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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- ELECTRONIC VEHICLE RECOVERY SERVICES

Introduced By: Representatives Tobon, Caldwell, Baginski, Alzate, Edwards, Barros, Corvese, Amore, and Craven

Date Introduced: February 12, 2021

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 31 of the General Laws entitled "MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES"  
2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 2.2

4 ELECTRONIC VEHICLE RECOVERY SERVICES

5 **31-2.2-1. Short title.**

6 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Electronic Vehicle Recovery Services  
7 Act."

8 **31-2.2-2. Electronic vehicle recovery services.**

9 (a) For the purposes of this chapter, "electronic vehicle recovery service" means any  
10 aftermarket or factory installed vehicle tracking system that allows vehicles, with the knowledge  
11 and consent of the owner, to be tracked by law enforcement, the purpose of which is to recover  
12 vehicles in the event of theft.

13 (b) Upon the filing of a report of a stolen motor vehicle, and submission of an affidavit  
14 from the owner of the vehicle requesting that the law enforcement agency contact the provider of  
15 the vehicle's electronic recovery services, the service provider, upon receipt of notice from the law  
16 enforcement agency, shall activate the vehicle's electronic recovery services in order that the law  
17 enforcement agency may use the electronic vehicle recovery services to attempt to recover the  
18 vehicle.

1           (c) If a vehicle is equipped with an electronic recovery system that has not been activated  
2 at the time it is stolen, an electronic vehicle recovery service provider may at the request of the  
3 owner activate the system upon payment by the vehicle owner to the provider of the standard  
4 periodic subscription fee charged by the system provider.

5           (d) Nothing in this section prohibits an electronic vehicle recovery service provider from  
6 establishing protocols by which the provider can voluntarily activate the electronic vehicle recovery  
7 services at the request of the owner.

8           (e) All electronic vehicle recovery service providers registered to do business in this state,  
9 or submitting to the jurisdiction thereof, and all resellers of electronic vehicle recovery services  
10 shall submit their emergency contact information to the Rhode Island division of public safety's E-  
11 911 unit in order to facilitate requests from law enforcement agencies in accordance with the  
12 provisions of this chapter. This contact information must be submitted annually, on or before June  
13 1 of each year or immediately upon any change in said contact information.

14           (f) The Rhode Island division of public safety's E-911 unit shall maintain a database  
15 containing emergency contact information for all service providers registered to do business in this  
16 state, and shall make the information immediately available to all public safety and law  
17 enforcement agencies upon request.

18           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 MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- ELECTRONIC VEHICLE RECOVERY  
SERVICES

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1           This act would create the "Electronic Vehicle Recovery Services Act" which would require  
2           that vehicle owners with electronic vehicle recovery systems in their vehicles submit an affidavit  
3           attesting to the theft of their motor vehicle prior to law enforcement contacting the recovery service  
4           provider for assistance in locating the vehicle.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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