

2023 -- H 5814

LC001585

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OFFENSES AGAINST  
REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAWS

Introduced By: Representatives Costantino, Alzate, O'Brien, Lima, Cardillo, Bennett,  
Rea, Fellela, Sanchez, and Potter

Date Introduced: February 22, 2023

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-8-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-8 entitled "Offenses  
2 Against Registration and Certificate of Title Laws" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-8-4. Suspension or revocation of registration or certificate of title.**

4 (a) The division of motor vehicles is authorized to suspend or revoke the registration of a  
5 vehicle or a certificate of title, registration card, or registration plate, or any nonresident or other  
6 permit, in any of the following events:

7 (1) When the division of motor vehicles is satisfied that the registration or that the  
8 certificate, card, plate, or permit was fraudulently or erroneously issued;

9 (2) When the division of motor vehicles determines that a registered vehicle is  
10 mechanically unfit or unsafe to be operated or moved upon the highways;

11 (3) When a registered vehicle has been dismantled or wrecked;

12 (4) When the division of motor vehicles determines that the required fee has not been paid  
13 and the fee is not paid upon reasonable notice and demand;

14 (5) When a registration plate or permit is knowingly displayed upon a vehicle other than  
15 the one for which issued;

16 (6) When the division of motor vehicles determines that the owner has committed any  
17 offense under chapters 3 — 9 of this title involving the registration or the certificate, card, plate, or  
18 permit to be suspended or revoked;

1 (7) When the division of motor vehicles is so authorized under any other provision of law;  
2 or

3 (8) Upon receipt of notice the carrier and/or operator of a commercial motor vehicle has  
4 violated or is not in compliance with 49 C.F.R. 386.72 or 49 C.F.R. 390.5 et seq. of the motor  
5 carrier safety regulations or chapter 23 of this title.

6 (b) Upon removal of cause for which the registration or certificate of title was revoked,  
7 denied, or suspended, the division of motor vehicles shall require the registrant or applicant to pay  
8 a restoration fee of ~~two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250)~~ one hundred and twenty-five dollars  
9 (\$125), provided that no restoration fee shall be required if the revocation, denial, or suspension  
10 was issued pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section, §§ 31-38-2, 31-38-3, 31-38-4, or 31-47.1-  
11 3.

12 SECTION 2. Section 31-11-10 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-11 entitled "Suspension  
13 or Revocation of Licenses — Violations" is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 **31-11-10. Reinstatement after revocation or suspension.**

15 (a) Any person whose license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways  
16 has been revoked or suspended shall not be entitled to have a license or privilege renewed or  
17 restored unless the revocation or suspension was for a cause which has been removed. After the  
18 expiration of the term of the revocation or suspension he or she may apply to be restored to his or  
19 her right to drive, but the division of motor vehicles shall not grant the application unless and until  
20 it is satisfied after investigation of the driving ability of the person that it will be safe to license him  
21 or her to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways and it has received a reinstatement fee of  
22 ~~one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00)~~ seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). The reinstatement fee and  
23 assessment fee shall not be required by any person whose license was suspended on the basis of  
24 physical or mental fitness and who has later been declared competent to operate a motor vehicle.

25 (b) Any person whose license has been suspended on the basis of physical or mental fitness  
26 shall have the right to request review at any time of the suspension determination in accordance  
27 with the hearing procedures of § 31-11-7(d) — (f).

28 (c) If the license or privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways has been  
29 revoked or suspended as a result of a violation of §§ 31-27-2, 31-27-2.1, 31-27-2.2 or 31-27-2.6  
30 the reinstatement fee shall be three hundred and fifty (\$350.00) dollars.

31 SECTION 3. 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 reduce the amount of the reinstatement fees for a motor vehicle registration  
2 or certificate of title which was revoked, denied or suspended and reduce reinstatement fees for  
3 suspension or revocation of operating privileges for any person whose license or privilege to drive  
4 a motor vehicle has been revoked or suspended.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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