

1 AN ACT

2 RELATING TO SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES; REQUIRING THE
3 TAXATION AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A DESIGN ELEMENT
4 THAT DENOTES A PERMANENT SIGNIFICANT MOBILITY LIMITATION AND
5 TO ISSUE THAT DESIGN ELEMENT ON ANOTHER SPECIAL REGISTRATION
6 PLATE IF REQUESTED BY A PERSON WHO QUALIFIES.

7
8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

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

11 "66-3-16. DISTINCTIVE REGISTRATION PLATES--PERSONS WITH
12 SIGNIFICANT MOBILITY LIMITATION--PARKING PLACARD.--

13 A. The division shall issue distinctive
14 registration plates for use on motor vehicles and motorcycles
15 owned by a person with a significant mobility limitation who
16 requests a distinctive registration plate and who proves
17 satisfactorily to the division that the person meets the
18 standard provided in Subsection K of this section. No fee in
19 addition to the regular registration fee, if any, applicable
20 to the motor vehicle or motorcycle shall be collected for
21 issuance of distinctive registration plates pursuant to this
22 section.

23 B. No person shall falsely claim to have a
24 significant mobility limitation so as to be eligible to be
25 issued a distinctive registration plate or a parking placard

1 pursuant to this section when the person does not in fact
2 have a significant mobility limitation. Upon notice and
3 opportunity to be heard, the division may revoke and demand
4 return of any placard when:

5 (1) it was issued in error or with false
6 information;

7 (2) the person receiving the placard is no
8 longer eligible; or

9 (3) the placard is being used by ineligible
10 persons.

11 C. Upon written application to the division
12 accompanied by a medical statement by a licensed physician or
13 a physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or
14 certified nurse-midwife working within that person's scope of
15 practice attesting to the permanent significant mobility
16 limitation, a resident of the state who has a significant
17 mobility limitation, as provided in this section, may apply
18 for and be issued no more than two parking placards for
19 display upon a motor vehicle registered to the person or
20 motor vehicle owned by another person who is transporting the
21 person with a significant mobility limitation. The physician
22 or the physician assistant, advanced practice registered
23 nurse or certified nurse-midwife working within that person's
24 scope of practice shall provide the division all information
25 and records necessary to issue a permanent parking placard.

1 Once approved for use of a permanent parking placard, a
2 person with a significant mobility limitation shall not be
3 required to furnish further medical information.

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

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

8 (1) a picture of the international symbol of
9 access;

10 (2) a hologram to make duplication
11 difficult;

12 (3) an imprinted expiration date; and

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

15 F. The division shall consult with the governor's
16 commission on disability for continued issuance and format of
17 the placard.

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

22 H. Upon written application to the division
23 accompanied by a medical statement from a licensed physician
24 or a physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse
25 or certified nurse-midwife working within that person's scope

1 of practice attesting to a temporary significant mobility
2 limitation, a person may be issued a temporary placard for no
3 more than one year. The physician or the physician
4 assistant, advanced practice registered nurse or certified
5 nurse-midwife working within that person's scope of practice
6 shall provide the division all information and records
7 necessary to issue a temporary placard.

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

13 J. The division shall establish a design element
14 that denotes permanent significant mobility limitation and
15 shall issue that design element on another special
16 registration plate if requested by a person who has a
17 permanent significant mobility limitation and who qualifies
18 for the other requested special registration plate; provided
19 that all fees and qualifications required to obtain the other
20 requested special registration plate are satisfied by the
21 requester.

22 K. A "person with a significant mobility
23 limitation" means a person who:

24 (1) cannot walk one hundred feet without
25 stopping to rest;

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

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

9 (4) uses portable oxygen;

10 (5) has a severe cardiac condition; or

11 (6) is so severely limited in the ability to
12 walk due to an arthritic, neurologic or orthopedic condition
13 that the person cannot ascend or descend more than ten stair
14 steps."

15 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
16 provisions of this act is January 1, 2018. _____