

2023 -- H 5503 SUBSTITUTE A

LC000796/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 -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'  
LICENSES

Introduced By: Representatives Azzinaro, Ackerman, Newberry, J. Lombardi, J. Brien,  
Phillips, Lima, Serpa, Kennedy, and Corvese

Date Introduced: February 10, 2023

Referred To: House Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 31-10 of the General Laws entitled "Operators' and Chauffeurs'  
2 Licenses" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **31-10-49. Autism designations for motor vehicle operators - Blue envelope program.**

4           The administrator of the division of motor vehicles, in consultation with the Rhode Island  
5 Police Chiefs' Association and the Governor's Commission on Disabilities, shall develop rules and  
6 regulations instituting a "Blue Envelope Program" to enhance communications between police  
7 officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder. In developing the program, the division of  
8 motor vehicles shall consider best practices from implementation of similar programs in other  
9 jurisdictions. Participation in any program pursuant to this section shall be strictly voluntary.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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1           This act would require the administrator of the division of motor vehicles, in consultation  
2 with the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association and the Governor's Commission on Disabilities  
3 to develop rules and regulations instituting a Blue Envelope program to enhance effective  
4 communication between a police officer and a person with autism spectrum disorder.

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

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