

2026 -- H 7574

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LC004894

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S T A T E O F R H O D E I S L A N D

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Voas, Potter, Giraldo, Slater, Casey, Noret, Shanley, Read, McEntee, and McGaw

Date Introduced: February 06, 2026

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-6.3 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration
2 of Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-3-6.3. Unpaid out-of-state toll amounts, administrative fees, and fines — Denial of**
4 **registration — Denial of transfer of registration — Denial of renewal of registration and**
5 **licenses.**

6 (a) Upon receipt of a request from another state or other entity with similar tolling authority
7 with which the Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority has entered into an agreement providing
8 for the reciprocal treatment of out-of-state toll violators to take action against a toll violator, the
9 Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority shall conduct an independent review of each toll
10 violation that forms the basis for such request, which shall include a review of photographic, video,
11 or other visual evidence, to determine that the requesting state or other entity with similar tolling
12 authority imposed any toll amounts, administrative fees, and/or fines against the actual registered
13 owner of the motor vehicle.

14 (b) As part of its independent review, the Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority shall
15 provide written notice to the registered owner of the motor vehicle in question. The registered
16 owner shall have ten (10) days from the date on the written notice to contact the Rhode Island
17 turnpike and bridge authority and to provide information, documentation, and any other evidence
18 contesting the requested action against the out-of-state toll violator. Thereafter, the Rhode Island
19 turnpike and bridge authority shall consider all of the information, documentation, and any other

1 evidence provided as part of its independent review.

2 (c) If after its independent review the Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority is
3 satisfied that any toll amounts, administrative fees, and/or fines are properly imposed against the
4 actual registered owner of the motor vehicle and the registered owner could be subject to reporting
5 to the division of motor vehicles pursuant to § 24-12-37 if such toll violations had occurred on
6 tolled projects in this state, the Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority may report the registered
7 owner to the division of motor vehicles.

8 (d) The division of motor vehicles shall not renew any operator's license or registration
9 upon expiration thereof; register any motor vehicle; or transfer the registration of any motor vehicle
10 of any person reported to it pursuant to subsection (c) of this section until any toll amounts,
11 administrative fees, and/or fines owed to the other state or other entity with similar tolling authority
12 have been paid in full or the person has entered into, and is in current compliance with, a repayment
13 agreement with respect to any amounts owed. The Rhode Island turnpike and bridge authority shall
14 provide a copy of any notification received from the other state or other entity with similar tolling
15 authority regarding full payment of amounts owed or the existence of a repayment agreement to
16 the division of motor vehicles within five (5) business days of receipt. Within five (5) business days
17 of receiving such notification, the division of motor vehicles shall renew the person's license and
18 renew, transfer, or issue the person's registration. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply
19 to any vehicle owned by a rental company as defined in § 31-34.1-1.

20 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 not subject a car rental company to registration penalties resulting from out-of-state toll violations from operators using their rental vehicles but are responsible for any outstanding toll amounts due.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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