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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES --
REGISTRATION FEES

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Ruggiero, Conley, McCaffrey, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: March 21, 2019

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-3-33 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration
2 of Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-3-33. Renewal of registration.**

4 (a) Application for renewal of a vehicle registration shall be made by the owner on a
5 proper application form and by payment of the registration fee for the vehicle as provided by law.

6 (b) The division of motor vehicles may receive applications for renewal of registration,
7 and may grant the renewal and issue new registration cards and plates at any time prior to
8 expiration of registration.

9 (c) Upon renewal, owners will be issued a renewal sticker for each registration plate that
10 shall be placed at the bottom, right-hand corner of the plate. Owners shall be issued a new, fully
11 reflective plate beginning ~~January 1, 2020~~ [December 1, 2019](#), at the time of initial registration or
12 at the renewal of an existing registration and reissuance will be conducted no less than every ten
13 (10) years.

14 SECTION 2. Section 31-6-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-6 entitled "Registration
15 Fees" is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 **31-6-1. Amount of registration and miscellaneous fees.**

17 (a) The following registration fees shall be paid to the division of motor vehicles for the
18 registration of motor vehicles, trailers, semi-trailers, and school buses subject to registration for

1 each year of registration:

2 (1) For the registration of every automobile, when equipped with pneumatic tires, the
3 gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.): thirty dollars (\$30.00).

4 (2) For the registration of every motor truck or tractor when equipped with pneumatic
5 tires, the gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.): thirty-four
6 dollars (\$34.00).

7 (3) For the registration of every automobile, motor truck or tractor, when equipped with
8 pneumatic tires, the gross weight of which is:

9 (i) More than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), but not more than five thousand pounds
10 (5,000 lbs.): forty dollars (\$40.00);

11 (ii) More than five thousand pounds (5,000 lbs.), but not more than six thousand pounds
12 (6,000 lbs.): forty-eight dollars (\$48.00);

13 (iii) More than six thousand pounds (6,000 lbs.), but not more than seven thousand
14 pounds (7,000 lbs.): fifty-six dollars (\$56.00);

15 (iv) More than seven thousand pounds (7,000 lbs.), but not more than eight thousand
16 pounds (8,000 lbs.): sixty-four dollars (\$64.00);

17 (v) More than eight thousand pounds (8,000 lbs.), but not more than nine thousand
18 pounds (9,000 lbs.): seventy dollars (\$70.00);

19 (vi) More than nine thousand pounds (9,000 lbs.), but not more than ten thousand pounds
20 (10,000 lbs.): seventy-eight dollars (\$78.00);

21 (vii) More than ten thousand pounds (10,000 lbs.), but not more than twelve thousand
22 pounds (12,000 lbs.): one hundred six dollars (\$106);

23 (viii) More than twelve thousand pounds (12,000 lbs.), but not more than fourteen
24 thousand pounds (14,000 lbs.): one hundred twenty-four dollars (\$124);

25 (ix) More than fourteen thousand pounds (14,000 lbs.), but not more than sixteen
26 thousand pounds (16,000 lbs.): one hundred forty dollars (\$140);

27 (x) More than sixteen thousand pounds (16,000 lbs.), but not more than eighteen
28 thousand pounds (18,000 lbs.): one hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$158);

29 (xi) More than eighteen thousand pounds (18,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty
30 thousand pounds (20,000 lbs.): one hundred seventy-six dollars (\$176);

31 (xii) More than twenty thousand pounds (20,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-two
32 thousand pounds (22,000 lbs.): one hundred ninety-four dollars (\$194);

33 (xiii) More than twenty-two thousand pounds (22,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-
34 four thousand pounds (24,000 lbs.): two hundred ten dollars (\$210);

- 1 (xiv) More than twenty-four thousand pounds (24,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-six
2 thousand pounds (26,000 lbs.): two hundred thirty dollars (\$230);
- 3 (xv) More than twenty-six thousand pounds (26,000 lbs.), but not more than twenty-eight
4 thousand pounds (28,000 lbs.): two hundred ninety-six dollars (\$296);
- 5 (xvi) More than twenty-eight thousand pounds (28,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty
6 thousand pounds (30,000 lbs.): three hundred sixteen dollars (\$316);
- 7 (xvii) More than thirty thousand pounds (30,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-two
8 thousand pounds (32,000 lbs.): four hundred and twenty-two dollars (\$422);
- 9 (xviii) More than thirty-two thousand pounds (32,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-four
10 thousand pounds (34,000 lbs.): four hundred and forty-eight dollars (\$448);
- 11 (xix) More than thirty-four thousand pounds (34,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-six
12 thousand pounds (36,000 lbs.): four hundred and seventy-six dollars (\$476);
- 13 (xx) More than thirty-six thousand pounds (36,000 lbs.), but not more than thirty-eight
14 thousand pounds (38,000 lbs.): five hundred and two dollars (\$502);
- 15 (xxi) More than thirty-eight thousand pounds (38,000 lbs.), but not more than forty
16 thousand pounds (40,000 lbs.): five hundred and twenty-eight dollars (\$528);
- 17 (xxii) More than forty thousand pounds (40,000 lbs.), but not more than forty-two
18 thousand pounds (42,000 lbs.): five hundred and fifty-four dollars (\$554);
- 19 (xxiii) More than forty-two thousand pounds (42,000 lbs.), but not more than forty-six
20 thousand pounds (46,000 lbs.): six hundred and eight dollars (\$608);
- 21 (xxiv) More than forty-six thousand pounds (46,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty
22 thousand pounds (50,000 lbs.): six hundred and sixty dollars (\$660);
- 23 (xxv) More than fifty thousand pounds (50,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty-four
24 thousand pounds (54,000 lbs.): seven hundred and twelve dollars (\$712);
- 25 (xxvi) More than fifty-four thousand pounds (54,000 lbs.), but not more than fifty-eight
26 thousand pounds (58,000 lbs.): seven hundred and sixty-eight dollars (\$768);
- 27 (xxvii) More than fifty-eight thousand pounds (58,000 lbs.), but not more than sixty-two
28 thousand pounds (62,000 lbs.): eight hundred and sixteen dollars (\$816);
- 29 (xxviii) More than sixty-two thousand pounds (62,000 lbs.), but not more than sixty-six
30 thousand pounds (66,000 lbs.): eight hundred and seventy-six dollars (\$876);
- 31 (xxix) More than sixty-six thousand pounds (66,000 lbs.), but not more than seventy
32 thousand pounds (70,000 lbs.): nine hundred and twenty-four dollars (\$924);
- 33 (xxx) More than seventy thousand pounds (70,000 lbs.), but not more than seventy-four
34 thousand pounds (74,000 lbs.): nine hundred and seventy-two dollars (\$972);

1 (xxx) Over seventy-four thousand pounds (74,000 lbs.): nine hundred and seventy-two
2 dollars (\$972), plus twenty-four dollars (\$24.00) per two thousand pounds (2,000 lbs.) gross
3 weight.

4 (4) For the registration of every semi-trailer to be used with a truck-tractor, as defined in
5 § 31-1-4(f), shall be as follows: an annual fee of twelve dollars (\$12.00) for a one-year
6 registration; for multi-year registrations the fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a five-year (5)
7 registration; and eighty dollars (\$80.00) for an eight-year (8) registration. However, when in use,
8 the weight of the resulting semi-trailer unit and its maximum carrying capacity shall not exceed
9 the gross weight of the original semi-trailer unit from which the gross weight of the tractor was
10 determined. A registration certificate and registration plate shall be issued for each semi-trailer so
11 registered. There shall be no refund of payment of such fee, except that when a plate is returned
12 prior to ninety (90) days before the effective date of that year's registration, the pro rate amount,
13 based on the unused portion of the multi-year registration plate period at time of surrender, shall
14 be refunded. A multi-year semi-trailer registration may be transferred to another semi-trailer
15 subject to the provisions and fee set forth in § 31-6-11. Thirty percent (30%) of the semi-trailer
16 registration fee shall be retained by the division of motor vehicles to defray the costs of
17 implementation of the international registration plan (IRP) and fleet registration section.

18 (5) For the registration of every automobile, motor truck, or tractor, when equipped with
19 other than pneumatic tires, there shall be added to the above gross weight fees a charge of ten
20 cents (10¢) for each one hundred pounds (100 lbs.) of gross weight.

21 (6) For the registration of every public bus, the rates provided for motor vehicles for hire
22 plus two dollars (\$2.00) for each passenger that bus is rated to carry, the rating to be determined
23 by the administrator of the division of motor vehicles.

24 (7) For the registration of every motorcycle, or motor-driven cycle, thirteen dollars
25 (\$13.00). Three dollars (\$3.00) from that sum shall be turned over to the department of education
26 to assist in the payment of the cost of the motorcycle driver's education program as enumerated in
27 § 31-10.1-1.1.

28 (8) For the registration of every trailer, not including semi-trailers used with a truck-
29 tractor as defined in § 31-1-4(d), with a gross weight of three thousand pounds (3,000 lbs.) or
30 less, five dollars (\$5.00). Trailers with a gross weight of more than three thousand pounds (3,000
31 lbs.) shall be assessed a registration fee of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per thousand pounds
32 (1,000 lbs.).

33 (9) The annual registration fee for a motor vehicle, commonly described as a boxcar
34 and/or locomotive, and used only by La Societe Des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux for civic

- 1 demonstration, parades, convention purposes, or social welfare work, shall be two dollars (\$2.00).
- 2 (10) For the registration of every motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer owned by any
3 department or agency of any city or town or district, provided the name of the city or town or
4 district or state department or agency owning the same shall be plainly printed on two (2) sides of
5 the vehicle, two dollars (\$2.00).
- 6 (11) For the registration of motor vehicles used for racing, fifteen dollars (\$15.00).
- 7 (12) For every duplicate registration certificate, seventeen dollars (\$17.00).
- 8 (13) For every certified copy of a registration certificate or application, ten dollars
9 (\$10.00).
- 10 (14) For every certificate assigning a special identification number or mark as provided in
11 § 31-3-37, one dollar (\$1.00).
- 12 (15) For every replacement of number plates or additional pair of number plates, without
13 changing the number, thirty dollars (\$30.00).
- 14 (16) For the registration of every farm vehicle, used in farming as provided in § 31-3-31:
15 ten dollars (\$10.00).
- 16 (17) For the registration of antique motor vehicles, five dollars (\$5.00).
- 17 (18) For the registration of a suburban vehicle, when used as a pleasure vehicle and the
18 gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), the same rates as
19 charged in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be applicable and when used as a commercial
20 vehicle and the gross weight of which is not more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), the
21 same rates as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be applicable. The rates in
22 subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be applicable when the suburban vehicle has a gross
23 weight of more than four thousand pounds (4,000 lbs.), regardless of the use of the vehicle.
- 24 (19) For the registration of every motor bus that is used exclusively under contract with a
25 political subdivision or school district of the state for the transportation of school children,
26 twenty-five dollars (\$25); provided that the motor bus may also be used for the transportation of
27 persons to and from church and Sunday school services, and for the transportation of children to
28 and from educational or recreational projects sponsored by a city or town or by any association or
29 organization supported wholly or in part by public or private donations for charitable purposes,
30 without the payment of additional registration fee.
- 31 (20) For the registration of every motorized bicycle, ten dollars (\$10.00).
- 32 (21) For the registration of every motorized tricycle, ten dollars (\$10.00).
- 33 (22) For the replacement of number plates with a number change, twenty dollars
34 (\$20.00).

1 (23) For the initial issuance and each reissuance of fully reflective plates, as required by
2 §§ 31-3-10 and 31-3-32, an additional ~~six dollars (\$6.00)~~ fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

3 (24) For the issuance of a trip permit under the International Registration Plan, twenty-
4 five dollars (\$25.00) per vehicle. The division of motor vehicles is authorized to issue seventy-
5 two-hour (72) trip permits for vehicles required to be registered in the International Registration
6 Plan that have not been apportioned with the state of Rhode Island.

7 (25) For the issuance of a hunter's permit under the International Registration Plan,
8 twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per vehicle. The division of motor vehicles is authorized to issue
9 hunter's permits for motor vehicles based in the state of Rhode Island and otherwise required to
10 be registered in the International Registration Plan. These permits are valid for thirty (30) days.

11 (26) For the registration of a specially adapted motor vehicle necessary to transport a
12 family member with a disability for personal, noncommercial use, a fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00)
13 assessed.

14 SECTION 3. 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 -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES --
REGISTRATION FEES

1 This act would amend the date that a new, fully reflective registration plate would be
2 issued from January 1, 2020 to December 1, 2019. The act would also increase the registration
3 fee for fully reflective plates from six dollars (\$6.00) to fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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