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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- MAINTENANCE OF TOWN HIGHWAYS

Introduced By: Senators Pichardo, Ciccone, Jabour, Metts, and Perry

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 24-5-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 24-5 entitled "Maintenance  
2 of Town Highways" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **24-5-1. Duty of town to maintain highways.** -- (a) All highways, causeways, and  
4 bridges, except as provided by this chapter, lying and being within the bounds of any town, shall  
5 be kept in repair and amended, from time to time, so that the highways, causeways, and bridges  
6 may be safe and convenient for travelers with their teams, carts, and carriages at all seasons of the  
7 year, at the proper charge and expense of the town, under the care and direction of the town  
8 council of the town, provided that the state shall be responsible for the annual cleaning of all  
9 sidewalks on all state highways, causeways, and bridges.

10 (b) In addition, the surfaces of all highways and causeways shall be maintained in such a  
11 state of repair as to make them safe for bicycles.

12 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) and section 24-8-1.3:

13 (1) All roadways classified by the department of administration as interstate highways,  
14 freeways, expressways, and principal arterials shall be kept in repair and maintained by the state.

15 (2) All roadways that are both classified by the department of administration as minor  
16 arterials and contained in towns shall be kept in repair and maintained by the state.

17 (3) All roadways classified by the department of administration as major collectors,  
18 minor collectors, and rural minor collectors shall be kept in repair and maintained by the city or  
19 town in which they are contained.



EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- MAINTENANCE OF TOWN HIGHWAYS

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- 1           This act would require the state to maintain all roadways classified by the department of
- 2           administration as interstate highways, freeways, expressways and principal and minor arterials.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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