

§ 31-17-4. Vehicle entering stop or yield intersection.

## Rhode Island Statutes

### Title 31. Motor and Other vehicles

#### Chapter 31-17. Right-of-Way

*Current through Public Law 448 of the 2013 Legislative Session*

#### § 31-17-4. Vehicle entering stop or yield intersection

- (a) Preferential right-of-way at an intersection may be indicated by stop signs or yield signs.
- (b) Except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic-control signal, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop intersection indicated by a stop sign shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian intending to cross the lane of traffic in a crosswalk or any vehicle which has entered the intersection from another highway or which is approaching so closely on the highway as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time when the driver is moving across or within the intersection.
- (c) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall, in obedience to the sign, slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and, if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway. After slowing or stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian intending to cross the lane of traffic in a crosswalk or any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time the driver is moving across or within the intersection.
- (d) Violations of this section are subject to the fines enumerated in section 31-41.1-4 , unless bodily injury, serious bodily injury or death occurs to any person other than the offending operator under this section.
- (e) When bodily injury of any person other than the offending operator of any motor vehicle is caused by violation of this section, the offending operator shall be fined two hundred dollars (\$200). When serious bodily injury of any person other than the offending operator of any motor vehicle is caused by violation of this section, the offending operator shall be fined five hundred dollars (\$500) and his/her driver's license shall be suspended for a

period of three (3) months . When the death of any person other than the offending operator of any motor vehicle is caused by violation of this section, the offending operator shall be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and his/her driver's license shall be suspended for a period of one year.

- (f) As used in this section, "serious bodily injury" means physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death or causes serious physical disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

**Cite as R.I. Gen. Laws § 31-17-4**

**History.** Amended by 2013 Pub. Laws, ch. 414, §2, eff. 7/15/2013.

Amended by 2013 Pub. Laws, ch. 339, §2, eff. 7/15/2013.

P.L. 1950, ch. 2595, art. 28, § 3; G.L. 1956, § 31-17-4; P.L. 1970, ch. 106, § 1; P.L. 1999, ch. 383, §3; P.L. 2006, ch. 216, §65.