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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: April 08, 2021

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

(Department of Transportation)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-25-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-25 entitled "Size,
2 Weight, and Load Limits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-25-27. ~~Weight restrictions on state highways. Weigh restrictions.~~**

4 (a) State Highways. The state traffic commission shall likewise have authority, as granted
5 to local authorities in this chapter, to determine by resolution and to impose restrictions as to the
6 weight of vehicles operated upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the commission, and the
7 restrictions shall be effective when signs giving notice of them are erected upon the highway or
8 portion of any highway affected by the resolution.

9 (b) Penalties for posted bridge weight violations shall be based on the fine schedule
10 imposed within the provisions of § 31-25-16.

11 (c) Bridges. For any state, local, or privately-owned bridge, the department of
12 transportation, through the state traffic commission, shall have the authority to impose a weight
13 restriction or close a bridge, based on deficiencies documented in a bridge inspection or load rating
14 for the purpose of public safety.

15 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 MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS

1 This act would authorize the department of transportation to impose a weight restriction or
2 close any state, local or privately-owned bridge, in the interest of public safety.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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