

2026 -- S 3169

LC006054

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE
OFFENSES -- CASEY'S LAW

Introduced By: Senators Tikoian, Ciccone, LaMountain, de la Cruz, Burke, Raptakis,
Sosnowski, McKenney, Dimitri, and Patalano

Date Introduced: March 27, 2026

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Governor)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-27 of the General Laws entitled "Motor Vehicle Offenses" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-27-26. Enhancement of an offense for road rage -- Casey's law.**

4 (a) For the purposes of this section, "road rage" means the operation or use of a motor
5 vehicle, or behavior on the part of the operator or passenger of a motor vehicle that is intentionally
6 aggressive, harassing, threatening, intimidating, or dangerous and that is directed toward another
7 motor vehicle operator or passenger upon any public highway, public roadway, or reasonable
8 extension of any public highway or roadway, to which the public has access.

9 (b) Any person convicted of or entering a plea of guilt or nolo contendere for a violation
10 of any provisions of this chapter that constitute a misdemeanor or any other misdemeanor, and who
11 is further found to have committed such violation as a result of road rage shall be subject to the
12 following in addition to any other penalty the court may impose for the underlying misdemeanor
13 violation:

14 (1) A mandatory fine of no less than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750); and

15 (2) Suspension of the person's operator's license for up to one year.

16 (c) Any person convicted of or entering a plea of guilt or nolo contendere for a violation of
17 any provisions of this chapter that constitute a felony or any other felony, and who is further found
18 to have committed such violation as a result of road rage may be subject to the following in addition

1 to any other penalty the court may impose for the underlying felony violation:

2 (1) An additional term of imprisonment for not less than two (2) years and for not more
3 than fifteen (15) years;

4 (2) A mandatory fine of no less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000); and

5 (3) Suspension of the person's operator's license for a period of not more than five (5) years
6 or revoked for a period up to two (2) years.

7 (d) Whenever a person may be subject to the enhanced sentence in this section, the attorney
8 general or prosecutor shall file with the court a notice no later than the first pretrial conference, or
9 shall allege the enhancement in the complaint, information, or indictment, specifying that the
10 defendant, upon conviction, is subject to the imposition of sentencing in accordance with this
11 section.

12 (e) Upon any plea of guilt or nolo contendere, or verdict or finding of guilt of the defendant,
13 the court shall conduct a sentencing hearing. At the hearing, the court shall permit the attorney
14 general or prosecutor and the defense to present additional evidence to the judge or jury relevant to
15 the determination of whether the defendant committed the underlying offense as a result of road
16 rage as defined in subsection (a) of this section. If the judge or jury at the hearing, or in the case of
17 a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the court at sentencing, determines beyond a reasonable doubt
18 that the defendant's actions were so motivated, the defendant shall be sentenced as provided in this
19 section.

20 (f) This section does not create a separate offense but provides an additional enhanced
21 sentence for the underlying offense.

22 (g) The enhanced sentence regarding imprisonment provided in this section shall run
23 consecutively to the sentences provided for the underlying offenses.

24 (h) There is to be established a restricted receipt account to be known as the "road rage and
25 safe driving education fund" which shall be a separate account within the department of
26 transportation. All fines collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the account.
27 Monies deposited into the account shall be transferred to the department of transportation and shall
28 be expended for the purpose of raising public awareness to the serious consequences of road rage
29 and to encourage safer driving behavior.

30 SECTION 2. Section 35-4-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 35-4 entitled "State Funds"
31 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 **35-4-27. Indirect cost recoveries on restricted receipt accounts.**

33 Indirect cost recoveries of fifteen percent (15%) of cash receipts shall be transferred from
34 all restricted receipt accounts, to be recorded as general revenues in the general fund. However,

1 there shall be no transfer from cash receipts with restrictions received exclusively: (1) From
2 contributions from nonprofit charitable organizations; (2) From the assessment of indirect cost-
3 recovery rates on federal grant funds; or (3) Through transfers from state agencies to the department
4 of administration for the payment of debt service. These indirect cost recoveries shall be applied to
5 all accounts, unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, court order, or court settlement. The
6 following restricted receipt accounts shall not be subject to the provisions of this section:

7 Executive Office of Health and Human Services
8 HIV Care Grant Drug Rebates
9 Health System Transformation Project
10 Rhode Island Statewide Opioid Abatement Account
11 HCBS Support-ARPA
12 HCBS Admin Support-ARPA
13 Department of Human Services
14 Organ Transplant Fund
15 Veterans' home — Restricted account
16 Veterans' home — Resident benefits
17 Pharmaceutical Rebates Account
18 Demand Side Management Grants
19 Veteran's Cemetery Memorial Fund
20 Donations — New Veterans' Home Construction
21 Commodity Supplemental Food Program-Claims
22 Department of Health
23 Pandemic medications and equipment account
24 Miscellaneous Donations/Grants from Non-Profits
25 State Loan Repayment Match
26 Healthcare Information Technology
27 Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals
28 Eleanor Slater non-Medicaid third-party payor account
29 Hospital Medicare Part D Receipts
30 RICLAS Group Home Operations
31 Group Home Facility Improvement Fund
32 Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
33 Emergency and public communication access account
34 Department of Environmental Management

1 National heritage revolving fund
2 Environmental response fund II
3 Underground storage tanks registration fees
4 De Coppet Estate Fund
5 Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission
6 Historic preservation revolving loan fund
7 Historic Preservation loan fund — Interest revenue
8 Department of Public Safety
9 E-911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System
10 Forfeited property — Retained
11 Forfeitures — Federal
12 Forfeited property — Gambling
13 Donation — Polygraph and Law Enforcement Training
14 Rhode Island State Firefighter’s League Training Account
15 Fire Academy Training Fees Account
16 Attorney General
17 Forfeiture of property
18 Federal forfeitures
19 Attorney General multi-state account
20 Forfeited property — Gambling
21 Department of Administration
22 Health Insurance Market Integrity Fund
23 RI Health Benefits Exchange
24 Information Technology restricted receipt account
25 Restore and replacement — Insurance coverage
26 Convention Center Authority rental payments
27 Investment Receipts — TANS
28 OPEB System Restricted Receipt Account
29 Grants Management Administration
30 Office of Energy Resources
31 OER Reconciliation Funding
32 RGGI Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council Projects
33 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Operating and Maintenance Account
34 Clean Transportation Programs

1 Department of Housing
2 Housing Resources and Homelessness Restricted Receipt Account
3 Housing Production Fund
4 Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Fund
5 Department of Revenue
6 Car Rental Tax/Surcharge-Warwick Share
7 DMV Modernization Project
8 Jobs Tax Credit Redemption Fund
9 Legislature
10 Audit of federal assisted programs
11 Department of Children, Youth and Families
12 Children's Trust Accounts — SSI
13 Military Staff
14 RI Military Family Relief Fund
15 RI National Guard Counterdrug Program
16 Treasury
17 Admin. Expenses — State Retirement System
18 Retirement — Treasury Investment Options
19 Defined Contribution — Administration - RR
20 Violent Crimes Compensation — Refunds
21 Treasury Research Fellowship
22 Business Regulation
23 Banking Division Reimbursement Account
24 Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner Reimbursement Account
25 Securities Division Reimbursement Account
26 Commercial Licensing and Racing and Athletics Division Reimbursement Account
27 Insurance Division Reimbursement Account
28 Historic Preservation Tax Credit Account
29 Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission
30 Marijuana Trust Fund
31 Social Equity Assistance Fund
32 Judiciary
33 Arbitration Fund Restricted Receipt Account
34 Third-Party Grants

- 1 RI Judiciary Technology Surcharge Account
- 2 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- 3 Statewide Student Transportation Services Account
- 4 School for the Deaf Fee-for-Service Account
- 5 School for the Deaf — School Breakfast and Lunch Program
- 6 Davies Career and Technical School Local Education Aid Account
- 7 Davies — National School Breakfast & Lunch Program
- 8 School Construction Services
- 9 Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
- 10 Tuition Savings Program Fund
- 11 Higher Education and Industry Center
- 12 IGT STEM Scholarships
- 13 Department of Labor and Training
- 14 Job Development Fund
- 15 Contractor Training Restricted Receipt Account
- 16 Workers' Compensation Administrative Account
- 17 Rhode Island Council on the Arts
- 18 Governors' Portrait Donation Fund
- 19 Statewide records management system account
- 20 [Road Rage and Save Driving Education Fund](#)
- 21 SECTION 3. 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 MOTOR VEHICLES -- MOTOR VEHICLE
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1 This act would create an enhanced penalty defined as "road rage" to be applied in addition
2 to penalties for convictions of certain misdemeanor and felony offenses where the behavior on the
3 part of the operator or passenger includes certain intentionally aggressive, harassing, intimidating
4 or dangerous behavior.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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