

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1022

H.P. 759 House of Representatives, March 30, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested
and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative ROTONDI of Athens.
Cosponsored by Representatives McGOWAN of Canaan, HEPBURN
of Skowhegan and Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Provide Handicapped Plates for
Motorcycles.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
follows:

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §252, as amended by PL 1985, c.
325, is further amended by adding after the first
paragraph a 2nd paragraph to read:

On annual application to the Secretary of State,
any handicapped person who has registered a motorcy-
cle shall be issued a special designating plate to be
used in place of the regular registration plate.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §2151, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by
PL 1979, c. 371, §2, is further amended to read:

1 D. Providing for the installation, maintenance
2 and policing of parking meters on any public way
3 or public parking area; providing the fact that a
4 vehicle is in a metered parking space when the
5 time signal on the parking meter for such space
6 indicates no parking permitted without the depos-
7 it of a coin or coins shall be prima facie evi-
8 dence that said the vehicle has been parked in
9 said the parking space longer than the lawfully
10 permitted period; providing the fact that a vehi-
11 cle is unlawfully parked shall be prima facie evi-
12 dence of the unlawful parking of such vehicle by
13 the person in whose name such vehicle is regis-
14 tered; establishing reasonable charges for me-
15 tered parking.

16 (1) The revenue collected from parking me-
17 ters shall be used to purchase, maintain and
18 police the meters; to construct and maintain
19 public ways; to acquire, construct, maintain
20 and operate public parking areas; and for no
21 other purpose;

22 (2) Any motor vehicle or motorcycle regis-
23 tered by a handicapped person shall be ex-
24 empt from any parking meter fare when said
25 vehicle properly displays special designat-
26 ing plates or placard issued in accordance
27 with Title 29, sections 252 and 252-A, and
28 shall be permitted to park a length of time
29 which is not to exceed twice the time limit
30 otherwise applicable;

31 (3) Unlawful parking of a vehicle in viola-
32 tion of any ordinance authorized by this
33 paragraph shall be a traffic infraction.

34 **Sec. 3. 30 MRSA §2151, sub-§2, ¶K, as amended by**
35 **PL 1983, c. 337, §2, is further amended to read:**

36 K. Providing for the establishment and policing
37 of parking spaces designated for handicapped per-
38 sons. A municipality with off-street public
39 parking areas may set aside an adequate number of
40 these spaces for use by handicapped persons. A
41 municipality with on-street public parking spaces
42 may set aside an adequate number of these spaces

1 in appropriate locations for use by handicapped
2 persons. The municipality may post any of the
3 signs authorized by this paragraph adjacent to
4 and visible from each handicapped parking space.
5 One sign shall consist of a profile view of a
6 wheelchair with an occupant in white on a blue
7 background with a printed inscription. The in-
8 scription shall read: "Handicapped Parking:
9 Special Plate Required. Unauthorized vehicles
10 are subject to a fine." The other signs autho-
11 rized under this paragraph and which may be
12 posted in lieu of the first sign shall consist of
13 a profile view of a wheelchair with an occupant
14 in white on a blue background which may bear an
15 inscription. Any new sign erected or any sign
16 replaced after the effective date of this para-
17 graph shall conform to the signs authorized by
18 this paragraph. Any existing posted signs that
19 do not conform to the provisions of this para-
20 graph and which were erected prior to the effec-
21 tive date of this paragraph shall be deemed to be
22 valid for enforcement purposes. Any vehicle or
23 motorcycle parked in a parking space designated
24 by a municipality as a handicapped parking space
25 that does not bear a special registration plate
26 or placard issued under Title 29, section 252, or
27 a similar plate issued by another state, shall be
28 cited for a penalty not to exceed \$25 unless oth-
29 erwise established by local ordinance. Owners of
30 private off-street parking may enter into agree-
31 ments with local or county law enforcement agen-
32 cies for the policing of stalls and spaces dedi-
33 cated for handicapped persons' vehicles, under
34 which agreements unauthorized vehicles shall be
35 tagged. Where service facilities are established
36 on the Maine Turnpike and on the interstate high-
37 way system in Maine, the State Police shall en-
38 force this subsection.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to allow a handi-
capped person who has registered a motorcycle to ap-
ply for and receive a special designating registra-
tion plate from the Secretary of State.

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