

2012 -- S 2697

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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 - COURTESY PLATES

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Lombardo, and Bates

Date Introduced: March 01, 2012

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-17.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled
2 "Registration of Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:
3 **31-3-17.1. Courtesy plates.** -- The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall
4 design and issue under regulations that he or she deems appropriate, special courtesy automobile,
5 motorcycle, and commercial registration plates to be used on passenger motor vehicles,
6 motorcycles, and all commercial vehicles whose gross weight is not more than nine thousand
7 pounds (9,000 lbs.) in lieu of other number plates. Special plates shall be of such design and shall
8 bear such letters or combinations of letters and numbers as the administrator of the division of
9 motor vehicles shall prescribe, and shall be made of light-reflecting sheeting applied on a metal
10 base, provided that no automobile set of plates shall contain more than six (6) letters and numbers
11 in a combination of letters and numbers, or less than two (2) letters, and that no motorcycle plate
12 shall contain more than five (5) letters or more than five (5) letters and numbers in a combination
13 or less than two (2) letters, and that a commercial courtesy plate shall be marked "commercial,"
14 and shall contain no more than ~~five (5)~~ six (6) letters or more than ~~five (5)~~ six (6) letters and
15 numbers in a combination or less than two (2) letters, and provided further, that there shall be no
16 duplication of identification and the administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall in his or
17 her discretion refuse to issue any letter or combination of letters and numbers which might carry
18 connotations offensive to good taste and decency. A special automobile or commercial courtesy
19 plate shall be issued upon application using forms furnished by the administrator of the division

1 of motor vehicles, and upon payment, in addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle
2 registration fee, a service charge of sixty dollars (\$60.00) for each issue and for each registration
3 renewal. For motorcycles, a special courtesy plate shall be issued upon application using forms
4 furnished by the division of motor vehicles, and upon payment, in addition to the regular
5 prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, a service charge of thirty-four dollars (\$34.00) for each
6 issue and for each registration renewal. The service charge shall be paid to the administrator of
7 the division of motor vehicles prior to the administrator's acceptance of the application. The
8 Rhode Island state lottery commission shall not be required to pay the service charge for any
9 special courtesy plate issued pursuant to this section for motor vehicles owned or used by the
10 lottery commission, and may utilize the special courtesy plates on all types of vehicles owned or
11 operated by the lottery commission.

12 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 authorize the issuance of commercial vanity license plates with up to six
- 2 (6) letters or numbers.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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