



Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation

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The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) respectfully offers the following resolution in opposition to House Bill No. 1369 as currently written.

WHEREAS: The pupil transportation department of local school divisions throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia are dedicated to providing the safest and most efficient transportation for all students; and

WHEREAS: This bill would place an undo burden on the local transportation departments to identify the residence of all sex offenders, registered or not and;

WHEREAS: This would create an enormous job for the local transportation department to continually monitor sex offender locations, identify students locations, inform parents, adjust bus stop locations, numbers of students and bus runs and;

WHEREAS: The sex offender database is still a self registration process by the sex offender, so there is no indication of the current accuracy of information or changes unless the sex offender makes the update and;

WHEREAS: Keeping stops 500 feet from the sex offender's home would force stops farther from the homes of many of our students and;

WHEREAS: The sex offender who is required to self-report to the Virginia State Police, which is the recipient and owner of the information, should be required to inform the community of the initial, updated or deleted information and;

WHEREAS: Presently, there is no ongoing verification of information by law enforcement and;

WHEREAS: This bill will force the localities to make decisions about informing the community as to the location of sex offenders based on information which the localities cannot verify the accuracy of such information and;

WHEREAS: VDOT has not been asked to post signage as to the location of sex offenders and;

WHEREAS: Students who do not ride the bus and who walk to school may pass within 500 feet of the sex offender's residence and;

WHEREAS: The student community is not just at risk while going to or from the bus stop and;

WHEREAS: The published Sex Offender database is public information and is available for parents and communities to monitor; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation does hereby oppose House Bill No. 1369 as written, a bill that would amend and reenact 22.1-79.3 of the Code of Virginia, **with the addition of section I**, relating to school bus stops and sex offenders. The purpose of which would require the local school divisions to monitor and move bus stops accordingly as sex offenders' move in and out of neighborhoods.

Given under my hand this tenth day of January in the year two thousand and thirteen.

Michael Ashby
Chairman, VAPT Resolutions Committee