NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES



Study of the Misuse of Windshield Placards

Session Law 2015-16



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	.2
Federal Uniform System	.3
Penalties for Violations	.4
Linking Placard with Specific License Plates	.5
Accessible Parking	.7
Credential Communications Effort	.9
APPENDICES	10
Appendix A: HB 91	11
Appendix B: N.C.G.S.	12
Appendix C: Placard Design (Current and Future)	20
Appendix D: Brochure	22
Appendix E: AAMVA Survey	23
Appendix F: Study Participants	37

Executive Summary

During the 2015 legislative session, Session Law 2015-16 was passed which directed the Division of Motor Vehicles (NCDMV) to study ways to decrease the misuse of windshield placards issued to handicapped persons. The study was to include the cost, feasibility, and advisability of the following:

- Requiring the inclusion of more personally-identifying information on the windshield placard;
- Including a picture of the handicapped person to whom the placard was issued;
- Linking the windshield placard to the handicapped person's driver license or special identification card; and
- Linking the windshield placard to the license plate issued to the handicapped person or the owner of the vehicle in which the handicapped person is or will be transported.

The Division submitted a questionnaire through the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) to determine what other states are doing about this issue. Most states responded that this was an issue in their state and this report will include some of their initiatives. In addition to the questionnaire, the Division formed a study group to prompt a more in-depth conversation about the specific issues encountered in North Carolina. The group included several local law enforcement officers from the City of Fayetteville, Town of Garner, Town of Chapel Hill, and the City of Winston Salem, along with representatives from the NC Medical Society, Disability Rights, NC ADA Network, North Carolina League of Municipalities, North Carolina Association of the Chief of Police, Asheville Volunteer Parking Program, concerned citizens with disabilities, NCDOT IT, NCDOT Communications, and NCDMV.

As a study group we were able to identify several areas of concern:

- 1. Public education
- 2. Penalties for violations
- 3. Allow an electronic inquiry that can be accessed by law enforcement that will include a picture
- 4. More volunteer parking programs
- 5. Enforce proper signage
- 6. Statewide credential communications effort
- 7. Redesign of credential

This report will further explore these recommendations.

Federal Uniform System

The stated purpose of the Federal Department of Transportation's Uniform System for Parking for Persons with Disabilities is to provide "guidelines to States for the establishment of a uniform system." Thus the Uniform System provides model definitions and rules regarding eligibility and application procedures for the issuance of special license plates and placards. It also contains information to aid states in developing reciprocal systems of parking privileges, including sample placards and a model rule regarding reciprocity.

The Uniform System does not contain model rules regarding enforcement, nor does it provide model rules specifying lengths of time after which special plates or placards must be renewed, neither does it address whether eligible individuals must be primary users of vehicles with special license plates. Instead, it contains basic definitions and samples that the department encourages states to utilize as part of their own, more detailed, parking privilege systems.

Some citizens have complained that placards are being issued without approval by the proper authority. One key provision in the Uniform System is the model definition of eligible individuals. The Uniform System extends parking privileges only to "persons with disabilities which impair or limit the ability to walk." This definition includes people who (1) cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest; (2) cannot walk without the aid of another person of certain assistive devices; (3) have limited respiratory volumes due to lung disease; (4) use portable oxygen; (5) have cardiac conditions of a specific severity; or (6) are severely limited in their ability to walk by an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic conditions. Under the Uniform System, individuals' fit within any of these categories must be determined by a licensed physician. In North Carolina in addition to a licensed physician our statute also authorizes the following to certify the issuance of a placard: ophthalmologists, optometrists, or the Division of Services for the Blind.

Under the Uniform System, "Special license plates and placards shall be the only recognized means of identifying vehicles permitted to utilize parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities which limit or impair the ability to walk." The system delineates two types of windshield placards: removable windshield placards and temporary removable windshield placards. Removable windshield placards are appropriate for individuals who qualify as persons with disabilities which impair or limit the ability to walk permanently or for at least six months. Temporary removable windshield placards are most appropriate for individuals who have such an impairment or limitation for less than six months.

The placards should display the "international symbol of access," which was adopted by the disability rights organization Rehabilitation International in 1969. The symbol is a commonly recognized image of a wheelchair of and is best known as a white chair on blue background. The Uniform System also recommends that the expiration date and the issuing authority be displayed on the placard.

The NC Medical Society responded that they had no knowledge of placards being issued without proper approval. The Division will ensure that our agents are requiring an approved application prior to the issuance of placards.

North Carolina Statutes and Policies

North Carolina's General Statutes 20-37.5 and 20-37.6 regarding plates, parking placards and the definition of "handicap" closely resemble the Uniform System. North Carolina began issuing parking credentials for the disabled in 1967. Initially a metal plate that was to be placed in the windshield was issued. These credentials became obsolete in 1992 and the Division began issuing the plastic placard. In 2009, Session Law 2009-243 required that the expiration date be visible from at least 20 feet. A Request for Bid was advertised and the new solution was a paper placard with larger punch outs to indicate the expiration. This design was the only solution provided that met the statutory requirements at the time. Complaints received about this placard included the material used, that it is easy to manipulate the expiration, and size of the placard.

DMV began seeking an improved placard in July 2015 and our current vendor, Correction Enterprises, presented the Division with a new material. The new placard will be constructed of a flexible plastic material, a stickered expiration, and an adjusted size. This placard will be issued beginning July 2016.

The Division has a responsibility to educate the public about the use of the parking credential and we have identified several audiences which need to be addressed:

- The owner of the placard;
- The family members of the disabled person; and
- The general public.

<u>Recommendation</u>: Currently, the Division has a tri-fold brochure that should accompany each placard issued. It discusses how to obtain the placard or a plate, when to use the placard, and other information regarding legal and illegal parking. The Division will update this publication and emphasize the importance of ensuring that they are distributed each time a plate or placard is issued.

In addition, NCDOT and DMV will be creating several public service announcements (PSAs) to address each audience and make the consequences of illegally parking in spaces designated for the disabled very clear. These PSAs will be made available to local governments to help ensure that education is statewide. The panel also recommends that in keeping with the federal definition we change the reference of "handicap" to "persons with disabilities."

Penalties for Violations

Currently, the penalty for parking in a space designated for the disabled is an infraction with a monetary penalty of \$100-\$250. The penalty for those responsible for designating parking spaces not erecting or using a nonconforming sign is also an infraction with a monetary penalty of \$100-\$250. The statistics reported to the Administrative Office of the Courts for calendar years 2013 and 2014 reflects that less than 1,000 citations per year were written and some of those did not show a conviction. These totals do not include statistics for citations written for local city ordinances.

The panel extensively debated the possibility of raising the penalty from an infraction, to a Class 2 misdemeanor (N.C.G.S. 20-217). This would match that of the penalties for passing a stopped school bus. However, you must be a sworn law enforcement officer in order to write a citation for anything above an infraction. This would eliminate the benefit of the local Volunteer Parking Programs that have been enacted across the state.

In addition to individuals parking in designated spaces without the proper credential, there is a major issue with non-qualified individuals using the disabled persons placard with or without their permission. This issue would also be covered extensively in the Division's media campaign. Session Law 2015-16 lists the options of having more personally-identifiable information on the placard including a picture.

The panel discussed the option of revoking placards that have been abused and prohibiting the reissuance of these placards. Currently, South Carolina, New Mexico, and Massachusetts have photos on the placard. Law enforcement did not feel that this would be an effective measure to assist in the reduction of abuse.

Other members of the panel including the ADA Network and Disability rights felt that displaying a disabled person's picture could put them at an increased risk for harm. Volunteer Parking Program representatives were interested in having the picture on the placard and stated that the picture would assist them as they have been instructed not to directly engage citizens. However, a positive determination of the owner cannot be made without comparing the driver license to the registration of the placard. If the placard holder does not have a driver license another source to obtain the photo would be required. The cost associated with including a picture on the placard has been estimated by our current vendor as \$1.31 per placard, which is an increase from the current rate of \$0.31 per placard.

NCMV currently issues a registration card to each placard owner and has committed to linking the placard with the person's driver license picture through an electronic query utilizing the Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Automated Data Services (CJLEADS) program. This solution is at the request of law enforcement. The cost of this project is estimated at \$54,000 and could be implemented by 2017.

Recommendation:

The panel recommends that the existing laws prescribing the penalties for illegal use of a handicap placard be maintained and that NCDMV link each handicap placard registration to CJLEADS.

Linking Placard with Specific License Plates

Session Law 2015-16 also suggests a link of the placard with the individual's license plate or the owner of the vehicle in which the person who will be transporting them. Many disabled persons do not own a vehicle and they are transported by various individuals. They may have multiple family or community members take them to appointments and may not be able to specify those persons at the issuance of the placard. The placard belongs to the disabled person and can be linked to them. The registration card and placard should be in the vehicle transporting the disabled person.

<u>Recommendation</u>: The panel recommends that the General Assembly not require NCDMV to link handicap placards to individual license plates until this proposal is subjected to further study.

Accessible Parking Issues

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued new regulations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 2010. The new rules affect state and local governments (Title II of the ADA), as well as public accommodations and commercial facilities (Title III). The regulations include the new 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, outlining minimum accessibility requirements for buildings and facilities.

Existing Facilities

New construction projects must meet minimum standards with very few exceptions; alterations are also subject to strict requirements, although they may be more affected by existing structural conditions. Existing buildings and facilities which are not undergoing planned alterations are viewed a little differently.

Title II: Program Access

State and local government agencies that offer programs, services, or activities in existing facilities need to make sure that people with disabilities can gain access to and participate in these activities. There are a variety of ways that agencies can ensure access to programs, but making structural improvements is often necessary.

Title III: Barrier Removal

Both commercial facilities and public accommodations must follow standards for new construction and alterations. Additionally, public accommodations (private businesses that are open to the general public, like retail stores, restaurants, banks, parking garages, and many others) must remove barriers when it is "readily achievable" to do so; readily achievable means "easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense." Designating accessible parking is often readily achievable, and is considered a top priority because it enables many people with disabilities to "get in the door."

Safe Harbor

The 2010 regulations include a "safe harbor" for features that already comply with the 1991 standards, but may not meet the new 2010 standards. *For example:* A retail store's parking lot has a total of 250 parking spaces; in compliance with 1991 standards, the lot includes seven accessible spaces, one of which is van-accessible. The 2010 standards would require *two* van-accessible spaces, but the store does not have to modify its parking lot to provide the additional space until the lot undergoes a planned alteration (re-striping, re-surfacing, etc.) after March 15, 2012. If the lot is altered after that time, it will then be brought into compliance with the 2010 standards, to the maximum extent feasible.

How many accessible parking spaces are needed? Total Number of Parking Spaces in Parking Facility	Minimum Number of Accessible Parking Spaces Required
(Lot or Garage)	
1 - 25	1
26 - 50	2
51 - 75	3
76 - 100	4
101 - 150	5
151 - 200	6
201 - 300	7
301 - 400	8
401 - 500	9
501 - 1000	2% of total
1001 and over	20, plus 1 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000

One of the major issues is that we have a large community of disabled persons and not enough designated parking. This community also includes our disabled veterans. The federal regulations mentioned above show the minimum requirements. However, the disabled individual is often unable to find adequate parking.

Law enforcement cites improper signs as a barrier to writing a citation. They stated that signs are often not maintained by the property owner or some signs do not have the proper language. The panel did feel that penalties for violations in this area could be increased. This would fall under the North Carolina State Building Code.

Recommendation:

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) last updated regulations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 2010. The panel recommends that the state and local municipalities adopt standards above the DOJ minimum accessibility requirements in order to ensure adequate parking for designated individuals

Credential Communications Effort

The law enforcement represented on the panel were receptive to developing a program similar to "Click it or Ticket" or "Booze it or Lose it" in order to focus on this issue. With less than 1,000 citations issued each year for designated parking violations and the complaints received in this area, it is evident that this is a problem for law enforcement. Designated periods of enforcement or a "blitz" would help raise awareness about the abuse of handicap parking and act as a deterrent from continuing such violations. The goal is that such a blitz would be conducted frequently throughout the year. Additionally, a media campaign could work to further deliver the message. This project would require participation from both state and local governments to be successful.

The League of Municipalities feels that public awareness and providing more focus on bringing handicap parking signs into compliance would benefit our communities. These potentially low-cost, common-sense solutions should result in giving parking enforcement officials more tools to use as they go about their task of seeking compliance with our state's handicap parking laws.

The North Carolina Association of the Chiefs of Police also agrees that this sort of program and cooperation would increase public awareness and supports thee initiatives. A Governor-sponsored week of enforcement and awareness would bring attention to the issue, and inform the public that the state is taking action to improve access to our disabled citizens. Not only should the blitz focus on parking enforcement, but also on proper signage and citing businesses who are in violation of the NC Building Code.

Recommendation:

Our law enforcement's first responsibility is for public safety. Therefore, limited resources often dictate that parking violations are not always a priority. This is why the volunteer parking program is a huge asset. Several cities in North Carolina have these programs and it would be beneficial to the state if the majority of cities could adopt them. These volunteers write citations for violators of disabled parking allowing sworn law enforcement officers to attend to more pressing issues.

Through the volunteer parking program there is the potential to utilize several organizations that could aide in educating the public such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, high schools, and colleges etc. The ability for these organizations to participate could reach an even broader audience.

Conclusion

The Division of Motor Vehicles is committed to the education of our citizens, improvement of our credentials and improved measures of access for our law enforcement in order to address windshield parking placard abuse. With the addition of possible increased fines, more parking program participation, and law enforcement, we can bring widespread awareness to this problem and the disservice it places on our disabled citizens.

APPENDICES

- A. Session Law 2015-241
- B. N.C.G.S.
 - 20-37.5
 - 20-37.6
 - 20-37.6A
 - 20-176
 - 20-217
 - 136-30
- C. Placard design (Current and future)
- D. Brochure
- E. AAMVA survey
- F. Study Participants

Appendix A: HB 2015-16

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2015

SESSION LAW 2015-16

HOUSE BILL 91

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO STUDY WAYS TO DECREASE THE MISUSE OF WINDSHIELD PLACARDS ISSUED TO HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Division of Motor Vehicles shall study ways to decrease the misuse of windshield placards issued to handicapped persons. Included within this study shall be the cost, feasibility, and advisability of (i) requiring the inclusion of more personally identifying information on the windshield placard, including a picture of the handicapped person who was issued the placard, (ii) linking the windshield placard to the handicapped person's drivers license or special identification card, and (iii) linking the windshield placard to the license plate issued to the handicapped person or the owner of the vehicle in which the handicapped person is or will be transported. The Division shall report its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on or before January 15, 2016.

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 7th day of May, 2015.

s/ Daniel J. Forest President of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Pat McCrory Governor

Approved 3:30 p.m. this 14th day of May, 2015

Appendix B: North Carolina General Statutes

§ 20-37.5. Definitions.

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout this Article to the defined words and phrases and their cognates:

- "Distinguishing license plate" means a license plate that displays the International Symbol of Access using the same color, size of plate, and size of letters or numbers as a regular plate.
- (2) "Handicapped" shall mean a person with a mobility impairment who, as determined by a licensed physician:
 - a. Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest;
 - b. Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device;
 - c. Is restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume of one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at rest;
 - d. Uses portable oxygen;
 - e. Has a cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association;
 - f. Is severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition; or
 - g. Is totally blind or whose vision with glasses is so defective as to prevent the performance of ordinary activity for which eyesight is essential, as certified by a licensed ophthalmologist, optometrist, or the Division of Services for the Blind.
- (3) "International Symbol of Access" means the symbol adopted by Rehabilitation International in 1969 at its Eleventh World Congress on Rehabilitation of the Disabled.
- (4) "Removable windshield placard" means a two-sided, hooked placard which includes on each side:
 - a. The International Symbol of Access, which is at least three inches in height, centered on the placard, and is white on a blue shield;

b. An identification number;

- c. An expiration date that is visible from at least 20 feet and the month and year of expiration; and
- d. The seal or other identification of the issuing authority. (1967, c. 296, s. 5; 1977, c. 340, s. 1; 1991, c. 411, s. 1; 2009-493, s. 1.)

§ 20-37.6. Parking privileges for handicapped drivers and passengers.

(a) General Parking. - Any vehicle that is driven by or is transporting a person who is handicapped and that displays a distinguishing license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard may be parked for unlimited periods in parking zones restricted as to the length of time parking is permitted. This provision has no application to those zones or during times in which the stopping, parking, or standing of all vehicles is prohibited or which are reserved for special types of vehicles. Any qualifying vehicle may park in spaces designated as restricted to vehicles driven by or transporting the handicapped.

(b) Handicapped Car Owners; Distinguishing License Plates. - If the handicapped person is a registered owner of a vehicle, the owner may apply for and display a distinguishing license plate. This license plate shall be issued for the normal fee applicable to standard license plates. Any vehicle owner who qualifies for a distinguishing license plate may also receive one removable windshield placard.

(c) Handicapped Drivers and Passengers; Distinguishing Placards. - Handicapped Drivers and Passengers; Distinguishing Placards. - A handicapped person may apply for the issuance of a removable windshield placard or a temporary removable windshield placard. Upon request, one additional placard may be issued to applicants who do not have a distinguishing license plate. Any organization which, as determined and certified by the State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, regularly transports handicapped persons may also apply. These organizations may receive one removable windshield placard for each transporting vehicle. When the removable windshield or temporary removable windshield placard is properly displayed, all parking rights and privileges extended to vehicles displaying a distinguishing license plate issued pursuant to subsection (b) shall apply. The removable windshield placard or the temporary removable windshield placard shall be displayed so that it may be viewed from the front and rear of the vehicle by hanging it from the front windshield rearview mirror of a vehicle using a parking space allowed for handicapped persons. When there is no inside rearview mirror, or when the placard cannot reasonably be hung from the rearview mirror by the handicapped person, the placard shall be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard. A removable windshield placard placed on a motorized wheelchair or similar vehicle shall be displayed in a clearly visible location. The Division shall establish procedures for the issuance of the placards and may charge a fee sufficient to pay the actual cost of issuance, but in no event less than five dollars (\$5.00) per placard. The Division shall issue a placard registration card with each placard issued to a handicapped person. The registration card shall bear the name of the person to whom the placard is issued, the person's address, the placard number, and an expiration date. The registration card shall be in the vehicle in which the placard is being used, and the person to whom the placard is issued shall be the operator or a passenger in the vehicle in which the placard is displayed.

(c1) Application and Renewal; Physician's Certification. - The initial application for a distinguishing license plate, removable windshield placard, or temporary removable windshield placard shall be accompanied by a certification of a licensed physician, ophthalmologist, or optometrist or of the Division of Services for the Blind that the applicant is handicapped. The application for a temporary removable windshield placard shall contain additional certification to include the period of time the certifying authority determines the applicant will have the disability. Distinguishing license plates shall be renewed annually, but subsequent applications shall not require a medical certification that the applicant is handicapped. Removable windshield placards shall be renewed every five years, and the renewal shall require a medical recertification that the

person is handicapped. Temporary removable windshield placards shall expire no later than six months after issuance.

(c2) Existing Placards; Expiration; Exchange for New Placards. - All existing placards shall expire on January 1, 1992. No person shall be convicted of parking in violation of this Article by reason of an expired placard if the defendant produces in court, at the time of trial on the illegal parking charge, an expired placard and a renewed placard issued within 30 days of the expiration date of the expired placard and which would have been a defense to the charge had it been issued prior to the time of the alleged offense. Existing placards issued on or after July 1, 1989, may be exchanged without charge for the new placards.

(c3) It shall be unlawful to sell a distinguishing license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard issued pursuant to this section. A violation of this subsection shall be a Class 2 misdemeanor and may be punished pursuant to G.S. 20-176(c) and (c1).

(d) Designation of Parking Spaces. - Designation of parking spaces for handicapped persons on streets and public vehicular areas shall comply with G.S. 136-30. A sign designating a parking space for handicapped persons shall state the maximum penalty for parking in the space in violation of the law.

(d1) Repealed by Session Laws 1991, c. 530, s. 4.

(e) Enforcement of Handicapped Parking Privileges. - It shall be unlawful:

- (1) To park or leave standing any vehicle in a space designated with a sign pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for handicapped persons when the vehicle does not display the distinguishing license plate, removable windshield placard, or temporary removable windshield placard as provided in this section, or a disabled veteran registration plate issued under G.S. 20-79.4;
- (2) For any person not qualifying for the rights and privileges extended to handicapped persons under this section to exercise or attempt to exercise such rights or privileges by the unauthorized use of a distinguishing license plate, removable windshield placard, or temporary removable windshield placard issued pursuant to the provisions of this section;
- (3) To park or leave standing any vehicle so as to obstruct a curb ramp or curb cut for handicapped persons as provided for by the North Carolina Building Code or as designated in G.S. 136-44.14;
- (4) For those responsible for designating parking spaces for the handicapped to erect or otherwise use signs not conforming to G.S. 20-37.6(d) for this purpose.

This section is enforceable in all public vehicular areas.

(f) Penalties for Violation. -

(1) A violation of G.S. 20-37.6(e)(1), (2) or (3) is an infraction which carries a penalty of at least one hundred dollars (\$100.00) but not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and whenever evidence shall be presented in any court of the fact that any automobile, truck, or other vehicle was found to be parked in a properly designated handicapped parking space in violation of the provisions of this section, it shall be prima facie evidence in any court in the State of North Carolina that the vehicle was parked and left in the space by the person, firm, or corporation in whose name the vehicle is registered and licensed according to the records of the Division. No evidence tendered or presented under this authorization shall be admissible or competent in any respect in any court or tribunal except in cases concerned solely with a violation of this section.

- (2) A violation of G.S. 20-37.6(e)(4) is an infraction which carries a penalty of at least one hundred dollars (\$100.00) but not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and whenever evidence shall be presented in any court of the fact that a nonconforming sign is being used it shall be prima facie evidence in any court in the State of North Carolina that the person, firm, or corporation with ownership of the property where the nonconforming sign is located is responsible for violation of this section. Building inspectors and others responsible for North Carolina State Building Code violations specified in G.S. 143-138(h) where such signs are required by the Handicapped Section of the North Carolina State Building Code, may cause a citation to be issued for this violation and may also initiate any appropriate action or proceeding to correct such violation.
- (3) A law-enforcement officer, including a company police officer commissioned by the Attorney General under Chapter 74E of the General Statutes, or a campus police officer commissioned by the Attorney General under Chapter 74G of the General Statutes, may cause a vehicle parked in violation of this section to be towed. The officer is a legal possessor as provided in G.S. 20-161(d)(2). The officer shall not be held to answer in any civil or criminal action to any owner, lienholder or other person legally entitled to the possession of any motor vehicle removed from a space pursuant to this section, except where the motor vehicle is willfully, maliciously, or negligently damaged in the removal from the space to a place of storage.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of the General Statutes, the provisions of this section relative to handicapped parking shall be enforced by State, county, city and other municipal authorities in their respective jurisdictions whether on public or private property in the same manner as is used to enforce other parking laws and ordinances by said agencies. (1971, c. 374, s. 1; 1973, cc. 126, 1384; 1977, c. 340, s. 2; 1979, c. 632; 1981, c. 682, s. 7; 1983, c. 326, ss. 1, 2; 1985, c. 249; c. 586; c. 764, s. 24; 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 852, s. 17; 1987, c. 843; 1989, c. 760, s. 3; 1989 (Reg. Sess., 1990), c. 1052, ss. 1-3.1; 1991, c. 411, s. 2; c. 530, s. 4; c. 672, s. 5; c. 726, s. 23; c. 761, s. 5; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1007, s. 30; c. 1043, s. 4; 1993, c. 373, s. 1; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 14, s. 31; 1999-265, s. 1; 2005-231, s. 11; 2009-493, s. 2.)

§ 20-37.6A. Parking privileges for out-of-state handicapped drivers and passengers.

Any vehicle displaying an out-of-State handicapped license plate, placard, or other evidence of handicap issued by the appropriate authority of the appropriate jurisdiction may park in any space reserved for the handicapped pursuant to G.S. 20-37.6. (1981, c. 48; 1991, c. 411, s. 3; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1007, s. 31.)

Part 12. Sentencing; Penalties.

§ 20-176. Penalty for misdemeanor or infraction.

(a) Violation of a provision of Part 9, 10, 10A, or 11 of this Article is an infraction unless the violation is specifically declared by law to be a misdemeanor or felony. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a1) of this section, violation of the remaining Parts of this Article is a misdemeanor unless the violation is specifically declared by law to be an infraction or a felony.

(a1) A person who does any of the following is responsible for an infraction:

- (1) Fails to carry the registration card in the vehicle, in violation of G.S. 20-57(c).
- (2) Fails to sign the vehicle registration card, in violation of G.S. 20-57(c).
- (3) Fails to notify the Division of an address change for a vehicle registration card within 60 days after the change occurs, in violation of G.S. 20-67.

(b) Unless a specific penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person found responsible for an infraction contained in this Article may be ordered to pay a penalty of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(c) Unless a specific penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person convicted of a misdemeanor contained in this Article is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. A punishment is specific for purposes of this subsection if it contains a quantitative limit on the term of imprisonment or the amount of fine a judge can impose.

(c1) Repealed by Session Laws 2014-100, s. 16C.1(c), effective October 1, 2014.

(c2) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-385, s. 5, effective December 1, 2013.

(d) For purposes of determining whether a violation of an offense contained in this Chapter constitutes negligence per se, crimes and infractions shall be treated identically. (1937, c. 407, s. 137; 1951, c. 1013, s. 7; 1957, c. 1255; 1967, c. 674, s. 3; 1969, c. 378, s. 3; 1973, c. 1330, s. 34; 1975, c. 644; 1985, c. 764, s. 20; 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 852, ss. 7, 17; c. 1014, s. 202; 1993, c. 539, s. 379; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2013-360, s. 18B.14(h); 2013-385, s. 5; 2014-100, s. 16C.1(c).)

§ 20-217. Motor vehicles to stop for properly marked and designated school buses in certain instances; evidence of identity of driver.

(a) When a school bus is displaying its mechanical stop signal or flashing red lights and the bus is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers, the driver of any other vehicle that approaches the school bus from any direction on the same street, highway, or public vehicular area shall bring that other vehicle to a full stop and shall remain stopped. The driver of the other vehicle shall not proceed to move, pass, or attempt to pass the school bus until after the mechanical stop signal has been withdrawn, the flashing red stoplights have been turned off, and the bus has started to move.

(b) For the purpose of this section, a school bus includes a public school bus transporting children or school personnel, a public school bus transporting senior citizens under G.S. 115C-243, or a privately owned bus transporting children. This section applies only in the event the school bus bears upon the front and rear a plainly visible sign containing the words "school bus."

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the driver of a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction from the school bus, upon any road, highway or city street that has been divided into two roadways, so constructed as to separate vehicular traffic between the two roadways by an intervening space (including a center lane for left turns if the roadway consists of at least four more lanes) or by a physical barrier, need not stop upon meeting and passing any school bus that has stopped in the roadway across the dividing space or physical barrier.

(d) It shall be unlawful for any school bus driver to stop and receive or discharge passengers or for any principal or superintendent of any school, routing a school bus, to authorize the driver of any school bus to stop and receive or discharge passengers upon any roadway described by subsection (c) of this section where passengers would be required to cross the roadway to reach their destination or to board the bus; provided, that passengers may be discharged or received at points where pedestrians and vehicular traffic are controlled by adequate stop-and-go traffic signals.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, any person violating this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor and shall pay a minimum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall not receive a prayer for judgment continued under any circumstances.

(f) Expired.

(g) Any person who willfully violates subsection (a) of this section and strikes any person shall be guilty of a Class I felony and shall pay a minimum fine of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$1,250). Any person who willfully violates subsection (a) of this section and strikes any person, resulting in the death of that person, shall be guilty of a Class H felony and shall pay a minimum fine of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

(g1) The Division shall revoke, for a period of one year, the drivers license of a person convicted of a second misdemeanor violation under this section within a three-year period. The Division shall revoke, for a period of two years, the drivers license of a person convicted of a Class I felony violation under this section. The Division shall revoke, for a period of three years, the drivers license of a person convicted of a Class H felony violation under this section. The Division shall permanently revoke the drivers license of (i) a person convicted of a second felony violation under this section within any period of time and (ii) a person convicted of a third misdemeanor violation under this section within any period of time.

In the case of a first felony conviction under this section, the licensee may apply to the sentencing court for a limited driving privilege after a period of six months of revocation, provided the person's drivers license has not also been revoked or suspended under any other provision of

law. A limited driving privilege issued under this subsection shall be valid for the period of revocation remaining in the same manner and under the terms and conditions prescribed in G.S. 20-16.1(b). If the person's drivers license is revoked or suspended under any other statute, the limited driving privilege issued pursuant to this subsection is invalid.

In the case of a permanent revocation of a person's drivers license for committing a third misdemeanor violation under this section within any period of time, the person may apply for a drivers license after two years. The Division may, with or without a hearing, issue a new drivers license upon satisfactory proof that the former licensee has not been convicted of a moving violation under this Chapter or the laws of another state. The Division may impose any restrictions or conditions on the new drivers license that the Division considers appropriate. Any conditions or restrictions imposed by the Division shall not exceed two years.

In the case of a permanent revocation of a person's drivers license for committing a second Class I felony violation under this section within any period of time, the person may apply for a drivers license after three years. The Division may, with or without a hearing, issue a new drivers license upon satisfactory proof that the former licensee has not been convicted of a moving violation under this Chapter or the laws of another state. The Division may impose any restrictions or conditions on the new drivers license that the Division considers appropriate. Any conditions or restrictions imposed by the Division shall not exceed three years.

Any person whose drivers license is revoked under this section is disqualified pursuant to G.S. 20-17.4 from driving a commercial motor vehicle for the period of time in which the person's drivers license remains revoked under this section.

(g2) Pursuant to G.S. 20-54, failure of a person to pay any fine or costs imposed pursuant to this section shall result in the Division withholding the registration renewal of a motor vehicle registered in that person's name. The clerk of superior court in the county in which the case was disposed shall notify the Division of any person who fails to pay a fine or costs imposed pursuant to this section within 20 days of the date specified in the court's judgment, as required by G.S. 20-24.2(a)(2). The Division shall continue to withhold the registration renewal of a motor vehicle until the clerk of superior court notifies the Division that the person has satisfied the conditions of G.S. 20-24.1(b) applicable to the person's case. The provisions of this subsection shall be in addition to any other actions the Division may take to enforce the payment of any fine imposed pursuant to this section.

(h) Automated camera and video recording systems may be used to detect and prosecute violations of this section. Any photograph or video recorded by a camera or video recording system shall, if consistent with the North Carolina Rules of Evidence, be admissible as evidence in any proceeding alleging a violation of subsection (a) of this section. (1925, c. 265; 1943, c. 767; 1947, c. 527; 1955, c. 1365; 1959, c. 909; 1965, c. 370; 1969, c. 952; 1971, c. 245, s. 1; 1973, c. 1330, s. 35; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1280, s. 4; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1323; 1983, c. 779, s. 1; 1985, c. 700, s. 1; 1991, c. 290, s. 1; 1993, c. 539, s. 382; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 1998-149, s. 10; 2005-204, s. 1; 2006-160, s. 1; 2006-259, s. 11(a); 2007-382, s. 1; 2009-147, ss. 1, 2; 2013-293, s. 2.)

§ 136-30. Uniform signs and other traffic control devices on highways, streets, and public vehicular areas.

(a) State Highway System. - The Department of Transportation may number and mark highways in the State highway system. All traffic signs and other traffic control devices placed on a highway in the State highway system must conform to the Uniform Manual. The Department of Transportation shall have the power to control all signs within the right-of-way of highways in the State highway system. The Department of Transportation may erect signs directing persons to roads and places of importance.

(b) Municipal Street System. - All traffic signs and other traffic control devices placed on a municipal street system street must conform to the appearance criteria of the Uniform Manual. All traffic control devices placed on a highway that is within the corporate limits of a municipality but is part of the State highway system must be approved by the Department of Transportation.

(c) Public Vehicular Areas. - Except as provided in this subsection, all traffic signs and other traffic control devices placed on a public vehicular area, as defined in G.S. 20-4.01, must conform to the Uniform Manual. The owner of private property that contains a public vehicular area may place on the property a traffic control device, other than a sign designating a parking space for handicapped persons, as defined in G.S. 20-37.5, that differs in material from the uniform device but does not differ in shape, size, color, or any other way from the uniform device. The owner of private property that contains a public vehicular area may place on the property a sign designating a parking space for handicapped persons that differs in material and color from the uniform sign but does not differ in shape, size, or any other way from the uniform device.

(d) Definition. - As used in this section, the term "Uniform Manual" means the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, published by the United States Department of Transportation, and any supplement to that Manual adopted by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

(e) Exception for Public Airport Traffic Signs. - Publicly owned airports, as defined in Chapter 63 of the General Statutes, shall be exempt from the requirements of subsections (b) and (c) of this section with respect to informational and directional signs, but not with respect to regulatory traffic signs. (1921, c. 2, ss. 9(a), 9(b); C.S., ss. 3846(q), 3846(r); 1927, c. 148, s. 54; 1933, c. 172, s. 17; 1957, c. 65, s. 11; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; 1977, c. 464, s. 7.1; 1991, c. 530, s. 1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 818, s. 2; 1993, c. 51.)

Appendix C: Placard Design (Current and Future)

Current Placards





Future Placards



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000000C

Appendix D: Brochure

Front



NORTH CAROLINA HANDICAP PARKING PLACARDS AND PLATES

North Carolina law provides for parking ance to vehicle owners with medical professionals have certified as being unable to walk without assistance or who have restrictions caused by lung disease, defective vision, or cardiac, arthritic, anditions neurological or orthopedic condi (N.C. General Statutes 20-37.6).

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles provides three types of handicap licensing.

- · Five-year handicap parking placard
- Temporary (up to six months) handicap parking placard
- * Handicap driver registration plate/tag

HOW DO I OBTAIN A HANDICAP PLATE

OR PARKING PLACARD? Your doctor must certify to NCDMV that you have a mobility impairment linked to You may obtain an application form for a handicap parking placard/tag from any DMV license plate agency, or download one at http://www.ncdot.org/dmv/vehicle_services/ licenseplates/handicapped html. Your doctors office may also provide the application forms.

WHO MAY USE A HANDICAP PLATE OR PLACARD?

Placards and plates are to be used only for transporting the handicapped to whom they are issued. Parking placards must be displayed inside the vehicles from the rearview mirror Plates, which carry the International Symbol of Access — a wheelchair — replace usual license plates on the back of the vehicle Only the individual who is issued the placard or plate may use handicap parking privileges.

WHEN MAY I USE HANDICAP PARKING? Handicap parking may be used ONLY when the person to whom the placard or

plate was issued is in the vehicle. If that person is not in the car, the driver MAY NOT use the handicap placard/plate. MAY I USE SOMEONE ELSE'S HANDICAP

PLACARD IF... Example 1: You are a disabled veteran with a handicap license tag. Your grandchild borrows your car. They may NOT use handicap parking and will be subject to posted fines if they do so. You should warn them NOT to park in handicap parking spaces

Example 2: You will "only be a minute." even though she is not with output daminute, even though she is not with you. This is illegally parking in handicap spaces and you will be subject to posted fines.

Example 3: You have sprained your ankle. You use your Mom's handicap placard, although she is not along. Is this legal? The answer is no. You have not been found to be disabled. While you have a temporary disability, the placard was not issued to you. Therefore, you cannot legally park in handicap spaces

IS THE NORTH CAROLINA HANDICAP PLACARD OR PLATE RECOGNIZED IN OTHER STATES?

Yes. Other states recognize North Carolina placards and plates. In addition, local law enforcement will honor valid placards from other states or countries.

- HOW DO I RENEW A PARKING PLACARD? months and are therefore not rer newable
- Five-year placards may only be renewee the recertification of a physician. Each placard costs \$5.
- Handicap driver registration plates/tags must be renewed by sticker annually and recertified by your physician every five years The regular registration plate fee applies to these plates.

WHERE CAN I PARK USING MY PLATE OR PLACARD? If you have a valid handicap placard or

plate, you may use spaces marked for the handicapped without time limits. In many, but not all jurisdictions, you may also park longer than posted in

any non-handicap parking space WHERE SHOULD I NOT PARK?

You may not park in fire lanes, loading zones, or any area marked with striped lines. You may not obstruct the entrance or exit to a property with your vehicle

WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR PARKING ILLEGALLY IN A SPACE DESIGNATED FOR

Persons with Disabilities? Parking spaces for handicapped driver/ owners are required to be marked with a sign designating the maximum penalty for parking in the space in violation of the law. It is unlawful to park or leave standing any vehicle that does not carry a valid handicap placard or plate in a handicap parking space. It is also unlawful to block or obstruct a curb ramp or curb cut for handicapped persons, as provided under the North Carolina Building Code.

Violations of these parking requirements are in which ractic carry penalties of \$100 to \$250

Additionally, law enforcement officers may order a vehicle in violation of this sa be towed. Provisions relative to parking in spaces marked and reserved for handicapped people are enforced by state, county and municipal authorities in their jurisdictions and may be subject to citations and fines

WHAT IS A "VAN ACCESSIBLE" HANDICAP PARKING SPACE?

Parking SPACE? The average handicap space is 60 inches wide while van accessible spaces are 96 inches wide. They provide enough room for ramps or lifts to allow wheelchairs to exit safely

WHAT ARE THE STRIPED AISLES IN

WHAT ARE THE STRIPED AISLES IN PARKING COTS? Striped aides, or access aisles, are used for wheelchair transfer, walker use and for ramps and lifts to operate safely. Van accessible spaces are usually next to access aisles. Leave striped access aisles free for wheelchairs and walkers.

WHICH HANDICAP SPACE SHOULD PARK IN?

If you are handicapped and use a small If you are handicapped and use a small vehicle, do not park in the van accessible space. Park in the space that fits your vehicle and your disability. Save the van accessible space for a wheekchair accessible van.

Appendix E: AAMVA Survey

DO YOU INCLUDE ANY PERSONAL IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION ON YOUR HANDICAP PLACARD? IF YES, WHAT INFORMATION IS INCLUDED (PICTURE, NAME, ADDRESS, DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER, ETC.)

STATE	RESPONSE
AB, AL, AR, CA, DC, DE, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD,	NO
ME, MO, NE, NH, NJ, OH, PA, RI,VA,VT, WA	
BC	The administration and handling of the Handicap
	Placard is not handled by the Provincial Government in
	British Columbia. It is handled by a non-profit organization called Richmond Centre for Disability Ph#
	604-232-2404. Web www.rcdrichmond.org for more
	information.
СО	Last 4 digits of DL or ID
FL	Driver License Number/Birth Month and Year of
	Expiration
IA	The only customer information on the placard is their
	signature
LA	We place an ID number on the placard. The customer receives a corresponding ID card with this number. The
	ID only has the picture of the customer.
MB	Manitoba Public Insurance does not administer the
	program in Manitoba
MI	A portion of the driver license/ID Card number is
	displayed on the placard for identification purpose
OR	Due to a statutory requirement, the last four digits of the customer number are written on the Renewable
	Disabled Person Parking Permit, the Wheelchair User
	Disabled Person Parking Permit and the Temporary
	Travel Disabled Person Parking Permit. No other
	personal identifiable information is added to the placard
	and the digits aren't recorded on other permits.
SC	Yes, the placard includes a picture of the disabled
ТХ	person. At time of issuance the first four digits of the applicant's
IX	driver license number, personal identification card
	number or military identification number and initials are
	recorded on the placard.
UT	There is no visible personal information displayed when
	placard is in use. Only the owner's name is printed, but
	this is done on the inside of our tri-fold placard. In Wisconsin, The only information that we have on the
WI	placard is the unique identider number of the placard.
	This number is unique to the customer and allows us to
	identify the customer quickly through our database.

ARE YOUR PLACARDS ISSUED TO THE CUSTOMER FROM THE DMV OR IS THIS SERVICE OUTSOURCED? IF THE SERVICE IS OUTSOURCED WHAT IS GIVEN TO THE CUSTOMER AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION?

STATE	RESPONSE
AB, AL AR, CO, DC,DE, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, OH, RI, SC, UT, VT, WA, WI	The local license plate agency
CA	DMV and Auto Clubs

FL	Acting as agents of the department, Disabled Persons
	Parking Permits are issued by the County Tax
	Collector's Offices throughout the state of Florida.
IA	The placards are issued by the Iowa DOT driver license
	stations and the county treasurer offices.
ID	Placards are issued only from the state DMV. Our
	county assessors who act as our agents in issuing title
	applications and registrations can issue 30 day
	temporary placards, while the applications are
	processed.
KY	Yes, Placards are issued to the customers by MVL
	through the County Clerks.
OR	All DMV offices issue disabled person parking permits.
	Applications for program permits, family permits,
	parking identification card, or disabled person parking
	decal must be mailed to our main DMV headquarters
	office.
PA	Temporary and Permanent Person with Disability
	parking placards are processed at the Central Office. In
	addition, permanent person with disability parking
	placards are processed by online messengers that are
	under contract with PennDOT. Temporary and
	Permanent Person with Disability parking placards that
	are processed at Central Office may be given directly to
	the customer immediately or through the mail.
	Permanent person with disability parking placards that
	are processed by an online messenger, under contract
	with PennDOT, may only process the applications and
	the product must product mailed to the customer.
ТХ	Application for Temporary and Permanent Disabled
	Placards are actually issued by the 254 Texas County
	Tax Assessor-Collector's Offices.
VA	The production of the placards is outsourced. The
	customer is provided with a paper temporary placard
	that is good for 15 days.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR THE PLACARD TO BE RECEIVED FROM THE VENDOR?

STATE	RESPONSE
AB, CO, DC, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MO, MS, NE, NJ, OH, SC, TX, UT, VT, WA	Issued immediately
AL	We specify 4 to 6 weeks in our specifications document.
AR	Placards are order in bulk from the vendor and distributed by our central shipping and receiving section. Placards are received within 4 - 5 weeks of placing an order.
ID	Mailed from state DMV HQ office, typically 24 to 48 hour turnaround from the time the application is received. No vendor is involved.
КҮ	60 days.
ME	6-8 WEEKS
MI	Depending on the size of the order, about 4 weeks average.
МТ	When ordering placards, we usually receive them within two months from the vendor.
NH	Once the order is placed a specific date is assigned for delivery.

OR	Assuming "vendor" means the printer/supplier of the permits, our bid requires a 30 business day turnaround for the orders.
PA	Person with Disability parking placards are processed within 3 business days of receipt. The placard processing file is provided to the vendor on a weekly basis (every Sunday) through and FTP file. The vendor has 2 days to process the FTP file and mail the products.
RI	We purchase stock placards from a vendor but always have plenty in stock to send to the customers.
UT	Placards are printed at the time of issuance and given to the customer or mailed.
VA	3 to 7 business days
WI	It takes approximately one month from the time it is ordered to be received.

WHO IS YOUR VENDOR?

STATE	RESPONSES
DC, DE, FL, IA, IL, KS, LA, MD, MO, MS, BE, NJ, OH, SC, TX, VT	N/A
AB	We only print the base placard through a vendor, the registration and validation stickers are attached to it at the time of issue.
AL	Digital Marketing Services, Inc. David Rula (205) 874- 6183 ext. 806
AR	Dri Stick Decal/Rydin Decal in Streamwood, II.
СО	3m through colorado correctional industries
ID	N/A except to manufacture the prenumbered placards
IN	Our vendor who makes the placards is Intellectual Technology Incorporated (ITI).
КҮ	Kentucky Correctional Industries.
ME	Dri-Stick Decal Corp DBA Rydin Decal PO Box 92170 Elk Grove Village IL 60009
MI	Rydin Decal
MT	Rydin Decal
NH	Rydin Decal out of Illinois
OR	Assuming "vendor" means the printer/supplier of the permits, we go with the lowest bid for our orders. Our current supplier is Rydin Decal.
PA	RR Donelley. Our point of contact is Dan Covell and his email is <u>Dan.covell@rrd.com</u>
RI	RW Donnely
UT	Utah Dept. of Corrections supplies our disabled placard stock
VA	Fiserv
WA	Interstate Graphics
WI	The vendor that produces these placards is Rydin Decal.

WHAT HAVE THE CHALLENGES BEEN AND ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICE?

STATE	RESPONSES
DC, DE, FL, IA, ID, IL, KS, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, NE, OH, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT, VT	N/A
AL, AR, CO, IN, KY, ME, NH, PA, WA, WI	We have had no issues with the service of this vendor.
VA	Overall, we have been satisfied with the service. In the beginning of the contract, they only picked up the file to produce the placards weekly and they resulted in customer complaints in the length of time it took to receive the placard. That was changed to a daily pick- up and resolved the complaints.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE STATUTORY REFERENRCES RELATED TO THE MISUSE OF YOUR PLACARDS (PENALTIES ETC)

STA	RESPONSES
TE	
AB	none at this time
AL	http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/codeofalabama/1975/32-6-231.htm Section 32-6-231, Code of Alabama 1975. I attached the link to the code section as an attachment to this survey.
AR	Arkansas Code 27-15-305
СА	California Vehicle Code Section 4463, 4463.3. 22511.56
СО	http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/colorado/?app=00075&view=full&interface=1&docinfo=off&searchtyp e=get&search=C.R.S.+42-3-204
	http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/colorado/?app=00075&view=full&interface=1&docinfo=off&searchtyp e=get&search=C.R.S.+42-4-1208
DC	N/A
DE	http://delcode.delaware.gov/title21/c021/sc02/index.shtml Title 21, Chapter 21, Section 2135
FL	Section 320.0848(8), Florida Statutes, provides that a parking enforcement specialist in addition to a law enforcement officer may confiscate a disabled parking permit for specified reasons (fraudulently obtains or unlawfully uses). Anyone who obtains or uses a permit that does not belong to them can be charged with a second-degree misdemeanor, punishable with a \$1,000 fine, jail time up to 1 year or both.
IA	Iowa Code 321L.2
ID	TITLE 49 MOTOR VEHICLES CHAPTER 4 MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION 49-410. Special license plates and placards for persons with a disability Parking privileges Placards for certain temporarily disabled persons Enforcement. (1) Any person with a disability as defined in section 49-117, Idaho Code, or any parent or guardian of a dependent child with a disability as defined in section 49-117, Idaho Code, without regard to the age of the dependent child, shall be eligible for the use of special license plates bearing the international accessible symbol, for any vehicle owned by such person or owned by a qualified parent or guardian, but excluding any commercial vehicle with a registered maximum gross weight over twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds. The parking privileges granted under the provisions of subsection (7) of this section shall apply to any vehicle displaying special license plates or placard issued pursuant to this section. (2) Registration and license plate fees for vehicles owned by a person with a disability or qualified parent or guardian of a dependent child with a disability, shall be as provided, respectively, in sections 49-402, 49-434(1) and 49-450, Idaho Code. Nothing in this section shall be construed as abrogating provisions of section 49-445, Idaho Code. The use of the special placard issued under the provisions of subsection (4) of this section, shall not exempt the owner of a motor vehicle from otherwise properly registering and licensing the motor vehicle. (3) Special license plates for persons with a disability and for the parent or guardian of a dependent child with a disability, shall be the same size and

	color as other license plates, and shall have displayed upon them the registration numbers assigned to the vehicle and to the owner. The plates shall be numbered in a manner prescribed by the department, but the plates shall display the international accessible symbol. International Accessible Symbol (4) The department shall issue a special placard bearing the international accessible symbol and other information the department may require, to: (a) Any qualified person with a disability who does not own a motor vehicle: (b) Any qualified person with a disability who owns a motor vehicle, without regard to weight or use of the vehicle; (d) Any business entity which is engaged in transportation of persons with a disability. Which business shall not be required to submit a physician's certification. In addition to other application requirements, a business applicant shall sign a declaration that he is engaged in the transportation of persons with a disability. A business entity may include, but be limited to, hospitals, nursing homes, federal, state and local governmental agencies and taxic.abt. (5) Any person or business issued a special placard shall affix the special placard to a motor vehicle in a conspicuous place designated by the department. The placard shall bear distinguishing marks, letters or numerals indicating the vehicle is utilized by a permanently disabled person. When the placard is affixed to a motor vehicle and the motor vehicle is transporting a person with a disability, whole Code. (7) Any motor vehicle displaying special license plates or displaying the special placard or number shall sing declarison a unse vehicing is perilicelar transportation of persons with a disability, whole the part to the state of mesidower displaying special license plates for a person with a disability, whole to gard to the state of residower displaying special license plates for a person with a disability, without regard to the state of the vehicle is prohibited to realine to a sone designated for mersons with a di
	this section and are empowered, using reasonable discretion, to check personal identification to determine if the user of the plate or placard is authorized to use accessible parking privileges. Any fines collected
	shall be retained by the city or county whose law enforcement official issued the citation. 625 ILCS 5/11-1301.3
IL IN	
IN	Indiana Code 9-14-5
KY	KRS 189.459 and KRS 189.990(29).
MD	Plates - §13-616 (h) Fraud, §13-616 (k) Penalty for violation of section, Placard §13-616.1 (h)Fraud or misrepresentation, §13-616 (i) Penalty for violation of section, Temp Placard §13-616.2 (f) Fraud or misrepresentation, §13-616(g) Penalty for violation of section
ME	Maine Motor Vehicle Statutes, Title 29-A, Section 521, subsection 9-A http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/29-A/title29-Asec521.html

MI MO MS	MCL 257.675 (14 - 22) <u>http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?mcl-257-675</u> 301.141, RSMo. 301.142, RSMo. 301.143, RSMo. 304.079, RSMo.
MS	
	Misdemeanor and fined \$200
m	49-4-307. Penalty. A person who parks a motor vehicle in violation of 49-4-302(2) is guilty of a nisdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of \$100. However, a person charged with violating 49-4-302(2) hay not be convicted if within 24 hours the person produces in court or the office of the arresting officer a special parking permit that was previously issued to the person and that is valid at the time of arrest.
н	 18-1741.01. Handicapped parking infraction, defined; citation issuance; enforcement on state property. 18-1741.02. Handicapped parking infraction; penalties; suspension of permit; fine. 18-1741.03. andicapped parking infraction; citation form; Supreme Court; powers. 18-1741.04. Handicapped parking citation; requirements; procedure; waivers; dismissal; credit card; payment authorized. 18-1741.05. landicapped parking citation; violation; penalty. 18-1741.06. Handicapped parking infraction; trial; rights. 18-1741.07. Handicapped parking infractions; sections, how construed
	Law for issuance is RSA 261:88 and administrative rules are Saf-C 521 Law for misuse is RSA 265:69 Please use this link to access them: <u>http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/dmv/rules-laws/index.htm</u> http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4501:1-7-02 http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4503.44
OH Mi	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
	isuse of Program Placard (ORS 811.630), Use of an Invalid Disabled Person Parking Permit (ORS.627), nlawful Use of Disabled Person Parking Permit by a Non-Disabled Person (ORS 811.625) and Unlawful Parking in Space Reserved for Disabled Person (ORS 811.615).
PA	Pennsylvania Vehicle Code Title 75, Section 1338(d)
RI	RIGL 31-28-7 http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE31/31-28/31-28-7.HTM
r tł	ECTION 56-3-1960. Temporary and permanent parking placards; illegal duplication or forgery (Excerpt) K)(1) Except as provided in item (2), a person that violates the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one housand dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days, or both, for each offense. (2) A person who illegally duplicates, forges, or sells a handicapped placard or a person who falsifies information on an application form for a handicapped placard is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be imprisoned for thirty days and fined not less than five hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars.
тх	Texas Transportation Code, Section 681.010 Texas Transportation Code, Section 681.0101 Texas Transportation Code, Section 681.011 Texas Transportation Code, Section 681.0111 Texas Transportation Code, Section 681.012
UT	Utah Code 41-1a-1306
h	http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1251/ § 46.2-1251. Fraudulently obtaining a disabled parking license plate or placard; penalty. tp://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1253/ § 46.2-1253. Providing a disabled parking license plate or placard; penalty. http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1252/ § 46.2-1252. Selling or exchanging a disabled parking license plate or placard; penalty. http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1248/ § 46.2-1248. Use of counterfeit disabled parking license plates or placards; penalty. http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1249/ § 46.2-1249. Alteration of disabled parking license plates or placards; penalty. tp://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1250/ § 46.2-1250. Unauthorized use of disabled parking license plates or placards; penalty. tp://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1250/ § 46.2-1250. Unauthorized use of disabled parking license plates or placards; penalty. http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title46.2/chapter12.1/section46.2-1250/ § 46.2-1247. Counterfeiting disabled parking license plates or placards; penalty.
VT	23 VSA 304(a)(e) \$277
WA	see the attached report
WI	The statutory reference you should refer to is 341.625.

DO YOU ISSUE A REGISTRATION CARD WITH THE PLACARD?

STATE	RESPONSES
AB, AR, CA, CO, FL, ID, KY, MD, ME, OH,SC,VA,	Yes
VT, WA	

DE, IA, IL, IN, MO, MS, MT, OR TX, UT	No
AL	That depends on the county office. They are not vehicle specific.
DC	We give a printout with the pertinent info.
KS	We issue a disabled ID card
LA	Only an ID card
MD	Yes, a certification card is issued with each placard and disability license plate
ME	Yes, we issue a registration certificate, plates, and sticker
MI	No, MDOS issues a receipt.
NE	An ID card that contains personal informaiton is isssued and required to be carried any time the permit is used.
NH	No, registration card is only issued when they have a Handicap Plate.
PA	Pennsylvania issues either a temporary or permanent (good for 5 years) identification card with each person with disability parking placard issued.
RI	We issue a certificate to be kept in the glove box. The certificate has the PII on it and the certificate number matches the number printed on the hanging placard.
VA	Yes, we issue an identification card with the customer's personal information displayed on the card.
WI	We do not issue a registration card with the placard. We do issue a certificate of registration showing the unique placard number and the customer's information, so the customer has proof of issuance.

HOW MUCH DOES THE PLACARD COST AND HOW LONG IS IT VALID?

STATE	RESPONSES
AB	The cost is 9.45. There are three types of placards: short term: 3-12 months long perm: 5 years permanent: renewed every 5 years without the need to get medical approval (i.e. paralized people in wheelchairs)
AL	No charge for the placards. Temporary placards are valid for no more than 6 months. The blue placards are valid for no more than 5 years.
AR	Placards are free and are valid for 4 years
CA	No cost for a permanent placard (RE: ADA compliance), however, temporary placards are \$6.
СО	Free, see attached job aide
DC	Free up to 8 years, expired with the license/ID card expiration date or until the doctor deems the placard is necessary.
DE	Placards are free and are good for three years.
FL	There is no fee for a permanent or long-term parking permit. The permanent or long-term parking permits will be issued for a period of up to four years and will expire on the disabled person's birthday. The fee for a temporary permit fee is \$15. Temporary permits are issued for the period indicated by a physician, not to exceed 6 months from the date of issuance.
A	There is no cost for placards. Temporary placards are valid for up to six months. Permanent placards do not expire. Organizational placards are valid for four years.

ID	There is no charge for disability placards. Permanent placards have no expiration date. Temporary placards can be issued up to 6 months.
IL	No fee for initial issuance. \$10 fee for a replacement if lost or destroyed. Valid for 4 years for permanent, up to 6 months for temporary.
IN	Permanent placards do not expire and are free of charge. Temporary placards are valid for 6 months and are \$5 each.
KS	In Kansas they are free and are good for 5 years.
KY	Kentucky does not charge fee for Placards. Temporary
	Placards are good for three (3) months. Permanent Placards are good for two (2) years, plus two (2) renewals for a total of six (6) years.
LA	3.00 plus any service fee depending on the office visited
MD	There is no fee for the placard. Permanent placards are issued for 4 years and temporary placard for 1 to 6 months.
ME	No fee for the placard, but the plates cost \$35.00. Placards expire on the expiration date of the person's driver's license or State identification card.
MI	Placards are free. Replacement Placards cost \$10. MDOS has 2 different types of placard, permanent and temporary. Permanent placards expire every 4 years on the customers birthday. Temporary placards expire anywhere from 1-6 months. The duration of temporary placards are determined by a physician or designated licensed medical staff.
МО	Permanent Placard- No fee charged. Expire four years after issuance. Temporary Placard- \$2.00 fee charged. Expire 30 to 180 days from the date the physician's statement is signed.
MS	No cost Temporary Placard expires in six months Permanent Placard expires in five year series
MT	Montana does not charge for disabled parking permits. Permanent placards are valid for three years. Temporary placards are valid anywhere from one month to 24 months.
NE	No cost, 6 years
NH	Placards are issued for free. Permanent ones can be good for up to 5 years, they currently expire with customers drivers license if they have one. Temporary placards are issued for up to 6 months, it is the doctors decision for the length.
ОН	The placard is free, but there is a \$3.50 service fee. Temporary placards may be issued for a period of two to six months. Permanent placards are valid for at least six months, and up to five years.
OR	There is no fee for any of the permits. The valid term varies by the type of disabled person parking permit: Renewable Disabled Person Parking Permit: Valid until the expiration of the holder's driver license or ID card. The permit must be renewed when the license or ID card is renewed, and a certificate of disability must be submitted each time the permit is renewed. Temporary Duplicate (travel) Disabled Person Parking Permit: Valid for 30 days from the date of issuance, and you must have a current valid parking permit in order to get a duplicate. Temporary Disabled Person Parking Permit: Valid for the length of time the physician deems necessary, not to exceed 6 months. Wheelchair User

	Disabled Person Parking Permit: Valid until the expiration of the holder's driver license or ID card. The permit must be renewed when the license or ID card is renewed, and a certificate of disability must be submitted each time the permit is renewed. Family Disabled Person Parking Permit: Valid for 8 years from issuance. Program Disabled Parking Permit: Valid for 8 years from issuance.
PA	Pennsylvania issues permanent person with disability parking placard that is valid for 5 years. At the end of the 5 years, the person with disability parking placard may be renewed for 5 year increments. A temporary person with disability parking placard is issued for up to 6 months. There is no fee for either product.
RI	No Cost We have three types 1. Orange Temp - up to 60 days - can be issued by health care provider 2. Temp - good for 1 year may be renewed for up to 2 years 3. Long Term - 6 years - may be renewed by Dr. certification 4. Perm - 6 years - can be renewed by affidavit of the applicant
SC	The cost to the customer is \$1.00. Permanent placards are valid for 4 years and temporary placards are valid for 4 months.
тх	Blue Disabled Parking Placard(s) are issued to a person with a permanent disability. Red Disabled Parking Placard(s) are issued to a person with a temporary disability. Red Disabled Parking Placard(s) are issued to a person with a permanent disability that is an out-of-state/country resident and seeking medical treatment in Texas. Placard Fee There is no fee for blue placards issued for a permanent disability. There is a \$5 fee for each red placard issued for a temporary disability (up to two red placards may be issued).
UT	No cost. The permanent disabled placards are valid for two years. The temporary disabled placards can be valid anywhere from 30 days to 6 months.
VA	\$5.00 Temporary Disability Placards are issue valid up to six months. Permanent Disability Placards are issued for a 5 year period. Institutional Placards are issued for a 5 year period.
VT	\$0 Some are permanent, some are four years, some are six months, dependent on medical condition.
WA	No cost and is valid for 5 years
WI	We have 2 types of placards. The temporary placard is good for up to 6 months and is a cost of \$6.00. The permanent placard is good for 4 years and is no cost to the customer.

WHAT IS THE VOLUME OF CITATIONS ISSUED FOR MISUSE OF HANDICAP PLACARDS? WHAT HAPPENS TO THESE CITATIONS? (THROWN OUT, SMALL FINES PAID ETC.)

STATE	RESPONSES
AL, AR, CA, CO, IA,IL, MD, NE, OH	Data not available
DC	Not a DMV function. IT's a police (MPD) or Dept of transportation (DDOT) function.
FL	These type violations are written under local ordinances, so the department does not know how they are handled locally. The department has created a website for reporting misuse of a Disabled Parking Permit. For fiscal year July 1, 2014 through June 30,

	2015, we have received 142 complaints through this system.
ID	I don't believe Idaho has had any citations. This would come from our judicial system and not DMV. We have not canceled any for this reason.
IN	Contact Indiana law enforcement.
KS	We do not keep records of citations for misuse
КҮ	Citations are issued by the state and local law enforcement agencies. MVL does not have access to their citation database.
LA	These are not reported to OMV
MD	This information is not available through the MVA
ME	BMV does not track citations; they are issued by state and local law enforcement officers. If statistics exist, the data would reside with Maine State Police. BMV tracks violations and there were 36 misuse violations in 2014
MI	To our knowledge, about 200-500/yr. Citations are written to appear in court, court costs and fines are mandatory for payment when found guilty. DMV does not have access to such citation records.
MO	
MS	Local law enforcement handles the citations, not our office
MT	Unknown. These citations are handled by cities and counties and do not reach the MVD.
NH	Do not have information regarding the volume of citations issued. However, the minimum fine for this violation is \$250.00. Just like with any ticket the person has a right to plead not-guilty and go to court to fight it.
ОН	The Bureau does not collect this data.
OR	There were 92 for the year of 2014. Unknown what happens to these citations.
РА	Citations are issued by law enforcement agencies. PennDOT has no statistics for this.
RI	We do not have this data. This would be handled by the courts by way of adjudicating tickets. We have police seize approximately a dozen placards a year for misuse which are returned to DMV.
SC	The SCDMV does not track this information. Law enforcement deals with handicapped placards violations.
ТХ	The TxDMV does track and/or receive information on the issuance of citations issued for misuse of placards. We would have to defer to law enforcement for this information.
UT	The Utah DMV does not track citations issued. This would be best answered by the Dept. of Public safety.
VA	Citations are issued by each locality in Virginia and DMV does not receive this information.
VT	There were 61 citations for calendar year 2014. They are either adjudicated or dismissed. Judgments for the defendant are thrown out, judgments for the State are upheld and a fine is due.
WA	see the attached report
WI	We at the DMV only issue the placards and do not partake in the enforcement of them. There are citations per statute however

IS THIS A PROBLEM IN YOUR STATE? (CITATIONS)

STATE	RESPONSES
АВ	Yes. abuse and placards that may be issued to people by an approved medical professional who should not have them.
AL, AR, CO, DC, IA, ID, UL, KY, MD,MO, MS, MT,NE,OR,TX, UT, VT	NO
СА	The DMV operates DP Placard stings in conjunction with local law enforcement at their request.
IN	Contact Indiana law enforcement.
ME	Statistics suggest that subsequent violations are not a problem
MI	It is not a problem in Michigan. It is a common practice of law enforcement and entrusted staff.
NH	We do get several complaints a month regarding misuse of placards.
ОН	The Bureau is an administrative agency. We do not track infractions.
РА	Enforcement of persons with disability parking placard use is not handled by PennDOT and is handled by law enforcements agencies.
SC	This information is not available to the SCDMV.
VA	Citations are issued by each locality in Virginia and DMV does not receive this information.
WA	see the attached report
WI	We at the DMV only issue the placards and do not partake in the enforcement of them.

WHAT INITIATIVES HAVE YOU IMPLEMENTED OR PLANNED TO REDUCE THESE VIOLATIONS?

STATE	RESPONSES
AL,DC, IA, KY, MO,MS,MT, OR, PA, SC, UT, VT	N/A
AB	legislation changes and medical review board for questionable applications
AR	The placard number must appear on the drivers license, a state assigned ID card, or persons with a disability card.
CA	DMV does not enforce parking laws. Parking placards are renewed every two years; however, the CA DMV obtains monthly files from the CA Bureau of Vital Stats. If data matches, the placard record is marked with a deceased status. In addition, we no longer automatically issue if the address is out-of-state.
СО	revoking placard, prevents new issuance to violators
FL	Florida continues to identify and strives to reduce improper use of parking permits. One service provided to the public is a website to report Disabled Parking Permit Abuses
ID	(https://services.flhsmv.gov/parkingpermitabuse/). None, although recertification has been discussed on occasion, this has not occurred due to the inconvenience to customers and the cost to the state.

IL	Specified patrols at peak shopping times throughout the year.
IN	Contact Indiana law enforcement
	In 2001 the MVA implemented a disability application that: • Tracks the number of disability placards/plates issued to an individual. The records of Individuals who are out of compliance are flagged and a letter is sent requesting the adjustment required to become compliant. • An electronic file is received monthly from vital records that notifies of individuals who are deceased. This allows a letter to be generated to the "family of" requesting return of valid disability plates and placards. In addition, a flag is automatically set on the record preventing future renewal or replacements. • Electronic files are received daily from Maryland physician boards that allow verification of the medical license number of the physician ensuring the license is valid and in good standing (not expired or revoked) o Maryland allows the following identified physicians to certify an individual has a disability: * Certified nurse practitioner * Licensed physician * Licensed optometrist * Licensed physician * Licensed Physical Therapist (Implements October 1st, 2015) • Maryland law identifies and limits certain physicians to certify certain eligible qualifying conditions [i.e. A licensed optometrist may certify only conditions related to vision].The medical license is used to ensure this requirement is met. Law enforcement in Maryland was provided access to "look up" disability placard and plate information. The Maryland MVA investigative team works closely with jurisdictions that plan initiatives to
ME	curb abuse of disability parking in their jurisdictions. Law enforcement may implement violation reduction initiatives. BMV is basically a recordkeeping agency for violations as they relate to accident reports, driving records, and registration records.
MI	MDOS works in conjunction with law enforcement to curb the activity; we have taken the initiative to contact violators and request placards be returned, and we perform investigations.
NH	In NH we have the NH Governor's Commission on Disability. With every placard issued from our office we send out a letter titled Understanding New Hampshire's Parking Laws. We are trying to educate people on the proper use of placards and the consequences if they are being used illegally.
ОН	The Bureau is an administrative agency. We do not handle enforcement
TX	Implemented in 2008, the TxDMV has an Electronic Placard Database, which provides the counties with the ability to inquire by: • Applicant ID (Driver License/Identification Card [DL/ID]), • Existing Placard Number(s), • Name (first, middle and/or last), and • Institution Name to verify the number of placards issued. The database is also accessible by law enforcement through the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS). Law enforcement will have query capability using the Placard Number and/or a DL/ID Number. The inquiry will provide: • The name of the disabled person or institution and address, • The applicant's ID, which may include: • TDL of Disabled

	Demonstration TDL and Dehelf of Disable d Demonstration TV/ID (
	Person, • TDL on Behalf of Disabled Person, • TX ID of
	Disabled Person, • TX ID on Behalf of Disabled Person,
	• Facility #, • Out-of-State/Country Driver License, • Out-
	of-State/Country ID, • Military ID, • Dates Placard is
	Valid, and • County Issued.
VA	Placard use information is placed on the DMV website
	and in promotional materials available in our service
	outlets. The placards themselves and the placard
	carrier/mailer explain how the placards can be used and
	how they should not be used.
WA	Changes to special parking privilege laws for persons
	with disabilities take effect July 1, 2015. These law
	changes are an attempt to reduce the number of people
	abusing disabled parking privileges in our state. The
	changes to the laws are mainly the result of
	recommendations by a work group that was formed to
	develop a plan to eliminate abuse of the program.
	Participants included Department of Licensing,
	Department of Health, Governor's disabled citizen
	advocacy groups and local governments. The work
	group also gathered and considered input from the
	public. Changes include: •Requiring a written
	prescription from a health care provider to obtain
	disabled parking privileges. •Extending temporary
	parking placards from up to 6 months to up to 12
	months. •Requiring a new application for every renewal.
	 Inclusion of a new fraud warning on the application to
	remind applicants and healthcare providers it is a gross
	misdemeanor if they knowingly provide false information.
	 Upgrading the penalty of illegally obtaining a disabled
	parking placard, license plate, tab, or identification card
	from a traffic infraction to a misdemeanor
WI	We at the DMV only issue the placards and do not
	partake in the enforcement of them.

Appendix F: Study Participants

Stakeholders for HB91		
Name		Organization
Keith	Greenarch	Adaptables Center for Independent Living
Mercedes	Restucha-Klem	Disability Rights NC
Jennifer	Gasperini	NC Medical Society
Donna	Dreyling	Volunteer Handicap Parking Program
Celisa	Lehew	Town of Chapel Hill
Karen	Hamilton	NC Council on Disabled Persons
Randy	Sessoms	City of Fayetteville Police Department
Sue	Ferreyra	City of Fayetteville Police Department
Stacy	Smith	City of Fayettevile
Kathy	Brack	Mayor's Committee/Persons/Disabilities of Raleigh
Michael	Mclver	Garner Police Department
Ray	Owens	Raleigh Mayor's Committee
Keith	McCullogh	Chief City of Asheville
Michael	Crouse	Concerned Citizens
Erin	Wynia	NC League of Municipalities
Fred	Baggett	NC Association of Chief of Police
Daniel	Bridges	Volunteer Handicap Parking Program
Michael	Farmer	NCDOT IT
Jerry	Higgins	NCDOT Communications
Laticia	King	NCDOT Communications
Margaret	Howell	NCDOT Communications
Sophia	Rivera-Lopez	SCDMV