



Rhode Island Automobile Dealers Association

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April 6, 2026

Hon. Evan P. Shanley (Chairman)
House Committee on State Government & Elections

RE: House Bill No. 7452 – AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES –
ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION AND TITLING

Dear Chairman Shanley

I write on behalf of the Rhode Island Automobile Dealers Association (RIADA) to express our strong support for House Bill No. 7452, which would facilitate electronic titling and registration in Rhode Island. As the trade association representing new car dealerships across the Ocean State, our members support more than 3,300 direct jobs, another 2600 indirect and induced jobs, and help generate close to \$290M in annual sales tax for Rhode Island. We believe this “e-titling” program is an important initiative for the state to help modernize the way it processes vehicle titles and registrations. It also offers both businesses and consumers a more efficient and secure system for titling and registration.

Electronic titling and registration, commonly known as e-titling, addresses several key challenges facing the automotive industry and consumers. This new technology has already been rolled out in several other states to great success, and as our neighboring states of Massachusetts and Connecticut also look to adopt it, we believe Rhode Island has an opportunity to become a leader in the region by implementing the technology even sooner. This legislation will bring significant benefits to the state of Rhode Island, our dealers, and consumers for a multitude of reasons:

1. **Improved Accuracy and Reduced Errors:** E-titling eliminates many of the human errors that can occur when manually entering information on paper forms. By automating data entry, the likelihood of clerical mistakes is significantly reduced, ensuring that titles and registrations are processed with greater accuracy.
2. **Efficiency and Speed:** Currently, paper-based systems often result in delays, which can be frustrating for customers and costly for dealerships. With e-titling, title transfers and registration renewals can be processed electronically, reducing wait times and improving overall customer satisfaction.

“SERVING RHODE ISLAND’S NEW CAR AND TRUCK DEALERS”

3. **Cost Savings:** The reduction in paperwork and administrative costs associated with traditional title processing will benefit both dealerships and customers. This streamlined process allows dealers to focus on delivering a better experience for their customers, while also reducing overhead costs related to paper, postage, and manual processing.
4. **Enhanced Security:** Electronic systems are equipped with advanced security features that help to protect sensitive data, reducing the risk of fraud, title washing, and identity theft. By adopting e-titling, we can provide a safer, more secure way to transfer vehicle ownership and registration.
5. **Environmental Benefits:** By reducing paper, e-titling contributes to sustainability efforts, helping Rhode Island reduce its carbon footprint and minimize waste.

As representatives of Rhode Island's automotive industry, we recognize the importance of keeping pace with technological advancements to improve both customer experience and operational efficiency. E-titling is a necessary modernization that will benefit all stakeholders, streamline processes, and foster a more competitive and efficient automotive marketplace.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted Kresse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ted Kresse
Executive Vice President
Rhode Island Automobile Dealers Association

CC: Members of the House Committee on State Government & Elections