

2015 -- H 6081

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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 TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

Introduced By: Representative Brian P. Kennedy

Date Introduced: April 15, 2015

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-2 of the General Laws entitled "General Powers" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-2-31.5. Business registration fee -- Town of Hopkinton. – (a) All wholesale, retail,**
4 **commercial, professional service or manufacturing businesses, whether sole proprietorships,**
5 **partnerships, corporations or any other for-profit or not-for-profit business entity, shall register**
6 **their business, company, trade or office situated in the town of Hopkinton with the town clerk of**
7 **the town of Hopkinton. Each registration shall contain the name of the firm or business, the name**
8 **of the owner(s) or operator(s) of the firm or business, the type of business to be conducted, and**
9 **such other basic information as shall be determined by town ordinance.**

10 **(b) There shall be a fee for each registration. The registration fee shall be set by town**
11 **ordinance.**

12 **(c)(1) No registration shall be issued or renewed for any person, group, agency or**
13 **corporation with a legal interest in the registration sought or the real or personal property to be**
14 **used in conjunction with the registration sought ("applicant") who is currently in arrears in any**
15 **tax or other assessment levied by the town, including municipal taxes assessed to any prior**
16 **business owned or operated by one or more applicant. Further, no registration shall be issued or**
17 **renewed where any tax or assessment levied by the town is due and in arrears on any real or**
18 **personal property used, or to be used, in connection with the business operation to which any**
19 **such registration is applicable.**

1 (2) Upon registration of a business, a registration certificate shall be issued to the
2 applicant. Every certificate of registration shall be placed in a conspicuous location in each
3 business establishment.

4 (3) Every registration certificate shall expire the first day of December and shall be
5 renewed annually upon payment of the required fee. A business that changes its address shall be
6 required to obtain a new registration certificate.

7 (4) No other business of the same trade name shall be allowed to register once a
8 certificate of registration has been issued without the approval of the prior registrant in writing.

9 (d) Any business required to obtain a liquor, victualing or any other license to operate
10 under any other section of the general laws, a condition of which is the prior payment of
11 Hopkinton municipal taxes, shall be exempt from the requirement of this statute.

12 (e) Businesses operating in Hopkinton on the effective date of an ordinance adopted
13 pursuant to the authority of this statute shall be required to register within sixty (60) days of the
14 day the ordinance takes effect. Any ordinance passed under this section shall be deemed as
15 retroactive, in its application so that it applies to each person, persons, corporation, partnership, or
16 other business entity already transacting or conducting business in the town.

17 (f) Any person, whether as principal, agent, employee, or otherwise, who violates any of
18 the provisions of this chapter, shall be fined not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per day for
19 each offense. Any fine imposed under this statute and/or the ordinance promulgated by the town
20 council pursuant to this section may be appealed to the Hopkinton municipal court. In addition to
21 imposing the fines provided for herein, the municipal court may order the closure of any business
22 described herein until a registration certificate is obtained. The fines shall inure to the town and
23 each day that the violation continues shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.

24 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

1 This act would require business entities located in the town of Hopkinton to register with
2 the town clerk, upon payment of a fee and the providing of certain information as determined by
3 town ordinance.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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