

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 1, 1982 to June 24, 1983
Chapters 1-452

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES
ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1983

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

and

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

1983

administering this Act, including, but not limited to, communications with the service agent, the Workers' Compensation Commission or the Maine Self-Insurance Guarantee Association.

Effective September 23, 1983.

CHAPTER 133

H.P. 580 - L.D. 728

AN ACT Relating to Handicapped Parking Space Designation.

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

Whereas, the law permitting the reserving and enforcement of special handicapped parking spaces was enacted in 1982; and

Whereas, that law requires a handicapped parking warning to contain 2 forms of notice that the space is reserved for handicapped parking; and

Whereas, many facilities already have signs that provide one form of warning but not both, making them legally insufficient as a proper warning under the law; and

Whereas, this legislation proposes to amend the law so that either form of warning is sufficient; and

Whereas, unless enacted as an emergency, the public purpose behind handicapped parking designation will be further delayed; 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 preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

30 MRSA §2151, sub-§2, ¶K, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 587, is amended to read:

K. Providing for the establishment and policing of parking spaces designated for handicapped persons. 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. There shall be adjacent to and visible from each handicapped parking space a posted sign consisting of a profile view of a wheelchair with occupant in white on a blue background and bearing the following warning: "Handicapped Parking: Special Plate Required. Unauthorized vehicles are subject to a fine." 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.

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

Effective April 11, 1983.
