

2023 -- H 5767 SUBSTITUTE A

LC001982/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Baginski, Finkelman, and Solomon

Date Introduced: February 21, 2023

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

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

3 **31-3-3. Application for registration.**

4 (a) Every owner of a vehicle subject to registration under this chapter shall apply to the
5 division of motor vehicles for the registration of it using the appropriate form or forms furnished
6 by the division of motor vehicles. Every application shall bear the signature of the owner written
7 with pen and ink and the signature shall be acknowledged by the owner before a person authorized
8 to administer oaths or as authorized in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and the
9 application shall contain:

10 (1)(a) The name, city or town of bona fide residence, actual residence address and mail
11 address of the owner as appearing on the owner's motor vehicle operator's license or state
12 identification card issued pursuant to the provisions of chapter 8 of title 3, or business address of
13 the owner if a firm, association, or if a corporation, the name of the city or town in which the vehicle
14 is physically and primarily housed. For purposes of this section "physically and primarily housed"
15 is defined as that city or town in which the vehicle is housed for a period or periods of time greater
16 than in any other city or town in the state of Rhode Island. The division of motor vehicles may
17 substitute other indicators of residence when necessary.

18 (2)(b) A description of the vehicle, including, insofar as this specified data may exist with
19 respect to a given vehicle, the make, model, type of body, the number of cylinders, the serial number

1 of the vehicle, and the engine or other number of the vehicle. In the event a vehicle is designed,
2 constructed, converted, or rebuilt for the transportation of property, the application shall include a
3 statement of its capacity in terms of maximum gross vehicle weight rating as authorized by the
4 manufacturer of the chassis or the complete vehicle.

5 ~~(3)~~(e) A statement whether liability insurance is carried on the vehicle, and, if there is
6 liability insurance, the name of the carrier, policy number, and effective dates of the policy.

7 ~~(4)~~(d) Any further information as may reasonably be required by the division of motor
8 vehicles to enable it to determine whether the vehicle is lawfully entitled to registration.

9 ~~(5)~~(e) The exact mileage reading from the motor vehicle on the date of application.

10 (b) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall prescribe and/or approve a
11 limited power-of-attorney form, which may be used in connection with applications for vehicle
12 registrations in satisfaction of the provision of subsection (a) of this section.

13 (c) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall promulgate rules and
14 regulations in order to effectuate the purpose and requirements of using a limited power of attorney
15 form to register a vehicle. The rules and regulations shall require that the limited power of attorney
16 form includes an attestation of the owner of the vehicle granting another identified person
17 permission to register the vehicle on behalf of the owner. The limited power of attorney shall be
18 witnessed and executed before a notary public to identify the information described in subsections
19 (a)(1) through (a)(5) of this section.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

1 This act would require the administrator of the division of motor vehicles to prescribe or
2 approve power-of-attorney forms to be used in connection with vehicle registrations.

3 This act would take effect on January 1, 2024.

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