

CHAPTER 238
SB 151-FN - FINAL VERSION

03/13/2025 0497s
03/13/2025 0913s
8May2025... 1799h

2025 SESSION

25-1092
11/09

SENATE BILL ***151-FN***

AN ACT relative to accessible parking permit verification and fraud prevention.

SPONSORS: Sen. Abbas, Dist 22; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Avar, Dist 12;
Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1; Rep. Panek, Hills. 1; Rep. Tenczar, Hills. 1

COMMITTEE: Transportation

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that walking disability placards contain certain driver's license information, creates a penalty for a disabled driver who parks in a restricted parking space without displaying their placard, and increases fines for parking in restricted spaces without a placard. This bill also makes the display of a counterfeit, fraudulent, or other unofficial walking disability placard while parked in a properly designated parking space reserved for individuals with walking disabilities a violation or misdemeanor.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to accessible parking permit verification and fraud prevention.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 238:1 Parking Place; Walking Disability; Fines. Amend RSA 265:69, I(j)-(m) to read as follows:

2 (j) In any parking place, whether on public or private property, specially designated for a
3 person with a walking disability by means of a sign as required by RSA 265:73-a stating that the space is
4 reserved for a person with a walking disability or displaying the international accessibility symbol, unless
5 that person has a special plate or placard issued or recognized pursuant to RSA 261:86 or RSA 261:88,
6 and the person who qualifies for the plate or placard is being transported to or from the parking place.
7 Notwithstanding the provisions of title LXII or any other provision of law, a person who violates the
8 provisions of this subparagraph, ***except if subject to RSA 265:74, II***, shall be fined a minimum of [~~\$250~~]
9 ***\$500 plus penalty assessment*** of which [20] 50 percent is payable to the town or city where the violation
10 occurred;

11 (k) On any controlled access highway;

12 (l) In the area between roadways of a divided highway, including crossovers;

13 (m) In or overlapping into any access aisle. Notwithstanding the provisions of title LXII or any
14 other provision of law, a person who violates the provisions of this subparagraph shall be fined a minimum
15 of [~~\$50~~] ***\$100*** for a first offense and a minimum of [~~\$100~~] ***\$200*** for each subsequent offense.

16 238:2 Enforcement; Walking Disability Designated Spaces and Aisles; Fine. Amend RSA 265:69-a,
17 II to read as follows:

18 II. Upon receipt of testimony under paragraph I by the appropriate law enforcement agency, such
19 agency shall fine the violator a minimum of [~~\$250~~] ***\$500 plus penalty assessment*** pursuant to RSA 265:69,
20 I(j).

21 238:3 Walking Disability; Parking Privileges; Fines. Amend RSA 265:74 to read as follows:

22 265:74 Parking Privileges for Persons With Walking Disability.

23 ***I.*** Any motor vehicle carrying the special plates or hanging windshield placard issued to a person
24 with a walking disability under RSA 261:88, or a similar license plate displaying the international
25 accessibility symbol shall be allowed free parking in any city or town, including any state or municipal
26 parking facility where a fee is charged. Each city or town shall have the discretion to set the time periods
27 using guidelines which shall be provided by the governor's commission on disability. The free parking
28 shall only be allowed if the person who qualifies for the special plates or hanging placard is being
29 transported in the vehicle to or from the parking place. Parking places designated for persons with
30 walking disabilities shall be utilized only if a person with a walking disability is being transported in the
31 vehicle to or from the parking place. Notwithstanding the provisions of any local ordinance which has

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1 been adopted to regulate parking in places designated for persons with walking disabilities, any person
2 who is convicted under this section shall be guilty of a violation and fined [~~\$250~~] **\$500** plus penalty
3 assessment of which [20] **50** percent is payable to the town or city where the violation occurred.

4 ***II. Any person who parks a vehicle in any parking place, whether on public or private property,***
5 ***specially designated for a person with a walking disability by means of a sign as required by RSA 265:73-***
6 ***a stating that the space is reserved for a person with a walking disability or displaying the international***
7 ***accessibility symbol, while displaying a counterfeit, forged, stolen, or purchased handicap placard that has***
8 ***not been issued by an agency with authority to do so, shall be guilty of a violation with a fine of not less***
9 ***than \$1,000 for a first offense, and a misdemeanor with a fine of not less than \$1,500 for a second or***
10 ***subsequent offense.***

11 238:4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

Approved: July 15, 2025
Effective Date: January 01, 2026

