

2015 -- S 0265

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - NONTRANSPARENT WINDSHIELDS
AND WINDOWS

Introduced By: Senator William A. Walaska

Date Introduced: February 11, 2015

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-23.3-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-23.3 entitled
2 "Nontransparent Windshields and Windows" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-23.3-4. Exemptions.** -- The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

4 (1) Motor vehicles manufactured with windshields and window glass areas equipped in
5 accordance with specifications of 49 CFR 571.205 as authorized by 15 U.S.C. § 1407.

6 (2) Motor vehicles owned or leased by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

7 (3) The use of nontransparent or sunscreen material or window application on motor
8 vehicles which has a total visible light transmittance of not less than seventy percent (70%)
9 measured perpendicular to the surface of the glass on the windshield and not less than thirty-five
10 percent (35%) on the side windows immediately adjacent to the right and left of the operator's
11 seat, the side windows immediately to the rear of the operator's seat and the front passenger seat
12 or on the rear window if the vehicle is equipped with two (2) outside mirrors, one on each side,
13 adjusted so that the driver has a clear view of the highway behind the vehicle.

14 (4) The use of any transparent material limited to the uppermost six inches (6") along the
15 top of the windshield, provided the strip does not encroach upon the driver's direct forward
16 viewing area as more particularly described and defined in applicable Federal Motor Vehicle
17 Safety Standards.

18 (5) Motor vehicles not required to be registered in this state.

1 (6) The use of sunscreen material on windows behind the driver in trucks, buses, trailers,
2 mobile homes, campers, multipurpose vehicles, charter buses, funeral service vehicles, or
3 limousines, provided that the vehicle is equipped with two (2) outside mirrors, one on each side,
4 if those mirrors meet federal standards adjusted so the driver has a clear view of the highway
5 behind the vehicle.

6 (7) A motor vehicle registered in this state in the name of a person, or the person's legal
7 guardian, who has an affidavit signed by a physician or an optometrist licensed to practice in this
8 state that states that the person has a physical condition that makes it necessary to equip the motor
9 vehicle with a suncreening device which may exceed federal standards. The division of motor
10 vehicles, upon application of the individual, which shall include the affidavit, shall issue a sticker
11 to be applied to the driver's side window to identify this exemption.

12 (8) Any motor vehicle, registered and garaged within this state, whose sole purpose is to
13 provide executive security to persons within this state. The owner(s) of the vehicle shall first seek
14 and obtain written permission from the local police chief where the vehicle is garaged and
15 registered before the waiver is granted.

16 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 increase the allowable window tinting on the side and rear windows of a
- 2 motor vehicle.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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