

2016 -- H 7271

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Lima, Hull, Bennett, Fogarty, and Gallison

Date Introduced: January 21, 2016

Referred To: House Finance

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 **31-3-104. Special plate for Rhode Island public colleges and universities. -- (a) The**
4 administrator of the division of motor vehicles is empowered to make available special motor
5 vehicle registration plates for passenger vehicles based upon the various public nonprofit
6 institutions of higher education (Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College,
7 and/or the University of Rhode Island).

8 (b) The special plate(s) shall be displayed upon the same registration number assigned to
9 the vehicle for which it was issued and shall be used in place of and in the same manner as the
10 registration plates issued to the vehicle. The original registration plates for the vehicle shall be
11 removed from the vehicle and returned to the division of motor vehicles. The registration
12 certificate for the plates shall be carried in the vehicle, in accordance with §31-3-9. The
13 registration certificate shall be in effect for the special plates.

14 (c) The respective public higher education institution's motor vehicle plates shall be the
15 same size as regular motor vehicle plates and shall be designed in conjunction with the division of
16 motor vehicles, with design approval by the Rhode Island state police.

17 (d) Each public higher education institution plate shall be subject to a minimum prepaid
18 order of at least nine hundred (900) sets of plates per institution per plate type (i.e. passenger,
19 commercial, etc.). The respective public higher education institution plate shall not be issued

1 unless the minimum order requirements are met by the requesting institution. The initial order
2 will be handled by the Rhode Island commissioner of post-secondary education or their designee,
3 and shall not be submitted to the division of motor vehicles for production until the minimum
4 order has been met and the proper paperwork submitted to the division. The Rhode Island
5 commissioner of post-secondary education, or their designee, will act as program coordinator and
6 point of contact for the division of motor vehicles. Subsequent public higher education institution
7 plate orders will be handled by the division of motor vehicles.

8 (e) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall develop prepayment
9 procedures and any other procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

10 (f) In addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, public higher
11 education institution plates shall be subject to a forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge.

12 (g) The forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge shall be allocated as follows: twenty
13 dollars (\$20.00) shall be allocated to the general fund and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00)
14 shall be distributed annually to the respective public higher education institution as a nonprofit
15 educational institution based in Rhode Island.

16 (h) A ten dollar (\$10.00) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals will go to the
17 respective public higher education institution.

18 (i) There shall be no refunds for early cancellation of public higher education institution
19 plates.

20 (j) Any respective public higher education institution not pursuing or not reaching the
21 minimum prepaid order of plates, as outlined in subsection (d) of this section, within thirty-six
22 (36) months after this section is enacted will not be eligible to obtain special motor vehicle
23 registration plates as outlined above, absent further action of the general assembly.

24 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 create a special registration
2 plate for state public colleges and universities.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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