

2011 -- S 0572

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Nesselbush, Crowley, E O'Neill, and DaPonte

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 31-25-30 of the General Laws in Chapter 31-25 entitled "Size,
2 Weight, and Load Limits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **31-25-30. Axle restriction on the Pawtucket River Bridge and the Sakonnet River**
4 **Bridge. [Repealed effective June 12, 2011.]** -- (a) It shall be unlawful to transport or operate
5 over or upon the Pawtucket River Bridge or the Sakonnet River Bridge, any single vehicle
6 equipped with more than two (2) axles or any combination vehicle equipped with more than two
7 (2) axles per unit except those listed in this section.

8 (b) The director of the department of transportation is directed to post signs to limit
9 access as prescribed in subsection (a) of this section.

10 (c) The following vehicles shall be exempt from the provisions of this section: any and
11 all emergency vehicles, state vehicles, municipal vehicles, truck tractors as defined in section 31-
12 1-4 and Rhode Island public transit authority vehicles.

13 (d) For the purposes of this section, "carrier" means and includes any company or person
14 who furthers their commercial or private enterprise by use of the vehicle.

15 (e) Any carrier operating a vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of this section
16 shall be fined three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for the first offense, not to exceed five thousand
17 dollars (\$5,000) for each and every subsequent offense.

18 (f) Fifty percent (50%) of all fines collected from violations for crossing the Pawtucket
19 River Bridge shall be allocated to the city of Pawtucket in a restricted receipt account. This

1 account shall be for the repair, maintenance and restoration of all streets and roads used as a
2 detour off the Pawtucket River Bridge and also to set up a fund to assist businesses affected by
3 the detour. Any dollars not expended after completion of the project shall be returned to the state
4 general fund.

5 (g) (f) Nothing in this provision shall waive or modify existing weight restrictions on the
6 bridges as defined in section 31-25-27.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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1 This act would allocate fifty percent of the fines collected for violations for crossing the
2 Pawtucket River Bridge to the city of Pawtucket for the repair of roads used as a detour and to
3 assist businesses affected by the detour.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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