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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, Raptakis, Tikoian, LaMountain, Felag, and Burke

Date Introduced: February 26, 2025

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Judiciary)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 31-27-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-27 entitled "Motor  
2 Vehicle Offenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **31-27-4. Reckless driving and other offenses against public safety.**

4           Any person who operates a motor vehicle recklessly so that the lives or safety of the public  
5 might be endangered, or operates a vehicle in an attempt to elude or flee from a traffic officer or  
6 police vehicle, shall be guilty of: ~~a misdemeanor for the first conviction and a felony for the second~~  
7 ~~and each subsequent conviction.~~

8           (1) A misdemeanor for the first conviction; and

9           (2) A felony for the second and each subsequent conviction.

10          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 distinguish, in two (2) separate subsections, a first offense for reckless  
2 driving, which is a misdemeanor, and a second or subsequent offense for reckless driving, which  
3 is a felony.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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