



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
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March 3, 2026

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

**RE: 2026 H-7790- AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES
– LIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND REFLECTORS**

Dear Chair Shanley:

The Division of Motor Vehicles ("DMV") writes to express concerns with House Bill 7790, An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles-Lighting Equipment and Reflectors.

The proposed bill would allow motor vehicles belonging to the Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team, Inc. to be equipped with flashing lights.

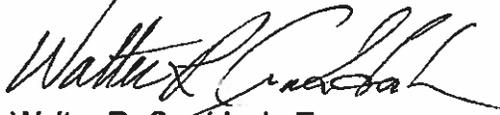
The DMV recognizes the valuable assistance performed by the members of the Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team in preparing for and responding to public health emergencies. The Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance team is not, however, an official municipal or state entity and it is unclear what type of training the drivers of these vehicles may have had. Drivers of Police and Fire emergency vehicles have typically completed an Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC), which consists of classroom instruction, as well as road course testing. At the very least, these drivers have had training on when it is appropriate and under what circumstances the use of emergency lighting is permissible. The DMV would recommend that an EVOC be required of any individuals who would be operating any of the Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team vehicles which may be equipped with flashing lights.

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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter R. Craddock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "W".

Walter R. Craddock, Esq.
Administrator

Cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government
and Elections
The Honorable Sherry Roberts
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
Thomas A. Verdi, Director, Department of Revenue