

2023 -- H 6116

LC002111

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION FEES

Introduced By: Representatives Casey, Fenton-Fung, Phillips, Costantino, and Noret

Date Introduced: March 03, 2023

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-6 entitled "Registration  
2 Fees" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-6-1. Amount of registration and miscellaneous fees.**

4 The following registration fees shall be paid to the division of motor vehicles for the  
5 registration of motor vehicles, trailers, semi-trailers, and school buses subject to registration for  
6 each year of registration:

7 (1) For the registration of every automobile, when equipped with pneumatic tires, the gross  
8 weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.): thirty dollars (\$30.00).

9 (2) For the registration of every motor truck or tractor when equipped with pneumatic tires,  
10 the gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.): thirty-four dollars  
11 (\$34.00).

12 (3) For the registration of every automobile, motor truck or tractor, when equipped with  
13 pneumatic tires, the gross weight of which is:

14 (i) More than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), but not more than five thousand pounds  
15 (5,000 lbs.): forty dollars (\$40.00);

16 (ii) More than five thousand pounds (5,000 lbs.), but not more than six thousand pounds  
17 (6,000 lbs.): forty-eight dollars (\$48.00);

18 (iii) More than six thousand pounds (6,000 lbs.), but not more than seven thousand pounds  
19 (7,000 lbs.): fifty-six dollars (\$56.00);

- 1 (iv) More than seven thousand pounds (7,000 lbs.), but not more than eight thousand  
2 pounds (8,000 lbs.): sixty-four dollars (\$64.00);
- 3 (v) More than eight thousand pounds (8,000 lbs.), but not more than nine thousand pounds  
4 (9,000 lbs.): seventy dollars (\$70.00);
- 5 (vi) More than nine thousand pounds (9,000 lbs.), but not more than ten thousand pounds  
6 (10,000 lbs.): seventy-eight dollars (\$78.00);
- 7 (vii) More than ten thousand pounds (10,000 lbs.), but not more than twelve thousand  
8 pounds (12,000 lbs.): one hundred six dollars (\$106);
- 9 (viii) More than twelve thousand pounds (12,000 lbs.), but not more than fourteen thousand  
10 pounds (14,000 lbs.): one hundred twenty-four dollars (\$124);
- 11 (ix) More than fourteen thousand pounds (14,000 lbs.), but not more than sixteen thousand  
12 pounds (16,000 lbs.): one hundred forty dollars (\$140);
- 13 (x) More than sixteen thousand pounds (16,000 lbs.), but not more than eighteen thousand  
14 pounds (18,000 lbs.): one hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$158);
- 15 (xi) More than eighteen thousand pounds (18,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty thousand  
16 pounds (20,000 lbs.): one hundred seventy-six dollars (\$176);
- 17 (xii) More than twenty thousand pounds (20,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-two  
18 thousand pounds (22,000 lbs.): one hundred ninety-four dollars (\$194);
- 19 (xiii) More than twenty-two thousand pounds (22,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-four  
20 thousand pounds (24,000 lbs.): two hundred ten dollars (\$210);
- 21 (xiv) More than twenty-four thousand pounds (24,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-six  
22 thousand pounds (26,000 lbs.): two hundred thirty dollars (\$230);
- 23 (xv) More than twenty-six thousand pounds (26,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-eight  
24 thousand pounds (28,000 lbs.): two hundred ninety-six dollars (\$296);
- 25 (xvi) More than twenty-eight thousand pounds (28,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty  
26 thousand pounds (30,000 lbs.): three hundred sixteen dollars (\$316);
- 27 (xvii) More than thirty thousand pounds (30,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-two  
28 thousand pounds (32,000 lbs.): four hundred and twenty-two dollars (\$422);
- 29 (xviii) More than thirty-two thousand pounds (32,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-four  
30 thousand pounds (34,000 lbs.): four hundred and forty-eight dollars (\$448);
- 31 (xix) More than thirty-four thousand pounds (34,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-six  
32 thousand pounds (36,000 lbs.): four hundred and seventy-six dollars (\$476);
- 33 (xx) More than thirty-six thousand pounds (36,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-eight  
34 thousand pounds (38,000 lbs.): five hundred and two dollars (\$502);

1 (xxi) More than thirty-eight thousand pounds (38,000 lbs.), but not more than forty  
2 thousand pounds (40,000 lbs.): five hundred and twenty-eight dollars (\$528);

3 (xxii) More than forty thousand pounds (40,000 lbs.), but not more than forty-two thousand  
4 pounds (42,000 lbs.): five hundred and fifty-four dollars (\$554);

5 (xxiii) More than forty-two thousand pounds (42,000 lbs.), but not more than forty-six  
6 thousand pounds (46,000 lbs.): six hundred and eight dollars (\$608);

7 (xxiv) More than forty-six thousand pounds (46,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty thousand  
8 pounds (50,000 lbs.): six hundred and sixty dollars (\$660);

9 (xxv) More than fifty thousand pounds (50,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty-four thousand  
10 pounds (54,000 lbs.): seven hundred and twelve dollars (\$712);

11 (xxvi) More than fifty-four thousand pounds (54,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty-eight  
12 thousand pounds (58,000 lbs.): seven hundred and sixty-eight dollars (\$768);

13 (xxvii) More than fifty-eight thousand pounds (58,000 lbs.), but not more than sixty-two  
14 thousand pounds (62,000 lbs.): eight hundred and sixteen dollars (\$816);

15 (xxviii) More than sixty-two thousand pounds (62,000 lbs.), but not more than sixty-six  
16 thousand pounds (66,000 lbs.): eight hundred and seventy-six dollars (\$876);

17 (xxix) More than sixty-six thousand pounds (66,000 lbs.), but not more than seventy  
18 thousand pounds (70,000 lbs.): nine hundred and twenty-four dollars (\$924);

19 (xxx) More than seventy thousand pounds (70,000 lbs.), but not more than seventy-four  
20 thousand pounds (74,000 lbs.): nine hundred and seventy-two dollars (\$972);

21 (xxxi) Over seventy-four thousand pounds (74,000 lbs.): nine hundred and seventy-two  
22 dollars (\$972), plus twenty-four dollars (\$24.00) per two thousand pounds (2,000 lbs.) gross  
23 weight.

24 (4) For the registration of every semi-trailer to be used with a truck-tractor, as defined in §  
25 31-1-4(f), shall be as follows: an annual fee of twelve dollars (\$12.00) for a one-year registration;  
26 for multi-year registrations the fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a five-year (5) registration; and  
27 eighty dollars (\$80.00) for an eight-year (8) registration. However, when in use, the weight of the  
28 resulting semi-trailer unit and its maximum carrying capacity shall not exceed the gross weight of  
29 the original semi-trailer unit from which the gross weight of the tractor was determined. A  
30 registration certificate and registration plate shall be issued for each semi-trailer so registered.  
31 There shall be no refund of payment of such fee, except that when a plate is returned prior to ninety  
32 (90) days before the effective date of that year's registration, the pro rate amount, based on the  
33 unused portion of the multi-year registration plate period at time of surrender, shall be refunded. A  
34 multi-year semi-trailer registration may be transferred to another semi-trailer subject to the

1 provisions and fee set forth in § 31-6-11. Thirty percent (30%) of the semi-trailer registration fee  
2 shall be retained by the division of motor vehicles to defray the costs of implementation of the  
3 international registration plan (IRP) and fleet registration section.

4 (5) For the registration of every automobile, motor truck, or tractor, when equipped with  
5 other than pneumatic tires, there shall be added to the above gross weight fees a charge of ten cents  
6 (10¢) for each one hundred pounds (100 lbs.) of gross weight.

7 (6) For the registration of every public bus, the rates provided for motor vehicles for hire  
8 plus two dollars (\$2.00) for each passenger that bus is rated to carry, the rating to be determined by  
9 the administrator of the division of motor vehicles.

10 (7) For the registration of every motorcycle, or motor-driven cycle, thirteen dollars  
11 (\$13.00). Three dollars (\$3.00) from that sum shall be turned over to the department of education  
12 to assist in the payment of the cost of the motorcycle driver's education program as enumerated in  
13 § 31-10.1-1.1.

14 (8) For the registration of every trailer, not including semi-trailers used with a truck-tractor  
15 as defined in § 31-1-4(d), with a gross weight of three thousand pounds (3,000 lbs.) or less, five  
16 dollars (\$5.00). Trailers with a gross weight of more than three thousand pounds (3,000 lbs.) shall  
17 be assessed a registration fee of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per thousand pounds (1,000 lbs.).

18 (9) The annual registration fee for a motor vehicle, commonly described as a boxcar and/or  
19 locomotive, and used only by La Societe Des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux for civic demonstration,  
20 parades, convention purposes, or social welfare work, shall be two dollars (\$2.00).

21 (10) For the registration of every motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer owned by any  
22 department or agency of any city or town or district, provided the name of the city or town or  
23 district or state department or agency owning the same shall be plainly printed on two (2) sides of  
24 the vehicle, two dollars (\$2.00).

25 (11) For the registration of motor vehicles used for racing, fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

26 (12) For every duplicate registration certificate, seventeen dollars (\$17.00).

27 (13) For every certified copy of a registration certificate or application, ten dollars (\$10.00).

28 (14) For every certificate assigning a special identification number or mark as provided in  
29 § 31-3-37, one dollar (\$1.00).

30 (15) For every replacement of number plates or additional pair of number plates, without  
31 changing the number, thirty dollars (\$30.00).

32 (16) For the registration of every farm vehicle, used in farming as provided in § 31-3-31:  
33 ten dollars (\$10.00).

34 (17) For the registration of antique motor vehicles, five dollars (\$5.00).

1 (18) For the registration of a suburban vehicle, when used as a pleasure vehicle and the  
2 gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), the same rates as charged  
3 in subsection (1) of this section shall be applicable and when used as a commercial vehicle and the  
4 gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), the same rates as  
5 provided in subsection (2) of this section shall be applicable. The rates in subsection (3) of this  
6 section shall be applicable when the suburban vehicle has a gross weight of more than four thousand  
7 pounds (4,000 lbs.), regardless of the use of the vehicle.

8 (19) For the registration of every motor bus that is used exclusively under contract with a  
9 political subdivision or school district of the state for the transportation of school children, twenty-  
10 five dollars (\$25); provided that the motor bus may also be used for the transportation of persons  
11 to and from church and Sunday school services, and for the transportation of children to and from  
12 educational or recreational projects sponsored by a city or town or by any association or  
13 organization supported wholly or in part by public or private donations for charitable purposes,  
14 without the payment of additional registration fee.

15 (20) For the registration of every motorized bicycle, ten dollars (\$10.00).

16 (21) For the registration of every motorized tricycle, ten dollars (\$10.00).

17 (22) For the replacement of number plates with a number change, twenty dollars (\$20.00).

18 (23) For the initial issuance and each reissuance of fully reflective plates, as required by §§  
19 31-3-10, 31-3-32, and 31-3-33, an additional eight dollars (\$8.00); provided, however, for the initial  
20 issuance of new license plates as required by § 31-3-33(c) that feature the 2022 approved design,  
21 the fee shall be waived when the plate is issued for a vehicle with an existing registration.

22 (24) For the issuance of a trip permit under the International Registration Plan, twenty-five  
23 dollars (\$25.00) per vehicle. The division of motor vehicles is authorized to issue seventy-two-hour  
24 (72) trip permits for vehicles required to be registered in the International Registration Plan that  
25 have not been apportioned with the state of Rhode Island.

26 (25) For the issuance of a hunter's permit under the International Registration Plan, twenty-  
27 five dollars (\$25.00) per vehicle. The division of motor vehicles is authorized to issue hunter's  
28 permits for motor vehicles based in the state of Rhode Island and otherwise required to be registered  
29 in the International Registration Plan. These permits are valid for thirty (30) days.

30 (26) For the registration of a specially adapted motor vehicle necessary to transport a family  
31 member with a disability for personal, noncommercial use, a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) assessed.

32 (27) For the initial issuance of any vanity plate, the division may charge an additional fee  
33 consistent with its authority granted in this chapter. At the time of a renewal of any registration  
34 with a vanity plate, the division may only charge the standard fees permitted pursuant to this

1 [section.](#)

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

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

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1           This act would prohibit the division of motor vehicles from charging extra fees for  
2 reissuance of vanity plates.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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