

2021 -- H 6044

LC002090

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE

Introduced By: Representatives Fogarty, Alzate, Hawkins, Kazarian, Tanzi, Shallcross
Smith, Hull, McEntee, Messier, and Ajello

Date Introduced: February 26, 2021

Referred To: House Special Legislation

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 **31-3-121. Special plate for Atlantic Shark Institute.**

4 (a) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles is empowered to make available
5 special motor vehicle registration plates for the nonprofit Atlantic Shark Institute. The plates shall
6 be designed to reference Atlantic Shark Institute.

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

13 (c) Atlantic Shark Institute motor vehicle plates shall be the same size as regular motor
14 vehicle plates, and shall be designed by Atlantic Shark Institute in conjunction with the division of
15 motor vehicles, with the design approved by the Rhode Island state police.

16 (d) Atlantic Shark Institute plates shall be subject to a minimum pre-paid order of at least
17 six hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type (i.e. passenger, commercial, etc.). Atlantic Shark
18 Institute plates shall not be issued unless the minimum order(s) requirements are met. The initial
19 order will be handled by Atlantic Shark Institute and shall not be submitted to the division of motor

1 vehicles for production until the minimum order(s) have been met and the proper paperwork
2 submitted to the division.

3 (e) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall develop application forms,
4 pre-payment procedures, and any other procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of
5 this section.

6 (f) In addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, Atlantic Shark
7 Institute plates shall be subject to a forty-dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge.

8 (g) The forty-dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge shall be allocated as follows: Twenty
9 dollars (\$20.00) shall be allocated to the general fund and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00)
10 shall be distributed annually to Atlantic Shark Institute to assist in the fiscal needs and in
11 furtherance of its mission.

12 (h) A ten-dollar (\$10) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals will go to Atlantic
13 Shark Institute.

14 (i) Atlantic Shark Institute will be required to submit an annual accounting report before
15 such monies are distributed.

16 (j) There shall be no refunds for early cancellation of Atlantic Shark Institute motor vehicle
17 license plates.

18 (k) In consideration of the receipt of funds from the registration of Atlantic Shark Institute
19 plates, the organization must use any Rhode Island-sourced funds in and for the benefit of Rhode
20 Island-based charitable organizations.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect six months after passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE

- 1 This act creates a special license plate for the not for profit Atlantic Shark Institute.
- 2 This act would take effect six months after passage.

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