

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Transportation Committee

BILL: SB 1170
 INTRODUCER: Senator Ring
 SUBJECT: Disabled Parking Permits
 DATE: January 11, 2012 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Abrams	Buford	TR	Pre-meeting
2.	_____	_____	BC	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill requires the displaying of a color photograph or digital image of the applicant on both long-term and temporary disabled parking permits.

The bill substantially amends section 320.0848 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 320.0848, F.S., provides that upon application and receipt of the appropriate fee,¹ the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) or its authorized agents issue disabled parking permits for a period of up to 4 years for persons with long-term mobility impairments and for a period not to exceed 6 months for persons with temporary mobility impairments. Persons with disabled parking permits are required to display placards in a position that makes the placard visible from the front and the rear of the vehicle. All placards must have:

- The international symbol of accessibility with a contrasting color in the center on both sides;
- A validation sticker of the size specified by the DHSMV affixed that shows the month and year of expiration on both sides; and

¹ Form HSMV 83039 is the application for this permit. The application provides that there is no charge for a Permanent Parking Placard and a \$15 charge for a Temporary Parking Placard. This form also describes the requirements to apply for permanent and temporary disabled parking permits. See Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles – Division of Motorist Services, *Application for Disabled Person Parking Permit*, <http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BTR/83039.pdf> (last accessed January 12, 2012).

- The applicant's driver license number or state identification number along with a warning that the applicant must have such identification at all times while using the parking permit on one side, or
- A physician's signature on the exemption section of the department's parking permit application if the severity of the disability prevents the person from physically visiting or being transported to a driver license or tax collector office to obtain a driver license or identification card.

Long-term disabled parking permit placards must use the same colors as license plate validations. Conversely, temporary disabled parking permit placards must use a different color from the color of the long-term disabled parking permit placard. Additionally, the temporary placards must clearly display the date of expiration in large print and with color coding on the front and back of the placard.

Current s. 320.0848, F.S., does not require a color photograph or digital image of the applicant for a permanent or temporary disabled parking permit.

DHSMV has contracted with Prison Rehabilitative Industries and Diversified Enterprises, Inc., (PRIDE) to provide its placard stock. DHSMV currently pays \$0.235 each for the Blue Handicap and \$0.138 each for the Red (Temporary) Handicap placards.² There are approximately 300 Tax Collector offices and tag agencies that stock and issue temporary and permanent disabled parking placards and in fiscal year 2010-2011, 555,537 Florida disabled parking placards were issued by the DHSMV and its agents.³ Florida's current parking placard is not designed to have a photograph or digital image on it.⁴ Instead, Florida parking placards are currently manufactured with numbers pre-printed on them.⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This bill amends s. 320.0848(2)(a) and (3)(a), F.S., and creates the additional requirement for persons holding permanent or temporary disabled parking permits to display a color photograph or digital image of the applicant on the disabled parking permit.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

² Revised Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, *Agency Bill Analysis SB 1170 – Disabled Parking Permits* (December 22, 2011) (on file with Senate Transportation Committee).

³ *Id.*; Of this 555,537 placards issued, 44,934 are duplicates/replacements and 91,438 were issued to frequent fliers or quadriplegics.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Individuals who currently have disabled parking permit placards will need to obtain new placards with a photograph or digital image included. While there is currently no charge for issuing Permanent Parking Placards, individuals with Temporary Parking Placards will have to pay for a \$15 replacement placard if the new Temporary Parking Placard is obtained more than a year after acquiring the initial Temporary Parking Placard.⁶

C. Government Sector Impact:

If this bill passes, DHSMV will be required to redesign the disabled parking placard as well as implement a new issuance process.⁷ To accomplish this, DHSMV will need to determine whether placards are issued centrally, over the counter, or a combination of both methods.⁸ The type and quantities of equipment can only be determined after DHSMV decides which approach to take.⁹ However, DHSMV estimates that equipment and other costs may be \$850,000 or higher to implement this process.¹⁰ Additionally, DHSMV estimates 1340 hours and \$163,660 in non-recurring programming and other initial costs, as the Information Systems Administration (ISA) of the DHSMV cannot incorporate this into their normal workload.¹¹ Also, recurring expenditures for the salaries, expenses and HR services associated with one (1) full time Senior Clerk may be required at \$31,223 and \$8,629 for related expenses of which \$3,432 is non-recurring.¹²

The placement of a photograph on a placard in addition to the other requirements may help curb abuses of disabled parking placards.¹³

Tax Collectors may have increased costs associated with the issuing of new placards.¹⁴

⁶ See Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles – Division of Motorist Services, *supra* note 1.

⁷ Revised Agency Bill Analysis SB 1170, *supra* note 2.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
