

2015 -- H 5280

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LC000394  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Tanzi, Solomon, Tobon, Nunes, and Carson

Date Introduced: February 04, 2015

Referred To: House Finance

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 six (6) letters or more than six (6) letters and numbers in a  
15 combination or less than two (2) letters, and provided further, that there shall be no duplication of  
16 identification and the administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall in his or her discretion  
17 refuse to issue any letter or combination of letters and numbers which might carry connotations  
18 offensive to good taste and decency. A special automobile or commercial courtesy plate shall be  
19 issued upon application using forms furnished by the administrator of the division of motor

1 vehicles, and upon payment, in addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, a  
2 service charge of sixty dollars (\$60.00) for each issue and for each registration renewal. For  
3 motorcycles, a special courtesy plate shall be issued upon application using forms furnished by  
4 the division of motor vehicles, and upon payment, in addition to the regular prescribed motor  
5 vehicle registration fee, a service charge of thirty-four dollars (\$34.00) for each issue and for each  
6 registration renewal. The service charge shall be paid to the administrator of the division of motor  
7 vehicles prior to the administrator's acceptance of the application. The Rhode Island state lottery  
8 commission shall not be required to pay the service charge for any special courtesy plate issued  
9 pursuant to this section for motor vehicles owned or used by the lottery commission, and may  
10 utilize the special courtesy plates on all types of vehicles owned or operated by the lottery  
11 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 repeal the nine thousand pounds (9,000 lbs.) gross weight limitation for  
2 the issuance of vanity plates to be used in lieu of other number plates.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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