

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 46.2-336 of the Code of Virginia, relating to issuance of original*
3 *driver's licenses to minors.*

4 [S 139]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 46.2-336 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 46.2-336. Manner of issuing original driver's licenses to minors.**

9 *The A. Except as provided in subsection B, the Department shall forward all original driver's licenses*
10 *issued to persons under the age of 18 years to the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court in*
11 *the city or county in which the licensee resides. The judge or a substitute judge shall issue to each*
12 *person to be licensed the license so forwarded, and shall, at the time of issuance, conduct a formal,*
13 *appropriate ceremony, in which he shall illustrate to the licensee the responsibility attendant on the*
14 *privilege of driving a motor vehicle. The attorney for the Commonwealth who serves the jurisdiction in*
15 *which the ceremony is to be conducted may request in writing in advance of such ceremony an*
16 *opportunity to participate in the ceremony. Any judge who presides over such ceremony shall, upon*
17 *request, afford the attorney for the Commonwealth the opportunity to participate in such ceremony and*
18 *to address the prospective licensees and the persons enumerated below who may be accompanying the*
19 *prospective licensees as to matters of enforcement, prosecutions, applicable punishments, and the*
20 *responsibility of drivers generally. If the licensee is under the age of 18 years at the time his ceremony*
21 *is held, he shall be accompanied at the ceremony by a parent, his guardian, spouse, or other person in*
22 *loco parentis. However, the judge, for good cause shown, may mail or otherwise deliver the driver's*
23 *license to any person who is a student at any educational institution outside of the Commonwealth of*
24 *Virginia at the time such license is received by the judge as prescribed in this section.*

25 *B. The chief juvenile and domestic relations district court judge may waive the ceremonial*
26 *requirements of subsection A for each juvenile and domestic relations district court within the district or*
27 *order that each juvenile and domestic relations district court within the district conduct such ceremony*
28 *in an alternative manner. In courts where the ceremony has been waived, the Department shall mail or*
29 *otherwise deliver the driver's licenses directly to licensees.*

30 *C. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the issuance of Virginia driver's licenses to*
31 *persons who hold valid driver's licenses issued by other states.*

ENROLLED

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