

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FINAL BILL ANALYSIS**

<b>BILL #:</b>	CS/HB 471	<b>FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION:</b>	
<b>SPONSOR(S):</b>	Highway and Waterway Safety Subcommittee; Dubose; Moraitis and others	113 Y's	0 N's
<b>COMPANION BILLS:</b>	SB 788	<b>GOVERNOR'S ACTION:</b>	Approved

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**SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

CS/HB 471 passed the House on April 16, 2015 and subsequently passed the Senate on April 24, 2015.

The bill exempts a vehicle displaying a Disabled Veteran "DV" license plate issued under s. 320.084, F.S., from paying parking fees charged by a county, municipality, or any agency thereof, in a facility or lot that provides timed parking spaces outside of certain conditions.

The bill has no fiscal impact on state funds.

The bill was approved by the Governor on June 10, 2015, Ch. 2015-114, L.O.F., and will become effective on July 1, 2015.

## I. SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION

### A. EFFECT OF CHANGES:

#### Present Situation

A state agency, county, municipality, or any agency thereof, may not charge a fee for parking in metered parking spaces or on the public streets or highways if the vehicle displays any of the below disabled parking permits or disabled license plates.

- Out of state or out of country disabled license plate or disabled parking permit as recognized under s. 316.1958, F.S..
- Disabled parking permit issued under s. 320.0848, F.S.
- Disabled veteran license plate issued under s. 320.084, F.S.
- Disabled veteran license plate stamped with the international wheelchair user symbol issued under s. 320.0842.
- License plate stamped with the international wheelchair user symbol issued under s. 320.0843, F.S.
- Paralyzed Veterans of America license plate issued under s. 320.0845, F.S.<sup>1</sup>

This only applies to vehicles transporting the person who has a disability and to whom the disabled parking permit or license plate was issued.

The driver of a vehicle, as provided above, that is parked on the public streets or highways or in any metered parking space may not be penalized except in clearly defined:

- bus loading zones;
- fire zones;
- access aisles adjacent to the parking spaces for persons who have disabilities;
- areas posted as “No Parking” zones or as emergency vehicle zones; or
- for parking in excess of the posted time limit.<sup>2</sup>

Several exceptions are provided in current law for when a parking fee may be charged to a vehicle displaying a disabled parking permit. They are:

- When a state, county, or municipal parking facility or lot is being used for an event at a convention center, cruise-port terminal, sports stadium, sports arena, coliseum, or auditorium.<sup>3</sup>
- In a parking facility that leases a parking space for more than one week.<sup>4</sup>
- An airport that owns, operates, or leases parking facilities, or any other parking facilities that are used for air travel. However, the governing body of each publicly owned or publicly operated airport must grant free parking for a vehicle with specialized equipment, such as a ramp, lift, or foot or hand controls, or for utilization by a person who has a disability or whose vehicle displays the Florida Toll Exemption permit.<sup>5</sup>
- A county, municipality, or any agency thereof, may charge for parking in a facility or lot that provides timed parking spaces for any vehicle that displays a disabled parking permit. An exemption is made for any vehicle with specialized equipment, such as ramps, lifts, or foot or hand controls, for use by a person who has a disability, or vehicles displaying the Florida Toll Exemption permit.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> s. 316.1964(1), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> s. 316.1964(2), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> s. 316.1964(3), F.S.

<sup>4</sup> s. 316.1964(6), F.S.

<sup>5</sup> s. 316.1964(7), F.S.

<sup>6</sup> s. 316.1964(8), F.S.

When an on-street parking meter restricts the duration of time that a vehicle may be parked, a vehicle properly displaying a disabled parking permit is allowed a maximum of four hours at no charge. However, local governments may extend such time by local ordinance.<sup>7</sup>

A parking facility that restricts the number of consecutive days that a vehicle may be parked can impose the same restriction on a vehicle that displays a disabled parking permit.<sup>8</sup>

### **Effect of Proposed Changes**

The bill amends s. 316.1964(8), F.S., exempting a vehicle that displays a Disabled Veteran “DV” license plate issued under s. 320.084, F.S., from paying parking fees charged by a county, municipality, or any agency thereof, in a facility or lot that provides timed parking spaces outside of certain conditions.

## **II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

### **B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

### **C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:**

A vehicle displaying a Disabled Veteran “DV” license plate may not be charged a fee for parking in a county or municipality parking facility or lot that provides timed parking spaces outside of certain conditions.

### **D. FISCAL COMMENTS:**

None.

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<sup>7</sup> s. 316.1964(5), F.S.

<sup>8</sup> s. 316.1964(4), F.S.