

A BILL.

To provide for the wearing of uniforms by officers making arrests or searches on the public road of this State, to prescribe the uniform to be worn and to prevent the taxing or collection of any fees for arrests or prosecutions where said arrest was made on the public highway, by an officer not wearing the uniform prescribed by this Act.

Be it ordained by the General Assembly of Virginia that all sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, constables, police officers, magistrates, conservator of the peace, or other officer whether of like kind or not, acting under the authority of any law of this State or any subdivision thereof, who shall make any arrest, search or seizure on any public road or highway of this State or any road or highway commonly used by the public—shall at the time be dressed in the uniform composed of hat or cap, shirt or coat and trousers, with clear and distinct insignia in the form of buttons or other device which will clearly show his official authority. Said uniform must be either blue or khaki color, and be such as will clearly show same to be an official uniform.

The Attorney General shall, in conformity with the provisions of this Bill, designate the type of uniform to be worn by such officers and shall give notice of same to the sheriff of each county and the Sergeant of each city of Virginia.

Public road or highway as road commonly used by the public is defined to be the actual roadway so used and an area of 25 yards on each side thereof from the centre of same.

Any such officer making arrest, search or seizure when not so uniformed shall not receive nor shall there be taken for his benefit against this State or any subdivision thereof, or against any defendant any fee, mileage attendance, pay or any other charge compensation or reward which will inure to the benefit directly or indirectly of said officer.

Where two or more officers as herein defined, act together, this act shall apply to all unless each and all of said officers are uniformed as required herein.

This Act shall not be construed to render any arrest, search or seizure unlawful by reason of the absence of the uniform herein provided for—nor shall it prevent the Act of any officer not lawful, whether uniformed or not.

It shall be unlawful for any person, not such an officer as is defined in this Bill, to wear any such uniform as is designated by the Attorney General; and for a violation of this Act, the penalty shall be a fine not exceeding \$ \_\_\_\_\_, or confinement in jail for a term not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ months, or both such fine and imprisonment.

All Acts and parts of this Act in conflict with this Act, are hereby repealed.