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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - OPERATOR'S AND CHAFFEUR'S
LICENSES - VETERAN DESIGNATION

Introduced By: Representatives Martin, Gallison, and Mattiello

Date Introduced: January 04, 2012

Referred To: House VETERANS` AFFAIRS

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-10-26 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-10 entitled "Operators'
2 and Chauffeurs' Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-10-26. Issuance of license.** -- (a) The division of motor vehicles shall, upon payment
4 of the required fee, issue to every qualifying applicant an operator's or chauffeur's license. The
5 license shall be approximately two and one-half inches (2 1/2") wide and three and one-half
6 inches (3 1/2") long and shall bear on it a distinguishing number assigned to the licensee, the full
7 name, date of birth, residence address, brief description of the licensee, a photograph of the
8 licensee, whether the licensee has indicated a desire to donate tissue or organs pursuant to the
9 provisions of chapter 18.6 of title 23, and either a space upon which the licensee shall write his or
10 her usual signature with pen and ink or a facsimile of the signature of the licensee. No license
11 shall be valid until it has been so signed by the licensee designated on it. A negative file of all
12 photographs of licensees shall be maintained by the division of motor vehicles for a period of five
13 (5) years.

14 (b) The division of motor vehicles shall issue special licenses to those licensees who
15 have indicated that they desire to donate tissue or organs, which conform to the provisions of the
16 Rhode Island Anatomical Gift Act, chapter 18.6 of title 23.

17 (c) Any person who is a law enforcement officer, meaning any permanently employed
18 member of the state, city, or town police departments, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, members of

1 the marshal's unit, capitol police, and the state fire marshal and deputy fire marshals of the
2 division of fire safety or a member of the department of attorney general, any permanently
3 employed federal law enforcement officer assigned in Rhode Island, or any member of the United
4 States Attorney's Office in Rhode Island or any employee of the R.I. department of corrections, as
5 recommended by the director of the department of corrections, upon request of the applicant,
6 shall be issued a license which contains the applicant's official business address in lieu of a
7 residence address as required under the general provisions of this section.

8 (d) The license issued to a person applying for the first time shall be designated as a
9 "first license". A first license shall be issued for a one year period after which time a permanent
10 driver's license shall be issued according to this section.

11 (e) If an applicant has been adjudicated for committing one moving motor vehicle
12 violation, has been involved in one reportable motor vehicle accident, or both, he or she shall be
13 summoned for a hearing before a judge of the traffic tribunal at which time the driving record will
14 be reviewed. The traffic tribunal judge shall determine if the person should be granted an
15 operator's license, be reissued a first license, or be denied a license to operate a motor vehicle in
16 the state of Rhode Island.

17 (f) Any person who is under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall, upon payment of the
18 required fee and upon meeting the qualifications for the receipt of an operator's or chauffeur's
19 license, be issued a license which shall be readily distinguishable in color from those licenses
20 issued to persons who are twenty-one (21) years of age or older. When a person under the age of
21 twenty-one (21) years to whom a license has been issued and whose license is in full force and
22 effect, attains his or her twenty-first birthday, he or she shall be entitled to receive a new license
23 of the type issued to persons who are older than the age of twenty-one (21) years from the
24 administrator of the division of motor vehicles upon demand at no expense. Every person shall
25 supply to the division of motor vehicles satisfactory proof of his or her date of birth.

26 (g) The division of motor vehicles shall issue special licenses upon the request of a
27 licensee which conform to the provisions of the Rhode Island Anatomical Gift Act, chapter 18.6
28 of title 23.

29 (h) The division of motor vehicles shall note in an appropriate manner a restriction on
30 any person's license who is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an
31 ignition interlock system as provided in chapter 27 of this title.

32 (i) Any personal digitized information contained within an operator's or chauffeur's
33 license shall be limited to: (a) the licensee's name, age, date of birth, address, gender, physical
34 description such as weight, height, hair color and eye color, [designation of veteran status](#),

1 signature and organ donor status; and (b) the license number, commercial endorsements,
2 expiration date, issue date, restriction and class.

3 (j) Except to the extent an entity is authorized to renew drivers' licenses, or except for
4 financial institutions engaged in the verification of information for financial transactions,
5 nongovernmental entities shall not have access to any digitized information contained in an
6 operator or chauffeur's license other than the licensee's name, age, date of birth, signature, and
7 photographic image, and the license's expiration date; nor shall they store, record or retain any
8 such information obtained through a digital reading device. Access to digitized information by
9 such entities shall be solely for the purpose of determining the age of an individual for a
10 transaction, right or privilege available by law only to persons of a certain age.

11 (k) To the extent that nongovernmental entities shall have access to the digitized
12 information stored on an operator's or chauffeur's license, the entity shall be civilly liable for the
13 unauthorized access to, or retention or use of, such information by its agents or persons acting in
14 the name of the entity.

15 (l) The division of motor vehicles shall collect from applicants and licensees their social
16 security numbers and tax identification numbers only to the extent required by federal law. Such
17 numbers shall not be included, either digitally or visually, on the operator's or chauffeur's license.

18 SECTION 2. Section 31-10-31 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-10 entitled "Operators'
19 and Chauffeurs' Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 **31-10-31. Fees.** -- The following fees shall be paid to the division of motor vehicles:

21 (1) For every operator's first license to operate a motor vehicle, twenty-five dollars
22 (\$25.00);

23 (2) For every chauffeur's first license, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00); provided, that when
24 a Rhode Island licensed operator transfers to a chauffeur's license, the fee for the transfer shall be
25 two dollars (\$2.00);

26 (3) For every learner's permit to operate a motorcycle, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

27 (4) For every operator's first license to operate a motorcycle, twenty-five dollars
28 (\$25.00);

29 (5) For every renewal of an operator's or chauffeur's license, thirty dollars (\$30.00); with
30 the exception of any person seventy-five (75) years of age or older for whom the renewal fee will
31 be eight dollars (\$8.00);

32 (6) For every duplicate operator's or chauffeur's license, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

33 (7) For every certified copy of any license, permit, or application issued under this
34 chapter, ten dollars (\$10.00);

- 1 (8) For every duplicate instruction permit, ten dollars (\$10.00);
- 2 (9) For every first license examination, five dollars (\$5.00);
- 3 (10) For every routine information update, i.e., name change or address change, five
- 4 dollars (\$5.00);
- 5 (11) For surrender of an out-of-state license, in addition to the above fees, five dollars
- 6 (\$5.00);
- 7 (12) For every addition of veteran's designation to an operator license, five dollars
- 8 (\$5.00). There shall be no incremental fee for this designation at the scheduled time of renewal.
- 9 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 VEHICLES - OPERATOR'S AND CHAFFEUR'S
LICENSES - VETERAN DESIGNATION

1 This act would permit a notation on Rhode Island motor vehicle operator's licenses
2 indicating the holder is a veteran. A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) shall be paid to the division of
3 motor vehicles for the veteran's designation.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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