

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH10146-MA-96 (2/5)

Short Title: DMV Handicap Placard Enhancements. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Dollar.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ENSURE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF HANDICAPPED PARKING IN
NORTH CAROLINA BY CHANGING THE HANDICAP PLACARD DESIGN
TO REFLECT AN EXPIRATION DATE VISIBLE FROM AT LEAST TWENTY
FEET TO ENSURE INCREASED ENFORCEMENT AND COLLECTION OF
EXPIRED OR REVOKED PLACARDS AND TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF
MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE PLACARD REGISTRATION CARDS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-37.5(4) reads as rewritten:

"(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; and date that is visible from at least 20 feet
and gives the month and year of expiration; and
- d. The seal or other identification of the issuing authority."

SECTION 2. G.S. 20-37.6(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) 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

1 displayed, all parking rights and privileges extended to vehicles displaying a
2 distinguishing license plate issued pursuant to subsection (b) shall apply. The removable
3 windshield placard or the temporary removable windshield placard shall be displayed so
4 that it may be viewed from the front and rear of the vehicle by hanging it from the front
5 windshield rearview mirror of a vehicle using a parking space allowed for handicapped
6 persons. When there is no inside rearview mirror, or when the placard cannot
7 reasonably be hung from the rearview mirror by the handicapped person, the placard
8 shall be displayed on the driver's side of the dashboard. A removable windshield placard
9 placed on a motorized wheelchair or similar vehicle shall be displayed in a clearly
10 visible location. The Division shall establish procedures for the issuance of the placards
11 and may charge a fee sufficient to pay the actual cost of issuance, but in no event less
12 than five dollars (\$5.00) per placard. The Division shall issue a placard registration card
13 with each placard issued to an individual. The registration card shall bear the name of
14 the individual the placard is issued to, the individual's address, the placard number, and
15 an expiration date. The registration card shall be in the vehicle in which the placard is
16 being used and the individual to whom the placard is issued shall be the operator or a
17 passenger in the vehicle in which the placard is displayed."

18 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.