

HB285 INTRODUCED



1 HB285
2 K3C45UA-1
3 By Representatives Faulkner, Ledbetter, Bedsole, Stadthagen,
4 Marques, Lovvorn, Garrett
5 RFD: Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure
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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a distinctive license plate for disabled individuals displays the International Symbol of Access.

This bill would replace the International Symbol of Access with the Dynamic Accessibility Symbol.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to motor vehicle registrations and license plates; to amend Sections 32-6-157, 32-6-231, 32-6-231.1, 32-6-231.2, and 40-12-300, Code of Alabama 1975, to replace the International Symbol of Access with the Dynamic Accessibility Symbol on distinctive license plates issued to individuals with disabilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 32-6-157, 32-6-231, 32-6-231.1, 32-6-231.2, and 40-12-300, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§32-6-157

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, distinctive and personalized license plates may be



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issued to trucks with gross vehicle weight not exceeding 10,000 pounds, ~~;~~ provided, ~~the provisions of~~ this section shall not apply to distinctive military license plates or plates with the ~~International Symbol of Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol."

"§32-6-231

(a) Any ~~person~~ individual who submits to the license issuing official a completed special access parking or disability access parking application form approved by the Commissioner of Revenue which includes the physician's certification that he or she is an individual with a disability shall be issued one removable windshield placard displaying the ~~International Symbol of Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol thereby designating the driver of the vehicle or the passenger as being an individual with a disability.

(1) The removable windshield placard shall be prepared by the commissioner in conformity to Public Law 100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom.

(2) a. The removable windshield placard issued to the individual with a long-term disability shall expire after a maximum period of five years or any period less than five years to be designated by the commissioner. The placard shall clearly reveal the expiration date and shall be designed in accordance with Public Law 100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom to hang from the front windshield rearview mirror when the vehicle is parked in a parking space reserved for ~~persons~~ individuals with disabilities. If the vehicle lacks a



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rearview mirror, the placard shall be placed on the dashboard.

b. The commissioner may require all ~~persons~~ individuals with long-term disabilities to be recertified by a licensed physician before special access or disability access parking removable windshield placards may be reissued.

(3) In the event that an individual with a disability does not have the distinctive special access or disability access license plate as provided by Sections 40-12-300 to 40-12-302, inclusive, upon request, a second placard may be issued.

(b) The commissioner may make any rules ~~or regulations~~ necessary to administer this division.

(c) An individual with a temporary disability, who submits to the license issuing official a completed special access or disability access application form approved by the commissioner which includes the physician's certification that he or she is ~~a temporarily disabled~~ an individual with a temporary disability, shall be issued one temporary removable windshield placard for a period valid up to six months.

(d) Any special access or disability access placard that is not in conformity with the federal system rule for ~~handicapped~~ parking reserved for individuals with disabilities, Public Law 100-641, and subsequent Rule 23 ~~CFR C.F.R.~~ § 1235, shall not be recognized as a valid ~~handicapped disabled~~ parking credential."

"§32-6-231.1

(a) For the purpose of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities ~~this section~~, the term "military



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distinctive license plate" includes any of the following:
Medal of Honor license plate; Prisoners of War license plate;
Purple Heart Medal Recipients license plate; retired military
license plate; National Guard license plate; disabled veteran
license plate; Pearl Harbor survivors license plate; World War
II veterans license plate; Korean War veterans license plate;
veterans of the Battle of the Bulge license plate; veterans of
Desert Shield/Desert Storm license plate; Vietnam veterans
license plate; veterans of the United States Armed Forces
exposed to dangerous levels of radiation due to the atomic
bomb and weapons testing from 1944 to 1962 license plate; and
any subsequently enacted distinctive license plates issued
exclusively to veterans.

(b) Any ~~person~~individual qualified to receive a
military distinctive license plate pursuant to this chapter,
who submits to the judge of probate, license commissioner, or
other issuing official authority medical proof satisfactory to
the Commissioner of Revenue that he or she is ~~a handicapped an~~
individual with a disability in accordance with Public Law
100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom, shall be issued a
distinctive military license plate which is inscribed with the
~~International Symbol of Access~~Dynamic Accessibility Symbol
designating the vehicle owner as being ~~a handicapped an~~
individual with a disability. The Commissioner of Revenue
shall adopt procedures for the issuance of these distinctive
military license plates containing the ~~International Symbol of~~
~~Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol. ~~Handicapped~~
~~individuals~~Individuals with disabilities displaying these



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plates shall be allowed to park in parking zones designated reserved for handicapped ~~persons~~individuals with disabilities upon the payment of parking fees the same as any other ~~person~~individual."

"§32-6-231.2

(a) Commencing on January 1, 2022, a vehicle owner who is qualified to receive a distinctive license plate pursuant to this chapter, who has a long-term disability, as defined in Section 32-6-230, and who submits to the judge of probate, license commissioner, or other issuing authority medical proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of Revenue that he or she is ~~a disabled~~an individual with a disability in accordance with Public Law 100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom, may be issued a license plate under this chapter or Chapter 12 of Title 40, which displays the ~~International Symbol of Access~~Dynamic Accessibility Symbol.

(b) License plates displaying the ~~International Symbol of Access~~Dynamic Accessibility Symbol may be displayed on private passenger automobiles, motorcycles, pickup trucks, or self-propelled campers or house cars.

(c) The Department of Revenue may adopt rules necessary to administer this section."

"§40-12-300

(a)(1) The distinctive license plates provided for herein shall be prepared by the Commissioner of Revenue and shall be issued through the county license issuing officials of the state in the same manner as are other motor vehicle license plates. An applicant for ~~such~~ a distinctive plate



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shall present to the issuing official documentation that he or she is either of the following:

a. A parent, stepparent, or legal guardian of a minor or an adult who is an individual with a disability as defined in Section 32-6-230.

b. An individual with a disability as defined in Section 32-6-230.

(2) Upon presentation of the required documentation, the applicant shall be issued the requested number of special access or disability access distinctive license plates upon the payment of the regular license fee, as provided by law.

(b) Any private agency, nursing home, church, or charitable institution that submits to the licensing authority proof satisfactory to the commissioner that it operates a motor vehicle for the primary purpose of transporting one or more individuals with disabilities may apply for the distinctive plates. Applicants shall pay the regular fees for license plates, as provided by law.

(c) Any government agency that applies for a license plate for a vehicle ~~which~~ that it owns for the primary purpose of transporting individuals with disabilities shall be issued the requested number of license plates according to Section 40-12-250, with the plate displaying the ~~International Symbol of Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol embossed on the plate.

(d) The distinctive license plates shall be used only upon and for personally-owned, private, or government owned and operated passenger vehicles, including, but not limited to, vans, station wagons, buses, motorcycles, and pickup



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trucks, registered in the name of the ~~person~~individual, or public or private agency, nursing home, church, or charitable institution making application therefor, and when issued to the applicant shall be used upon the vehicle for which issued in lieu of the standard license plates normally issued for the vehicle. This division shall not be construed to require an individual with a disability to display a distinctive special access or disability access license plate. It is ~~hereby~~ specifically provided that this division shall be construed in pari materia with Section 32-6-231. The commissioner may make any rules ~~or regulations~~ necessary to carry out this division.

(e) The commissioner may require all ~~persons~~individuals with long-term disabilities to be recertified by a licensed physician before special access parking or disability access parking license plates may be reissued.

(f) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a motor vehicle may not be parked in an area reserved for ~~handicapped parking unless the individual~~ individuals with disabilities to park unless the individual with a disability is in the vehicle."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.