

2023 -- H 5034

LC000386

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- INSPECTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, McGaw, Solomon, Chippendale, Kennedy, and  
Azzinaro

Date Introduced: January 11, 2023

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-38-6 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-38 entitled "Inspection  
2 of Motor Vehicles" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-38-6. Appointment of official inspection stations.**

4 (a) For the purpose of making inspections and issuing official certificates of inspection and  
5 approval as provided in this chapter, the director of the department of revenue, or the director's  
6 designee, shall issue permits for and furnish instructions and all necessary forms to official  
7 inspection stations for the inspection of vehicles as required in this chapter and the issuance of  
8 official certificates of inspection and approval. There shall be a separate permit required to inspect  
9 all trailers or semi-trailers used to transport horses or other livestock, irrespective of the registered  
10 gross weight of the trailers and semi-trailers.

11 (b) Application for the permit set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall be made upon  
12 an official form and shall be granted only when the director of the department of revenue or the  
13 director's designee, is satisfied that the station is properly equipped and has competent personnel  
14 to make the inspections and adjustments, and will be properly conducted. [Only facilities located](#)  
15 [within the State of Rhode Island shall receive permits.](#) The director of the department of revenue,  
16 or the director's designee, before issuing a permit may require the applicant to file a bond  
17 conditioned that it will make compensation for any damage to a vehicle during an inspection or  
18 adjustment due to negligence on the part of the applicant or its employees.

19 (c) The director of the department of revenue, or the director's designee, shall properly

1 supervise and cause inspections to be made of the stations and shall suspend or revoke and require  
2 the surrender of the permit issued to a station which he or she finds is not properly equipped or has  
3 violated any of the conditions of his or her permit of inspection. The director of the department of  
4 revenue, or the director's designee, shall maintain and post at the department of revenue lists of all  
5 stations holding permits and of those whose permits have been suspended or revoked.

6 (d) The permits shall be issued for a period of one year and upon payment to the director  
7 of the department of revenue of a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) annually, and the monies  
8 received shall be turned over to the general treasurer to be deposited in the general funds of the  
9 state.

10 (e) The director of the department of revenue, or the director's designee, shall issue a  
11 duplicate permit upon the payment of a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) if one is requested by the owner  
12 of the official station who states in writing that the original was lost, destroyed, or stolen.

13 (f) Any person who has been issued a permit under this section and conducts inspections  
14 of vehicles subject to an emission inspection pursuant to chapter 47.1 of this title must also have  
15 been authorized to conduct motor vehicle emissions inspections and must conduct both inspections  
16 simultaneously.

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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1           This act would provide that only facilities located within the State of Rhode Island be  
2 eligible for permits to operate as official inspection stations for the inspection of vehicles, and the  
3 issuance of official certificates of inspection and approval.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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