

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

## DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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April 2, 2024

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley Chair, House Committee on State Government and Elections State House Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2024 H-8014- AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES

- RHODE ISLAND UNIFORM COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT

Dear Chair Shanley:

The Division of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") writes to express concerns with House Bill 8014, An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Rhode Island Uniform Commercial Driver's License Act.

The proposed bill would provide that any trade school or education program providing instruction in the operation of commercial motor vehicles would be required to include industry-specific training in the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.

The DMV commends and fully supports the goals of the proposed bill which would educate commercial drivers in recognizing and reporting human trafficking. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has made the prevention and elimination of human trafficking one of its top priorities in recent years, and the DMV has supported that mission by providing commercial drivers with informational material on the topic provided by the group Truckers Against Trafficking.

The sole concern of the DMV with the proposed bill is that it is not the proper agency to monitor the education programs to ensure that the requirements of the law are being met. The DMV is not equipped for the oversight of these schools or of the educational curriculum that they may provide, and that function may be more appropriately placed with another state agency.

The DMV looks forward to working with the sponsor to draft revisions to the bill that are mutually agreeable, and which promote the goal of reducing and eliminating the crime of human trafficking.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Walter R. Craddock, Esq.

Administrator

Cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections

The Honorable Robert D. Phillips

Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House

Thomas A. Verdi, Director, Department of Revenue