



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

**DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

600 New London Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920-3024
Phone: 401-462-4368
www.dmv.ri.gov

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Robert Britto
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce
State House
Providence, RI 02903

**RE: 2026 S-2778- AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES –
REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES AMONG MOTOR VEHICLE
MANUFACTURERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND DEALERS**

Dear Chair Britto:

The Division of Motor Vehicles (“DMV”) writes to express a technical concern with Senate Bill 2778, An Act Relating to Motor and Other Vehicles – Regulation of Business Practices Among Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors and Dealers.

The proposed bill would extend certain protocols applicable to motor vehicle manufacturers to their distributors and factory branches, amend definitions relative to common entities and sales, as well as prohibit any motor vehicle manufacturers, common entities, affiliates or joint ventures licensed after January 1, 2020, from selling directly to the public.

The DMV’s technical concern with the proposed bill is with the amendment to one of the definitions in R.I. Gen. Laws § 31-5.1-1. While it may simply be a scrivener’s error, the amended definition of “Distributor” in the proposed bill strikes out language which results in an incomplete definition of that term. The DMV is therefore requesting that this section be amended in order to provide clarity to that definition, as it is this agency’s duty to administer that statute.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Walter R. Craddock, Esq.
Administrator

Cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce
The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma
Kristen Silvia, Deputy Chief of Staff/Director of Legislation
Jane E. Cole, Interim Director, Department of Revenue