

# 2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1010**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 14, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-873 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school crossing zones; large*  
5 *children's sports complexes; Planning District 8.*

6 Patron—Tran

7  
8 Committee Referral Pending  
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10 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

11 **1. That § 46.2-873 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

12 **§ 46.2-873. Maximum speed limits at school crossings; penalty.**

13 A. For the purposes of this section,:

14 "Large children's sports complex" means any facility that (i) is primarily designed for amateur and youth  
15 sports, (ii) has a program in which children or students enroll, and (iii) has more than 150 children or  
16 students enrolled in its program.

17 "School" means an elementary or secondary school as defined in § 22.1-1. However, in Planning District  
18 8, "school" includes large children's sports complexes.

19 "School crossing zone" means an area located within the vicinity of a school at or near a highway  
20 where the presence of children or students on such school property or going to and from school reasonably  
21 requires a special warning to motorists. Such zones are marked and operated in accordance with the  
22 requirements of this section with appropriate warning signs or other traffic control devices indicating that a  
23 school crossing is in progress.

24 B. The maximum speed limit shall be 25 miles per hour between portable signs, tilt-over signs, or fixed  
25 blinking signs placed in or along any highway and bearing the word "school" or "school crossing." Any signs  
26 erected under this section shall be placed not more than 750 feet from the limits of the school property or  
27 crossing in the vicinity of the school. However, "school crossing" signs may be placed in any location if the  
28 Department of Transportation or the council of the city or town or the board of supervisors of a county  
29 maintaining its own system of secondary roads approves the crossing for such signs. If the portion of the  
30 highway to be posted is within the limits of a city or town, such portable signs shall be furnished and  
31 delivered by such city or town. If the portion of highway to be posted is outside the limits of a city or town,  
32 such portable signs shall be furnished and delivered by the Department of Transportation. The principal or  
33 chief administrative officer of each school or a school board designee, preferably not a classroom teacher,  
34 shall place such portable signs in the highway at a point not more than 750 feet from the limits of the school  
35 property and remove such signs when their presence is no longer required by this section. Such portable  
36 signs, tilt-over signs, or fixed blinking signs shall be placed in a position plainly visible to vehicular traffic  
37 approaching from either direction, but shall not be placed so as to obstruct the roadway.

38 C. Such portable signs, tilt-over signs, or blinking signs shall be in a position, or be turned on, for 30  
39 minutes preceding regular school hours, for 30 minutes thereafter, and during such other times as the  
40 presence of children or students on such school property or going to and from school reasonably requires a  
41 special warning to motorists. The governing body of any county, city, or town may, however, decrease the  
42 period of time preceding and following regular school hours during which such portable signs, tilt-over signs,  
43 or blinking signs shall be in position or turned on if it determines that no children or students will be going  
44 to or from school during the period of time that it subtracts from the 30-minute period.

45 *Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a large children's sports complex shall pay all costs*  
46 *associated with the establishment, installation, maintenance, and operation of school crossing zones within*  
47 *or surrounding such complex's property limits and may (i) decline to establish a posted school crossing zone*  
48 *as authorized in this section or (ii) set hours for such portable signs, tilt-over signs, or blinking signs to be in*  
49 *position or turned on that reflect the schedule of classes or coaching at such complex, provided such hours*  
50 *are when the presence of children or students on such complex's property or going to and from such complex*  
51 *reasonably requires a special warning to motorists.*

52 D. The governing body of any city or town may, if the portion of the highway to be posted is within the  
53 limits of such city or town, increase or decrease the speed limit provided in this section only after justification  
54 for such increase or decrease has been shown by an engineering and traffic investigation, and no such  
55 increase or decrease in speed limit shall be effective unless such increased or decreased speed limit is  
56 conspicuously posted on the portable signs, tilt-over signs, or fixed blinking signs required by this section.

57 E. The governing body of a county within Planning District 8 may, if the portion of the highway to be  
58 posted is within the limits of such county, increase or decrease the speed limit provided in this section only

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59 after justification for such increase or decrease has been shown by an engineering and traffic investigation,  
60 and no such increase or decrease in speed limit shall be effective unless such increased or decreased speed  
61 limit is conspicuously posted on the portable signs, tilt-over signs, or fixed blinking signs required by this  
62 section.

63 F. The City of Virginia Beach may establish school zones as provided in this section and mark such zones  
64 with flashing warning lights as provided in this section on and along all highways adjacent to Route 58.

65 G. Any person operating any motor vehicle in excess of a maximum speed limit established specifically  
66 for a school crossing zone when such school crossing zone is (i) indicated by appropriately placed signs  
67 displaying the maximum speed limit and (ii) in operation pursuant to subsection B ~~shall be~~ *is* guilty of a  
68 traffic infraction punishable by a fine of not more than \$250, in addition to other penalties provided by law.

69 H. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, the maximum speed limit in school zones in  
70 residential areas may be decreased to 15 miles per hour if (i) the school board having jurisdiction over the  
71 school nearest to the affected school zone passes a resolution requesting the reduction of the maximum speed  
72 limit for such school zone from 25 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour and (ii) the local governing body of  
73 the jurisdiction in which such school is located enacts an ordinance establishing the speed-limit reduction  
74 requested by the school board.