



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Amy J. Rinehart

H.B. 265

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Stinziano and Grossman, Driehaus, Mallory, Patmon, Reece, Sheehy, Strahorn

BILL SUMMARY

- Modifies the designation of special parking spaces for persons with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk by designating such spaces as "accessible parking spaces" or "disability parking spaces" (rather than "handicapped parking spaces" or "disability parking spaces").
- Provides that a new or replacement sign designating a special parking location that is posted on or after the bill's effective date must bear the word "accessible" and cannot bear any form of the word "handicap," except that a sign bearing the word "handicap" may remain posted after the bill's effective date until it is replaced.
- Eliminates obsolete references to parking cards.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Designated parking spaces for persons with disabilities

The bill modifies the designation of special parking spaces for persons with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk by designating such spaces as "accessible parking spaces" or "disability parking spaces." Under current law, the parking spaces are designated as "handicapped parking spaces" or "disability parking spaces."¹

Under law unchanged by the bill, "person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk" means any person who, as determined by a health care provider, meets any of the following criteria:

¹ R.C. 737.051, 737.161, 3501.29, 3781.111, 4503.44, and 4511.69.

- Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest;
- Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device;
- Is restricted by a lung disease to such an extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 millimeters of mercury on room air at rest;
- Uses portable oxygen;
- 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;
- Is severely limited in the ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition;
- Is blind.²

Replacement signs for accessible parking spaces

Current law establishes standards for signs designating special parking locations for persons with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk. The bill provides that if a new or replacement sign designating a special parking location is posted on or after the bill's effective date, it must bear the word "accessible" and any other required words or symbols but must not bear any form of the word "handicap." A sign designating a special parking location and already posted on the bill's effective date that bears any form of the word "handicap" may remain posted after that date until it is replaced.³

Parking cards

The bill eliminates obsolete references in the Revised Code to parking cards, which are no longer issued and have been replaced with removable windshield placards. An organization or a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk may obtain from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles a removable windshield

² R.C. 4503.44(A)(1).

³ R.C. 3781.111(C) and 4511.69(E).



placard or temporary removable windshield placard to display when parking in a special designated parking space.⁴

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	09-12-13

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⁴ R.C. 4503.44(K).

