

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HB 961 (2025)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

OTHER

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: State Affairs Committee  
Representative Maney offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove lines 156-178 and insert:

**Section 5. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 320.0848,  
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

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

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

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15        1. Issue a disabled parking permit for a period of up to 4  
16 years, which period ends on the applicant's birthday, to any  
17 person who has long-term mobility impairment;

18        2. Issue, ~~or~~ a temporary disabled parking permit for up to  
19 ~~not to exceed~~ 6 months to a any person who has a temporary  
20 mobility impairment; ~~or~~.

21        3. Issue a lifetime disabled parking permit to a person  
22 who is certified as permanently disabled due to permanent  
23 dismemberment or an amputation and is in need of the disabled  
24 parking permit due to that permanent dismemberment or  
25 amputation. A lifetime disabled parking permit is valid from the  
26 date of issuance until the person's death and is not subject to  
27 renewal under paragraph (d).

28  
29 A ~~No~~ person is not ~~will be~~ required to pay a fee for a parking  
30 permit for disabled persons more than once in a 12-month period  
31 from the date of the prior fee payment.

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

36        a. Inability to walk without the use of or assistance from  
37 a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, or other assistive  
38 device, or without the assistance of another person. If the  
39 assistive device significantly restores the person's ability to

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40 walk to the extent that the person can walk without severe  
41 limitation, the person is not eligible for the exemption parking  
42 permit.

43 b. The need to permanently use a wheelchair.

44 c. Restriction by lung disease to the extent that the  
45 person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for 1 second,  
46 when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter, or the  
47 person's arterial oxygen is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at  
48 rest.

49 d. Use of portable oxygen.

50 e. Restriction by cardiac condition to the extent that the  
51 person's functional limitations are classified in severity as  
52 Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American  
53 Heart Association.

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

56 2. The certification of disability which is required under  
57 subparagraph 1. must be provided by a physician licensed under  
58 chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 460, by a podiatric  
59 physician licensed under chapter 461, by an optometrist licensed  
60 under chapter 463, by an advanced practice registered nurse  
61 licensed under chapter 464 under the protocol of a licensed  
62 physician as stated in this subparagraph, by a physician  
63 assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, or by a  
64 similarly licensed physician from another state if the

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65 application is accompanied by documentation of the physician's  
66 licensure in the other state and a form signed by the out-of-  
67 state physician verifying his or her knowledge of this state's  
68 eligibility guidelines.

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

71 1. The disability of the applicant; the certifying  
72 practitioner's name and address; the practitioner's  
73 certification number; the eligibility criteria for the permit;  
74 the penalty for falsification by either the certifying  
75 practitioner or the applicant; the duration of the condition  
76 that entitles the person to the permit; and justification for  
77 the additional placard pursuant to subsection (2).

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

81 3. The signatures of:

82 a. The applicant's physician or other certifying  
83 practitioner.

84 b. The applicant or the applicant's parent or guardian.

85 c. The employee of the department's authorized agent which  
86 employee is processing the application.

87 (d) The department shall renew the disabled parking permit  
88 of a ~~any~~ person certified as permanently disabled on the  
89 previous application for a subsequent 4-year period without

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90 requiring the person to provide another certificate of  
91 disability or United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form  
92 Letter 27-333, or its equivalent, as applicable. After such 4-  
93 year period, the department shall renew the disabled parking  
94 permit if the person provides a certificate of disability issued  
95 within the last 12 months pursuant to this subsection. A veteran  
96 who has been previously evaluated and certified by the United  
97 States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the  
98 United States Armed Forces as permanently and totally disabled  
99 from a service-connected disability may provide a United States  
100 Department of Veterans Affairs Form Letter 27-333, or its  
101 equivalent, issued within the last 12 months in lieu of a  
102 certificate of disability.

103 (e) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
104 shall, in consultation with the Commission for the  
105 Transportation Disadvantaged, adopt rules, in accordance with  
106 chapter 120, for the issuance of a disabled parking permit to  
107 any organization that can adequately demonstrate a bona fide  
108 need for such a permit because the organization provides regular  
109 transportation services to persons who have disabilities and are  
110 certified as provided in this subsection.

111 (2) DISABLED PARKING PERMIT; PERSONS WITH LONG-TERM  
112 MOBILITY PROBLEMS, PERMANENT DISMEMBERMENT, OR AMPUTATION.—  
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(a) The disabled parking permit is a placard that can be placed in a motor vehicle so as to be visible from the front and rear of the vehicle. Each side of the placard must have the international symbol of accessibility in a contrasting color in the center so as to be visible. One side of the placard must display the applicant's driver license number or state identification card number along with a warning that the applicant must have such identification at all times while using the parking permit. In those cases where the severity of the disability prevents a disabled person from physically visiting or being transported to a driver license or tax collector office to obtain a driver license or identification card, a certifying physician may sign the exemption section of the department's parking permit application to exempt the disabled person from being issued a driver license or identification card for the number to be displayed on the parking permit. A validation sticker must also be issued with each disabled parking permit, showing the month and year of expiration, or, in the case of a lifetime disabled parking permit, indicating that the permit does not expire, on each side of the placard. Validation stickers must be of the size specified by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and must be affixed to the disabled parking permits. The disabled parking permits must use the same colors as license plate validations.

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

(c) The department shall not issue an additional disabled parking permit unless the applicant states that he or she is a frequent traveler or a quadriplegic. The department may not issue to any one eligible applicant more than two disabled parking permits except to an organization in accordance with paragraph (1)(e). Subsections (1), (5), (6), and (7) apply to this subsection.

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

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

2. A veteran who has been previously evaluated and certified by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as permanently and

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totally disabled from a service-connected disability may provide a United States Department of Veterans Affairs Form Letter 27-333, or its equivalent, issued within the last 12 months in lieu of a certificate of disability.

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

(e) A person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit under this section may be issued an international wheelchair user symbol license plate under s. 320.0843 in lieu of the disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a "DV" license plate under s. 320.084, such a license plate may be issued to him or her in lieu of a disabled parking permit.

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**T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T**

Remove lines 16-18 and insert:

320.0848, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue a lifetime disabled parking permit to certain permanently disabled persons; requiring the validation sticker issued with such permit to indicate that the permit does not expire; authorizing a person who has been issued such a permit to provide a certificate of disability issued at any time in order to obtain a replacement for a

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188 | lost or stolen permit; requiring the department to  
189 | renew certain disabled parking permits for a specified  
190 | period without requiring certain documentation;