

2022 -- H 6672

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LC003477  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Shanley, McNamara, Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, Craven,  
Barros, and Amore

Date Introduced: January 06, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-117 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration  
2 of Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-3-117. Minimum prepaid special motor vehicle registration plate orders.**

4 (a) As to any special motor vehicle registration plates that have been authorized pursuant  
5 to this chapter but that have not been issued or printed as of July 2, 2018, because the minimum  
6 number of prepaid orders for the plates has not been reached, the minimum number of plates that  
7 must be prepaid and ordered prior to the plates being made and issued shall be deemed to be six  
8 hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type. If the minimum number of prepaid plates provided  
9 pursuant to any other section of this chapter is a higher number, that number shall be deemed  
10 reduced to six hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type.

11 (b) As to any special plates that are authorized pursuant to this chapter after July 2, 2018,  
12 the minimum number of plates that must be prepaid and ordered prior to the plates being made and  
13 issued shall be six hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type.

14 (c)(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the minimum number of  
15 prepaid orders for special motor vehicle registration plates that either have been authorized pursuant  
16 to this chapter, but have not been issued or printed as of the effective date of this act, because the  
17 minimum number of prepaid orders for the plates has not been reached or are authorized pursuant  
18 to this chapter after the effective date of this act, may be reduced to one hundred fifty (150) sets of  
19 plates per plate type if the applicable sponsoring nonprofit entity delivers to the division of motor

1 vehicles:

2 (i) Orders for a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) sets of plates per plate type; and

3 (ii) A nonrefundable payment of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500) for each  
4 plate type that has met the one hundred fifty (150) sets of plates threshold.

5 (2) The portion of the applicable sponsoring nonprofit entity's issuance surcharge that is to  
6 be allocated to the general fund shall be deemed paid for the first six hundred (600) sets of plates  
7 per plate type issued by the payment of the thirteen thousand five hundred dollar (\$13,500)  
8 nonrefundable payment.

9 (3) The division of motor vehicles shall make available plates eligible for issuance pursuant  
10 to subsection (c)(1) of this section, no later than six (6) months after receipt of the orders and the  
11 thirteen thousand five hundred dollar (\$13,500) nonrefundable payment; provided, however, that  
12 if multiple orders and thirteen thousand five hundred dollar (\$13,500) nonrefundable payments are  
13 received from different sponsoring nonprofit entities, the division of motor vehicles shall be  
14 afforded no more than six (6) months for each separate plate that becomes eligible for issuance and  
15 may complete the work necessary for the issuance of one order at a time in the order of receipt.

16 (4) The ability of applicable sponsoring nonprofit entities to reduce the minimum number  
17 of prepaid orders to one hundred fifty (150) sets of plates per plate type pursuant to subsection  
18 (c)(1) of this section shall expire on December 31, 2025. The division of motor vehicles shall  
19 complete the work necessary for issuance of all plates for which it receives the required orders and  
20 thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500.00) nonrefundable payments on or before  
21 December 31, 2025, in accordance with subsection (c)(3) of this section.

22 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 provide that a prepaid special motor vehicle registration plate order will be  
2 processed if the plate sponsoring nonprofit entity makes a nonrefundable payment of thirteen  
3 thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500) to the state which would enable the issuance of their  
4 proposal specialty plate, when the minimum statutorily required orders for the plates, have not been  
5 met.

6           This act would take effect upon passage.

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