

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1049

H.P. 766

House of Representatives, February 26, 2003

An Act To Allow Women Recovering from Childbirth To Be Issued Temporary Handicapped Parking Permits

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FISCHER of Presque Isle.
Cosponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock and
Representatives: COLLINS of Wells, JACKSON of Fort Kent, MARRACHÉ of Waterville,
McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth, McNEIL of Rockland, PARADIS of Frenchville,
SAMPSON of Auburn, USHER of Westbrook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§1, ¶E,** as enacted by PL 1995, c.
482, Pt. A, §4, is amended to read:

6 E. Has a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's
8 functional limitations are classified in severity as Class 3
10 or Class 4 according to standards set by the American Heart
Association; ~~or~~

12 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§1, ¶F,** as enacted by PL 1995, c.
482, Pt. A, §4, is amended to read:

14 F. Is severely limited in the ability to walk due to an
16 arthritic, neurological or orthopedic condition; ~~or~~

18 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§1, ¶G** is enacted to read:

20 G. Is recovering from childbirth.

22 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§6, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2001, c.
35, §3, is further amended to read:

24 A. An application for a temporary placard must be
26 accompanied by the certificate of a physician, physician
assistant or nurse practitioner attesting to the applicant's
28 physical disability as defined in subsection 1 and the
period of time that the physician, physician assistant or
30 nurse practitioner determines the applicant will have the
disability. A temporary placard is not valid for a period
32 of more than 6 months. The Secretary of State must give
priority consideration to requests for temporary placards.

34 A temporary placard issued pursuant to subsection 1,
36 paragraph G is valid, after the birth of a child, for a
period of not more than:

38 (1) Three days in winter for natural child birth;

40 (2) One week for a cesarean delivery; or

42 (3) A time to be determined by the patient's physician
44 for a premature birth.

46 **Sec. 5. 29-A MRSA §521, sub-§6, ¶D** is enacted to read:

48 D. The Secretary of State shall provide hospitals with
information to be given to maternity patients, explaining
48 the availability and procedure by which a temporary
50 disability placard may be obtained.

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SUMMARY

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6 This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to issue
temporary disability placards to women who are recovering from
8 childbirth. The bill requires the Secretary of State to supply
hospitals with information about the temporary disability
10 placards so that the hospitals can distribute the information to
women who have given birth.