



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Administration  
BUDGET OFFICE  
One Capitol Hill  
Providence, R.I. 02908-5886

Memorandum

**To:** The Honorable Helio Melo  
Chairman, House Finance Committee

The Honorable Daniel DaPonte  
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

**From:** Thomas A. Mullaney *Thomas A. Mullaney*  
Executive Director/State Budget Officer

**Date:** May 3, 2013

**Subject:** Amendments to FY 2014 Appropriations Act (13-H-5127)

The Governor requests that the revised Article 6 which was submitted to the Legislature on March 20, 2013 be replaced with the attached version. Article 6 is entitled "Relating to Division of Mother Vehicles." This second revision to the article eliminates the requirement for registration stickers to be affixed to motor vehicle license plates. The changes from the March 20 version of the article are indicated by shading. While this proposal was originally part of the Governor's FY 2014 budget which was submitted on January 16, 2013, we initially did not believe that a statutory change was required to implement the proposal.

The Governor also requests that Article 7 entitled "Relating to Public Corporation Debt Management" be withdrawn from the FY 2014 Appropriations Act. Because the provisions of Article 7 have already passed in the Legislature as H-5364 and S-019 Sub A, this article is no longer needed.

If you have any questions regarding these amendments, please feel free to call me or my staff at 222-6300.

TAM:13-Amend05  
Attachments

cc: Sharon Reynolds Ferland, House Fiscal Advisor  
Eugene Gessow, Senate Fiscal Advisor  
Kelly Mahoney, Director of Policy  
Richard Licht, Director of Administration  
Peter Marino, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Gregory Stack, Supervising Budget Analyst

**REVISED ARTICLE 6 (5/3/2013)**

**RELATING TO DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

SECTION 1. Sections 31-3-11 and 31-3-33 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-3 entitled "Registration of Vehicles" are hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 31-3-11 Contents of registration plate.** – (a) Every registration plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued; and the name of the state of Rhode Island, which may be abbreviated "R.I.", ~~and the year number for which it is issued or the date of its expiration.~~ Registration plates shall also have printed on them the words: "ocean state".

(b) The provision requiring the printing of the words "ocean state" on these plates shall not pertain to commercial plates or to plates issued to recipients of the Purple Heart.

**§ 31-3-33 Renewal of registration.** – (a) Application for renewal of a vehicle registration shall be made by the owner on a proper application form and by payment of the registration fee for the vehicle as provided by law.

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

(c) Upon renewal, owners will be issued a renewal sticker for each registration plate which shall be placed at the bottom right hand corner of the plate. Owners shall be issued a new fully reflective plate beginning September 1, ~~2013~~ 2015 at the time of initial registration or at the renewal of an existing registration and reissuance will be conducted no less than every ten (10) years.

SECTION 2. Section 39-18.1-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-18.1 entitled "Transportation Investment and Debt Reduction Act of 2011" is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 39-18.1-4 Rhode Island highway maintenance trust fund account created.** – (a)

There is hereby created a special account in the ~~general fund~~ intermodal surface transportation fund as established in § 31-36-20 that is to be known as the Rhode Island Highway Maintenance Trust Fund Account.

(b) The fund shall consist of all those moneys which the state may from time to time direct to the fund, including, not necessarily limited to, moneys derived from the following sources:

(1) There is imposed a surcharge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per ~~passenger car and light truck~~ vehicle or truck, other than those with specific registrations set forth below in subsection (b)(1)(i). Such surcharge shall be paid by each ear and light truck vehicle or truck owner in order to register that owner's vehicle or truck and upon each subsequent biennial registration. This surcharge shall be phased in at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00) each year. The total surcharge will be ten dollars (\$10.00) from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, twenty dollars (\$20.00) from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and thirty dollars (\$30.00) from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and each year thereafter.

(i) For owners of vehicles or trucks with the following plate types, the surcharge shall be as set forth below and shall be paid in full in order to register the vehicle or truck and upon each subsequent renewal:

<u>Plate Type</u>	<u>Surcharge</u>
<u>Antique</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Farm</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>
<u>Motorcycle</u>	<u>\$13.00</u>

(ii) For owners of trailers, the surcharge shall be one-half of the biennial registration amount and shall be paid in full in order to register the trailer and upon each subsequent renewal.

(2) There is imposed a surcharge of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per ~~ear and truck~~ vehicle or truck, other than those with specific registrations set forth in subsection (b)(2)(i) below, for those

~~cars and trucks~~ vehicles or trucks subject to annual registration, to be paid annually by each ~~car~~ and truck ~~vehicle or truck~~ owner in order to register that owner's vehicle or truck and upon each subsequent annual registration. This surcharge will be phased in at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) each year. The total surcharge will be five dollars (\$5.00) from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, ten dollars (\$10.00) from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and fifteen dollars (\$15.00) from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and each year thereafter.

(i) For registrations of the following plate types, the surcharge shall be as set forth below and shall be paid in full in order to register the plate, and upon each subsequent renewal:

<u>Plate Type</u>	<u>Surcharge</u>
<u>Boat Dealer</u>	<u>\$6.25</u>
<u>Cycle Dealer</u>	<u>\$6.25</u>
<u>In-transit</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>New Car Dealer</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Used Car Dealer</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Racer Tow</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Transporter</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>Bailee</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>

(ii) For owners of trailers, the surcharge shall be one-half of the annual registration amount and shall be paid in full in order to register the trailer and upon each subsequent renewal.

(iii) For owners of school buses, the surcharge will be phased in at the rate of six dollars and twenty-five cents (\$6.25) each year. The total surcharge will be six dollars and twenty-five cents (\$6.25) from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 and twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 and each year thereafter.

(3) There is imposed a surcharge of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per operator's license to operate a motor vehicle to be paid every five (5) years by each licensed operator of a motor

vehicles. This surcharge will be phased in at the rate of ten dollars (\$10.00) each year. The total surcharge will be ten dollars (\$10.00) from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, twenty dollars (\$20.00) from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and thirty dollars (\$30.00) from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 and each year thereafter. In the event that a license is issued or renewed for a period of less than five (5) years, the surcharge will be prorated according to the period of time the license will be valid.

(c) All funds collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Rhode Island highway maintenance ~~fund~~ account and shall be used only for the purposes set forth in this chapter.

(d) Unexpended balances and any earnings thereon shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Rhode Island highway maintenance ~~fund~~ account. There shall be no requirement that monies received into the Rhode Island highway maintenance ~~fund~~ account during any given calendar year or fiscal year be expended during the same calendar year or fiscal year.

(e) The Rhode Island highway maintenance ~~fund~~ account shall be administered by the director, who shall allocate and spend monies from the fund only in accordance with the purposes and procedures set forth in this chapter.

SECTION 3. This article shall take effect upon passage.