

2021 -- H 5608

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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 -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Cardillo, Craven, Fellela, Costantino, Corvese, Kazarian,  
Batista, Caldwell, Hull, and Williams

Date Introduced: February 15, 2021

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration of  
2 Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-3-2. Vehicles subject to registration.**

4 (a) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer, pole trailer, motorized camper, tent trailer,  
5 travel trailer, pick-up coach, and pick-up camper, owned by a resident of this state when operated  
6 or drawn upon a highway within this state for a period of thirty (30) days, shall be subject to the  
7 registration provisions of chapters 3 -- 9 of this title except:

8 ~~(1)~~ Any vehicle operated upon a highway in conformance with the provisions of the  
9 chapters relating to manufacturers, transporters, dealers, lien holders, or nonresidents;

10 ~~(2)~~ Any vehicle that is operated upon a highway only for the purpose of crossing the  
11 highway but not along the highway from one property to another;

12 ~~(3)~~ Any farm vehicle, whether or not of a type otherwise subject to registration under  
13 this chapter, that is only incidentally operated upon a highway. For purposes of this title, the phrase  
14 "incidentally operated upon a highway" shall mean the operation upon a highway of a slow-moving  
15 motor vehicle that is designed and used primarily as a farm implement for drawing plows, mowing  
16 machines, and other implements of husbandry, between agricultural operations owned or managed  
17 by the owner of the motor vehicle. Unless the incidental operation is only for purposes of crossing  
18 the highway but not traveling along it, the farm vehicle engaged in the incidental operation shall  
19 display a "Slow Moving Vehicle" emblem in a manner that complies with requirements established

1 by the division of motor vehicles;

2 ~~(4)~~ Any special mobile equipment as defined in § 31-1-9;

3 ~~(5)~~ Any vehicle that is propelled exclusively by electric power obtained from overhead  
4 trolley wires, though not operated upon rails.

5 (b) All vehicles for which titles are required that are issued by the Rhode Island division  
6 of motor vehicles pursuant to this chapter may be requested online.

7 (c) All vehicles purchased from a Rhode Island dealer, as defined in § 31-5-5, shall be  
8 allowed to be registered online with the Rhode Island division of motor vehicles.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
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1           This act would allow Rhode Island titled vehicles to be allowed to be registered online by  
2 the division of motor vehicles. Further, this act would allow all vehicles purchased from a Rhode  
3 Island car dealer to be registered online.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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