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LC001512/SUB A
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS'
LICENSES

Introduced By: Senators DaPonte, Cote, Crowley, Picard, and Lombardo

Date Introduced: February 16, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-10-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-10 entitled "Operators'
2 and Chauffeurs' Licenses" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-10-2. Persons exempt from licensing requirements.**

4 The following persons are exempt from the licensing requirements of this chapter:

5 (1) Any employee of the United States government while operating a motor vehicle
6 owned by or leased to the United States government and being operated on official business;

7 (2) A nonresident who is at least sixteen (16) years of age and who has in ~~his or her~~ their
8 immediate possession a valid operator's license issued to ~~him or her~~ them in ~~his or her~~ their home
9 state ~~or country~~ may operate a motor vehicle in this state only as an operator;

10 (3) Any individual over the age of eighteen (18) years who has in their immediate
11 possession a valid operator's license issued to them in their country may operate a motor vehicle
12 in this state only as an operator for the term and in accordance with the methods provided for
13 pursuant to the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic, Chapter V, art. 24, September 19, 1949
14 without further examination.

15 (4) Any individual who holds an active work or study Visa validly issued by the United
16 States Citizenship and Immigration Services, who is at least eighteen (18) years of age and who
17 has in their immediate possession a valid operator's license issued to them in their country may
18 operate a motor vehicle in this state only as provided for pursuant to the Geneva Convention on

1 Road Traffic, Chapter V, art. 24, September 19, 1949 without further examination; provided,
2 however, that upon expiration of the term set forth in the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic,
3 said individual may only operate a motor vehicle in this state upon completion of an application
4 provided by the Rhode Island division of motor vehicles and only for the unexpired term of the
5 issued Visa.

6 (5) Any individual who holds a Green Card validly issued by the United States
7 Citizenship and Immigration Services, who is at least eighteen (18) years of age and who has in
8 their immediate possession a valid operator's license issued to them in their country may operate a
9 motor vehicle in this state pursuant to the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic, Chapter V, art.
10 24, September 19, 1949 without further examination; provided, however, that upon expiration of
11 the term set forth in the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic, said individual may only operate a
12 motor vehicle in this state upon completion of an application provided by the Rhode Island
13 division of motor vehicles and only for the unexpired term of the issued Green Card.

14 ~~(3)~~(6) A nonresident who is at least eighteen (18) years of age and who has in ~~his or her~~
15 their immediate possession a valid chauffeur's license issued to ~~him or her~~ them in ~~his or her~~ their
16 home state or country may operate a motor vehicle in this state either as an operator or chauffeur.
17 Subject to the age limits applicable to chauffeurs in this state, that license shall be accepted as a
18 chauffeur class I license. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a nonresident must submit an
19 application for a chauffeur class I license which must be approved before a nonresident may be
20 employed as a chauffeur in this state;

21 ~~(4)~~(7) Any nonresident who is at least eighteen (18) years of age, whose home state or
22 country does not require the licensing of operators, may operate a motor vehicle as an operator
23 only, for a period of not more than ninety (90) days in any calendar year, if the motor vehicle so
24 operated is duly registered in the home state or country of that nonresident;

25 ~~(5)~~(8) Any operator of any traction engine, road roller, farm tractor, crane, power shovel,
26 well-borer, and any other road and building construction machinery and equipment, other than a
27 truck used for the transportation of materials.

28 (9) The department of motor vehicles is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to
29 carry out the purposes of this section.

30 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 exempt individuals validly licensed in their country and holding a validly
2 issued study or work Visa from the State's licensing requirements in accordance with the Geneva
3 Convention on Road Traffic.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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