

2024 -- H 7114

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, and Abney

Date Introduced: January 10, 2024

Referred To: House Special Legislation

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-3 of the General Laws entitled "Registration of Vehicles" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-3-127. Special plate for the Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc.**

4 (a) The administrator of the division of motor vehicles is empowered to make available
5 special motor vehicle registration plates for the not-for-profit entity, Newport Festivals Foundation,
6 Inc. The plates shall be designed to reference the not-for-profit entity Newport Festivals
7 Foundation, Inc.

8 (b) The special plate shall be displayed upon the same registration number assigned to the
9 vehicle for which it was issued and shall be used in place of and in the same manner as the
10 registration plates issued to the vehicle. The original registration plates for the vehicle shall be
11 removed from the vehicle and returned to the division of motor vehicles. The registration certificate
12 for the plates shall be carried in the vehicle in accordance with § 31-3-9. The registration certificate
13 shall be in effect for the special plate.

14 (c) The Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. motor vehicle plates shall be the same size as
15 regular motor vehicle plates and shall be designed by Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. in
16 conjunction with the division of motor vehicles, and which license plate design shall include
17 references to both the Newport Folk and Newport Jazz festivals with the design approved by the
18 Rhode Island state police.

19 (d) The Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. plates shall be subject to a compliance with §

1 31-3-117 relating to the number of minimum pre-paid order of plates per plate type (i.e. passenger,
2 commercial, etc.) and any required payment. The Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. plates shall
3 not be issued unless the minimum order requirements are met. The initial order will be handled by
4 the Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. and shall not be submitted to the division of motor vehicles
5 for production until the minimum order(s) have been met and the proper paper work submitted to
6 the division.

7 (e) The administrator of motor vehicles shall develop prepayment procedures and any other
8 procedures deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

9 (f) In addition to the regular prescribed motor vehicle registration fee, Newport Festivals
10 Foundation, Inc. plates shall be subject to a forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge.

11 (g) The forty dollar (\$40.00) issuance surcharge shall be allocated as follows: twenty
12 dollars (\$20.00) shall be allocated to the general fund and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00)
13 shall be distributed annually to the Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. to preserve the historic
14 Newport Jazz and folk Festivals and provide access to music education programs in Rhode Island
15 to ensure that every person can experience the benefits of music.

16 (h) A ten dollar (\$10.00) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals shall be allocated
17 to the Newport festivals foundation, Inc.

18 (i) In consideration of the receipt of funds from the registration of Newport Festivals
19 Foundation, Inc. plates, the Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. must use any Rhode Island sourced
20 funds in and for the benefit of Rhode Island based charitable organizations.

21 (j) Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc. will be required to submit an annual accounting
22 report before such monies are distributed.

23 (k) There shall be no refunds for early cancellation of Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc.
24 plates.

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect six (6) months after passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would authorize the division of motor vehicles to issue special license plates in
2 recognition and support of the Newport Festivals Foundation, Inc.

3 This act would take effect six (6) months after passage.

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