STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
111TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 931,
L.D. 1210, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Enforcement of
Handicapped Parking Zones on Turnpikes and the Inter-
state System by State Police."

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and
before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis-
lature do not become effective until 90 days after
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this Act is essential to effective
enforcement of handicapped parking zones designated
at service areas on the Maine Turnpike; and

Whereas, the busy season for Maine Turnpike traf-

fic is quickly approaching; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,
these facts create an emergency within the meaning of
the Constitution of Maine and require the following
legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-
vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
therefore,'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of
section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. 30 MRS §2151, sub-§2, ¶K, as amended
by PL 1983, c. 133, is further amended to read:

K. Providing for the establishment and policing
of parking spaces designated for handicapped per-
sons. A municipality with off-street public
parking areas may set aside an adequate number of
these spaces for use by handicapped persons. A municipality with on-street public parking spaces may set aside an adequate number of these spaces in appropriate locations for use by handicapped persons. The municipality may post any of the signs authorized by this paragraph adjacent to and visible from each handicapped parking space. One sign shall consist of a profile view of a wheelchair with an occupant in white on a blue background with a printed inscription. The inscription shall read: "Handicapped Parking: Special Plate Required. Unauthorized vehicles are subject to a fine." The other signs authorized under this paragraph and which may be posted in lieu of the first sign shall consist of a profile view of a wheelchair with an occupant in white on a blue background which may bear an inscription. Any new sign erected or any sign replaced after the effective date of this paragraph shall conform to the signs authorized by this paragraph. Any existing posted signs that do not conform to the provisions of this paragraph and which were erected prior to the effective date of this paragraph shall be deemed to be valid for enforcement purposes. Any vehicle parked in a parking space designated by a municipality as a handicapped parking space that does not bear a special registration plate or placard issued under Title 29, section 252, or a similar plate issued by another state, shall be cited for a penalty not to exceed $25 unless otherwise established by local ordinance. Owners of private off-street parking may enter into agreements with local or county law enforcement agencies for the policing of stalls and spaces dedicated for handicapped persons' vehicles, under which agreements unauthorized vehicles shall be tagged. Where service facilities are established on the Maine Turnpike and on the interstate highway system in Maine, the State Police shall enforce this subsection."
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Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment simply changes the statutory reference in section 2 to reflect enactment of Legislative Document 728.

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Reported by the Committee on Transportation
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