signs.

272 "School bus" means any motor vehicle, other than a station wagon, automobile, truck, or
273 commercial bus, which is: (i) designed and used primarily for the transportation of pupils to and
274 from public, private or religious schools, or used for the transportation of the mentally or
275 physically handicapped to and from a sheltered workshop; (ii) painted yellow and bears the

276 words "School Bus" in black letters of a specified size on front and rear; and (iii) is equipped
277 with warning devices prescribed in § 46.2-1090. A yellow school bus may have a white roof
278 provided such vehicle is painted in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Department
279 of Education.

280 "Semitrailer" means every vehicle of the trailer type so designed and used in conjunction with a
281 motor vehicle that some part of its own weight and that of its own load rests on or is carried by
282 another vehicle.

283 "Shared-use path" means a bikeway that is physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic
284 by an open space or barrier and is located either within the highway right-of-way or within a
285 separate right-of-way. Shared-use paths may also be used by pedestrians, skaters, users of wheel
286 chairs or wheel chair conveyances, joggers, and other nonmotorized users.

287 "Shoulder" means that part of a highway between the portion regularly traveled by vehicular
288 traffic and the lateral curblineline or ditch.

289 "Sidewalk" means the portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway,
290 and the adjacent property lines, intended for use by pedestrians.

291 "Snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle designed to travel on snow or ice, steered by skis
292 or runners, and supported in whole or in part by one or more skis, belts, or cleats.

293 "Special construction and forestry equipment" means any vehicle which is designed primarily for
294 highway construction, highway maintenance, earth moving, timber harvesting or other
295 construction or forestry work and which is not designed for the transportation of persons or
296 property on a public highway.

297 "Specially constructed vehicle" means any vehicle that was not originally constructed under a
298 distinctive name, make, model, or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and
299 not a reconstructed vehicle as herein defined.

300 "Stinger-steered automobile or watercraft transporter" means an automobile or watercraft
301 transporter configured as a semitrailer combination wherein the fifth wheel is located on a drop
302 frame behind and below the rearmost axle of the power unit.

303 "Superintendent" means the Superintendent of the Department of State Police of the
304 Commonwealth.

305 "Suspend" or "suspension" means that the document or privilege suspended has been temporarily
306 withdrawn, but may be reinstated following the period of suspension unless it has expired prior
307 to the end of the period of suspension.

308 "Tow truck" means a motor vehicle for hire (i) designed to lift, pull, or carry another vehicle by
309 means of a hoist or other mechanical apparatus and (ii) having a manufacturer's gross vehicle
310 weight rating of at least 10,000 pounds. "Tow truck" also includes vehicles designed with a ramp
311 on wheels and a hydraulic lift with a capacity to haul or tow another vehicle, commonly referred
312 to as "rollbacks." "Tow truck" does not include any "automobile or watercraft transporter,"

313 "stinger-steered automobile or watercraft transporter," or "tractor truck" as those terms are
314 defined in this section.

315 "Towing and recovery operator" means a person engaged in the business of (i) removing
316 disabled vehicles, parts of vehicles, their cargoes, and other objects to facilities for repair or
317 safekeeping and (ii) restoring to the highway or other location where they either can be operated
318 or removed to other locations for repair or safekeeping vehicles that have come to rest in places
319 where they cannot be operated.

320 "Toy vehicle" means any motorized or propellant-driven device that has no manufacturer-issued
321 vehicle identification number that is designed or used to carry any person or persons, on any
322 number of wheels, bearings, glides, blades, runners, or a cushion of air. "Toy vehicle" does not
323 include electric personal assistive mobility devices, electric power-assisted bicycles, mopeds, or
324 motorcycles, nor does it include any nonmotorized or nonpropellant-driven devices such as
325 bicycles, roller skates, or skateboards.

326 "Tractor truck" means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other
327 vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the load and weight of the
328 vehicle attached thereto.

329 "Traffic control device" means a sign, signal, marking, or other device used to regulate, warn, or
330 guide traffic placed on, over, or adjacent to a street, highway, private road open to public travel,
331 pedestrian facility, or shared-use path by authority of a public agency or official having
332 jurisdiction, or in the case of a private road open to public travel, by authority of the private
333 owner or private official having jurisdiction.

334 "Traffic infraction" means a violation of law punishable as provided in § 46.2-113, which is
335 neither a felony nor a misdemeanor.

336 "Traffic lane" or "lane" means that portion of a roadway designed or designated to accommodate
337 the forward movement of a single line of vehicles.

338 "Trailer" means every vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property or
339 passengers wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, including
340 manufactured homes.

341 "Truck" means every motor vehicle designed to transport property on its own structure
342 independent of any other vehicle and having a registered gross weight in excess of 7,500 pounds.

343 "Truck lessor" means a person who holds the legal title to any motor vehicle, trailer, or
344 semitrailer that is the subject of a bona fide written lease for a term of one year or more to
345 another person, provided that: (i) neither the lessor nor the lessee is a common carrier by motor
346 vehicle or restricted common carrier by motor vehicle or contract carrier by motor vehicle as
347 defined in § 46.2-2000; (ii) the leased motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is used exclusively for
348 the transportation of property of the lessee; (iii) the lessor is not employed in any capacity by the
349 lessee; (iv) the operator of the leased motor vehicle is a bona fide employee of the lessee and is
350 not employed in any capacity by the lessor; and (v) a true copy of the lease, verified by affidavit
351 of the lessor, is filed with the Commissioner.

352 "Utility vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is (i) designed for off-road use, (ii) powered by a
353 motor, and (iii) used for general maintenance, security, agricultural, or horticultural purposes.
354 "Utility vehicle" does not include riding lawn mowers.

355 "Vehicle" means every device in, on or by which any person or property is or may be transported
356 or drawn on a highway, except devices moved by human power or used exclusively on stationary
357 rails or tracks. For the purposes of Chapter 8 (§ 46.2-800 et seq.), bicycles, electric personal
358 assistive mobility devices, electric power-assisted bicycles, and mopeds shall be vehicles while
359 operated on a highway.

360 "Wheel chair or wheel chair conveyance" means a chair or seat equipped with wheels, typically
361 used to provide mobility for persons who, by reason of physical disability, are otherwise unable
362 to move about as pedestrians. "Wheel chair or wheel chair conveyance" includes both three-
363 wheeled and four-wheeled devices. So long as it is operated only as provided in § 46.2-677, a
364 self-propelled wheel chair or self-propelled wheel chair conveyance shall not be considered a
365 motor vehicle.

366 Owners or lessees of vehicles registered in the Commonwealth who (i) have served outside of
367 the United States in the armed services of the United States, (ii) have served outside the United
368 States as a member of the diplomatic service of the United States appointed under the Foreign
369 Service Act of 1946, (iii) have been a civilian employee of the United States government or any
370 agency or contractor thereof serving outside the United States on behalf of the United States
371 government, or (iv) are a spouse or dependent accompanying any such member of the armed
372 services or diplomatic service serving outside the United States or civilian employee of the
373 United States government or any agency or contractor thereof serving outside the United States
374 on behalf of the United States government shall have a 90-day grace period, beginning on the
375 date that such person is no longer serving outside the United States, in which to comply with the
376 vehicle registration requirements of this title.

377 **§ 46.2-221.4 Grace period for replacement of license plates or decals and registrations for**
378 **certain persons in service to the United States government.**

379 To be eligible for the grace period, the vehicle shall:

- 380 1. Be owned or leased by a person or persons qualifying under this section;
- 381 2. Have had valid registration issued by the Department at the time the member of the armed
382 services of the United States, member of the diplomatic service, civilian employee of the United
383 States government, or any agency or contractor thereof began service outside of the United
384 States;
- 385 3. Comply with the financial responsibility requirements of this title;
- 386 4. Display the latest license plates ~~and decals~~ issued by the Department for the vehicle; and
- 387 5. Be operated only by persons qualifying under this section while possessing:
 - 388 a. Orders or other military documentation demonstrating that they are entitled to the benefits of
389 this section; and

390 b. The latest registration card issued by the Department for the vehicle.

391 Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any person or persons who own or lease
392 vehicles registered in the Commonwealth and are currently serving outside of the United States
393 in the armed services of the United States from complying, when possible and as necessary, with
394 the vehicle registration requirements of this title during the period of service outside the United
395 States or while on leave in Virginia.

396 For the purposes of this section "the armed services of the United States" includes active duty
397 service with the regular Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard or other
398 reserve component.

399 The provisions of this section shall not apply to special license plates issued to members of the
400 National Guard under § 46.2-744.

401 **§ 46.2-370. Revoked driver's licenses, special identification cards, certificates of title, license**
402 **plates, registration cards to be returned; Commissioner may take possession of them.**

403 A. Any person whose driver's license, special identification card, certificate of title, registration
404 card, or license plates have been suspended, cancelled, or revoked as provided in this title or in
405 Title 18.2 and have not been reinstated, shall immediately return every such license, unless it has
406 been surrendered to the court as required by law, special identification card, certificate of title,
407 registration card, and set of license plates or decals held by him to the Commissioner.

408 B. The Commissioner may take possession of any driver's license, special identification card,
409 certificate of title, registration card, or set of license plates ~~or decals~~ on their suspension,
410 cancellation, or revocation under the provisions of this title or in Title 18.2 or may direct any
411 law-enforcement officer to take possession of and return them to the office of the Commissioner.
412 Whenever any person fails or refuses to surrender a driver's license, special identification card,
413 certificate of title, registration card, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ requiring a representative of the
414 Department designated by the Commissioner to serve the order of suspension, cancellation, or
415 revocation, or whenever the Department directs a sheriff to effect service of a decision, order, or
416 notice pursuant to § [46.2-416](#), the person sought to be served shall, in addition to any other
417 required statutory fees, pay a fee of ten dollars to partially defray the cost of administration
418 incurred by the Department and the Commissioner. No such revoked, cancelled, or suspended
419 license, special identification card, certificate of title, or registration items shall be reinstated
420 before the ten-dollar fee is paid. All fees collected under the provisions of this section shall be
421 paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be
422 used to meet the expenses of the Department.

423 **§ 46.2-411 Reinstatement of suspended or revoked license or other privilege to operate or**
424 **register a motor vehicle; proof of financial responsibility; reinstatement fee.**

425 A. The Commissioner may refuse, after a hearing if demanded, to issue to any person whose
426 license has been suspended or revoked any new or renewal license, or to register any motor
427 vehicle in the name of the person, whenever he deems or in case of a hearing finds it necessary
428 for the safety of the public on the highways in the Commonwealth.

429 B. Before granting or restoring a license or registration to any person whose driver's license or
430 other privilege to drive motor vehicles or privilege to register a motor vehicle has been revoked
431 or suspended pursuant to § [46.2-389](#), [46.2-391](#), [46.2-391.1](#), or [46.2-417](#), the Commissioner shall
432 require proof of financial responsibility in the future as provided in Article 15 (§ [46.2-435](#) et
433 seq.), but no person shall be licensed who may not be licensed under the provisions of §§ [46.2-](#)
434 [389](#) through [46.2-431](#).

435 C. Whenever the driver's license or registration cards, license plates ~~and decals~~, or other privilege
436 to drive or to register motor vehicles of any resident or nonresident person is suspended or
437 revoked by the Commissioner or by a district court or circuit court pursuant to the provisions of
438 Title 18.2 or this title, or any valid local ordinance, the order of suspension or revocation shall
439 remain in effect and the driver's license, registration cards, license plates ~~and decals~~, or other
440 privilege to drive or register motor vehicles shall not be reinstated and no new driver's license,
441 registration cards, license plates ~~and decals~~, or other privilege to drive or register motor vehicles
442 shall be issued or granted unless such person, in addition to complying with all other provisions
443 of law, pays to the Commissioner a reinstatement fee of \$30. The reinstatement fee shall be
444 increased by \$30 whenever such suspension or revocation results from conviction of involuntary
445 manslaughter in violation of § [18.2-36.1](#); conviction of maiming resulting from driving while
446 intoxicated in violation of § [18.2-51.4](#); conviction of driving while intoxicated in violation of §
447 [18.2-266](#) or [46.2-341.24](#); conviction of driving after illegally consuming alcohol in violation of §
448 [18.2-266.1](#) or failure to comply with court imposed conditions pursuant to subsection D of §
449 [18.2-271.1](#); unreasonable refusal to submit to drug or alcohol testing in violation of § [18.2-268.2](#);
450 conviction of driving while a license, permit or privilege to drive was suspended or revoked in
451 violation of § [46.2-301](#) or [46.2-341.21](#); disqualification pursuant to § [46.2-341.20](#); violation of
452 driver's license probation pursuant to § [46.2-499](#); failure to attend a driver improvement clinic
453 pursuant to § [46.2-503](#) or habitual offender interventions pursuant to former § [46.2-351.1](#);
454 conviction of eluding police in violation of § [46.2-817](#); conviction of hit and run in violation of §
455 [46.2-894](#); conviction of reckless driving in violation of Article 7 (§ [46.2-852](#) et seq.) of Chapter
456 8 of Title 46.2 or a conviction, finding or adjudication under any similar local ordinance, federal
457 law or law of any other state. Five dollars of the additional amount shall be retained by the
458 Department as provided in this section and \$25 shall be transferred to the Commonwealth
459 Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund established pursuant to Article 12 (§ [51.5-178](#) et seq.) of
460 Chapter 14 of Title 51.5. When three years have elapsed from the termination date of the order of
461 suspension or revocation and the person has complied with all other provisions of law, the
462 Commissioner may relieve him of paying the reinstatement fee.

463 D. No reinstatement fee shall be required when the suspension or revocation of license results
464 from the person's suffering from mental or physical infirmities or disabilities from natural causes
465 not related to the use of self-administered intoxicants or drugs. No reinstatement fee shall be
466 collected from any person whose license is suspended by a court of competent jurisdiction for
467 any reason, other than a cause for mandatory suspension as provided in this title, provided the
468 court ordering the suspension is not required by § [46.2-398](#) to forward the license to the
469 Department during the suspended period.

470 E. Except as otherwise provided in this section and § [18.2-271.1](#), reinstatement fees collected
471 under the provisions of this section shall be paid by the Commissioner into the state treasury and
472 shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the Department.

473 F. Before granting or restoring a license or registration to any person whose driver's license or
474 other privilege to drive motor vehicles or privilege to register a motor vehicle has been revoked
475 or suspended, the Commissioner shall collect from such person, in addition to all other fees
476 provided for in this section, an additional fee of \$40. The Commissioner shall pay all fees
477 collected pursuant to this subsection into the Trauma Center Fund, created pursuant to § [18.2-](#)
478 [270.01](#), for the purpose of defraying the costs of providing emergency medical care to victims of
479 automobile accidents attributable to alcohol or drug use.

480 G. Whenever any person is required to pay a reinstatement fee pursuant to subsection C or
481 pursuant to subsection E of § [18.2-271.1](#) and such person has more than one suspension or
482 revocation on his record for which reinstatement is required, then such person shall be required
483 to pay one reinstatement fee, the amount of which shall equal the full reinstatement fee
484 attributable to the one of his revocations or suspensions that would trigger the highest
485 reinstatement fee, plus an additional \$5 fee for administrative costs associated with compliance
486 for each additional suspension or revocation. Fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be
487 set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the Department.

488 **§ 46.2-416. Notice of suspension or revocation of license.**

489 A. Whenever it is provided in this title that a driver's license may or shall be suspended or
490 revoked either by the Commissioner or by a court, notice of the suspension or revocation or any
491 certified copy of the decision or order of the Commissioner may be sent by the Department by
492 certified mail to the driver at the most recent address of the driver on file at the Department. If
493 the driver has previously been notified by mail or in person of the suspension or revocation or of
494 an impending suspension for failure to pay fines and costs pursuant to § [46.2-395](#), whether notice
495 is given by the court or law-enforcement officials as provided by law, and the Department has
496 been notified by the court that notice was so given and the fines and costs were not paid within
497 30 days, no notice of suspension shall be sent by the Department to the driver. If the certificate of
498 the Commissioner or someone designated by him for that purpose shows that the notice or copy
499 has been so sent or provided, it shall be deemed prima facie evidence that the notice or copy has
500 been sent and delivered or otherwise provided to the driver for all purposes involving the
501 application of the provisions of this title. In the discretion of the Commissioner, service may be
502 made as provided in § [8.01-296](#), which service on the driver shall be made by delivery in writing
503 to the driver in person in accordance with subdivision 1 of § [8.01-296](#) by a sheriff or deputy
504 sheriff in the county or city in which the address is located, who shall, as directed by the
505 Commissioner, take possession of any suspended or revoked license, registration card, or set of
506 license plates ~~or decals~~ and return them to the office of the Commissioner. No such service shall
507 be made if, prior to service, the driver has complied with the requirement which caused the
508 issuance of the decision or order. In any such case, return shall be made to the Commissioner.

509 B. In lieu of making a direct payment to sheriffs as a fee for delivery of the Department's
510 processes, the Commissioner shall effect a transfer of funds, on a monthly basis, to the
511 Compensation Board to be used to provide additional support to sheriffs' departments. The
512 amount of funds so transferred shall be as provided in the general appropriation act.

513 C. The Department may contract with the United States Postal Service or an authorized agent to
514 use the National Change of Address System for the purpose of obtaining current address
515 information for a person whose name appears in customer records maintained by the

516 Department. If the Department receives information from the National Change of Address
517 System indicating that a person whose name appears in a Department record has submitted a
518 permanent change of address to the Postal Service, the Department may then update its records
519 with the mailing address obtained from the National Change of Address System.

520 **§ 46.2-417. Suspension for failure to satisfy motor vehicle accident judgment; exceptions;**
521 **insurance in liquidated company; insurer obligated to pay judgment.**

522 A. Upon the application of any judgment creditor, the Commissioner shall suspend the driver's
523 license and all of the registration certificates and license plates of any person who has failed for
524 30 days to satisfy any judgment (i) in an amount and on a cause of action as hereinafter stated in
525 this subsection or (ii) in an amount and on a cause of action pursuant to § [15.2-1716](#) or [15.2-](#)
526 [1716.1](#), immediately upon receiving an authenticated judgment order or abstract thereof in an
527 action for damages in a motor vehicle accident or pursuant to § [15.2-1716](#) or [15.2-1716.1](#), if the
528 order or abstract is received by the Commissioner within 10 years of the date of judgment or if
529 the judgment has been revived. However, if judgment is marked satisfied on the court records on
530 or before the Commissioner's issuance of suspension, the order of suspension shall be invalid.

531 B. The Commissioner shall not, however, suspend the license of an owner or driver if the
532 insurance carried by him was in a company which was authorized to transact business in this
533 Commonwealth and which subsequent to an accident involving the owner or driver and prior to
534 settlement of the claim therefor went into liquidation, so that the owner or driver is thereby
535 unable to satisfy the judgment arising out of the accident.

536 C. The Commissioner shall not suspend the driver's license or driving privilege or any
537 registration certificate, ~~or license plates, or decals~~ under clause (i) of subsection A or § [46.2-418](#),
538 if the Commissioner finds that an insurer authorized to do business in the Commonwealth was
539 obligated to pay the judgment upon which suspension is based, or that a policy of the insurer
540 covers the person subject to the suspension, if the insurer's obligation or the limits of the policy
541 are in an amount sufficient to meet the minimum amounts required by § [46.2-472](#), even though
542 the insurer has not paid the judgment for any reason. A finding by the Commissioner that an
543 insurer is obligated to pay a judgment, or that a policy of an insurer covers the person, shall not
544 be binding upon the insurer and shall have no legal effect whatever except for the purpose of
545 administering this article. Whenever in any judicial proceeding it is determined by any final
546 judgment, decree, or order that an insurer is not obligated to pay the judgment, the
547 Commissioner, notwithstanding any contrary finding made by him, forthwith shall suspend the
548 driver's license or driving privilege, or any registration card, ~~or license plates or decals~~ of any
549 person against whom the judgment was rendered, as provided in subsection A.

550 D. Any suspensions timely requested by any judgment creditor under subsection A and issued by
551 the Commissioner shall not extend (i) beyond 10 years from the date of judgment for any civil
552 judgment obtained in a general district court, unless the judgment creditor notifies the
553 Commissioner that an extension has been granted as provided in subdivision B 4 of § [16.1-69.55](#)
554 or (ii) beyond 20 years from the date of judgment for any civil judgment obtained in a circuit
555 court, unless the judgment creditor notifies the Commissioner that an extension has been granted
556 as provided in § [8.01-251](#). The expiration of such suspension shall not relieve the judgment
557 debtor of complying with the requirements of proof of financial responsibility pursuant to

558 subsection B of § [46.2-411](#) and the reinstatement fees pursuant to subsections C and F of § [46.2-](#)
559 [411](#) after the judgment debtor becomes eligible for restoration of his driving privileges.

560 **§ 46.2-607. Duplicates for lost or mutilated indicia of titling and registration.**

561 If any license plate, ~~decal~~, registration card, or certificate of title is lost, mutilated, or has become
562 illegible, the person who is entitled to the certificate shall immediately apply for and obtain a
563 replacement after furnishing information of the fact satisfactory to the Department and after
564 payment of the required fees.

565 A person who has twice obtained a replacement set of license plates ~~or decals~~ shall not be
566 entitled to obtain another set of license plates ~~or decals~~ during the license period for which the
567 original set of plates was issued unless the Commissioner finds that the replacement license
568 plates ~~or decals~~ have been lost or mutilated without the fault of the person entitled to them.

569 **§ 46.2-609. When registration may be suspended or revoked.**

570 A. The Department may revoke the registration of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer and may
571 revoke the registration card, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ whenever the person to whom the
572 registration card, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ have been issued makes or permits to be made an
573 unlawful use of any of them or permits their use by a person not entitled to them, or fails or
574 refuses to pay, within the time prescribed by law, any fuel taxes or other taxes or fees required to
575 be collected or authorized to be collected by the Department regardless of whether the fee
576 applies to that particular vehicle.

577 B. The Department may suspend or revoke the registration card, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~
578 issued to a commercial motor vehicle if the motor carrier responsible for safety of the vehicle has
579 been prohibited from operating by a federal agency. For purposes of this subsection, the terms
580 "commercial motor vehicle" and "motor carrier" shall be as defined in § [52-8.4](#).

581 **§ 46.2-611. Appeal.**

582 From any action by the Department under this title suspending or revoking, rescinding or
583 cancelling the registration of any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer or suspending, revoking,
584 cancelling, or repossessing any registration card, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ or denying an
585 application for transfer of title, an appeal shall lie in accordance with the Administrative Process
586 Act (§ [2.2-4000](#) et seq.).

587 **§ 46.2-612 Failure to surrender revoked certificate of title, registration card, license plates**
588 **or decals**

589 It shall be unlawful for the owner of any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, for which license
590 plates, ~~decals~~, or registration cards have been revoked pursuant to this article, to fail or refuse to
591 surrender to the Department, on demand, a certificate of title if it is incorrect in any material
592 particular, or a revoked registration card, ~~and~~ license plates, ~~and decals~~. Violation of this section
593 shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.

594 **§ 46.2-613. Offenses relating to registration, licensing, and certificates of title; penalty.**

595 No person shall:

596 1. Operate or permit the operation of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned, leased, or
597 otherwise controlled by him to be operated on a highway unless (i) it is registered, (ii) a
598 certificate of title therefor has been issued, and (iii) it has displayed on it the license plate or
599 plates ~~and decal or decals, if any,~~ assigned to it by the Department for the current registration
600 period, subject to the exemptions mentioned in Article 5 (§ [46.2-655](#) et seq.) and Article 6 (§
601 [46.2-662](#) et seq.) of this chapter. The provisions of this subdivision shall apply to the registration,
602 licensing, and titling of mopeds on or after July 1, 2014.

603 2. Display, cause or permit to be displayed, any registration card, certificate of title, or license
604 plate ~~or decal~~ which he knows is fictitious or which he knows has been cancelled, revoked,
605 suspended, or altered; or display or cause or permit to be displayed on any motor vehicle, trailer,
606 or semitrailer any license plate ~~or decal~~ that he knows is currently issued for another vehicle.
607 Violation of this subdivision shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.

608 3. Possess or lend or knowingly permit the use of any registration card, ~~or~~ license plate, ~~or decal~~
609 by anyone not entitled to it.

610 4. Fail or refuse to surrender to the Department or the Department of State Police, on demand,
611 any certificate of title, registration card, or license plate ~~or decal~~ which has been suspended,
612 cancelled, or revoked. Violation of this subdivision shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.

613 5. Use a false name or address in any application for the registration of any motor vehicle, trailer,
614 or semitrailer or for a certificate of title or for any renewal or duplicate certificate, or knowingly
615 to make a false statement of a material fact or to conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a
616 fraud in any registration application. Violation of this subdivision shall constitute a Class 1
617 misdemeanor.

618 **§ 46.2-613.1. Civil penalty for violation of license, registration, and tax requirements and**
619 **vehicle size limitations.**

620 A. A civil penalty of \$250 and a processing fee of \$20 shall be levied against any person who
621 while at a permanent weighing station:

622 1. Operates or permits the operation of a truck or tractor truck with a gross weight greater than
623 7,500 pounds, a trailer, or a semitrailer owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by him on any
624 highway in the Commonwealth unless (i) it is registered, (ii) a certificate of title therefor has
625 been issued, and (iii) it has displayed on it the license plate or plates ~~and decal or decals~~ required
626 by this title.

627 2. Operates or causes to be operated on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor vehicle
628 that is not in compliance with the Unified Carrier Registration System authorized under 49
629 U.S.C. § 14504a, enacted pursuant to the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005, and the
630 federal regulations promulgated thereunder.

631 3. Operates or permits the operation of any truck or tractor truck for which the fee for registration
632 is prescribed by § [46.2-697](#) on any highway in the Commonwealth (i) without first having paid
633 the registration fee hereinabove prescribed or (ii) if at the time of operation the gross weight of
634 the vehicle or of the combination of vehicles of which it is a part is in excess of the gross weight
635 on the basis of which it is registered. In any case where a pickup truck is used in combination
636 with another vehicle, the civil penalty and processing fee shall be assessed only if the combined
637 gross weight exceeds the combined gross weight on the basis of which each vehicle is registered.

638 4. (i) Fails to obtain a proper registration card, identification marker, or other evidence of
639 registration as required by Chapter 21 (§ [46.2-2100](#) et seq.); (ii) operates or causes to be operated
640 on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor vehicle that does not carry the proper
641 registration and identification marker required by Chapter 21 (§ [46.2-2100](#) et seq.) or any motor
642 vehicle that does not display an identification marker or other identifying information as
643 prescribed by the Department or required by this Title; or (iii) operates or causes to be operated
644 on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor vehicle requiring registration cards or
645 identification markers from the Department after such registration cards or identification markers
646 have been revoked, canceled, or suspended.

647 5. (i) Fails to obtain a proper registration card, identification marker, or other evidence of
648 registration required by Chapter 27 (§ [58.1-2700](#) et seq.) of Title 58.1 or the terms and provisions
649 of the International Fuel Tax Agreement, as amended by the International Fuel Tax Association,
650 Inc.; (ii) operates or causes to be operated on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor
651 vehicle that does not carry the proper registration and identification marker required by Chapter
652 27 (§ [58.1-2700](#) et seq.) of Title 58.1 or the terms and provisions of the International Fuel Tax
653 Agreement, as amended by the International Fuel Tax Association, Inc., or any motor vehicle
654 that does not display an identification marker or other identifying information as prescribed by
655 the Department or required by Title 58.1 or the terms of the International Fuel Tax Agreement,
656 as amended by the International Fuel Tax Association, Inc.; or (iii) operates or causes to be
657 operated on any highway in the Commonwealth any motor vehicle requiring registration cards or
658 identification markers from the Department after such registration cards or identification markers
659 have been revoked, canceled, or suspended.

660 6. Operates or causes to be operated on any highway in the Commonwealth any truck or tractor
661 truck or combination of vehicles exceeding the size limitations of Articles 14 (§ [46.2-1101](#) et
662 seq.), 15 (§ [46.2-1105](#) et seq.), 16 (§ [46.2-1112](#) et seq.), and 18 (§ [46.2-1139](#) et seq.) of Chapter
663 10.

664 B. Upon collection by the Department, civil penalties levied pursuant to subdivisions A 1 and A
665 3 through A 5 shall be paid into the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, but civil penalties
666 levied pursuant to subdivisions A 2 and A 6 and all processing fees levied pursuant to this
667 section shall be paid into the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to meet the
668 expenses of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

669 C. The penalties and fees specified in this section shall be in addition to any other penalty, fee,
670 tax, or liability that may be imposed by law.

671 **§ 46.2-615. Registration effective after death of owner.**

672 Upon the death of an owner of a registered motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, its registration
673 shall continue in force as a valid registration until (i) the end of the registration period for which
674 the license plates ~~or decals~~ are issued or (ii) the ownership of the motor vehicle, trailer, or
675 semitrailer is transferred before the end of the registration period by the executor or administrator
676 of the estate of the deceased owner or by a legatee or distributee of the estate, as provided in §
677 [46.2-632](#) or [46.2-633](#), (iii) its ownership is transferred to a new owner before the end of the
678 registration period by the survivor of its two joint owners, or (iv) its ownership is transferred
679 pursuant to § [46.2-633.2](#).

680
681 **§ 46.2-646. Expiration and renewal of registration.**

682
683 A. Every registration under this title, unless otherwise provided, shall expire on the last day of
684 the twelfth month next succeeding the date of registration. Every registration, unless otherwise
685 provided, shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of the fees
686 required by law, the renewal to take effect on the first day of the month succeeding the date of
687 expiration. Notwithstanding these limitations, the Commissioner may extend the validity period
688 of an expiring registration if (i) the Department is unable to process an application for renewal
689 due to circumstances beyond its control, and (ii) the extension has been authorized under a
690 directive from the Governor. However, in no event shall the validity period be extended more
691 than 90 days per occurrence of such conditions.

692
693 B. All motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered in the Commonwealth shall, at the
694 discretion of the Commissioner, be placed in a system of registration on a monthly basis to
695 distribute the work of registering motor vehicles as uniformly as practicable throughout the
696 twelve months of the year. All such motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers, unless otherwise
697 provided, shall be registered for a period of twelve months. The registration shall be extended, at
698 the discretion of the Commissioner, on receipt of appropriate prorated fees, as required by law,
699 for a period of not less than one month nor more than eleven months as is necessary to distribute
700 the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis. The Commissioner shall, on
701 request, assign to any owner or owners of two or more motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers the
702 same registration period. The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month or the last
703 day of the designated month. Except for motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered for
704 more than one year under subsection C of this section, every registration shall be renewed
705 annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by law, the renewal to
706 take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

707
708 C. The Commissioner may offer, at his discretion, an optional multi-year registration for all
709 motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers except for (i) those registered under the International
710 Registration Plan and (ii) those registered as uninsured motor vehicles. When this option is
711 offered and chosen by the registrant, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of
712 registration shall be multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof that the vehicle will be
713 registered.

714

715 D. If an applicant for vehicle registration renewal failed to renew before the previous vehicle
716 registration expired, the Commissioner may renew the vehicle registration with an expiration
717 date reflecting the period the vehicle should have been registered.

718
719 **§ 46.2-647. Grace period for replacement of license plates or decals and renewal of**
720 **registrations.**

721 The Commissioner may, on finding either that the Department is unable to efficiently handle the
722 replacement of license plates ~~or decals~~ or the renewal of registrations scheduled to expire during
723 a specific month, or that persons seeking to secure license plates, ~~decals,~~ or registration renewals
724 are, as a group, unable to do so without being substantially inconvenienced, declare a grace
725 period for the replacement of license plates ~~or decals~~ and the renewal of registrations. The
726 declaration of a grace period shall have the effect of postponing the expiration of those license
727 plates, ~~decals,~~ and registrations scheduled to expire on the last day of that month to the fifteenth
728 day of the succeeding month.

729 **§ 46.2-649.1:1. Registration of vehicles owned and used by volunteer fire departments or**
730 **volunteer, commercial, or private emergency medical services agencies.**

731 Upon application therefor, the Commissioner shall register and issue permanent license plates
732 ~~without year or month decals~~ for display on any (i) firefighting truck, trailer, and semitrailer on
733 which firefighting apparatus is permanently attached when any such vehicle is owned or under
734 exclusive control of a volunteer fire department; (ii) emergency medical services vehicle or other
735 vehicle owned or used exclusively by a volunteer fire department or volunteer emergency
736 medical services agency if any such vehicle is used exclusively as an emergency medical
737 services vehicle and is not rented, leased, or lent to any private individual, firm, or corporation,
738 and no charge is made by the organization for the use of the vehicle; or (iii) emergency medical
739 services vehicle owned or under exclusive control of a commercial or privately owned
740 emergency medical services agency, as defined in § [32.1-111.1](#), if any such vehicle is not rented,
741 leased, or lent to any private individual, firm, or corporation that is not another emergency
742 medical services agency. The equipment shall be painted a distinguishing color and
743 conspicuously display in letters and figures not less than three inches in height the identity of the
744 emergency medical services agency, volunteer fire department, or volunteer emergency medical
745 services agency having control of its operation.

746 No fee shall be charged for any vehicle registration or license plate issuance under clause (i) or
747 (ii). The fees charged for vehicle registration under clause (iii) shall be as provided in § [46.2-](#)
748 [694](#).

749 **§ 46.2-663. Backhoes.**

750 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
751 pay a registration fee for any backhoe operated on any highway for a distance of no more than
752 twenty miles from its operating base.

753 **§ 46.2-664. Vehicles used for spraying fruit trees and other plants.**

754 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals** for or
755 pay a registration fee for any vehicle on which is securely attached a machine for spraying fruit
756 trees and other plants of the owner or lessee of the truck.

757 **§ 46.2-665. Vehicles used for agricultural or horticultural purposes.**

758 A. No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals**
759 for or pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used exclusively for
760 agricultural or horticultural purposes on lands owned or leased by the vehicle's owner.

761 B. This exemption shall only apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii) sport utility vehicles, (iii)
762 vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 7,500 pounds, and (iv) trailers and
763 semitrailers that are not operated on or over any public highway in the Commonwealth for any
764 purpose other than:

765 1. Crossing a highway;

766 2. Operating along a highway for a distance of no more than 50 miles from one part of the
767 owner's land to another, irrespective of whether the tracts adjoin;

768 3. Taking the vehicle or attached fixtures to and from a repair shop for repairs;

769 4. Taking another vehicle exempt from registration under any provision of §§ [46.2-664](#) through
770 [46.2-668](#) or [46.2-672](#), or any part or subcomponent of such a vehicle, to or from a repair shop for
771 repairs, including return trips;

772 5. Operating along a highway to and from a refuse disposal facility for the purpose of disposing
773 of trash and garbage generated on a farm; or

774 6. Operating along a highway for a distance of no more than 50 miles for the purpose of
775 obtaining supplies for agricultural or horticultural purposes, seeds, fertilizers, chemicals, or
776 animal feed and returning.

777 **§ 46.2-666. Vehicles used for seasonal transportation of farm produce and livestock.**

778 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals** or
779 pay a registration fee prescribed for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned by the owner
780 or lessee of a farm and used by him on a seasonal basis in transporting farm produce and
781 livestock along public highways for a distance of no more than 50 miles including the distance to
782 the nearest storage house, packing plant, or market. The provisions of this section shall only
783 apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii) sport utility vehicles, (iii) vehicles having a gross vehicle
784 weight rating greater than 7,500 pounds, and (iv) trailers and semitrailers.

785 **§ 46.2-667. Farm machinery and tractors.**

786 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals** for or
787 pay the prescribed fee for any farm machinery or tractor when operated on a highway (i) between

788 one tract of land and another regardless of whether the land is owned by the same person or (ii)
789 to and from a repair shop for repairs.

790 **§ 46.2-668. Vehicles validly registered in other states and used in conjunction with**
791 **harvesting operations.**

792 A. No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~
793 for or pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer which is validly
794 registered in another state and bears valid license plates issued by that state when the use of the
795 vehicle has been contracted for by the owner or lessee of a farm as an incidental part of the
796 harvesting of a crop from his farm. This exemption shall only be valid while the vehicle is
797 engaged principally in transporting farm produce from the farm:

798 1. As an incidental part of harvesting operations;

799 2. Along a public highway for a distance of not more than 20 miles to a storage house, packing
800 plant, market, or transportation terminal;

801 3. When the use is a seasonal operation; and

802 4. When the owner of the vehicle has secured from the Commissioner an exemption permit for
803 each vehicle.

804 B. The Commissioner, upon receipt of an application certifying that a vehicle is entitled to the
805 exemption set forth in this subsection and, if the vehicle is a qualified highway vehicle under §
806 [58.1-2700](#), payment of \$150, shall issue an exemption permit on a form prescribed by him. The
807 exemption permit shall be carried at all times by the operator of the vehicle for which it is issued
808 or displayed in a conspicuous place on the vehicle. The exemption permit shall be valid for a
809 period of 90 days from date of issue and shall be renewable by the procedure set forth in the
810 foregoing provisions of this section.

811 **§ 46.2-669. Tractors and similar vehicles owned by sawmill operators.**

812 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
813 pay a registration fee for any tractor, trailer, log cart, or similar vehicle owned by a sawmill
814 operator when the vehicle is operated or moved:

815 1. Along a highway from one sawmill or sawmill site to another;

816 2. To or from a repair shop for repairs; or

817 3. Across a highway from one contiguous tract of land to another.

818 **§ 46.2-670. Vehicles owned by farmers and used to transport certain wood products.**

819 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
820 pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer owned by a farm owner when
821 the vehicle is operated or moved along a highway for no more than twenty miles between a
822 sawmill or sawmill site and his farm to transport sawdust, wood shavings, slab wood, and other
823 wood wastes. The provisions of this section shall only apply to (i) pickup or panel trucks, (ii)

824 sport utility vehicles, (iii) vehicles having a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 7,500
825 pounds, and (iv) trailers and semitrailers.

826 **§ 46.2-670.1. Vehicles owned by maritime cargo terminal operators.**

827 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, certificate of title, ~~or~~ license
828 plates, ~~or decals~~ for or to pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle owned or leased by a
829 maritime cargo terminal owner or operator and used to transport a seagoing container and
830 operated along a highway on a route of no more than one mile approved by the Department.

831 **§ 46.2-671. Vehicles used at mines.**

832 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
833 pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used at mines when operated
834 on the highway for no more than twenty miles between mines or to or from a repair shop for
835 repairs.

836 **§ 46.2-672. Certain vehicles transporting fertilizer, cotton, or peanuts.**

837 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
838 pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle or trailer, semitrailer, or fertilizer spreader drawn by
839 a farm tractor used by a farmer, his tenant, agent or employee or a cotton ginner, peanut buyer, or
840 fertilizer distributor to transport unginning cotton, peanuts, or fertilizer owned by the farmer,
841 cotton ginner, peanut buyer, or fertilizer distributor from one farm to another, from farm to gin,
842 from farm to dryer, from farm to market, or from fertilizer distributor to farm and on return to the
843 distributor.

844 The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles operated on a for-hire basis.

845 **§ 46.2-673. Return trips of exempted farm vehicles.**

846 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
847 pay a registration fee for any farm vehicle exempted from registration under the provisions of
848 this article when that vehicle is:

- 849 1. Making a return trip from any marketplace;
- 850 2. Transporting back to a farm ordinary and essential food and other products for home and farm
851 use; or
- 852 3. Transporting supplies to the farm.

853 **§ 46.2-674. Vehicles used by commercial fishermen.**

854 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
855 pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle, trailer, boat trailer, or semitrailer, or any
856 combination thereof not having a gross vehicle weight exceeding 12,000 pounds used by
857 commercial fishermen, their agents, or employees for the purpose of:

858 1. Transporting boats or other equipment used in commercial fishing no more than 50 miles
859 between his place of residence or business and the waters within the territorial limits of the
860 Commonwealth or the adjacent marginal seas;

861 2. Any return trip to his place of residence or business; or

862 3. Transporting harvested seafood no more than 50 miles between the place where the seafood is
863 first brought ashore and the transporter's place of business or the location of the seafood's first
864 point of sale.

865 **§ 46.2-675. Certain vehicles engaged in mining or quarrying operations; permit when such**
866 **vehicle required to cross public highways.**

867 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
868 pay a registration fee prescribed for any motor vehicle engaged in coal mining operations or
869 other types of mining and quarrying operations, if the sole function of the motor vehicle is to
870 haul coal from mine to tippie or to haul other mined or quarried products from mine or quarry to
871 a processing plant. The owner of the vehicle, however, shall first obtain, without charge, a permit
872 from the Commissioner of Highways in any case in which the motor vehicle is required to cross
873 the public highways. The Commissioner of Highways shall not issue the permit unless he is
874 satisfied that the owner of the motor vehicle has, at his own expense, strengthened the highway
875 crossing so that it will adequately bear the load and has provided adequate signs, lights, or
876 flagmen as may be required for the protection of the public. Any damage done to the highways
877 as a result of this operation shall be repaired in a manner satisfactory to the Commissioner of
878 Highways at the expense of the vehicle's owner.

879 **§ 46.2-676. Registration certificate, license plates, or decals for any golf carts and utility**
880 **vehicles; fees.**

881 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
882 pay any registration fee for any golf cart or utility vehicle that either (i) is not operated on or over
883 any public highway in the Commonwealth or (ii) is operated on or over a public highway as
884 authorized by Article 13.1 (§ [46.2-916.1](#) et seq.) of Chapter 8.

885 **§ 46.2-677. Self-propelled wheelchairs.**

886 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, ~~or~~ license plates, ~~or decals~~ for or
887 pay any registration fee for any self-propelled wheelchair or self-propelled wheelchair
888 conveyance provided it is:

889 1. Operated by a person who is capable of operating it properly and safely but who, by reason of
890 physical disability, is otherwise unable to move about as a pedestrian; and

891 2. Not operated on a public highway in this Commonwealth except to the extent necessary to
892 cross the highway.

893 **§ 46.2-678. Forklift trucks.**

894 A. No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals**
895 for or pay a registration fee for any forklift truck provided it is:

- 896 1. Operated by a person holding a valid Virginia driver's license;
- 897 2. Operated along or across highways only in traveling from one plant, factory, or job site to
898 another by the most direct route;
- 899 3. Not carrying or transporting any object or person, other than the driver;
- 900 4. Displaying a slow-moving vehicle emblem in conformity with § [46.2-1081](#);
- 901 5. In compliance with requirements of the federal Occupational Safety and Health
902 Administration;
- 903 6. Not operated on or along any limited access highway; and
- 904 7. Not operated for a distance of more than ten miles.

905 B. For the purposes of this section, "forklift truck" means a self-propelled machine used for
906 hoisting and transporting heavy objects by means of steel fingers inserted under the load.

907 **§ 46.2-679. Snowmobiles.**

908 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals** for or
909 pay a registration fee for any snowmobile.

910 **§ 46.2-679.1. All-terrain vehicles.**

911 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plate, **or decals** for or
912 pay a registration fee for any all-terrain vehicle.

913 **§ 46.2-679.2. Off-road motorcycles.**

914 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plate, **or decals** for or
915 pay a registration fee for any off-road motorcycle.

916 **§ 46.2-680. Vehicles transporting oyster shells.**

917 No person shall be required to obtain the registration certificate, **or** license plates, **or decals** for or
918 pay a registration fee for any motor vehicle properly registered in Maryland and used for the
919 purpose of hauling oyster shells for a distance of less than three miles on a public highway of this
920 Commonwealth to navigable waters to be further transported by water to Maryland.

921 **§ 46.2-688. Refund of fees paid.**

922 Any person holding a registration card and license plate **or license plates with decal** who
923 disposes of, elects not to use the vehicle for which it was issued on the highways in the
924 Commonwealth, or transfers another valid license plate to the vehicle, may surrender, prior to the

925 beginning of the registration period, the license plates ~~or license plates with decals~~ and
926 registration card or provide other evidence of registration of the vehicle to the Commissioner
927 with a statement that the vehicle for which the license plate ~~or license plate with decal~~ was issued
928 has been disposed of, election has been made not to use the vehicle on the highways in the
929 Commonwealth, or another valid license plate has been transferred to the vehicle and request a
930 refund of the fee paid. The Commissioner shall retain five dollars of the fee to cover the costs
931 incurred in issuing the plates and processing the refund.

932 The Commissioner shall refund to the applicant a proration, in six-month increments, of the total
933 cost of the registration and license plates or license plates with decals if application for the
934 refund is made when there are six or more months remaining in the registration period. No
935 charge or deduction shall be assessed for any refund made under this subsection.

936 **§ 46.2-692. Fee for replacement of lost, mutilated, or illegible indicia of titling and**
937 **registration.**

938 The fee for the replacement of license plates, decals, registration cards, or certificates of title
939 which are lost, mutilated or illegible shall be as follows:

940 1. For any type of replacement or duplication of vehicle registration cards, International
941 Registration Plan cab cards, registration cards for overload permits, or dealer registration cards,
942 \$2, except that no fee shall be charged for the replacement or duplication of a vehicle registration
943 card or registration card for overload permit that is conducted using the Internet;

944 2. For a certificate of title, \$5;

945 3. For license plates ~~or license plates with decals~~, \$10;

946 4. For a license plate ~~with decals~~ issued for trailers, \$5; and

947 5. For one ~~or two~~ decals, \$1. (NOTE Section 46.2-2099.50 – TNC fees – references this
948 section)

949 **§ 46.2-709 Requiring other proof of financial responsibility; suspended driver's license,**
950 **registration certificate and license plates to be returned to Commissioner; Commissioner**
951 **may take possession thereof**

952 Whenever any proof of financial responsibility filed by any person as required by this article no
953 longer fulfills the purpose for which required, the Commissioner shall require other proof of
954 financial responsibility as required by this article and shall suspend such person's driver's license,
955 registration certificates, and license plates ~~and decals~~ pending the furnishing of proof as required.

956 Any person whose driver's license or registration certificates, or license plates ~~and decals~~ have
957 been suspended as provided in this article and have not been reinstated shall immediately return
958 every such license, registration certificate, and set of license plates ~~and decals~~ held by him to the
959 Commissioner. Any person failing to comply with this requirement shall be guilty of a traffic
960 infraction and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in § 46.2-113.

961 The Commissioner is authorized to take possession of any license, registration certificate, or set
962 of license plates ~~and decals~~ on their suspension under the provisions of this chapter or to direct
963 any police officer to take possession of and return them to the office of the Commissioner.

964 § 46.2-712 Requirements of License Plates and Decals

965 A. Every license plate shall display the registration number assigned to the motor vehicle, trailer,
966 or semitrailer and to the owner thereof, the name of the Commonwealth, which may be
967 abbreviated, ~~and the year or the month and year, which may be abbreviated and in the form of~~
968 ~~decals, for which it is issued.~~ Subject to the need for legibility, the size of the plate, the letters,
969 ~~and numerals, and decals~~ thereon, and the color of the plate, letters, ~~and numerals, and decals~~
970 shall be in the discretion of the Commissioner. ~~Decals shall be placed on the license plates in the~~
971 ~~manner prescribed by the Commissioner, and shall indicate the month and year of expiration. On~~
972 ~~the issuance of the decals, a new registration card shall be issued with the same date of expiration~~
973 ~~as the decals.~~

974 1.

975 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Department may issue permanent license
976 plates ~~without decals and~~ without a month and year of expiration for all trailers and semitrailers,
977 regardless of weight; trucks and tractor trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross
978 combination weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds; taxicabs or other motor vehicles
979 performing a taxicab service; and common carrier vehicles operated for hire, both of the latter as
980 defined in § [46.2-2000](#) that are in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 20 (§ [46.2-2000](#)
981 et seq.) of this title. In addition, the Department may issue permanent license plates ~~without~~
982 ~~decals and~~ without a month and year of expiration for trucks and tractor trucks with gross vehicle
983 weight ratings or gross combination weight ratings of at least 7,501 pounds but not more than
984 26,000 pounds, provided that such vehicles are for business use only, and for farm vehicles
985 registered with the Department pursuant to § [46.2-698](#).

986 C. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this section, any person who, pursuant to former §
987 [56-304.3](#), repealed by Chapters 744 and 803 of the Acts of Assembly of 1995, obtained from the
988 State Corporation Commission an exemption from the marker or decal requirements of former §
989 [56-304](#), [56-304.1](#) or [56-304.2](#), and who has painted or, in the case of newly acquired vehicles,
990 who paints an identifying number on the sides of any vehicle with respect to which such
991 exemption applies and, in all other respects, continues to comply with the requirements of former §
992 [56-304.3](#), shall be deemed to be in compliance with § [46.2-2011.23](#) and subdivision 18 of §
993 [46.2-2011.24](#).

994 D. Registration decals issued before July 1, 2018 will be valid for the period indicated by the
995 decals and should not be removed.

996 E. The Commissioner may utilize alternative decals or plate designs in order to transition from
997 issuing license plates with month and year decals to issuing license plates without month and
998 year decals.

999 **§ 46.2-714. Permanent license plates.**

1000 Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ [46.2-711](#) and [46.2-712](#) the Department may, in its
1001 discretion, issue a type of license plate suitable for permanent use on motor vehicles, trailers,
1002 semitrailers, and motorcycles, ~~together with decals, unless decals are not required under § [46.2-](#)~~
1003 ~~[712](#), to be attached to the license plates to indicate the registration period for which such vehicles~~
1004 ~~have been properly licensed.~~ The design of the license plates ~~and decals, when required,~~ shall be
1005 determined by the Commissioner.

1006 Every permanent license plate ~~and decal~~, when required, shall be returned to the Department
1007 whenever the owner of a vehicle disposes of it by sale or otherwise and when not actually in use
1008 on a motor vehicle, except dealer's plates temporarily not in use. The person in whose name the
1009 license plate is registered may apply, during the registration period for which it is issued, for the
1010 return thereof if the license plate is intended to be used on a subsequently acquired motor
1011 vehicle.

1012 Every permanent license plate ~~and decal~~, when issued, shall be returned to the Department
1013 whenever the owner of a vehicle elects to garage the vehicle and discontinue the use of it on the
1014 highway. The person in whose name the license plate is registered may apply, during the
1015 registration period for which it is issued, for the return thereof if the vehicle is to be returned to
1016 use on the highway.

1017 For the purposes of this section, the term "motor vehicle" does not include a "moped" as defined
1018 in § [46.2-100](#).

1019 **§ 46.2-716. How license plates fastened to vehicle; altering appearance of license plates.**

1020 A. Every license plate shall be securely fastened to the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer to
1021 which it is assigned:

- 1022 1. So as to prevent the plate from swinging,
1023 2. In a position to be clearly visible, and
1024 3. In a condition to be clearly legible.

1025 B. No colored glass, colored plastic, bracket, holder, mounting, frame, or any other type of
1026 covering shall be placed, mounted, or installed on, around, or over any license plate if such glass,
1027 plastic, bracket, holder, mounting, frame, or other type of covering in any way alters or obscures
1028 (i) the alpha-numeric information, (ii) the color of the license plate, ~~or~~ (iii) the name or
1029 abbreviated name of the state wherein the vehicle is registered, ~~or (iv) any character or~~
1030 ~~characters, decal, stamp, or other device indicating the month or year in which the vehicle's~~
1031 ~~registration expires.~~ No insignia, emblems, or trailer hitches or couplings shall be mounted in
1032 such a way as to hide or obscure any portion of the license plate or render any portion of the
1033 license plate illegible.

1034 C. The Superintendent may make such regulations as he may deem advisable to enforce the
1035 proper mounting and securing of the license plate on the vehicle.

1036 **§ 46.2-718. Use of old license plates or decals after application for new.**

1037 An owner who has applied for renewal of registration of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer
1038 fifteen days prior to the day the registration period begins, but who has not received the license
1039 plates, ~~decals,~~ or registration card for the ensuing registration period shall be entitled to operate
1040 or permit the operation of the vehicle on the highways on displaying on the vehicle the license
1041 plates ~~or decals~~ issued for the preceding registration period for such time to be prescribed by the
1042 Department as it may find necessary to issue new license plates ~~or decals~~.

1043 **§ 46.2-722. Altered or forged license plates or decals; use as evidence of knowledge. (NOTE**
1044 **– How are we dealing with this, if the decals are damaged but no longer valid?)**

1045 Any person who, with fraudulent intent, alters any license plate or decal issued by the
1046 Department or by any other state, forges or counterfeits any license plate or decal purporting to
1047 have been issued by the Department under the provisions of this title or by any other state under
1048 a similar law or who, with fraudulent intent, alters, falsifies, or forges any assignment thereof, or
1049 who holds or uses any license plate or decal knowing it to have been altered, forged, or falsified,
1050 shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

1051 The owner of a vehicle who operates it while it displays altered or forged license plates or decals
1052 shall be presumed to have knowledge of the alteration or forgery.

1053 **§ 46.2-725. Special license plates, generally.**

1054 A. No series of special license plates shall be created or issued by the Commissioner or the
1055 Department except as authorized pursuant to this article. No special license plates in any series
1056 not provided for pursuant to this article ~~and no registration decal for any such license plate~~ shall
1057 be issued, reissued, or renewed on or after July 1, 1995. However, subject to the limitations
1058 contained in subdivisions 1 and 2 of subsection B of this section, the Commissioner may issue,
1059 when feasible, special license plates that are combinations of no more than two series of special
1060 license plates authorized pursuant to this article and currently issued by the Department; in
1061 addition to the state registration fee, the fee for any such combination shall be equal to the sum
1062 of the fees for the two series plus the fee for reserved numbers and letters, if applicable. The
1063 provisions of subdivisions 1 and 2 of subsection B of this section shall not apply to special
1064 license plates that are combinations of two series of special license plates authorized pursuant to
1065 this article and currently issued by the Department if one of the two combined designs, when
1066 feasible, incorporates or includes the international symbol of access.

1067 B. Except as otherwise provided in this article:

1068 1. No special license plates shall be considered for authorization by the General Assembly unless
1069 and until the individual, group, entity, organization, or other entity seeking the authorization of
1070 such special license plates shall have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the General Assembly
1071 that they meet the issuance requirements set forth in this subdivision. For the purposes of this
1072 article, each prepaid application shall be on a form prescribed by the Department and, excluding
1073 the vehicle registration fee, shall include the proposed or authorized fee for the issuance of the
1074 proposed or authorized special license plates and, if applicable, the annual fee for reserved
1075 numbers or letters prescribed under § [46.2-726](#). Once authorized by the General Assembly, no

1076 license plates provided for in this article shall be developed and issued by the Department until
1077 the Commissioner receives at least 450 prepaid applications therefor within 30 days of the
1078 effective date of the authorization associated with the applications. If the end of the 30-day
1079 period falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the 30-day period shall end on the following
1080 business day.

1081 2. No additional license plates shall be issued or reissued in any series that, after five or more
1082 years of issuance, has fewer than 200 active sets of plates. No such license plates shall be issued
1083 or reissued unless reauthorized by the General Assembly. Such reauthorized license plates shall
1084 remain subject to the provisions of this article.

1085 3. The annual fee for the issuance of any license plates issued pursuant to this article shall be \$10
1086 plus the prescribed fee for state license plates. Applications for all special license plates issued
1087 pursuant to this article shall be on forms prescribed by the Commissioner. All special license
1088 plates issued pursuant to this article shall be of designs prescribed by the Commissioner and shall
1089 bear unique letters and numerals, clearly distinguishable from any other license plate designs,
1090 and be readily identifiable by law-enforcement personnel.

1091 No other state license plates shall be required on any vehicles bearing special license plates
1092 issued under the provisions of this article.

1093 All fees collected by the Department under this article shall be paid by the Commissioner into
1094 the state treasury and shall be set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the
1095 Department.

1096 C. The provisions of this article relating to registration fees shall apply only to those vehicles
1097 registered as passenger cars, motor homes, and pick-up or panel trucks, as defined in § [46.2-100](#).
1098 All other vehicle types registered with special license plates shall be subject to the appropriate
1099 special license plate fees, registration fees and other fees prescribed by law for such vehicle
1100 types.

1101 D. For special license plates that generate revenues that are shared with entities other than the
1102 Department, hereinafter referred to as "revenue sharing special license plates, " the General
1103 Assembly shall review all proposed revenue sharing special license plate authorizations to
1104 determine whether the revenues are to be shared with entities or organizations that (i) provide to
1105 the Commonwealth or its citizens a broad public service that is to be funded, in whole or in part,
1106 by the proposed revenue sharing special license plate authorization and (ii) are at least one of the
1107 following:

- 1108 1. A nonprofit corporation as defined in § 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code;
- 1109 2. An agency, board, commission, or other entity established or operated by the Commonwealth;
- 1110 3. A political subdivision of the Commonwealth; or
- 1111 4. An institution of higher education whose main campus is located in Virginia.

1112 No revenue sharing special license plate authorization shall be approved if, as determined by the
1113 General Assembly, it does not meet the criteria set forth in this subsection.

1114 E. No special license plates authorized pursuant to this article shall be issued to or renewed for
1115 any owner or co-owner of a vehicle who is registered pursuant to the Sex Offender and Crimes
1116 Against Minors Registry Act (§ [9.1-900](#) et seq.) if the design of such special license plates,
1117 including any logo, emblem, seal, or symbol therein, references children or children's programs
1118 or if any revenue-sharing provision authorized for such special license plates contributes, directly
1119 or indirectly, to any fund or program established for the benefit of children.

1120 **§ 46.2-730 License plates for antique motor vehicles and antique trailers; fee**

1121 A. On receipt of an application and evidence that the applicant owns or has regular use of
1122 another passenger car, autocycle, or motorcycle, the Commissioner shall issue appropriately
1123 designed license plates to owners of antique motor vehicles and antique trailers. These license
1124 plates shall be valid so long as title to the vehicle is vested in the applicant. The fee for the
1125 registration card and license plates of any of these vehicles shall be a one-time fee of \$50.

1126 B. On receipt of an application and evidence that the applicant owns or has regular use of another
1127 passenger car, autocycle, or motorcycle, the Commissioner may authorize for use on antique
1128 motor vehicles and antique trailers Virginia license plates manufactured prior to 1976 and
1129 ~~designed for use without decals~~, if such license plates are embossed with or are of the same year
1130 of issue as the model year of the antique motor vehicle or antique trailer on which they are to be
1131 displayed. Original metal year tabs issued in place of license plates for years 1943 and 1952 and
1132 used with license plates issued in 1942 and 1951, respectively, also may be authorized by the
1133 Commissioner for use on antique motor vehicles and antique trailers that are of the same model
1134 year as the year the metal tab was originally issued. These license plates and metal tabs shall
1135 remain valid so long as title to the vehicle is vested in the applicant. The fee for the registration
1136 card and permission to use the license plates and metal tabs on any of these vehicles shall be a
1137 one-time fee of \$50. If more than one request is made for use, as provided in this section, of
1138 license plates having the same number, the Department shall accept only the first such
1139 application.

1140 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ [46.2-711](#) and [46.2-715](#), antique motor vehicles may
1141 display single license plates if the original manufacturer's design of the antique motor vehicles
1142 allows for the use of only single license plates or if the license plate was originally issued in one
1143 of the following years and is displayed in accordance with the provisions of subsection B: 1906,
1144 1907, 1908, 1909, 1945, or 1946.

1145 D. Antique motor vehicles and antique trailers registered with license plates issued or authorized
1146 for use under this section shall not be used for general transportation purposes, including, but not
1147 limited to, daily travel to and from the owner's place of employment, but shall only be used:

1148 1. For participation in club activities, exhibits, tours, parades, and similar events;

1149 2. On the highways of the Commonwealth for the purpose of testing their operation or selling the
1150 vehicle or trailer, obtaining repairs or maintenance, transportation to and from events as
1151 described in subdivision 1, and for occasional pleasure driving not exceeding 250 miles from the
1152 residence of the owner; and

1153 3. To carry or transport (i) passengers in the antique motor vehicles, (ii) personal effects in the
1154 antique motor vehicles and antique trailers, or (iii) other antique motor vehicles being transported
1155 for show purposes.

1156 The registration card issued to an antique motor vehicle or an antique trailer registered pursuant
1157 to subsections A, B, and C shall indicate such vehicle or trailer is for limited use.

1158 E. Owners of motor vehicles and trailers applying for registration pursuant to subsections A, B
1159 and C shall submit to the Department, in the manner prescribed by the Department, certifications
1160 that such vehicles or trailers are capable of being safely operated on the highways of the
1161 Commonwealth.

1162 Pursuant to § [46.2-1000](#), the Department shall suspend the registration of any vehicle or trailer
1163 registered with license plates issued under this section that the Department or the Department of
1164 State Police determines is not properly equipped or otherwise unsafe to operate. Any law-
1165 enforcement officer shall take possession of the license plates, ~~and~~ registration card ~~and decals, if~~
1166 ~~any,~~ of any vehicle or trailer registered with license plates issued under this section when he
1167 observes any defect in such vehicle or trailer as set forth in § [46.2-1000](#).

1168 F. Antique motor vehicles and antique trailers displaying license plates issued or authorized for
1169 use pursuant to subsections B and C may be used for general transportation purposes if the
1170 following conditions are met:

1171 1. The physical condition of the vehicle's license plate or plates has been inspected and approved
1172 by the Department;

1173 2. The license plate or plates are registered to the specific vehicle by the Department;

1174 3. The owner of the vehicle periodically registers the vehicle with the Department and pays a
1175 registration fee for the vehicle equal to that which would be charged to obtain regular state
1176 license plates for that vehicle;

1177 4. The vehicle passes a periodic safety inspection as provided in Article 21 (§ [46.2-1157](#) et seq.)
1178 of Chapter 10; ~~and~~

1179 ~~5. The vehicle displays current decals attached to the license plate, issued by the Department,~~
1180 ~~indicating the valid registration period for the vehicle; and~~

1181 ~~65.~~ When applicable, the vehicle meets the requirement of Article 22 (§ [46.2-1176](#) et seq.) of
1182 Chapter 10.

1183 If more than one request is made for use, as provided in this subsection, of license plates having
1184 the same number, the Department shall accept only the first such application. Only vehicles titled
1185 to the person seeking to use license plates as provided in this subsection shall be eligible to use
1186 license plates as provided in this subsection.

1187 G. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the use of an antique motor vehicle to
1188 tow a trailer or semitrailer.

1189 H. Any owner of an antique motor vehicle or antique trailer registered with license plates
1190 pursuant to this section who is convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of a Class 4
1191 misdemeanor. Upon receiving a record of conviction of a violation of this section, the
1192 Department shall revoke and not reinstate the owner's privilege to register the vehicle operated in
1193 violation of this section with license plates issued or authorized for use pursuant to this section
1194 for a period of five years from the date of conviction.

1195 I. Except for the one-time \$50 registration fee prescribed in subsections A and B, the provisions
1196 of this section shall apply to all owners of vehicles and trailers registered with license plates
1197 issued under this section prior to July 1, 2007. Such owners shall, based on a schedule and a
1198 manner prescribed by the Department, (i) provide evidence that they own or have regular use of
1199 another passenger car or motorcycle, as required under subsections A and B, and (ii) comply
1200 with the certification provisions of subsection E. The Department shall cancel the registrations of
1201 vehicles owned by persons that, prior to January 1, 2008, do not provide the Department (i)
1202 evidence of owning or having regular use of another autocycle, passenger car, or motorcycle as
1203 required under subsections A and B, and (ii) the certification required pursuant to subsection E.

1204 **§ 46.2-732 Special license plates and decals for the deaf; fees (NOTE – we do not currently**
1205 **issue these)**

1206 On receipt of an application, the Commissioner shall issue appropriately designed license plates
1207 to deaf persons. For purposes of this section, a deaf person shall be defined as a person who
1208 cannot hear and understand normal speech. The fee for these license plates shall be as provided
1209 in § 46.2-694.

1210 ~~The Commissioner shall also issue to any deaf person a removable decal, to be used on any~~
1211 ~~passenger car, pickup or panel truck operated by such person. The decals shall be of a design~~
1212 ~~determined by the Commissioner and shall be displayed in a manner determined by the~~
1213 ~~Superintendent of State Police. A reasonable fee to be determined by the Commissioner shall be~~
1214 ~~charged each person issued a decal under this section, but no fee shall be charged any person~~
1215 ~~exempted from fees by § 46.2-739.~~

1216 It shall be unlawful for any person who is not a person described in this section to willfully and
1217 falsely represent himself as having the qualifications to obtain the special plates ~~or decal~~.

1218 The provisions of subdivisions 1 and 2 of subsection B of § 46.2-725 shall not apply to license
1219 plates issued under this section.

1220 **§ 46.2-749.5. Special license plates celebrating Virginia's tobacco heritage.**

1221 A. On receipt of an application, the Commissioner shall issue special license plates celebrating
1222 Virginia's tobacco heritage. For each set of license plates issued under this section, the
1223 Commissioner shall charge, in addition to the prescribed cost of state license plates, an annual
1224 fee of \$10.

1225 B. License plates may be issued under this section for display on vehicles registered as trucks, as
1226 that term is defined in § [46.2-100](#), provided that no license plates are issued pursuant to this
1227 section for (i) vehicles operated for hire, except TNC partner vehicles as defined in § [46.2-2000](#);
1228 (ii) vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan; or (iii) vehicles registered as

1229 tow trucks or tractor trucks as defined in § [46.2-100](#). No permanent license plates ~~without decals~~
1230 as authorized in subsection B of § [46.2-712](#) may be issued under this section. For each set of
1231 truck license plates issued under this subsection, the Commissioner shall charge, in addition to
1232 the prescribed cost of state license plates, an annual fee of \$25.

1233 **§ 46.2-752.1. One-time, one-month registration extension to allow for satisfaction of**
1234 **requirements of counties, cities, and towns.**

1235 A. On request of an applicant, the Commissioner may grant a one-month extension of the
1236 registration period of a vehicle if the vehicle registration has been withheld pursuant to § [46.2-](#)
1237 [752](#) and the current registration period will expire within the calendar month. No extension may
1238 be granted for an expired vehicle registration and only one extension may be granted for any one
1239 vehicle registration period.

1240 For each extension granted, the Commissioner shall collect (i) a \$10 administrative fee and (ii) a
1241 fee sufficient for a one-month registration period for the vehicle, as calculated under subsection
1242 B of § [46.2-694](#). Neither fee shall apply, however, if the applicant has been granted an extension
1243 under § [46.2-1183.1](#) with respect to the same registration period and has paid the fees pursuant to
1244 that section.

1245 On receipt of such fees, the Commissioner shall issue a registration card ~~and, if applicable,~~
1246 ~~decals indicating the month of expiration of the vehicle registration~~. Upon satisfaction of the
1247 requirements of § [46.2-752](#), the applicant may elect to renew the vehicle registration. For such
1248 renewal, the Commissioner shall collect the appropriate registration renewal fee and issue a
1249 registration card ~~and, if applicable, decals~~. The renewal shall take effect the first day succeeding
1250 the month in which the registration extension expires. When offered by the Commissioner, the
1251 applicant may elect to renew the vehicle registration for multiple years, pursuant to § [46.2-646](#).

1252 B. All administrative fees imposed and collected by the Commissioner under this section shall be
1253 paid into the state treasury and set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the
1254 Department.

1255 **§ 46.2-1000 Department to suspend registration of vehicles lacking certain equipment;**
1256 **officer to take possession of registration card, license plates and decals when observing**
1257 **defect in motor vehicle; when to be returned**

1258 The Department shall suspend the registration of any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer which
1259 the Department or the Department of State Police determines is not equipped with proper (i)
1260 brakes, (ii) lights, (iii) horn or warning device, (iv) turn signals, (v) safety glass when required by
1261 law, (vi) mirror, (vii) muffler, (viii) windshield wiper, (ix) steering gear adequate to ensure the
1262 safe movement of the vehicle as required by this title or when such vehicle is equipped with a
1263 smoke screen device or cutout or when such motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is otherwise
1264 unsafe to be operated.

1265 Any law-enforcement officer shall, when he observes any defect in a motor vehicle as described
1266 above, take possession of the registration card, ~~and~~ license plates, ~~and decals~~ of any such vehicle
1267 and retain the same in his possession for a period of fifteen days unless the owner of the vehicle
1268 corrects the defects or obtains a new safety inspection sticker from an authorized safety

1269 inspection station. When the defect or defects are corrected as indicated above the registration
1270 card, and license plates, and decals shall be returned to the owner.

1271 **§ 46.2-1157.01 Inspection of unregistered vehicles or vehicles with defective license plates.**

1272 A. No vehicle shall be inspected unless the owner or operator presents an unexpired Virginia
1273 registration card for the vehicle or if the Inspection Officer electronically verifies the valid
1274 vehicle registration with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

1275 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (A), the following vehicles may be inspected
1276 without presentation of an unexpired Virginia registration card:

1277 1. Vehicles exempt from registration pursuant to Article 6 (§ 46.2-662 et seq.) of Chapter 6.

1278 2. Vehicles exempt from inspection pursuant to Va. Code § 46.2-1158.01(A)(18).

1279 3. Salvage vehicles as defined pursuant to Va. Code § 46.2-1600.

1280 4. A vehicle for which the owner or operator presents an expired Virginia registration card and
1281 an official receipt from the Department of Motor Vehicles extending the validity of the Virginia
1282 registration card pursuant to Va. Code § 46.2-212.1, if the vehicle is presented for inspection
1283 within the extended validity period indicated on the receipt.

1284 5. A vehicle registered as a TNC partner vehicle pursuant to § 46.2-2099.50, if it is owned or
1285 leased by a non-resident of Virginia and the owner or lessee presents an unexpired registration
1286 card issued by the owner or lessee's jurisdiction of residence.

1287 C. The inability of an owner or operator to have his vehicle inspected because of the provisions
1288 of this statute shall not relieve him of his obligation to have the vehicle inspected pursuant to §
1289 46.2-1157. In any proceeding for a violation of a provision of this article, it shall be no defense
1290 that the defendant was unable to have his vehicle inspected because of the provisions of this
1291 statute.

1292 **§ 46.2-1183.1. Registration extension for satisfaction of emissions inspection requirements.**

1293 A. Upon request by an applicant, the Commissioner may grant a one-month extension of the
1294 registration period of a vehicle if the vehicle registration has been withheld pursuant to § 46.2-
1295 1183 and the current registration period will expire within the calendar month. No extension may
1296 be granted for an expired vehicle registration and only one extension may be granted for any one
1297 vehicle registration period.

1298 If an applicant who is granted an extension under this section also requests and is granted an
1299 extension under § 46.2-752.1, the extension granted under this section shall run concurrently
1300 with the extension granted under § 46.2-752.1. No combination of extensions granted under this
1301 section and under § 46.2-752.1 shall extend a vehicle's registration period for more than one
1302 month for any one vehicle registration period.

1303 For each extension granted, the Commissioner shall collect (i) a \$10 administrative fee and (ii) a
1304 fee sufficient for a one-month registration period for the vehicle, as calculated under subsection
1305 B of § 46.2-694. Neither fee shall apply, however, if the applicant has been granted an extension

1306 under § 46.2-752.1 with respect to the same registration period and has paid the fees provided
1307 under that section.

1308 On receipt of such fees, the Commissioner shall issue a registration card ~~and, if applicable,~~
1309 ~~decals indicating the month of expiration of the vehicle registration.~~ Upon passing an emissions
1310 inspection or being issued an emissions inspection waiver, the applicant may elect to renew the
1311 vehicle registration. For such renewal, the Commissioner shall collect the appropriate
1312 registration renewal fee and issue a registration card ~~and, if applicable, decals.~~ The renewal shall
1313 take effect the first day succeeding the month in which the registration extension expires. When
1314 offered by the Commissioner, the applicant may elect to renew the vehicle registration for
1315 multiple years, pursuant to § 46.2-646.

1316 B. All administrative fees imposed and collected by the Commissioner under this section shall be
1317 paid into the state treasury and set aside as a special fund to be used to meet the expenses of the
1318 Department.

1319 **§ 46.2-1548 Transferable license plates**

1320 In lieu of registering each vehicle of a type described in this section, a manufacturer, distributor,
1321 or dealer owning and operating any motor vehicle on any highway may obtain a license plate
1322 bearing the legend provided in § 46.2-1549 from the Department, on application therefor on the
1323 prescribed form and on payment of the fees required by law. These license plates shall be
1324 attached to each vehicle as required by subsection A of § 46.2-711. Each plate shall bear a
1325 distinctive number, and the name of the Commonwealth, which may be abbreviated, together
1326 with the word "dealer" or a distinguishing symbol indicating that the plate is issued to a
1327 manufacturer, distributor, or dealer. ~~Month and year decals indicating the date of expiration shall~~
1328 ~~be affixed to each license plate.~~ Any license plates so issued may, during the calendar year or
1329 years for which they have been issued, be transferred from one motor vehicle to another, used or
1330 operated by the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer, who shall keep a written record of the motor
1331 vehicle on which the dealer's license plates are used. This record shall be in a format approved by
1332 the Commissioner and shall be open to inspection by any law-enforcement officer or any officer
1333 or employee of the Department.

1334 Display of a transferable manufacturer's, distributor's, or dealer's license plate or plates on a
1335 motor vehicle shall subject the vehicle to the requirements of §§ 46.2-1038 and 46.2-1056.

1336 All manufacturer's, distributor's, and dealer's license plates shall be issued for a period of twelve
1337 consecutive months except, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the periods may be adjusted
1338 as may be necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a monthly basis.
1339 The expiration date shall be the last day of the twelfth month of validity or the last day of the
1340 designated month. Every license plate shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and
1341 by payment of fees required by law, such renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding
1342 month.

1343 The Commissioner may offer an optional multi-year license plate registration to manufacturers,
1344 distributors, and dealers licensed pursuant to this chapter provided that he has chosen to offer
1345 optional multi-year licensing to such persons pursuant to § 46.2-1521. When such option is
1346 offered and chosen by the licensee, all annual and twelve-month fees due at the time of

1347 registration shall be multiplied by the number of years or fraction thereof the licensee will be
1348 licensed pursuant to § 46.2-1521.

1349 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective no later than January 1, 2018.**

1350 **3. That no later than December 1, 2018, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall report to**
1351 **the Chairmen of the House and Senate Transportation Committees regarding**
1352 **implementation of the provisions of this act.**

Sections Not Included in Elimination of Registration Decals Proposed Legislation

Section Number	Section Title	Why it is NOT included
46.2-713	License plates and decals	This section states that all license plates and decals issued by the Department remain the Department's property. The section does not specify what kind of decal (registration, TNC, etc.), so there is no reason to change the section.
46.2-727	Bicentennial license plates and decals; fees	This section refers to decals issued between Jan. 1, 1976 and Dec. 31, 1981.
46.2-752	Taxes and license fees imposed by counties, cities, and towns; limitations on amounts; disposition of revenues; requiring evidence of payment of personal property taxes and certain fines; prohibiting display of licenses after expiration; failure to display valid local license required by other localities; penalty	This section refers only to decals issued by counties, cities, and towns.
46.2-1075	Possession of vehicles with serial numbers removed or altered	This section makes it illegal to remove, change or alter any identifier, including decals, required by federal law, which does not include Virginia's registration decals.
46.2-2000	Definitions	This section refers generally to identification markers of any type issued to passenger carriers.
46.2-2100	Definitions	This section refers generally to identification markers of any type issued to property carriers.