

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to disabled parking permits; amending s.
 3 320.0848, F.S.; revising requirements for certification of
 4 disability; providing an effective date.

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 6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 8 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of
 9 section 320.0848, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

10 320.0848 Persons who have disabilities; issuance of
 11 disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain
 12 providers of transportation services to persons who have
 13 disabilities.--

14 (1)

15 (b)1. The person must be currently certified as being
 16 legally blind or as having any of the following disabilities
 17 that render him or her unable to walk 200 feet without stopping
 18 to rest:

19 a. Inability to walk without the use of or assistance from
 20 a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, or other assistive
 21 device, or without the assistance of another person. If the
 22 assistive device significantly restores the person's ability to
 23 walk to the extent that the person can walk without severe
 24 limitation, the person is not eligible for the exemption parking
 25 permit.

26 b. The need to permanently use a wheelchair.

27 c. Restriction by lung disease to the extent that the
 28 person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for 1 second,

29 when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter, or the
 30 person's arterial oxygen is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at
 31 rest.

32 d. Use of portable oxygen.

33 e. Restriction by cardiac condition to the extent that the
 34 person's functional limitations are classified in severity as
 35 Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American
 36 Heart Association.

37 f. Severe limitation in the person's ability to walk due
 38 to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

39 2. The certification of disability which is required under
 40 subparagraph 1. must be provided by a physician licensed under
 41 chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 460, by a podiatric
 42 physician licensed under chapter 461, by an optometrist licensed
 43 under chapter 463, by an advanced registered nurse practitioner
 44 licensed under chapter 464 ~~in a facility operated by the United~~
 45 ~~States Department of Veterans Affairs~~ under the protocol of a
 46 licensed physician as stated in this subparagraph, by a
 47 physician assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 ~~in~~
 48 ~~a facility operated by the United States Department of Veterans~~
 49 ~~Affairs, by the Adjudication Office of the United States~~
 50 ~~Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor~~, or by a
 51 similarly licensed physician from another state if the
 52 application is accompanied by documentation of the physician's
 53 licensure in the other state and a form signed by the out-of-
 54 state physician verifying his or her knowledge of this state's
 55 eligibility guidelines.

56 (c) The certificate of disability must include, but need
 57 not be limited to:

58 1. The disability of the applicant; the certifying
 59 practitioner's ~~physician's~~ name and address; the practitioner's
 60 ~~physician's~~ certification number; the eligibility criteria for
 61 the permit; the penalty for falsification by either the
 62 certifying practitioner ~~physician~~ or the applicant; the duration
 63 of the condition that entitles the person to the permit; and
 64 justification for the additional placard pursuant to subsection
 65 (2).

66 2. The statement, in bold letters: "A disabled parking
 67 permit may be issued only for a medical necessity that severely
 68 affects mobility."

69 3. The signatures of:

70 a. The applicant's physician or other certifying
 71 practitioner.÷

72 b. The applicant or the applicant's parent or guardian.÷
 73 ~~and~~

74 c. The employee of the department's authorized agent which
 75 employee is processing the application.

76 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.