



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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March 15, 2021

The Honorable Kathleen A. Fogarty  
Chair, House Committee on Special Legislation  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2021 H-5783- AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES  
- REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES - SPECIAL PLATE FOR MASONIC  
GRAND LODGE CHARITIES OF RHODE ISLAND**

Dear Chairperson Fogarty:

The Division of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") respectfully requests amendments to House Bill 5783, An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles-Registration of Vehicles-Special Plate for Masonic Grand Lodge Charities of Rhode Island, to allow for the issuance of Masonic Grand Lodge Charities of Rhode Island plates in a manner consistent with that of other charity plates.

The proposed bill authorizes a special license plate for Masonic Grand Lodge Charities of Rhode Island that would be issued by the DMV after a minimum prepaid order of at least 500 sets of plates per plate type is received by the charitable organization.

The DMV issues several different charity plates and is proud of its partnerships with the numerous charitable organizations who have met the minimum threshold for issuance of their respective plates. The DMV encourages those charitable organizations with statutory authority for issuance of their plates to continue their efforts to obtain the minimum number of prepaid orders to add to the diversity of license plates available to Rhode Island motorists.

To ensure all charitable organizations are placed on a level playing field and to provide uniformity in the programming of charity plates in the DMV's computer system the DMV has developed a charity bill legislative template that has been used in the enactment of many statutes authorizing charity plate issuance during the last few legislative sessions.

The DMV respectfully requests amendments to the proposed bill that sets the minimum prepaid order threshold for plate production at 600 sets per plate type;

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adds a ten-dollar (\$10.00) surcharge for subsequent registration renewals of Masonic Grand Lodge Charities of Rhode Island plates; and adds the requirement that Masonic Grand Lodge Charities of Rhode Island must use any Rhode Island sourced funds in, and for the benefit of, Rhode Island-based charitable organizations.

The DMV looks forward to working with the sponsor going forward to draft revisions to the proposed bill that are mutually agreeable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Walter R. Craddock, Esq., CFP®  
Administrator

Cc: Honorable Robert D. Phillips  
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Special Legislation  
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel