

2014 -- S 2938

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Senator Stephen R. Archambault

Date Introduced: April 30, 2014

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

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 **31-3-101. Special plate for Operation Support RI Troops.** – (a) The administrator of
4 the division of motor vehicles is empowered to make available special motor vehicle registration
5 plates for passenger vehicles based upon the recommendation of the department of human
6 services division of veterans services for any motor vehicle eligible for registration as an
7 automobile or commercial vehicle having a gross weight of ten thousand pounds (10,000 lbs.) or
8 less.

9 (b) The special plate shall be displayed upon the same registration number assigned to the
10 vehicle for which it was issued and shall be used in place of and in the same manner as the
11 registration plates issued to the vehicle. The original registration plates for the vehicle shall be
12 removed from the vehicle and the registration certificate for the plates shall be carried in the
13 vehicle, in accordance with § 31-3-9. The registration certificate shall be in effect for the special
14 plate. The administrator shall be authorized to retain newly issued plate numbers, at his or her
15 discretion, for the purpose of conducting auctions of the right to use and display those numbers
16 under such terms and conditions as the administrator may permit.

17 (c) Auction proceeds shall be apportioned and distributed for charitable purposes, in the
18 discretion of the administrator, in accordance with such agreements as may be entered into with
19 those entities holding ownership rights to the logos. The administrator is hereby authorized to

1 enter into agreements for the use of logos on Rhode Island administration plates.

2 (d) Operation Support RI Troops motor vehicle plates shall be the same size as regular
3 motor vehicle plates and shall be designed in conjunction with the division of motor vehicles,
4 with design approval by the Rhode Island State Police.

5 (e) Operation Support RI Troops plates shall be subject to a minimum pre-paid order of at
6 least nine hundred (900) plates. Operation Support RI Troops plates shall not be issued unless the
7 minimum order requirements are met. The initial order will be handled by Operation Support RI
8 Troops and shall not be submitted to the division of motor vehicles for the production until the
9 minimum order has been met and the proper paperwork submitted to the division. Subsequent
10 Operation Support RI Troops plate orders will be handled by the division of motor vehicles.

11 (f) The administrator of motor vehicles shall develop application forms, prepayment
12 procedures and any other procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

13 (g) In addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, Operation Support
14 RI Troops plates shall be subject to a forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge.

15 (h) The forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge shall be allocated as follows: twenty
16 dollars (\$20.00) shall be allocated to the general fund and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00)
17 shall be distributed annually to Operation Support RI Troops in furtherance of its mission to
18 "support our troops: in helping struggling and homeless veterans by offering housing and
19 supportive services necessary to their well-being."

20 (i) A ten dollar (\$10.00) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals shall be allocated
21 to Operation Support RI Troops.

22 (j) In consideration of the receipt of funds from the registration of Operation Support RI
23 Troops plates, the organization must use any Rhode Island sourced funds in and for the benefit of
24 Rhode Island based charitable organizations.

25 (k) Operation Support RI Troops will be required to submit an annual accounting report
26 before such monies are distributed.

27 (l) There shall be no refunds for early cancellation of Operation Support RI Troops
28 plates.

29 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 division of motor vehicles to issue motor vehicle registration
2 plates for automobiles and/or commercial vehicles having a gross weight of ten thousand pounds
3 (10,000 lbs.) or less for the financial benefit of Operation Support RI Troops in support of the
4 organization's mission to assist struggling and homeless veterans by offering them housing and
5 supportive services.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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