



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

Elizabeth Molnar

### H.B. 265

130th General Assembly  
(As Reported by H. Health and Aging)

**Reps.** Stinziano and Grossman, Driehaus, Mallory, Patmon, Reece, Sheehy, Strahorn, Wachtmann, Bishoff, Brown, R. Hagan, Schuring

---

## BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the parking locations reserved for persons with certain disabilities as "accessible parking spaces or disability parking spaces" (rather than "handicapped parking spaces or disability parking spaces").
- Requires that new or replacement signs designating parking locations bear the word "accessible"; provides that signs bearing the word "handicap" may remain posted until replaced.
- Eliminates references to parking cards.

---

## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Parking locations for persons with disabilities

The bill designates as "accessible parking spaces or disability parking spaces" the parking locations reserved for persons with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk. Current law designates the locations as "handicapped parking spaces or disability parking spaces."<sup>1</sup>

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

- Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest;

---

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 737.051, 737.161, 3501.29, 3781.111, 4503.44, and 4511.69.

- 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.<sup>2</sup>

## **Parking signs**

The bill provides that, if a new or replacement sign designating a parking location for persons with disabilities is posted on or after the bill's effective date, the sign must bear the word "accessible." The new or replacement sign cannot bear any form of the word "handicap." However, a sign bearing any form of the word "handicap" posted on the bill's effective date may remain posted until it is replaced.<sup>3</sup>

## **Parking cards**

The bill eliminates references in the Revised Code to parking cards, as the Bureau of Motor Vehicles no longer issues them. Existing law permits an organization or a person with a disability to obtain from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles a removable windshield placard or temporary removable windshield placard to display when parking in a designated location. Current law also allows a person with a disability to obtain disability license plates for the person's vehicle.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4503.44(A)(1).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3781.111(C) and 4511.69(E).

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4503.44. See also, [http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/disability\\_plate.stm](http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/disability_plate.stm).

---

## HISTORY

### ACTION

### DATE

Introduced  
Reported, H. Health and Aging

09-12-13  
04-09-14

H0265-RH-130.docx/ks

