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HOUSE BILL 396

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

INTRODUCED BY

Emily Kane

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; CREATING A SPECIAL REGISTRATION  
PLATE FOR PEOPLE WITH SIGNIFICANT MOBILITY LIMITATION THAT HAS  
A COLLEGIATE LOGO; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 66-3-16 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,  
Chapter 35, Section 36, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-3-16. DISTINCTIVE REGISTRATION PLATES--PERSONS WITH  
SIGNIFICANT MOBILITY LIMITATION--PARKING PLACARD--COLLEGIATE  
LOGO.--

A. The division shall issue distinctive  
registration plates for use on motor vehicles and motorcycles  
owned by a person with a significant mobility limitation who  
requests a distinctive registration plate and who proves  
satisfactorily to the division that the person meets the

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1 standard provided in Subsection J of this section. No fee in  
2 addition to the regular registration fee, if any, applicable to  
3 the motor vehicle or motorcycle shall be collected for issuance  
4 of standard distinctive registration plates pursuant to this  
5 section.

6 B. No person shall falsely claim to have a  
7 significant mobility limitation so as to be eligible to be  
8 issued a distinctive registration plate or a parking placard  
9 pursuant to this section when the person does not in fact have  
10 a significant mobility limitation. Upon notice and opportunity  
11 to be heard, the division may revoke and demand return of any  
12 placard when:

13 (1) it was issued in error or with false  
14 information;

15 (2) the person receiving the placard is no  
16 longer eligible; or

17 (3) the placard is being used by ineligible  
18 persons.

19 C. Upon written application to the division  
20 accompanied by a medical statement by a licensed physician  
21 attesting to the permanent significant mobility limitation, a  
22 resident of the state who has a significant mobility  
23 limitation, as provided in this section, may apply for and be  
24 issued no more than two parking placards for display upon a  
25 motor vehicle registered to the person or motor vehicle owned

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1 by another person who is transporting the person with a  
2 significant mobility limitation. The physician shall provide  
3 the division all information and records necessary to issue a  
4 permanent parking placard. Once approved for use of a  
5 permanent parking placard, a person with a significant mobility  
6 limitation shall not be required to furnish further medical  
7 information.

8 D. A parking placard issued pursuant to this  
9 section shall expire four years from the date it was issued.

10 E. The division shall issue two-sided hanger-style  
11 parking placards with the following characteristics:

12 (1) a picture of the international symbol of  
13 access;

14 (2) a hologram to make duplication difficult;

15 (3) an imprinted expiration date; and

16 (4) a full-face photograph of the holder on  
17 the inside of the placard covered by a flap.

18 F. The division shall consult with the governor's  
19 commission on disability for continued issuance and format of  
20 the placard.

21 G. The division may issue an identification card  
22 containing a full-face photograph of the holder of the  
23 registration plate or parking placard and the number of the  
24 registration plate or parking placard issued to that person.

25 H. Upon written application to the division

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1 accompanied by a medical statement from a licensed physician  
2 attesting to a temporary significant mobility limitation, a  
3 person may be issued a temporary placard for no more than one  
4 year. The physician shall provide the division all information  
5 and records necessary to issue a temporary placard.

6 I. Registration plates or parking placards issued  
7 to a person with a significant mobility limitation by another  
8 state or foreign jurisdiction shall be honored until the motor  
9 vehicle or motorcycle is registered or the parking placard  
10 holder establishes residency in this state.

11 J. A "person with a significant mobility  
12 limitation" means a person who:

13 (1) cannot walk one hundred feet without  
14 stopping to rest;

15 (2) cannot walk without the use of a brace,  
16 cane or crutch or without assistance from another person, a  
17 prosthetic device, a wheelchair or other assistive device;

18 (3) is restricted by lung disease to such an  
19 extent that the person's forced respiratory volume, when  
20 exhaling for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less  
21 than one liter or the arterial oxygen tension is less than  
22 sixty millimeters on room air at rest;

23 (4) uses portable oxygen;

24 (5) has a severe cardiac condition; or

25 (6) is so severely limited in the ability to

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1 walk due to an arthritic, neurologic or orthopedic condition  
2 that the person cannot ascend or descend more than ten stair  
3 steps.

4 K. The division shall establish and issue special  
5 registration plates for people with a significant mobility  
6 limitation that feature a collegiate logo of a state-supported  
7 higher educational institution in New Mexico when that  
8 institution has requested that the division issue special  
9 collegiate registration plates for that institution. The  
10 division shall determine the design of the logo in consultation  
11 with the state-supported higher educational institution. The  
12 division shall issue a special registration plate for people  
13 with a significant mobility limitation that features a  
14 collegiate logo when a qualifying person pays the fee required  
15 in Section 66-3-416 NMSA 1978. Revenue collected pursuant to  
16 Section 66-3-416 NMSA 1978 shall be distributed as provided in  
17 that section."