## House File 621 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 621
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 79)

## A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the issuance of persons with disabilities
- 2 parking permits, and including effective date and
- 3 applicability provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 1 Section 1. Section 321L.2, Code 2011, is amended to read as 2 follows:
- 3 321L.2 Persons with disabilities parking permits 4 application and issuance.
- 5 l. A resident of the state with a disability desiring a
- 6 persons with disabilities parking permit shall apply to the
- 7 department upon an application on a form furnished by the
- 8 department providing the applicant's full legal name, address,
- 9 date of birth, and social security number or Iowa driver's
- 10 license number or Iowa nonoperator's identification card
- 11 number, and shall also provide a statement from a physician
- 12 licensed under chapter 148 or 149, a physician assistant
- 13 licensed under chapter 148C, an advanced registered nurse
- 14 practitioner licensed under chapter 152, or a chiropractor
- 15 licensed under chapter 151, or a physician, physician
- 16 assistant, nurse practitioner, or chiropractor licensed to
- 17 practice in a contiguous state, written on the physician's,
- 18 physician assistant's, nurse practitioner's, or chiropractor's
- 19 stationery, stating the nature of the applicant's disability
- 20 and such additional information as required by rules adopted by
- 21 the department under section 321L.8. If the person is applying
- 22 for a temporary persons with disabilities parking permit, the
- 23 physician's, physician assistant's, nurse practitioner's, or
- 24 chiropractor's statement shall state the period of time during
- 25 which the person is expected to be disabled and the period
- 26 of time for which the permit should be issued, not to exceed
- 27 six months. The department may waive the requirement that
- 28 the applicant furnish the applicant's social security number,
- 29 Iowa driver's license number, or nonoperator's identification
- 30 card number when the application for a temporary persons with
- 31 disabilities parking permit is made on behalf of a person who
- 32 is less than one year old.
- 33  $a_{r}$  2. A person with a disability may apply for one of the
- 34 following persons with disabilities parking permits:
- 35 (1) a. Persons with disabilities registration plates. An

- 1 applicant may order persons with disabilities registration
- 2 plates pursuant to section 321.34. An applicant may order a
- 3 persons with disabilities registration plate for a trailer
- 4 used to transport a wheelchair pursuant to section 321.34 in
- 5 addition to persons with disabilities registration plates
- 6 ordered by the applicant for a motor vehicle used to tow such a
- 7 trailer pursuant to section 321.34.
- 8  $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$  b. Persons with disabilities parking sticker. An
- 9 applicant who owns a motor vehicle for which the applicant
- 10 has been issued registration plates under section 321.34 or
- 11 registration plates as a seriously disabled veteran under
- 12 section 321.105 may apply to the department for a persons with
- 13 disabilities parking sticker to be affixed to the plates. The
- 14 persons with disabilities parking stickers shall bear the
- 15 international symbol of accessibility.
- 16 (3) c. Removable windshield placard. A person with a
- 17 disability may apply for a temporary removable windshield
- 18 placard which shall be valid for a period of up to six months
- 19 or a nonexpiring standard removable windshield placard valid
- 20 for a period of five years, as determined by the physician's,
- 21 physician assistant's, nurse practitioner's, or chiropractor's
- 22 statement under this subsection 1.
- 23 (1) A temporary removable windshield placard shall be
- 24 renewed within thirty days of the date of expiration. Persons
- 25 seeking temporary removable windshield placards shall be
- 26 required to furnish evidence upon initial application that
- 27 they have a temporary disability and, in addition, furnish
- 28 evidence at subsequent intervals that they remain temporarily
- 29 disabled. Temporary removable windshield placards shall be
- 30 of a distinctively different color from nonexpiring standard
- 31 removable windshield placards.
- 32 (2) A nonexpiring standard removable windshield placard
- 33 shall state on the face of the placard that it is a nonexpiring
- 34 placard shall expire on the last day of the month that is five
- 35 years from the date of issuance. A person with a disability

- 1 may renew a standard removable windshield placard within thirty
- 2 days before or after the date of expiration by certifying to
- 3 the department that the person has a continuing need for the
- 4 placard.
- 5 (3) The department shall issue one additional removable
- 6 windshield placard upon the request of a person with a
- 7 disability.
- 8  $b_{\tau}$  3. a. The department may issue expiring removable
- 9 windshield placards to the following:
- 10 (1) An organization which has a program for transporting
- 11 persons with disabilities or elderly persons.
- 12 (2) A person in the business of transporting persons with
- 13 disabilities or elderly persons.
- 14 c. b. One expiring removable windshield placard may be
- 15 issued for each vehicle used by the organization or person for
- 16 transporting persons with disabilities or elderly persons.
- 17 A placard issued under this paragraph subsection shall be
- 18 renewed every four years from the date of issuance and shall
- 19 be surrendered to the department if the organization or person
- 20 is no longer providing the service for which the placard was
- 21 issued. Notwithstanding section 321L.4, a person transporting
- 22 persons with disabilities or elderly persons in a motor vehicle
- 23 for which a placard has been issued under this paragraph
- 24 subsection may display the placard in the motor vehicle and may
- 25 use a persons with disabilities parking space while the motor
- 26 vehicle is displaying the placard. A placard issued under this
- 27 paragraph subsection shall be of a distinctively different
- 28 color from a placard issued under paragraph "a" subsection 2.
- 29 d. A new removable windshield placard can be issued
- 30 if the previously issued placard is reported lost, stolen, or
- 31 damaged. The placard reported as being lost or stolen shall
- 32 be invalidated by the department. A placard which is damaged
- 33 shall be returned to the department and exchanged for a new
- 34 placard in accordance with rules adopted by the department.
- 35 2. 5. Any person providing false information with the

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- 1 intent to defraud on the application for a persons with
- 2 disabilities parking permit used in establishing proof under
- 3 subsection 1 is subject to a civil penalty of three hundred
- 4 dollars which may be imposed by the department. A physician,
- 5 physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or chiropractor who
- 6 provides false information with the intent to defraud on the
- 7 physician's, physician assistant's, nurse practitioner's, or
- 8 chiropractor's statement used in establishing proof under
- 9 subsection 1 is subject to a civil penalty of three hundred
- 10 dollars which may be imposed by the department. In addition
- 11 to the civil penalty, the department shall revoke the permit
- 12 issued pursuant to this section.
- 13 3. 6. The removable windshield placard shall contain the
- 14 following information:
- 15 a. Each side of the placard shall include all of the
- 16 following:
- 17 (1) The international symbol of access, which is at least
- 18 three inches in height, centered on the placard, and is white
- 19 on a blue shield.
- 20 (2) An identification number.
- 21 (3) A date of expiration, which shall be of sufficient size
- 22 to be readable from outside the vehicle.
- 23 (4) The seal or other identification of the issuing
- 24 authority.
- 25 b. One side of the placard shall contain all of the
- 26 following information:
- 27 (1) A statement printed on it as follows: "Unauthorized
- 28 use of this placard as indicated in Iowa Code chapter 321L may
- 29 result in a fine, invalidation of the placard, or revocation of
- 30 the right to use the placard. This placard shall be displayed
- 31 only when the vehicle is parked in a persons with disabilities
- 32 parking space or in a parking space not designated as a persons
- 33 with disabilities parking space if a wheelchair parking cone is
- 34 used pursuant to Iowa Code section 321L.2A."
- 35 (2) The return address and telephone number of the

- 1 department.
- 2 (3) The signature of the person who has been issued the 3 placard.
- 4 4. 7. A removable windshield placard shall only be
- 5 displayed when the vehicle is parked in a persons with
- 6 disabilities parking space.
- 7 5. 8. A seriously disabled veteran who has been provided
- 8 with an automobile or other vehicle by the United States
- 9 government under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. § 1901 et seq.
- 10 (1970) is not required to apply for a persons with disabilities
- 11 parking permit under this section unless the veteran has been
- 12 issued special registration plates or personalized plates for
- 13 the vehicle. The regular registration plates issued for the
- 14 disabled veteran's vehicle without fee pursuant to section
- 15 321.105 entitle the disabled veteran to all of the rights and
- 16 privileges associated with persons with disabilities parking
- 17 permits under this chapter.
- 18 Sec. 2. Section 321L.4, subsection 2, Code 2011, is amended
- 19 to read as follows:
- 20 2. The use of a persons with disabilities parking space,
- 21 located on either public or private property as provided in
- 22 sections 321L.5 and 321L.6, by an operator of a vehicle not
- 23 displaying a persons with disabilities parking permit; by an
- 24 operator of a vehicle displaying a persons with disabilities
- 25 parking permit but not being used by a person issued a permit
- 26 or being transported in accordance with section 321L.2,
- 27 subsection 1, paragraph "b" 3; or by a vehicle in violation
- 28 of the rules adopted by the department under section 321L.8,
- 29 constitutes improper use of a persons with disabilities parking
- 30 permit, which is a misdemeanor for which a scheduled fine shall
- 31 be imposed upon the owner, operator, or lessee of the vehicle
- 32 or the person to whom the persons with disabilities parking
- 33 permit is issued. The scheduled fine for each violation shall
- 34 be as established in section 805.8A, subsection 1, paragraph
- 35 "c". Proof of conviction of two or more violations involving

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- 1 improper use of a persons with disabilities parking permit
- 2 is grounds for revocation by the court or the department of
- 3 the holder's privilege to possess or use the persons with
- 4 disabilities parking permit.
- 5 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY. This Act
- 6 takes effect January 1, 2012, and applies for persons with
- 7 disabilities placards issued on or after that date. The
- 8 enactment of this Act does not affect the validity of
- 9 nonexpiring persons with disabilities placards issued prior to
- 10 January 1, 2012.
- 11 EXPLANATION
- 12 This bill revises current practices relating to the issuance
- 13 of persons with disabilities parking placards. Under current
- 14 law, a person may apply for either a temporary placard, valid
- 15 for up to six months, or a nonexpiring placard. The bill
- 16 eliminates the nonexpiring placard and replaces it with a
- 17 standard placard which expires five years from the date of
- 18 issuance. A person with a standard placard may renew the
- 19 placard within 30 days before or after the expiration date
- 20 by certifying that the person has a continuing need for the
- 21 placard. Pursuant to current law, certification requires a
- 22 statement from a licensed physician, physician assistant,
- 23 advanced registered nurse practitioner, or chiropractor stating
- 24 the nature of the person's disability.
- 25 The bill takes effect January 1, 2012, and applies to new
- 26 placards issued on or after that date. Nonexpiring placards
- 27 issued before January 1, 2012, will continue to be valid after
- 28 that date.