

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 1178

SPONSOR: Transportation Committee and Senator Wasserman Schultz

SUBJECT: Disabled Persons/Parking Permits

DATE: February 13, 2002      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	McAuliffe	Meyer	TR	Favorable/CS
2.	_____	_____	CA	_____
3.	_____	_____	AGG	_____
4.	_____	_____	AP	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This CS amends s. 320.0848, F.S., to reduce the term of a temporary parking permit for a disabled person from 1 year to 6 months.

This CS substantially amends section 320.0848 of the Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Section 320.0848, F.S., provides for the issuance of parking permits, for both long-term and temporarily disabled persons. The section provides that to be considered for a parking permit for disabled persons, either long-term or temporary, the applicant must be legally blind or have a condition which renders them unable to walk 200 feet without stopping to rest. Such conditions are the inability to walk without an assistance device, the need to permanently use a wheelchair, respiratory disease, the use of portable oxygen, cardiac condition, or arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

The section provides certification of such a disability must be provided by a physician, podiatrist, or an optometrist licensed in Florida, or by the Adjudication Office of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Further, an out-of-state physician may certify patients as disabled if the application is accompanied by documentation of the physician's licensure in the other state and a form signed by the out-of-state physician verifying his or her knowledge of Florida's eligibility guidelines.

Section 320.0848, F.S., provides the temporary parking permit may be issued for the period of the disability as stated by the certifying physician, but may not exceed one year. The section

further provides a temporary parking permit for a disabled person must be a different color than the long-term permit (the long-term placard is blue, the temporary placard is red), and, similar to the long-term permit, must display the permit expiration date, the state identification or driver's license number of the permit holder.

The fee for a temporary parking permit for disabled persons is \$15. From these proceeds:

- \$3.50 is distributed to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to implement the real-time disabled parking permit database and to administer the parking permits program;
- \$2.50 is distributed to the tax collector for processing the application;
- \$4 is distributed monthly to the Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Disabled Citizens to improve employment and training opportunities for disabled persons, with special emphasis on removing transportation barriers;
- \$5 is distributed monthly to the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund to fund matching grants to counties to improve the transportation of disabled persons.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

This CS amends s. 320.0848, F.S., to reduce the term of a temporary parking permit for a disabled person from 1 year to 6 months. The section is further amended to provide no person will have to pay more than one fee for a parking permit in a 12 month period from the date the previous permit was purchased.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

**B. Private Sector Impact:**

The fee for both the long-term and temporary parking permit for disable persons is the same, therefore there will be no fiscal impact on the private sector.

**C. Government Sector Impact:**

This CS would require persons certified as disabled for a period of 6 months to 1 year by an authorized practitioner to purchase a long-term parking permit, as opposed to current law where they would be eligible to purchase a temporary permit. The DHSMV receives no funds for a standard long-term parking permit and \$3.50 for a temporary permit. The local tax collector processing the application receives \$1.50 for a standard long-term parking permit and \$2.50 for a temporary permit. The Department of Transportation receives \$13.50 for a standard long-term parking permit and no funds for a temporary permit. The Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Disabled Citizens receives no funds for a standard long-term parking permit and \$4 for a temporary permit, and the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund receives no funds for a standard long-term parking permit and \$4 for a temporary permit.

Therefore, this CS will have a positive fiscal impact on the Department of Transportation, and would have a negative impact on DHSMV, the local tax collectors, the Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Disabled Citizens; and the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund. It is not known at this time what the precise impact of this CS will be since the information on how many persons applied for a temporary parking permit for a disability certified for a period of 6 months to 1 year is not available at this time.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.