AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- NON-TRANSPARENT WINDSHIELD AND WINDOWS EXEMPTION

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Lombardi, Vella-Wilkinson, Cassar, and Almeida

Date Introduced: January 22, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 31-23.3-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-23.3 entitled "Nontransparent Windshields and Windows" is hereby amended to read as follows:

31-23.3-4. Exemptions.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:


2. Motor vehicles owned or leased by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

3. The use of nontransparent or sunscreen material or window application on motor vehicles which has a total visible light transmittance of not less than seventy percent (70%) measured perpendicular to the surface of the glass on the windshield and side windows immediately adjacent to the right and left of the operator's seat, the side windows immediately to the rear of the operator's seat and the front passenger seat or on the rear window if the vehicle is equipped with two (2) outside mirrors, one on each side, adjusted so that the driver has a clear view of the highway behind the vehicle.

4. The use of any transparent material limited to the uppermost six inches (6") along the top of the windshield, provided the strip does not encroach upon the driver's direct forward viewing area as more particularly described and defined in applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
(5) Motor vehicles not required to be registered in this state.

(6) The use of sunscreen material on windows behind the driver in trucks, buses, trailers, mobile homes, campers, multipurpose vehicles, charter buses, funeral service vehicles, or limousines, provided that the vehicle is equipped with two (2) outside mirrors, one on each side, if those mirrors meet federal standards adjusted so the driver has a clear view of the highway behind the vehicle.

(7) A motor vehicle registered in this state in the name of a person, or the person's legal guardian, who has an affidavit signed by a physician or an optometrist licensed to practice in this state that states that the person has a physical condition that makes it necessary to equip the motor vehicle with a sunscreensing device which may exceed federal standards. The division of motor vehicles, upon application of the individual, which shall include the affidavit, shall issue a sticker to be applied to the driver's side window to identify this exemption.

(8) Any motor vehicle, registered and garaged within this state, whose sole purpose is to provide executive security to persons within this state. The owner(s) of the vehicle shall first seek and obtain written permission from the local police chief where the vehicle is garaged and registered before the waiver is granted.

(9) Any privately owned motor vehicle which is owned by an individual who is employed as a municipal or state police officer, firefighter, judge of a state court, or any elected member of the Rhode Island general assembly

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- NON-TRANSPARENT WINDSHIELD AND WINDOWS EXEMPTION

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1 This act would exempt state or municipal police officers, firefighters, judges of state
court, and members of the Rhode Island general assembly from the requirement of transparent
3 windshields and windows.
4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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