

SENATE BILL NO. 531

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Jordan)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 19.2-66 and 19.2-68 of the Code of Virginia, relating to application for and issuance of order authorizing interception of communications.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 19.2-66 and 19.2-68 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 19.2-66. When Attorney General or Chief Deputy Attorney General may apply for order authorizing interception of communications.

A. The Attorney General or Chief Deputy Attorney General, if the Attorney General so designates in writing, in any case where the Attorney General is authorized by law to prosecute or pursuant to a request in his official capacity of an attorney for the Commonwealth in any city or county, may apply to a judge of competent jurisdiction for an order authorizing the interception of wire, electronic or oral communications by the Department of State Police, when such interception may reasonably be expected to provide evidence of the commission of a felonious offense of extortion, bribery, kidnapping, murder, any felony violation of § 18.2-248 or 18.2-248.1, any felony violation of Chapter 29 (§ 59.1-364 et seq.) of Title 59.1, any felony violation of Article 2 (§ 18.2-38 et seq.), Article 2.1 (§ 18.2-46.1 et seq.), Article 2.2 (§ 18.2-46.4 et seq.), Article 5 (§ 18.2-58 et seq.), Article 6 (§ 18.2-59 et seq.) or any felonies that are not Class 6 felonies in Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, any violation of § 18.2-357.1, or any conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing offenses. The Attorney General or Chief Deputy Attorney General may apply for authorization for the observation or monitoring of the interception by a police department of a county or city, by a sheriff's office, or by law-enforcement officers of the United States. Such application shall be made, and such order may be granted, in conformity with the provisions of § 19.2-68.

27 B. The application for an order under subsection B of § 19.2-68 shall be made as follows:

28 1. In the case of an application for a wire or electronic interception, a judge of competent
29 jurisdiction shall have the authority to issue an order under subsection B of § 19.2-68 if there is probable
30 cause to believe that an offense was committed, is being committed, or will be committed or the person
31 or persons whose communications are to be intercepted live, work, subscribe to a wire or electronic
32 communication system, maintain an address or a post office box, or are making the communication within
33 the territorial jurisdiction of the court.

34 2. In the case of an application for an oral intercept, a judge of competent jurisdiction shall have
35 the authority to issue an order under subsection B of § 19.2-68 if there is probable cause to believe that an
36 offense was committed, is being committed, or will be committed or the physical location of the oral
37 communication to be intercepted is within the territorial jurisdiction of the court.

38 C. For the purposes of an order entered pursuant to subsection B of § 19.2-68 for the interception
39 of a wire or electronic communication, such communication shall be deemed to be intercepted in the
40 jurisdiction where the order is entered, regardless of the physical location or the method by which the
41 communication is captured or routed to the monitoring location.

42 **§ 19.2-68. Application for and issuance of order authorizing interception; contents of order;**
43 **recording and retention of intercepted communications, applications and orders; notice to parties;**
44 **introduction in evidence of information obtained.**

45 A. Each application for an order authorizing the interception of a wire, electronic or oral
46 communication shall be made in writing upon oath or affirmation to the appropriate judge of competent
47 jurisdiction and shall state the applicant's authority to make such application. Each application shall be
48 verified by the Attorney General, or Chief Deputy Attorney General, as designated by the Attorney
49 General, to the best of his knowledge and belief and shall include the following information:

50 1. The identity of the attorney for the Commonwealth and law-enforcement officer who requested
51 the Attorney General to apply for such order;

52 2. A full and complete statement of the facts and circumstances relied upon by the applicant to
53 justify his belief that an order should be issued, including (i) details as to the particular offense that has

54 been, is being or is about to be committed, (ii) except as provided in subsection I, a particular description
55 of the nature and location of the facilities from which or the place where the communication is to be
56 intercepted, (iii) a particular description of the type of communications sought to be intercepted, (iv) the
57 identity of the person, if known, committing the offense and whose communications are to be intercepted;

58 3. A full and complete statement as to whether or not other investigative procedures have been
59 tried and failed or why they reasonably appear to be unlikely to succeed if tried or to be too dangerous;

60 4. A statement of the period of time for which the interception is required to be maintained. If the
61 nature of the investigation is such that the authorization for interception should not automatically terminate
62 when the described type of communication has been first obtained, a particular description of facts
63 establishing probable cause to believe that additional communications of the same type will occur
64 thereafter;

65 5. A full and complete statement of the facts concerning all previous applications known to the
66 individual authorizing and making the application, made to any judge for authorization to intercept wire,
67 electronic or oral communications involving any of the same persons, facilities or places specified in the
68 application, and the action taken by the judge on each such application;

69 6. Where the application is for the extension of an order, a statement setting forth the results thus
70 far obtained from the interception, or a reasonable explanation of the failure to obtain such results; and

71 7. If authorization is requested for observation or monitoring by a police department of a county
72 or city, by a sheriff's office, or by law-enforcement officers of the United States, a statement containing
73 the name of the police department, sheriff's office, or United States agency and an explanation of the
74 reasons such observation or monitoring is necessary.

75 The judge may require the applicant to furnish additional testimony or documentary evidence in
76 support of the application.

77 B. Upon such application the judge may enter an ex parte order, as requested or as modified,
78 authorizing interception of wire, electronic or oral communications if the judge determines on the basis of
79 the facts submitted by the applicant that:

- 80 1. There is probable cause for belief that an individual is committing, has committed or is about to
81 commit an offense enumerated in § 19.2-66 of this chapter;
- 82 2. There is probable cause for belief that particular communications concerning that offense will
83 be obtained through such interception;
- 84 3. Normal investigative procedures have been tried and have failed, or reasonably appear to be
85 unlikely to succeed if tried, or to be too dangerous; and interception under this chapter is the only
86 alternative investigative procedure available;
- 87 4. Except as provided in subsection I, there is probable cause for belief that the facilities from
88 which, or the place where, the wire, electronic or oral communications are to be intercepted are being
89 used, or are about to be used, in connection with the commission of such offense, or are leased to, listed
90 in the name of, or commonly used by such person;
- 91 5. A wire, electronic or oral communication authorized to be intercepted pursuant to this section
92 may be monitored at any location within the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- 93 C. Each order authorizing the interception of any wire, electronic or oral communication shall
94 specify:
- 95 1. The identity of the person, if known, whose communications are to be intercepted;
- 96 2. The nature and location of the communications facilities as to which, or the place where,
97 authority to intercept is granted;
- 98 3. A particular description of the type of communication sought to be intercepted, and a statement
99 of the particular offense enumerated in § 19.2-66 to which it relates;
- 100 4. That such interception is to be conducted only by the Department of State Police;
- 101 5. If observation or monitoring by the police department of a county or city, by a sheriff's office,
102 or by law-enforcement officers of the United States is authorized, only that police department, sheriff's
103 office, or agency or the officers from any police department of a town which originated the investigation
104 leading to the application shall observe or monitor the interception; and

105 6. The period of time during which such interception is authorized, including a statement as to
106 whether or not the interception shall automatically terminate when the described communication has been
107 first obtained.

108 An order authorizing the interception of a wire, electronic or oral communication shall, upon
109 request of the applicant, direct that a provider of wire or electronic communications service, landlord,
110 custodian or other person shall furnish the Department of State Police forthwith all information, facilities
111 and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the interception unobtrusively and with a minimum of
112 interference with the services that such service provider, landlord, custodian or person is providing the
113 person whose communications are to be intercepted. Any provider of wire or electronic communications
114 service, landlord, custodian or other person furnishing such facilities or technical assistance shall be
115 compensated therefor by the Commonwealth for reasonable and actual expenses incurred in providing
116 such facilities or assistance, to be paid out of the criminal fund.

117 D. No order entered under this section may authorize the interception of any wire, electronic or
118 oral communication for any period longer than is necessary to achieve the objective of the authorization,
119 nor in any event longer than 30 days which period begins to run on the earlier of the day on which the
120 investigative or law-enforcement officer begins to conduct an interception under the order or 10 days after
121 the date of entry of the order. Extensions of an order may be granted, but only upon application for an
122 extension made in accordance with subsection A of this section and the court's making the findings
123 required by subsection B of this section. The period of extension shall be no longer than the authorizing
124 judge deems necessary to achieve the purposes for which it was granted and in no event for longer than
125 30 days. Every order and extension thereof shall contain a provision that the authorization to intercept
126 shall be executed as soon as practicable, shall be conducted in such a way as to minimize the interception
127 of communications not otherwise subject to interception under this chapter, and must terminate upon
128 attainment of the authorized objective, or in any event in 30 days. In the event the intercepted
129 communication is in a code or foreign language, and an expert in that foreign language or code is not
130 reasonably available during the interception period, minimization may be accomplished as soon as
131 practicable after such interception.

132 E. Whenever an order authorizing interception is entered pursuant to this chapter, the order shall
133 require reports to be made to the judge who issued the order showing what progress has been made toward
134 achievement of the authorized objective and the need for continued interception. Such reports shall be
135 made at such intervals as the judge shall require.

136 F. 1. The contents of any wire, electronic or oral communication intercepted by any means
137 authorized by this chapter shall, if possible, be recorded on tape or wire or other comparable device.
138 Should it not be possible to record the intercepted communication, a detailed resume of such
139 communication shall forthwith be reduced to writing and filed with the court. The recording of the contents
140 of any wire, electronic or oral communication under this subsection shall be done in such way as will
141 protect the recording from editing or other alterations and shall not be duplicated except upon order of the
142 court as hereafter provided. Immediately upon the expiration of the period of the order, or extensions
143 thereof, such recording or detailed resume shall be made available to the judge issuing such order and
144 sealed under his directions. Custody of any recordings or detailed resumes shall be vested with the court
145 and shall not be destroyed for a period of 10 years from the date of the order and then only by direction
146 of the court; provided, however, should any interception fail to reveal any information related to the
147 offense or offenses for which it was authorized, such recording or resume shall be destroyed after the
148 expiration of 60 days after the notice required by subdivision 4 of this subsection is served. Duplicate
149 recordings may be made for use or disclosure pursuant to the provisions of subsections A and B of § 19.2-
150 67 for investigations. The presence of the seal provided for by this subsection, or a satisfactory explanation
151 for the absence thereof, shall be a prerequisite for the use or disclosure of the contents of any wire,
152 electronic or oral communication or evidence derived therefrom under subsection C of § 19.2-67.

153 2. Applications made and orders granted or denied under this chapter shall be sealed by the judge.
154 Custody of the applications and orders shall be wherever the judge directs. Such applications and orders
155 shall be disclosed only upon a showing of good cause before a judge of competent jurisdiction and shall
156 not be destroyed except on order of the issuing or denying judge, and in any event shall be kept for 10
157 years.

158 3. Any violation of the provisions of this subsection may be punished as contempt of the issuing
159 or denying court.

160 4. Within a reasonable time but not later than 90 days after the filing of an application for an order
161 of authorization which is denied or the termination of the period of an order or extensions thereof, the
162 issuing or denying judge shall cause to be served, on the persons named in the order or the application,
163 and such other parties to intercepted communications as the judge may determine in his discretion that is
164 in the interest of justice, an inventory which shall include notice of:

- 165 (a) The fact of the entry of the order or the application;
- 166 (b) The date of the entry and the period of authorized interception, or the denial of the application;
- 167 (c) The fact that during the period wire, electronic or oral communications were or were not
168 intercepted; and
- 169 (d) The fact that unless he files a motion with the court within 60 days after the service of notice
170 upon him, the recordation or resume may be destroyed in accordance with subdivision 1 of this subsection.

171 The judge, upon the filing of a motion, shall make available to such person or his counsel for
172 inspection the intercepted communications, applications and orders. The serving of the inventory required
173 by this subsection may be postponed for additional periods, not to exceed 30 days each, upon the ex parte
174 showing of good cause to a judge of competent jurisdiction.

175 G. The contents of any intercepted wire, electronic or oral communication or evidence derived
176 therefrom shall not be received in evidence or otherwise disclosed in any trial, hearing or other proceeding
177 in a state court unless each party to the communication and to such proceeding, not less than 10 days
178 before the trial, hearing or proceeding, has been furnished with a copy of the court order, accompanying
179 application under which the interception was authorized and the contents of any intercepted wire,
180 electronic or oral communication that is to be used in any trial, hearing or other proceeding in a state court.
181 This 10-day period may be waived by the judge if he finds that it was not possible to furnish the party
182 with the above information 10 days before the trial, hearing or proceeding and that the party will not be
183 prejudiced by the delay in receiving such information; provided that such information in any event shall

184 be given prior to the day of the trial, and the inability to comply with such 10-day period shall be grounds
185 for the granting of a continuance to either party.

186 The judge who considers an application for an interception under this chapter, whether issuing or
187 denying the order, shall be disqualified from presiding at any trial resulting from or in any manner
188 connected with such interception, regardless of whether the evidence acquired thereby is used in such trial.

189 H. Any aggrieved person in any trial, hearing or proceeding in or before any court, department,
190 officer, agency, regulatory body or other authority of the Commonwealth, or a political subdivision
191 thereof, may move to suppress the contents of any intercepted wire, electronic or oral communication, or
192 evidence derived therefrom, on the grounds that:

193 1. The communication was unlawfully intercepted, or was not intercepted in compliance with this
194 chapter; or

195 2. The order of the authorization or approval under which it was intercepted is insufficient on its
196 face; or

197 3. The interception was not made in conformity with the order of authorization or approval; or

198 4. The interception is not admissible into evidence in any trial, proceeding or hearing in a state
199 court under the applicable rules of evidence.

200 Such motion shall be made before the trial, hearing or proceeding unless there was no opportunity
201 to make such motion or the person was not aware of the grounds of the motion. If the motion is granted
202 pursuant to subdivision 1, 2 or 3 of this subsection, the contents of the intercepted wire, electronic or oral
203 communication or evidence derived therefrom shall be treated as having been obtained in violation of this
204 chapter. The judge, upon the filing of such motion by the aggrieved person, shall make available to the
205 aggrieved person, or his counsel, for inspection the intercepted communication.

206 I. The requirements of subdivision 2 of subsection A and subdivision 4 of subsection B of this
207 section relating to the specification of the facilities from which, or the place where, the communication is
208 to be intercepted do not apply if:

209 1. In the case of an application with respect to the interception of an oral communication:

210 (a) The application contains a full and complete statement as to why such specification is not
211 practical and identifies the person committing the offense and whose communications are to be
212 intercepted; and

213 (b) The judge finds that such specification is not practical; or

214 2. In the case of an application with respect to a wire or electronic communication:

215 (a) the application identifies the person believed to be committing the offense and whose
216 communications are to be intercepted and the applicant makes a showing of a purpose, on the part of that
217 person, to thwart interception by changing facilities; and

218 (b) the judge finds that such purpose has been adequately shown.

219 The interception of a communication under an order issued pursuant to this subsection shall not
220 begin until the facilities from which, or the place where, the communication is to be intercepted is
221 ascertained by the person implementing the interception order. A provider of wire or electronic
222 communications service that has received an order issued pursuant to this subdivision 2 may move the
223 court to modify or quash the order on the ground that its assistance with respect to the interception cannot
224 be performed in a timely or reasonable fashion. The court, upon notice to the Attorney General, shall
225 decide the motion expeditiously.

226 #