

2015 -- S 1025

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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: Senator Elaine J. Morgan

Date Introduced: June 25, 2015

Referred To: Placed on Senate Calendar

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) Unless otherwise
4 provided herein, the owner and operator of each wholesale, retail, commercial, professional
5 service, and manufacturing business, whether sole proprietorships, partnership, corporations, or
6 any business entity, shall register their business situated in the town of Hopkinton with the tax
7 assessor of the town of Hopkinton. Each registration shall contain the name of the business, the
8 name of the owner(s) and operator(s) of the business, the type of business to be conducted, and
9 other basic information as required by said tax assessor.

10 (b) There shall be a fee for each registration and for each annual renewal thereof. The
11 registration fee shall be twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. It shall be unlawful for a person to own or
12 operate a business described herein in the town of Hopkinton without a registration certificate
13 issued hereunder.

14 (c) Upon proper registration of a business, a registration certificate shall be issued to the
15 registrant by the tax assessor. No other business of the same trade name shall be allowed to
16 register once a certificate of registration has been issued without the approval of the prior
17 registrant in writing. Every registration certificate shall expire the 31st day in December and shall
18 be renewed annually upon payment of the required fee. No certificate shall be issued or renewed
19 if the business fails to provide proof from the tax collector that all municipal taxes assessed to the

1 business, including municipal taxes assessed to any prior business owned or operated by one or
2 more of the principals of the registrant at the same physical location, have been paid to date.
3 Every certificate of registration shall be kept in a conspicuous location on the premises of each
4 business establishment.

5 (d) Any business required to obtain a liquor, victualling, or any other license to operate
6 under any other section of the general laws, a condition of which is the prior payment of
7 Hopkinton municipal taxes, shall be exempt from the requirements of this statute.

8 (e) Any person, whether as principal, agent, employee, or otherwise, who violates any of
9 the provisions of this chapter, shall be fined not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each
10 month or fraction thereof that the violation continues; provided, however, that the fine shall not
11 exceed three hundred dollars (\$300). The Rhode Island district court and the Hopkinton
12 municipal court shall have concurrent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this statute. In
13 addition to imposing the fines provided for herein, the Rhode Island district court and the
14 Hopkinton municipal court may order the closure of any business described herein until a
15 registration certificate is obtained. The fines shall inure to the town.

16 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 require the owner and operator of any business situated in the town of
2 Hopkinton to register that business with the Hopkinton tax assessor, and would impose a twenty-
3 five dollar (\$25.00) fee for said registration.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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