

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'
LICENSES

Introduced By: Senators Gu, Valverde, DiMario, Murray, Mack, Gallo, Miller, Lawson,
Lauria, and Ujjfusa

Date Introduced: February 16, 2023

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-10 of the General Laws entitled "Operators' and Chauffeurs'
2 Licenses" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-10-49. Autism designations for motor vehicle operators.**

4 (a) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles, in consultation with the Rhode
5 Island Police Chiefs Association and at least one organization that advocates for persons with
6 autism spectrum disorder, shall design and make available for persons with autism spectrum
7 disorder who are capable of holding a motor vehicle operator's license, registration and insurance
8 identification card the following:

9 (1) A motor vehicle operator's license that is clearly marked "autism."

10 (2) Decals that are clearly marked "autism" to be affixed to the vehicle in a conspicuous
11 place as prescribed by the administrator.

12 (3) Blue envelopes that provide written information and guidance on the outside of the
13 envelopes regarding ways to enhance effective communication between a police officer and a
14 person with autism spectrum disorder.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'
LICENSES

1 This act would require the administrator of the division of motor vehicles (DMV), in
2 consultation with the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association (RIPCA) and an organization that
3 advocates for persons with autism spectrum disorder, to design and make available for persons with
4 autism:

5 (1) A motor vehicle operator's license that is clearly marked "autism."

6 (2) Decals that are clearly marked "autism" to be affixed to the vehicle in a conspicuous
7 place.

8 (3) Blue envelopes that provide written information regarding ways to enhance
9 communication between a police officer and a person with autism.

10 This act would take effect upon passage.

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