

2012 -- H 7869

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - TRANSFER OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representative Stephen R. Ucci

Date Introduced: February 28, 2012

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-4-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-4 entitled "Transfer of
2 Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-4-1. Expiration of registration by transfer of interest in vehicle -- Disposition of**
4 **plates.** – (a) Whenever the owner of a registered vehicle transfers or assigns his or her title or
5 interest in ownership, or whenever he or she shall request the transfer of the registration to
6 another vehicle owned by him or her, or shall remove the vehicle from the highways of this state
7 to be used solely upon his or her property, the registration of the vehicle shall expire. The owner
8 shall remove the registration plates from the vehicle and forward them to the division of motor
9 vehicles, or may have such plates and the registration number thereon assigned to another vehicle
10 upon payment of the fees required by law and subject to the rules and regulations of the division
11 of motor vehicles. Any corporation or limited liability company in the business of providing
12 vehicle leasing or vehicle rental may cancel a registration by submitting a sworn, notarized
13 affidavit to the division of motor vehicles stating that the registration plates are unavailable due to
14 loss, theft, or other reasons.

15 (b) When the owner of a registered motor vehicle sells or transfers his or her interest in
16 ownership, and upon registration of the motor vehicle identification number, the registration and
17 plates shall be cancelled immediately by the department of motor vehicles. Any person who fails
18 to return said plates to the department of motor vehicles within thirty (30) days shall be assessed a
19 penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) by the department of motor vehicles.

1 (c) The department of motor vehicles and the local towns and cities shall use the vehicle
2 identification number as the criteria for the purposes of motor vehicle taxes.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would require a person who sells or transfers his or her interest in ownership of a
2 motor vehicle to return the registration plates within thirty (30) days and the department of motor
3 vehicles to cancel said registration plates immediately. This act would also require the vehicle
4 identification number to be resold as the criteria for the purposes of motor vehicle taxes to be
5 assessed by the local towns and cities.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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