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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS -
- COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Introduced By: Senator Louis P. DiPalma

Date Introduced: January 25, 2022

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

(by request)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-25 of the General Laws entitled "Size, Weight, and Load Limits"

2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-25-27.12. Commercial vehicles prohibited on Chases Lane in Middletown.**

4 (a) The operation of commercial vehicles is prohibited on Chases Lane in Middletown.

5 (b) For purposes of this section, a "commercial vehicle" is defined as a motor vehicle or
6 combination of vehicles used to transport passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

7 (1) Has a gross combination weight rating of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs)
8 or more, or a towed unit with a gross vehicle rating of more than ten thousand pounds (10,000 lbs)
9 or more, or has a gross vehicle weight rating of twenty-six thousand one pounds (26,001 lbs) or
10 more; or

11 (2) Is designed to transport sixteen (16) or more passengers including the driver; or

12 (3) Is transporting hazardous materials and is required to be placarded in accordance with
13 49 C.F.R. Part 172, Subpart F, as it may be revised from time to time.

14 (c) Nothing contained in this section shall affect the use of Chases Lane by:

15 (1) Any fire truck, town public works department truck, police vehicle, ambulance, school
16 bus, bus serving the area or other motor truck using such streets or highways in any emergency or
17 engaged in delivering public utilities, goods, wares, merchandising or materials to or from any
18 residence, residential building or residential lot within the town bordering on such street; provided

1 further, that the use of Chases Lane for the delivery of goods, wares, merchandising or materials to
2 or from any commercial business or building, or any commercial lot within the town bordering on
3 such street is specifically prohibited.

4 (2) Any farm vehicle as defined in § 31-1-8, which is registered with farm vehicle plates
5 pursuant to § 31-3-31.

6 (d) In all instances where motor vehicle traffic is restricted or prohibited under this section,
7 the town administrator is directed to cause signs to be erected on such streets or highways giving
8 notice of such, in accordance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

9 (e) Any driver who operates a commercial vehicle in violation of this section shall be
10 subject to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a first violation, fifty dollars
11 (\$50.00) for a second violation, and not less than one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125), but no
12 more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for each subsequent violation.

13 SECTION 2. 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 VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS -
- COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

- 1 This act would prohibit commercial vehicles from operating on Chases Lane in the town
- 2 of Middletown and would provide for fines for violations.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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