



The Honorable Evan Shanley & Members of:  
House Committee on State Government and Elections  
State House Room 101  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
RE: H 7831 – AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS

Dear Chair, Shanley & Honorable Members:

I write as a small business owner here in Rhode Island. I own and operate a crane rental company named Roy Corp. I am writing this to express my strong support for House Bill H-7381, which would establish an annual self-propelled crane blanket permit for over-the-road travel in our state.

As a Rhode Island-based small business, we face daily operational challenges under the current overweight and oversized permitting system. At present, we are required to obtain single-trip permits for each job site, each day. These permits cost \$40 per trip and must be secured through an office that operates only between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For an industry that frequently responds to early-morning starts, emergency calls, weather-dependent schedules, and tight construction timelines, this system creates unnecessary delays, administrative burden, and added costs.

This permitting structure places Rhode Island crane companies at a competitive disadvantage—especially when compared to neighboring states. In Massachusetts, for example, crane companies can obtain an annual permit for approximately \$800, which allows travel on established permanent routes. That system provides predictability, efficiency, and flexibility while still maintaining public safety and infrastructure protections.


House Bill H7381 offers Rhode Island a practical and responsible solution. The proposed annual self-propelled crane blanket permit would:

- Allow crane movement without restricting travel hours, seven days a week,
- Require compliance with posted bridge limits and all existing DOT rules and regulations,
- Place responsibility on permit holders to obtain current travel restrictions prior to movement, and
- Apply only to self-propelled cranes, with separate, non-transferable permits for each unit.

The proposed \$400 annual fee is reasonable and would exempt crane companies from the constant need to obtain and pay for individual trip permits. This change would significantly reduce administrative overhead for both small businesses and the Department of Transportation, while improving efficiency across the construction, utility, and infrastructure sectors that rely on crane services.

Supporting H7381 means supporting Rhode Island small businesses, improving economic competitiveness, and modernizing a system that no longer reflects how our industry operates today. I respectfully urge you to support and advance House Bill H7381.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to the State of Rhode Island.

  
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