

2011 -- S 0054

LC00243

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY

Introduced By: Senators Felag, DiPalma, and Ottiano

Date Introduced: January 19, 2011

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 24-12-26 of the General Laws in Chapter 24-12 entitled "Rhode  
2 Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **24-12-26. Power to collect tolls and charges -- Gasoline and service concessions. --** (a)

4 The authority is hereby authorized, subject to the provisions of this chapter, to fix, revise, charge  
5 and collect tolls for the use of the Newport Bridge, the Mount Hope Bridge, the turnpike and the  
6 different parts or sections thereof, and for the use of any additional facility and the different parts  
7 or sections thereof, and to contract with any person, partnership, association or corporation for  
8 placing on any project telephone, telegraph, electric light or power lines, gas stations, garages,  
9 and restaurants if deemed necessary by the authority in connection with the project, or for the use  
10 of any project or part thereof, including the right-of-way adjoining the paved portion of the  
11 turnpike or of any additional facility or for any other purposes and to fix the terms, conditions,  
12 rents and rates of charges for such use; provided, that the authority shall construct any gasoline  
13 service facilities which it may determine are needed on the project, and provided, further, that, to  
14 afford users of the project a reasonable choice of motor fuels of different brands, each gasoline  
15 service station shall be separately offered for lease upon sealed bids and, after notice of the offer  
16 has been published once a week in three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general  
17 circulation in the state, and, in the event an acceptable bid shall be received in the judgment of the  
18 authority, each lease shall be awarded to the highest responsible bidder therefor, but no person  
19 shall be awarded or have the use of, nor shall motor fuel identified by the trade-marks, trade

1 names, or brands of any one supplier, distributor, or retailer of such fuel be sold at more than one  
2 service station if they would constitute more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the service  
3 stations on the project. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, members of the town of  
4 Jamestown police and fire department and ambulance service personnel of the town of  
5 Jamestown and Jamestown school department who, in the course of their duty, are required to pay  
6 a toll for use of the Newport Bridge, shall, upon the presentment of receipts for the payment of  
7 the toll to the town of Jamestown, be reimbursed for all charges on an annual basis by the town of  
8 Jamestown who in turn shall be reimbursed for all payments made by the state. Notwithstanding  
9 the provisions of this section, members of the city of Newport police and fire department and  
10 rescue personnel who, in the course of their duty, are required to pay a toll for use of the Newport  
11 Bridge, shall, upon the presentment of receipts for the payment of the toll to the city of Newport,  
12 be reimbursed for all charges on an annual basis by the city of Newport who in turn shall be  
13 reimbursed for all payments made by the state.

14 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, members of the police and fire  
15 department and rescue personnel of any city or town in this state who, in the course of their duty,  
16 are required to pay a toll for use of the Mount Hope Bridge, shall, upon the presentment of  
17 receipts for the payment of the toll to their town or city, be reimbursed for all such charges on an  
18 annual basis by the town or city, who in turn shall be reimbursed for all payments made by the  
19 state.

20 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or any other section of the general  
21 laws, the authority shall be prohibited from charging tolls on the Mount Hope Bridge.

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

=====  
LC00243  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO HIGHWAYS -- RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY

\*\*\*

1           This act would prohibit the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority from charging  
2 tolls on the Mount Hope Bridge.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC00243  
=====