

HB285 ENGROSSED



1 HB285
2 SQRU875-2
3 By Representatives Faulkner, Ledbetter, Bedsole, Stadthagen,
4 Marques, Lovvorn, Garrett
5 RFD: Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure
6 First Read: 05-Mar-24



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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 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



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29 issuing official a completed special access parking or
30 disability access parking application form approved by the
31 Commissioner of Revenue which includes the physician's
32 certification that he or she is an individual with a
33 disability shall be issued one removable windshield placard
34 displaying the ~~International Symbol of Access~~Dynamic
35 Accessibility Symbol thereby designating the driver of the
36 vehicle or the passenger as being an individual with a
37 disability.

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

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

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

55 (3) In the event that an individual with a disability
56 does not have the distinctive special access or disability



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57 access license plate as provided by Sections 40-12-300 to
58 40-12-302, inclusive, upon request, a second placard may be
59 issued.

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

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

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

75 "§32-6-231.1

76 (a) For the purpose of parking spaces reserved for
77 persons with disabilities~~this section~~, the term "military
78 distinctive license plate" includes any of the following:
79 Medal of Honor license plate; Prisoners of War license plate;
80 Purple Heart Medal Recipients license plate; retired military
81 license plate; National Guard license plate; disabled veteran
82 license plate; Pearl Harbor survivors license plate; World War
83 II veterans license plate; Korean War veterans license plate;
84 veterans of the Battle of the Bulge license plate; veterans of



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85 Desert Shield/Desert Storm license plate; Vietnam veterans
86 license plate; veterans of the United States Armed Forces
87 exposed to dangerous levels of radiation due to the atomic
88 bomb and weapons testing from 1944 to 1962 license plate; and
89 any subsequently enacted distinctive license plates issued
90 exclusively to veterans.

91 (b) Any ~~person~~individual qualified to receive a
92 military distinctive license plate pursuant to this chapter,
93 who submits to the judge of probate, license commissioner, or
94 other issuing official authority medical proof satisfactory to
95 the Commissioner of Revenue that he or she is ~~a handicapped~~ an
96 individual with a disability in accordance with Public Law
97 100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom, shall be issued a
98 distinctive military license plate which is inscribed with the
99 ~~International Symbol of Access~~Dynamic Accessibility Symbol
100 designating the vehicle owner as being ~~a handicapped~~ an
101 individual with a disability. The Commissioner of Revenue
102 shall adopt procedures for the issuance of these distinctive
103 military license plates containing the ~~International Symbol of~~
104 ~~Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol. ~~Handicapped~~
105 ~~individuals~~Individuals with disabilities displaying these
106 plates shall be allowed to park in parking zones designated
107 reserved for handicapped ~~persons~~individuals with disabilities
108 upon the payment of parking fees the same as any other
109 ~~person~~individual."

110 "§32-6-231.2

111 (a) Commencing on January 1, 2022, a vehicle owner who
112 is qualified to receive a distinctive license plate pursuant



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113 to this chapter, who has a long-term disability, as defined in
114 Section 32-6-230, and who submits to the judge of probate,
115 license commissioner, or other issuing authority medical proof
116 satisfactory to the Commissioner of Revenue that he or she is
117 ~~a disabled~~ an individual with a disability in accordance with
118 Public Law 100-641 and rulemaking resulting therefrom, may be
119 issued a license plate under this chapter or Chapter 12 of
120 Title 40, which displays the ~~International Symbol of~~
121 ~~Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol.

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

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

128 "§40-12-300

129 (a) (1) The distinctive license plates provided for
130 herein shall be prepared by the Commissioner of Revenue and
131 shall be issued through the county license issuing officials
132 of the state in the same manner as are other motor vehicle
133 license plates. An applicant for ~~such~~ a distinctive plate
134 shall present to the issuing official documentation that he or
135 she is either of the following:

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

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



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

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

152 (c) Any government agency that applies for a license
153 plate for a vehicle ~~which~~ that it owns for the primary purpose
154 of transporting individuals with disabilities shall be issued
155 the requested number of license plates according to Section
156 40-12-250, with the plate displaying the ~~International Symbol~~
157 ~~of Access~~ Dynamic Accessibility Symbol embossed on the plate.

158 (d) The distinctive license plates shall be used only
159 upon and for personally-owned, private, or government owned
160 and operated passenger vehicles, including, but not limited
161 to, vans, station wagons, buses, motorcycles, and pickup
162 trucks, registered in the name of the ~~person~~ individual, or
163 public or private agency, nursing home, church, or charitable
164 institution making application therefor, and when issued to
165 the applicant shall be used upon the vehicle for which issued
166 in lieu of the standard license plates normally issued for the
167 vehicle. This division shall not be construed to require an
168 individual with a disability to display a distinctive special



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169 access or disability access license plate. It is ~~hereby~~
170 specifically provided that this division shall be construed in
171 pari materia with Section 32-6-231. The commissioner may make
172 any rules ~~or regulations~~ necessary to carry out this division.

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

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

182 Section 2. This act shall become effective on January
183 1, 2026.



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House of Representatives

187 Read for the first time and referred05-Mar-24
188 to the House of Representatives
189 committee on Transportation,
190 Utilities and Infrastructure
191
192 Read for the second time and placed11-Apr-24
193 on the calendar:
194 1 amendment
195
196 Read for the third time and passed18-Apr-24
197 as amended
198 Yeas 103
199 Nays 0
200 Abstains 0

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John Treadwell
Clerk