

2026 -- S 2183

LC004238

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Appollonio, Lauria, Gallo, Burke, LaMountain, and Britto

Date Introduced: January 16, 2026

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 31-3-62 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration of Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

**31-3-62. National Guard plates.**

(a) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles is empowered and authorized to make available to all active and retired members of the Rhode Island Army and Air National Guard a special motor vehicle registration plate for any motor vehicle eligible for registration as an automobile or a commercial vehicle having a gross weight of twelve thousand pounds (12,000 lbs.) or less. Upon the death of the holder of "National Guard" plates, the plates may be transferred to the surviving spouse of the member of the National Guard for the spouse's lifetime or until the spouse remarries.

(b) The special motor vehicle registration plate shall carry on it the designation "National Guard" and shall also carry on it an emblem on the left-hand side of the plate to be designed and provided by the office of the adjutant general, with the numerals to the right of it.

~~(c) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles shall issue the plate upon the payment of a service charge of twenty dollars (\$20.00) and a transfer charge of five dollars (\$5.00) for the plate. All revenues shall be deposited as general revenues.~~

~~(d)~~ For the purposes of this section an active or retired member of the Rhode Island Army and Air National Guard shall be defined as any person certified by the adjutant general as currently serving or having retired under honorable conditions in either the Rhode Island Army or Air

1 National Guard.

2 ~~(e)~~(d) In a state of emergency, any active member of the Army or Air National Guard  
3 driving a vehicle bearing the special motor vehicle registration plate shall be authorized and  
4 empowered to travel upon the highways of the state notwithstanding any driving ban imposed by  
5 any state or municipal authority.

6 (e) The applicant shall not be required to pay a registration fee or service charge for the  
7 plates.

8 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 eliminate the registration and service charge fees for National Guard plates.
- 2           This act would take effect upon passage.

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