

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1615

(Filing No. H-469)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1161, L.D. 1615, Bill, "An Act Regarding the Handicap Parking Privilege to Veterans with Disabled Veterans License Plates"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §252-A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, c. 769, Pt. A, §115, is amended to read:

§252-A. Disabled veterans; special free license plates

The Secretary of State on application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482, shall issue a registration certificate and set of special designating plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates to any 100% disabled veteran when that application is accompanied by certification from the United States Veterans Administration as to the veteran's disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits and that the veteran is permanently confined to a wheelchair or restricted to the use of crutches or braces or otherwise handicapped in such a way that mobility is seriously restricted. A handicap placard shall be issued in addition to the disabled veteran registration plate and upon payment of a \$1 fee.

These special designating plates shall bear the letters VET which indicate that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran.

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §3009, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 and Pt. C, §106; and as amended by PL 1989, c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. A, §28 and Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

D. The following provisions apply to the establishment and policing of parking spaces for handicapped persons.

- (1) Municipal public parking areas are subject to any

1 applicable requirements of the Maine Human Rights Act,
3 Title 5, chapter 337, subchapter V. The municipality
5 shall post a sign adjacent to and visible from each
7 handicapped parking space established by the
municipality. The sign shall display the international
symbol for accessibility.

9 (2) Owners of private off-street parking shall arrange
11 for private enforcement or shall enter into agreements
13 with local or county law enforcement agencies to
15 enforce handicapped parking restrictions. Under these
17 agreements, unauthorized vehicles will be ticketed. An
owner of private off-street parking who fails to
arrange for private enforcement or to enter into an
agreement with a law enforcement agency commits a civil
violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$50
may be adjudged.

19 Under these agreements, public law enforcement
21 officials may ensure that parking spaces designated for
23 the handicapped are used appropriately by handicapped
25 persons, whether the designated handicapped parking
27 spaces are located on public lots or on private lots
open to the public. Handicapped parking restrictions
in private lots may also be enforced by county or
municipal volunteer parking enforcement specialists as
provided in sections 471 and 472.

29 Where service facilities are established on the Maine
31 Turnpike and on the interstate highway system in the
33 State, the State Police shall enforce any handicapped
parking restrictions at those facilities.

35 (3) Any vehicle or motorcycle parked in a parking
37 space clearly marked as a handicapped parking space and
39 which does not bear a special registration plate or
41 placard issued under Title 29, ~~sections~~ section 252,
43 252-A and or 252-C, or a similar plate issued by
another state, shall be cited for a forfeiture of not
less than \$50. "Clearly marked" includes painted signs
on pavement and vertical standing signs which are
visible in existing weather conditions.

45 FISCAL NOTE

47 This bill would have a minimal financial impact on the
49 Highway Fund and the Division of Motor Vehicles for the biennium.'

51 STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to issue a

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1161, L.D. 1615

- 1 handicap placard in addition to the disabled veteran registration plate upon payment of a \$1 fee. The placard is to be used in
- 3 conjunction with the disabled veteran plate when that veteran is parked in a space designated for handicap parking.

Reported by the Committee on Transportation
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the
House
6/9/89

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