



Member No.: 111111111

Dear CARMA Member;
The Virginia Sheriffs' Institute (VSI) wants to update our supporters on new laws passed by the Virginia General Assembly in the public safety sector that will go into effect July 1.



HB1549 makes it a class 1 misdemeanor for any person to knowingly authorize the operation of a motor vehicle by a minor who he knows has no operator's license or learner's permit or who has a learner's permit but who knows would operate such motor vehicle in violation of certain limitations.

HB2123 provides that a court may issue a permanent protective order in a case of family abuse for a specified period of time up to a maximum of four years, where a permanent protective order has been issued against the same person within the last ten years.

HB2116 allows individuals with nonapparent disabilities to voluntarily indicate their condition on their license or ID.

HB2501 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a program for envelopes for use by drivers diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, to provide to a law enforcement officer to ease communication during a traffic stop or at the scene of a traffic accident.

HB1946/SB1060 prohibits any person younger than 21 years of age from

possessing any retail tobacco or hemp product intended for smoking, with certain exceptions.

SB1271 clarifies crimes involving communicating in writing a threat to kill or do bodily injury, regardless of whether the person who is the object of such threat actually receives such threat; such writing includes an email, a text message, or a message or post on any social media platform. The bill also makes it a class 6 felony to verbally threaten to fire a gun on school property, a school bus, or at a school sponsored event.

HB2256 increases from \$1,500 to \$3,000 the property damage threshold at which law enforcement is required to forward a written report of a motor vehicle accident to the DMV.

HB2475 extends seat belt requirement to all vehicle occupants.

SB939 makes mail theft a Class 6 felony in Virginia. The law also targets the theft of United States Postal Service (USPS) keys and the vandalism of mail receptacles.

For a full list of recently enacted legislation, including legislation affecting public safety in your community, please visit the Virginia General Assembly's website at <https://viriniageneralassembly.gov/>.

Thank you once again for your continued support of the VSI!
Sincerely,
John W. Jones
Executive Director
