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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1137**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 14, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-330 of the Code of Virginia, relating to renewal of licenses; persons*  
5 *serving in the armed services on active duty outside the Commonwealth.*

6 Patron—Cherry

7 Referred to Committee on Transportation

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That § 46.2-330 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**10 **§ 46.2-330. Expiration and renewal of licenses; examinations required.**11 A. Every driver's license shall expire on the applicant's birthday at the end of the period of years for which  
12 a driver's license has been issued. At no time shall any driver's license be issued for more than eight years or  
13 less than five years, unless otherwise provided by law. Thereafter, the driver's license shall be renewed on or  
14 before the birthday of the licensee and shall be valid for a period not to exceed eight years, except as  
15 otherwise provided by law. Any driver's license issued to a person age 75 or older shall be issued for a period  
16 not to exceed five years. Notwithstanding these limitations, the Commissioner may extend the validity period  
17 of an expiring license if (i) the Department is unable to process an application for renewal due to  
18 circumstances beyond its control, (ii) the extension has been authorized under a directive from the Governor,  
19 and (iii) the license was not issued as a limited-duration driver's license under the provisions of subsection B  
20 of § 46.2-328.1. However, in no event shall the validity period be extended more than 90 days per occurrence  
21 of such conditions. In determining the number of years for which a driver's license shall be renewed, the  
22 Commissioner shall take into consideration the examinations, conditions, requirements, and other criteria  
23 provided under this title that relate to the issuance of a license to operate a vehicle. Any driver's license issued  
24 to a person required to register pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1 shall expire on the  
25 applicant's birthday in years which the applicant attains an age equally divisible by five.26 B. Within one year prior to the date shown on the driver's license as the date of expiration, the Department  
27 shall send notice, to the holder thereof, at the address shown on the records of the Department in its driver's  
28 license file, that his license will expire on a date specified therein, whether he must be reexamined, and when  
29 he may be reexamined. Nonreceipt of the notice shall not extend the period of validity of the driver's license  
30 beyond its expiration date. The license holder may request the Department to send such renewal notice to an  
31 email or other electronic address, upon provision of such address to the Department.32 Any person serving in the armed services of the United States, including the regular Armed Forces of the  
33 United States or the National Guard or other reserve component, on active duty who will be serving outside  
34 the Commonwealth at the time of the expiration of his valid driver's license may, more than one year prior to  
35 the date shown on such driver's license as the date of expiration, request the Department to send such  
36 renewal notice prior to the deadline for sending such notice required pursuant to this subsection. The  
37 Department shall send such renewal notice within two business days of receipt of such request. If such person  
38 provides the date of his departure from the Commonwealth in his request for such notice, the Department  
39 shall ensure that the time when he may be reexamined, if applicable, occurs prior to his departure from the  
40 Commonwealth, such that he may renew his driver's license prior to his departure. The Commissioner may  
41 require that such request for notice be submitted on a form prescribed by the Commissioner.42 Any driver's license may be renewed by application after the applicant has taken and successfully  
43 completed those parts of the examination provided for in §§ 46.2-311, 46.2-325, and the Virginia  
44 Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.), including vision and written tests, other than the  
45 parts of the examination requiring the applicant to drive a motor vehicle. All drivers applying in person for  
46 renewal of a license shall take and successfully complete the examination each renewal year. Every applicant  
47 for a renewal shall appear in person before the Department, unless specifically notified by the Department  
48 that renewal may be accomplished in another manner as provided in the notice. Applicants who are required  
49 to appear in person before the Department to apply for a renewal may also be required to present proof of  
50 identity, legal presence, residency, and social security number or non-work authorized status.51 C. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Commissioner, in his discretion, may require  
52 any applicant for renewal to be fully examined as provided in §§ 46.2-311 and 46.2-325 and the Virginia  
53 Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.). Furthermore, if the applicant is less than 75 years  
54 old, the Commissioner may waive the vision examination for any applicant for renewal of a driver's license  
55 that is not a commercial driver's license and the requirement for the taking of the written test as provided in  
56 subsection B of this section, § 46.2-325, and the Virginia Commercial Driver's License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et  
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59 seq.). However, in no case shall there be any waiver of the vision examination for applicants for renewal of a  
60 commercial driver's license or of the knowledge test required by the Virginia Commercial Driver's License  
61 Act for the hazardous materials endorsement on a commercial driver's license. No driver's license or learner's  
62 permit issued to any person who is 75 years old or older shall be renewed unless the applicant for renewal  
63 appears in person and either (i) passes a vision examination or (ii) presents a report of a vision examination,  
64 made within 90 days prior thereto by an ophthalmologist or optometrist, indicating that the applicant's vision  
65 meets or exceeds the standards contained in § 46.2-311.

66 D. Every applicant for renewal of a driver's license, whether renewal shall or shall not be dependent on  
67 any examination of the applicant, shall appear in person before the Department to apply for renewal, unless  
68 specifically notified by the Department that renewal may be accomplished in another manner as provided in  
69 the notice.

70 E. This section shall not modify the provisions of § 46.2-221.2.

71 F. 1. The Department shall electronically transmit application information, including a photograph, to the  
72 Department of State Police, in a format approved by the State Police, for comparison with information  
73 contained in the Virginia Criminal Information Network and National Crime Information Center Convicted  
74 Sexual Offender Registry files, at the time of the renewal of a driver's license. Whenever it appears from the  
75 records of the State Police that a person has failed to comply with the duty to register, reregister, or verify his  
76 registration information pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1, the State Police shall promptly  
77 investigate and, if there is probable cause to believe a violation has occurred, obtain a warrant or assist in  
78 obtaining an indictment charging a violation of § 18.2-472.1 in the jurisdiction in which the person last  
79 registered, reregistered, or verified his registration information or in the jurisdiction where the person made  
80 application for licensure. The Department of State Police shall electronically transmit to the Department, in a  
81 format approved by the Department, for each person required to register pursuant to Chapter 9 of Title 9.1,  
82 registry information consisting of the person's name, all aliases that he has used or under which he may have  
83 been known, his date of birth, and his social security number as set out in § 9.1-903.

84 2. For each person required to register pursuant to Chapter 9 of Title 9.1, the Department may not waive  
85 the requirement that each such person shall appear for each renewal or the requirement to obtain a photograph  
86 in accordance with subsection C of § 46.2-323.