

2016 -- H 7871

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LC005081  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - TAXICABS AND LIMITED  
PUBLIC MOTOR VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representative Marvin L. Abney

Date Introduced: March 04, 2016

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 39-14-11 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-14 entitled "Taxicabs  
2 and Limited Public Motor Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **39-14-11. Penalties for violations.** -- (a) Any person or the officers of any association or  
4 corporation who shall violate any provision of §§ 39-14-1 -- 39-14-17, 39-14-20(b), 39-14-25 and  
5 39-14-26, or any order, rule, or regulation adopted or established under any provision, shall be  
6 fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisoned not more than sixty (60) days or  
7 both, and his or her certificate may be revoked, and the violation shall be a separate and distinct  
8 offense for each day during which it shall continue.

9 (b) The administrator may in his or her discretion, in addition to seeking criminal  
10 sanctions, impose upon its regulated taxicabs and limited public motor vehicles an administrative  
11 civil penalty (fine) in addition to revoking or suspending the taxicab's and limited public motor  
12 vehicle's operating authority as conferred under this chapter. The fine shall not exceed one  
13 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per each violation of the sections contained in this chapter or the  
14 division's orders, rules and regulations issued and promulgated thereunder.

15 (c) Nothing herein shall preclude an authorized certificate holder under chapter 14 of title  
16 39 from pursuing a private cause of action for damages at law and in equity, against any person,  
17 firm, corporation, or the officers of any association or corporation who shall violate any  
18 provisions of §§39-14-1 through 39-14-17, 39-14-20(b), 39-14-25 and 39-14-26, or any order,

1 [rule, or regulation adopted or established under any provision, by the division of public utilities](#)  
2 [and carriers and the administrator.](#)

3 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - TAXICABS AND LIMITED  
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1           This act would expressly permit for a private cause of action by an existing certificate  
2 holder under chapter 14 of title 39 against any party operating in violation of and/or the division  
3 rules governing the transportation of passengers via taxicabs and limited public motor vehicles.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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