

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to lifetime disabled parking permits;
 3 amending s. 320.0848, F.S.; requiring the Department
 4 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue a
 5 lifetime disabled parking permit to certain
 6 permanently disabled persons; requiring the validation
 7 sticker issued with such permit to indicate that the
 8 permit does not expire; authorizing a person who has
 9 been issued such a permit to provide a certificate of
 10 disability issued at any time in order to obtain a
 11 replacement for a lost or stolen permit; providing an
 12 effective date.

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

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 16 **Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection**
 17 **(2) of section 320.0848, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

18 320.0848 Persons who have disabilities; issuance of
 19 disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain
 20 providers of transportation services to persons who have
 21 disabilities.—

22 (1) (a) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
 23 or its authorized agents shall, upon application and receipt of
 24 the fee:7

25 1. Issue a disabled parking permit for a period of up to 4

26 | years, which period ends on the applicant's birthday, to a ~~any~~
 27 | person who has long-term mobility impairment;

28 | 2. Issue, ~~or~~ a temporary disabled parking permit for up to
 29 | ~~not to exceed~~ 6 months to a ~~any~~ person who has a temporary
 30 | mobility impairment; or

31 | 3. Issue a lifetime disabled parking permit to a person
 32 | who is certified as permanently disabled due to permanent
 33 | dismemberment or an amputation and is in need of the disabled
 34 | parking permit due to that permanent dismemberment or
 35 | amputation. A lifetime disabled parking permit is valid from the
 36 | date of issuance until the person's death and is not subject to
 37 | renewal under paragraph (d).

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 39 | A ~~No~~ person is not ~~will be~~ required to pay a fee for a parking
 40 | permit for disabled persons more than once in a 12-month period
 41 | from the date of the prior fee payment.

42 | (2) DISABLED PARKING PERMIT; PERSONS WITH LONG-TERM
 43 | MOBILITY PROBLEMS, PERMANENT DISMEMBERMENT, OR AMPUTATION.-

44 | (a) The disabled parking permit is a placard that can be
 45 | placed in a motor vehicle so as to be visible from the front and
 46 | rear of the vehicle. Each side of the placard must have the
 47 | international symbol of accessibility in a contrasting color in
 48 | the center so as to be visible. One side of the placard must
 49 | display the applicant's driver license number or state
 50 | identification card number along with a warning that the

51 applicant must have such identification at all times while using
52 the parking permit. In those cases where the severity of the
53 disability prevents a disabled person from physically visiting
54 or being transported to a driver license or tax collector office
55 to obtain a driver license or identification card, a certifying
56 physician may sign the exemption section of the department's
57 parking permit application to exempt the disabled person from
58 being issued a driver license or identification card for the
59 number to be displayed on the parking permit. A validation
60 sticker must also be issued with each disabled parking permit,
61 showing the month and year of expiration, or, in the case of a
62 lifetime disabled parking permit, indicating that the permit
63 does not expire, on each side of the placard. Validation
64 stickers must be of the size specified by the Department of
65 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and must be affixed to the
66 disabled parking permits. The disabled parking permits must use
67 the same colors as license plate validations.

68 (b) License plates issued under ss. 320.084, 320.0842,
69 320.0843, and 320.0845 are valid for the same parking privileges
70 and other privileges provided under ss. 316.1955, 316.1964, and
71 526.141(5)(a).

72 (c) The department shall not issue an additional disabled
73 parking permit unless the applicant states that he or she is a
74 frequent traveler or a quadriplegic. The department may not
75 issue to any one eligible applicant more than two disabled

76 | parking permits except to an organization in accordance with
 77 | paragraph (1)(e). Subsections (1), (5), (6), and (7) apply to
 78 | this subsection.

79 | (d) To obtain a replacement for a disabled parking permit
 80 | that has been lost or stolen, a person must submit an
 81 | application on a form prescribed by the department, pay a
 82 | replacement fee in the amount of \$1, to be retained by the
 83 | issuing agency, and provide a certificate of disability issued
 84 | within the last 12 months pursuant to subsection (1), except
 85 | that: ~~and pay a replacement fee in the amount of \$1, to be~~
 86 | ~~retained by the issuing agency.~~

87 | 1. If the person submits with the application a police
 88 | report documenting that the permit was stolen, there is no
 89 | replacement fee.

90 | 2. A veteran who has been previously evaluated and
 91 | certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or
 92 | any branch of the United States Armed Forces as permanently and
 93 | totally disabled from a service-connected disability may provide
 94 | a United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form Letter 27-
 95 | 333, or its equivalent, issued within the last 12 months in lieu
 96 | of a certificate of disability.

97 | 3. A person who has been issued a lifetime disabled
 98 | parking permit under subparagraph (1)(a)3. may provide a
 99 | certificate of disability issued at any time.

100 | (e) A person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit

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101 | under this section may be issued an international wheelchair
102 | user symbol license plate under s. 320.0843 in lieu of the
103 | disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a "DV"
104 | license plate under s. 320.084, such a license plate may be
105 | issued to him or her in lieu of a disabled parking permit.

106 | **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.