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HOUSE BILL NO. 166

Offered January 14, 2026

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-980 of the Code of Virginia, relating to noise ordinances; industrial property; civil penalties.

Patron—Thomas

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-980 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-980. Civil penalties for violations of noise ordinances.

Any locality may, by ordinance, adopt a uniform schedule of civil penalties for violations of that locality's noise ordinance. ~~This provision shall not apply to noise generated in connection with the business being performed on industrial property.~~ Civil ~~fin~~ penalties shall not exceed \$250 for the first offense violation and \$500 for each subsequent offense violation. The locality may authorize the chief law-enforcement officer to enforce any civil penalties adopted pursuant to the provisions of this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to railroads. No ordinance of any locality shall apply to sound emanating from any area permitted by the Virginia Department of Energy or any division thereof.

INTRODUCED

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