

2022 -- H 8298

=====
LC006047
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'
LICENSES

Introduced By: Representative Marvin L. Abney

Date Introduced: May 27, 2022

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-10-5 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-10 entitled "Operators'
2 and Chauffeurs' Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-10-5. Special restrictions for drivers for compensation.**

4 (a) No person who is under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall drive any school bus
5 transporting school children or any motor vehicle, except any taxicab or limited public motor
6 vehicle licensed pursuant to the provisions of § 39-14-20, when in use for the transportation of
7 persons or property for compensation nor in either event until he or she has been licensed as a
8 chauffeur for either purpose and the license so indicates. Colleges and universities shall be exempt
9 from the requirement for a public plate for vehicles used to shuttle only students or employees to
10 various points within the college or university campus or if a college or university owned or leased
11 vehicle is used for the occasional transportation of college or university employees or students
12 either on or off campus provided that the vehicle is operated by a college or university employee
13 possessing a valid Rhode Island chauffeur's license or a commercial drivers license with a
14 passenger endorsement. Provided, however, that the college or university shall operate the shuttle
15 service and there shall be no specific charge for the transportation of students or employees. The
16 division of motor vehicles shall not issue a chauffeur's license for either purpose unless the
17 applicant has had at least one year of driving experience prior to the application, and has filed with
18 the division of motor vehicles one or more certificates signed by a total of at least three (3)

1 responsible people to whom he or she is well known certifying to the applicant's good character
2 and habits and the administrator of the division of motor vehicles is fully satisfied as to the
3 applicant's competency and fitness to be so employed.

4 (b) In addition to the requirements provided in subsection (a) of this section, any person
5 attempting to obtain a chauffeur's license to drive a school bus transporting school children shall,
6 prior to being certified:

7 (1) Successfully complete a ten (10) hour school bus driver training course conducted by
8 the department of revenue or the department of revenue's designee and file a certificate of
9 successful completion with the division of motor vehicles. The curriculum of that course and the
10 accreditation of courses offered shall be pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the
11 division of motor vehicles;

12 (2) Pass a written examination prepared and given by the department of revenue or the
13 department of revenue's designee.

14 (3) Pass a driving test in a school bus of a like type which that person will be employed to
15 drive. The test will be prepared and given by the department of revenue.

16 (c) Prior to issuing a certificate to any person who intends to drive a school bus, the division
17 of motor vehicles shall conduct a search of that person's motor vehicle record. Any violation of any
18 safety regulation or conviction of any motor vehicle law in this or any other state shall be grounds
19 for refusing to issue a certificate.

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

=====
LC006047
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'
LICENSES

- 1 This act would remove the requirement that taxicabs and public motor vehicles obtain a
- 2 chauffeurs license under chapter 10 of title 31 relating to operators' and chauffeurs' licenses.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC006047
=====