

2012 -- H 7124

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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 -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Nunes, and Ferri

Date Introduced: January 17, 2012

Referred To: House Corporations

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           **31-3-92. Year of manufacture plates.** – (a) For the purpose of this chapter “Year of  
4 manufacture plate” means a registration plate (in the possession of the applicant) originally issued  
5 by the state of Rhode Island in the exact year of manufacture of an antique motor car (as defined  
6 in Rhode Island general laws 31-1-3).

7           (b) At the discretion of the administrator of the division of motor vehicles, a year of  
8 manufacture registration plate may be re-issued for display on a vehicle which meets the criteria  
9 for antique motor car pursuant to Rhode Island general laws 31-1-3. A year of manufacture  
10 registration plate shall confer the same privileges as an antique plate pursuant to Rhode Island  
11 general laws 31-2-3.

12           (c) Only motor vehicles meeting the definition of an antique motor car, in accordance  
13 with Rhode Island general laws 31-1-3, may display a year of manufacture plate.

14           (d) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall re-issue a year of  
15 manufacture plate only if:

16           (1) The plate(s) shall be in good repair and in original condition;

17           (2) The plate letters, numbers and markings are clearly legible. Any indication that a plate  
18 has been repainted or otherwise altered will disqualify the plate from use as a year of manufacture  
19 plate; and

1           (3) The plate(s) shall be sufficiently distinctive in appearance so as not to be confused  
2 with currently issued plates. If the administrator has already approved the use of the plate as a  
3 year of manufacture plate, which contains a specific combination of letters and numbers (or  
4 letters or numbers alone) that same combination on a different year of manufacture plate is not  
5 sufficiently distinctive and shall not be approved by the administrator as another year of  
6 manufacture plate.

7           (e) A plate displaying the word “antique” cannot be used as a year of manufacture plate.

8           (f) If a year of manufacture plate is ever suspended or revoked, the administrator may  
9 require the plate be turned in to the division of motor vehicles. When a year of manufacturer plate  
10 is voluntarily cancelled, the plate(s) does not have to be surrendered to the division of motor  
11 vehicles.

12           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 authorize the administrator of the division of motor vehicles to re-issue  
2 year of manufacture license plates from the exact year of manufacture of an antique motor car for  
3 display on an antique motor car.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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