

2012 -- H 7550

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LC01417
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- PASSING, USE OF LANES, AND
RULES OF THE ROAD

Introduced By: Representatives Hull, San Bento, Nunes, Johnston, and Medina

Date Introduced: February 15, 2012

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 31-15 of the General Laws entitled "Passing, Use of Lanes, and
2 Rules of the Road" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **31-15-19. Two-way left turn lanes.** – A two-way left turn lane may be designated near
4 the center of a roadway for use by vehicles making left turns in both directions from or into the
5 roadway.

6 (1) Two-way left turn lanes shall be designated by distinctive roadway markings
7 consisting of parallel double yellow lines, interior line dashed and exterior line solid on each side
8 of the lane. The department of transportation may determine and prescribe standards and
9 specifications governing length, width, and positioning of the distinctive pavement markings. All
10 pavement markings designating a two-way left turn lane shall conform to the department of
11 transportation's standards and specifications.

12 (2) A vehicle shall not be driven in a designated two-way left turn lane except when
13 preparing for or making a left turn from or into a highway or when preparing for or making a U-
14 turn when otherwise permitted by law, and shall not be driven in that lane for more than two
15 hundred feet (200') while preparing for and making the turn or while preparing to merge into the
16 adjacent lanes of travel. A left turn or U-turn shall not be made from any other lane where a two-
17 way left turn lane has been designated.

18 (3) This section shall not prohibit driving across a two-way left turn lane.

1 (4) Raised pavement markers may be used to simulate painted lines described in this
2 section when such markers are placed in accordance with standards established by the department
3 of transportation.

4 (5) Upon any vehicle entering the turn lane, no other vehicle proceeding in the opposite
5 direction shall enter that turn lane if that entrance would prohibit the vehicle already in the lane
6 from making the intended turn.

7 (6) When vehicles enter the turn lane proceeding in opposite directions, the first vehicle
8 to enter the lane shall have the right-of-way.

9 (7) Violations of this section are subject to fines enumerated in section 31-41.1-4.

10 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 establish traffic rules and regulations for the use of two-way left turn
- 2 laws.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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