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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE
ROADS

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Handy, Hull, Almeida, and Slater

Date Introduced: February 25, 2015

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 24-8 of the General Laws entitled "Construction and Maintenance
2 of State Roads" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **24-8-15.1. Snow and ice removal -- City or town priority plan.** – (a) Cities and towns
4 required to maintain state roads pursuant to this chapter shall develop and implement a "snow
5 removal priority plan" which emphasizes safety and efficiency. The plan shall include, but not be
6 limited to, the following levels of priority to be assigned to various roads and/or facilities:

7 (1) Level one snow removal priority status shall apply to all roads and bridges including
8 dead end streets, public transportation stops, residential health care facilities and/or any facility
9 for the elderly and/or disabled. Level one priority status pursuant to this section means that any
10 division of state or municipal government shall keep clear from obstruction from snow all areas
11 included under this section prior to or in conjunction with any other area deemed a priority by a
12 state or municipal agency.

13 (2) Level two (2) priority status shall apply to all roads, bridges and/or facilities not
14 included in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

15 (b) Cities and towns shall be provided twenty-four (24) hours within which to commence
16 snow removal pursuant to this section. The time table begins once the areas are obstructed and
17 obstructions shall be completely removed within three (3) days.

18 **24-8-15.2. Snow and ice removal – Private maintenance required.** – (a) Wherever

1 snow and ice removal on or around state property shall be the responsibility of any private party
2 the following shall apply:

3 (1) Snow and ice shall be removed from any area or structure other than a road, bridge or
4 sidewalk and maintained by a private party for snow and ice removal. Snow removal pursuant to
5 this section shall commence within twenty-four (24) hours after the areas required to be
6 maintained become obstructed. Said private party shall then have three (3) days within which to
7 remove the obstruction completely. Removal of the obstruction for purposes of this section shall
8 including clearing an access path and keeping all surrounding areas to any structure clear of snow
9 and ice. A "structure" for purposes of this section shall include, but not be limited to, any public
10 transportation stop, school bus stop, cross walk and other areas where state property is maintained
11 by a private party and used for public uses.

12 (2) If snow is allowed to remain in any area mentioned herein so as to obstruct reasonable
13 passage to the area or structure for twenty-four (24) hours after the area becomes obstructed, said
14 private party shall be in violation of this section and shall be fined not less than one hundred
15 dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) per violation.

16 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 HIGHWAYS -- CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE
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1 This act would require cities or towns to implement a snow removal priority plan to place
2 a degree of importance when removing snow from certain roads and facilities and would require
3 private parties maintaining state-owned areas to keep areas clear within twenty-four (24) hours of
4 the area becoming obstructed or face fines.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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