

2026 -- H 8559

LC006477

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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 Casey, Solomon, Chippendale, Corvese, Shallcross  
Smith, Phillips, Noret, Finkelman, Dawson, and Biah

Date Introduced: May 15, 2026

Referred To: House Special Legislation

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-3 of the General Laws entitled "Registration of Vehicles" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-3-132. Special Plate for the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association.**

4 (a) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles is empowered to make available  
5 special motor vehicle registration plates for the not-for-profit entity the Rhode Island  
6 Manufacturers Association. The plates shall be designed to reference the Rhode Island  
7 Manufacturers Association.

8 (b) The special plate shall be displayed upon the same registration number assigned to the  
9 vehicle for which it was issued and shall be used in place of and in the same manner as the  
10 registration plates issued to the vehicle. The original registration plates for the vehicle shall be  
11 removed from the vehicle and returned to the division of motor vehicles. The registration certificate  
12 for the plates shall be carried in the vehicle in accordance with § 31-3-9. The registration certificate  
13 shall be in effect for the special plate.

14 (c) The Rhode Island Manufacturers Association motor vehicle plates shall be the same  
15 size as regular motor vehicle plates and shall be designed by the Rhode Island Manufacturers  
16 Association in conjunction with the division of motor vehicles, with the design approved by the  
17 Rhode Island state police.

18 (d) The Rhode Island Manufacturers Association plates shall be subject to compliance with  
19 § 31-3-117 relating to the number of minimum prepaid orders of plates per plate type (i.e.,

1 passenger, commercial, etc.) and any required payment. The Rhode Island Manufacturers  
2 Association plates shall not be issued unless the minimum order requirements are met. The initial  
3 order will be handled by the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association and shall not be submitted to  
4 the division of motor vehicles for production until the minimum order(s) have been met and the  
5 proper paper work submitted to the division.

6 (e) The administrator of motor vehicles shall develop prepayment procedures and any other  
7 procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

8 (f) In addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, Rhode Island  
9 Manufacturers Association plates shall be subject to a forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge.

10 (g) The forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge shall be allocated as follows: twenty  
11 dollars (\$20.00) shall be allocated to the general fund and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00)  
12 shall be distributed annually to the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association to enhance the ability  
13 of Rhode Island Manufacturers.

14 (h) A ten dollar (\$10.00) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals shall be allocated  
15 to the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association.

16 (i) In consideration of the receipt of funds from the registration of Rhode Island  
17 Manufacturers Association plates, the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association must use any  
18 Rhode Island-sourced funds in and for the benefit of Rhode Island-based charitable organizations.

19 (j) Rhode Island Manufacturers Association will be required to submit an annual  
20 accounting report before such monies are distributed.

21 (k) There shall be no refunds for early cancellation of Rhode Island Manufacturers  
22 Association plates.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect six (6) months after passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would authorize the administrator of the division of motor vehicles to make  
2 available special license plates for the Rhode Island Manufacturers Association.

3           This act would take effect six (6) months after passage.

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