

2022 -- S 2141 SUBSTITUTE A

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LC003622/SUB A/2
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Introduced By: Senators Archambault, F Lombardi, McCaffrey, and Coyne

Date Introduced: January 25, 2022

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 31-3-94 and 31-3-117 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled
2 "Registration of Vehicles" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-3-94. Expiration of authorization of issuance of special motor vehicle plates.**

4 (a) The statutory authorization of the issuance of any special motor vehicle registration
5 plates after January 1, ~~2013~~ 2022, shall expire if any statutorily mandated minimum number of
6 prepaid orders of such plates has not been satisfied within five (5) years following the enactment
7 of such authorization.

8 (b) The statutory authorization of the issuance of any special motor vehicle registration
9 plates enacted prior to January 1, ~~2013~~ 2022, shall expire on ~~January 1, 2018~~ June 30, 2023, if any
10 statutorily mandated minimum number of prepaid orders of such plates has not been satisfied prior
11 to that date.

12 **31-3-117. Minimum prepaid special motor vehicle registration plate orders.**

13 (a) As to any special motor vehicle registration plates that have been authorized pursuant
14 to this chapter but that have not been issued or printed as of July 2, 2018, because the minimum
15 number of prepaid orders for the plates has not been reached, the minimum number of plates that
16 must be prepaid and ordered prior to the plates being made and issued shall be deemed to be six
17 hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type. If the minimum number of prepaid plates provided
18 pursuant to any other section of this chapter is a higher number, that number shall be deemed
19 reduced to six hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type.

1 (b) As to any special plates that are authorized pursuant to this chapter after July 2, 2018,
2 the minimum number of plates that must be prepaid and ordered prior to the plates being made and
3 issued shall be six hundred (600) sets of plates per plate type.

4 (c)(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the minimum number of
5 prepaid orders for special motor vehicle registration plates that either have been authorized pursuant
6 to this chapter, but have not been issued or printed as of the effective date of this subsection, because
7 the minimum number of prepaid orders for the plates has not been reached or are authorized
8 pursuant to this chapter after the effective date of this subsection, may be reduced to one hundred
9 fifty (150) sets of plates per plate type if the applicable sponsoring nonprofit entity delivers to the
10 division of motor vehicles:

11 (i) Orders for a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) sets of plates per plate type; and

12 (ii) A nonrefundable payment to compensate for the amount of special plate orders fewer
13 than six hundred (600). The payment shall be calculated as follows: six hundred (600) orders, less
14 the number of orders placed, multiplied by twenty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$22.50).

15 (2) The portion of the applicable sponsoring nonprofit entity's issuance surcharge that is to
16 be allocated to the general fund shall be deemed paid for the first six hundred (600) sets of plates
17 per plate type issued by the payment in an amount as determined by subsection (c)(1)(ii) of this
18 section.

19 (3) The division of motor vehicles shall make available plates eligible for issuance pursuant
20 to subsection (c)(1) of this section, no later than six (6) months after receipt of the orders and the
21 nonrefundable payment in the amount determined by subsection (c)(1)(ii) of this section; provided,
22 however, that if multiple orders and payments in amounts pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(ii) of this
23 section are received from different sponsoring nonprofit entities, the division of motor vehicles
24 shall be afforded no more than six (6) months for each separate plate that becomes eligible for
25 issuance and may complete the work necessary for the issuance of one order at a time in the order
26 of receipt.

27 (4) The ability of applicable sponsoring nonprofit entities to reduce the minimum number
28 of prepaid orders to one hundred fifty (150) sets of plates per plate type pursuant to subsection
29 (c)(1) of this section shall expire on December 31, 2025. The division of motor vehicles shall
30 complete the work necessary for issuance of all plates for which it receives the required orders and
31 nonrefundable payments in the amount determined by subsection (c)(1)(ii) of this section on or
32 before December 31, 2025, in accordance with subsection (c)(3) of this section.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

1 This act would provide that a prepaid special motor vehicle registration plate order will be
2 processed if the plate sponsoring nonprofit entity makes a nonrefundable payment calculated and
3 determined by § 31-3-7 to the state which would enable the issuance of their proposal specialty
4 plate, when the minimum statutorily required orders for the plates, have not been met. The
5 minimum number of specialty registration plate sets would be reduced to one hundred fifty (150)
6 and the nonrefundable fee paid by the sponsoring nonprofit entity would be calculated by
7 subtracting the actual number of plate sets ordered from six hundred (600) and then multiplying
8 the remainder by the sum of twenty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$22.50).

9 This act would take effect upon passage.

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