

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2319 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY KAUFER, PEIFER, JAMES, BARRAR, KINSEY, OWLETT, KORTZ, DONATUCCI, SCHMITT, RYAN, READSHAW, FREEMAN, MURT, BROWN, MILLARD, POLINCHOCK, BOBACK, SCHLEGEL CULVER, BERNSTINE, PICKETT, ULLMAN, TOEPEL, NEILSON, SAINATO, HENNESSEY, GAINNEY, MACKENZIE, CIRESI, HILL-EVANS, BURGOS, CONKLIN, O'MARA AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 29, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in registration of vehicles, further providing for
3 return of registration plate, for person with disability
4 plate and placard and for special plates for recipients of
5 Purple Heart; and, in rules of the road in general, further
6 providing for additional parking regulations.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Sections 1334(a)(4), 1338(c)(1), (2) and (3),
10 (c.1) and (c.2), 1346 and 3354(h) of Title 75 of the
11 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

12 § 1334. Return of registration plate.

13 (a) General rule.--Registration plates shall be returned to
14 the department under the following circumstances:

15 \* \* \*

16 (4) A person with a disability registration plate or a
17 special registration plate under section 1346(b) (relating to

1 special plates for recipients of Purple Heart) shall be  
2 returned if the person to whom it was issued no longer  
3 qualifies under section 1338 (relating to person with  
4 disability plate and placard).

5 \* \* \*

6 § 1338. Person with disability plate and placard.

7 \* \* \*

8 (c) Health care provider's statement.--

9 (1) Any person applying for a special plate or parking  
10 placard for persons with disabilities, including a special  
11 registration plate under section 1346(b) (relating to special  
12 plates for recipients of Purple Heart), must present a  
13 statement, certified by a physician, podiatrist,  
14 chiropractor, optometrist, physician assistant or certified  
15 registered nurse practitioner licensed or certified to  
16 practice in this Commonwealth or in a contiguous state, that  
17 the person with a disability is disabled as provided in  
18 subsection (a).

19 (2) Any person applying for a renewal of registration of  
20 a special plate for persons with disabilities, including a  
21 special registration plate under section 1346(b), must comply  
22 with this subsection. Once a person with a disability has  
23 been duly certified by a physician, podiatrist, chiropractor,  
24 optometrist, physician assistant or certified registered  
25 nurse practitioner as being disabled, as provided in  
26 subsection (a), the applicant need not submit a certification  
27 for subsequent renewals of registration for a special plate  
28 for persons with disabilities. A person who was issued a  
29 person with disability plate under this section and no longer  
30 qualifies for one shall not be charged a replacement fee for

1 a regular registration plate upon payment of the regular  
2 registration fee.

3 (3) In lieu of a health care provider's statement, a  
4 person applying for a special plate [or], parking placard or  
5 special registration plate under section 1346(b) may present  
6 a statement from a police officer certifying that the person  
7 does not have full use of a leg, or both legs, or is blind.

8 \* \* \*

9 (c.1) Return of plates and placard.--Upon the death of a  
10 person to whom a plate or placard has been issued under this  
11 section or section 1346(b), the plate or placard shall be void  
12 30 days after death and shall not be displayed on any vehicle.  
13 The personal representative of the deceased shall return the  
14 plate to the department. If there is no personal representative,  
15 the spouse or, if there is no spouse, the next of kin of the  
16 deceased shall return the plate or placard to the department.

17 (c.2) Authorized use.--This section shall not preclude the  
18 operation of a vehicle which bears a person with disability  
19 plate or a special registration plate under section 1346(b) when  
20 the vehicle is not being used for the benefit of the person with  
21 a disability or when the person with a disability is not present  
22 in the vehicle, provided the driver does not use or attempt to  
23 use any special privilege or benefit otherwise accorded to  
24 vehicles displaying the plate.

25 \* \* \*

26 § 1346. Special plates for recipients of Purple Heart.

27 (a) Purple Heart plates.--Upon application of any person who  
28 is a recipient of the Purple Heart, the department shall issue  
29 to such person a special registration plate designating the  
30 vehicle so licensed as belonging to a person who is a recipient

1 of the Purple Heart. A severely disabled veteran, as described  
2 in section 1342(a) (relating to veteran plates and placard), who  
3 is qualified to receive a plate under this section may also  
4 elect to receive a placard under section 1342(b). The special  
5 registration plate may be used only on a passenger car,  
6 motorcycle or truck with a registered gross weight of not more  
7 than 14,000 pounds.

8 (b) Disability designation.--A person who applies for a  
9 special registration plate under subsection (a) and qualifies  
10 for a special registration plate under section 1338(a) (relating  
11 to person with disability plate and placard) shall be eligible  
12 to receive a special registration plate under subsection (a)  
13 that includes a designation indicating the vehicle is being used  
14 by a person with a disability.

15 § 3354. Additional parking regulations.

16 \* \* \*

17 (h) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
18 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
19 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

20 "Access aisle." A physical area marked in accordance with  
21 departmental regulations:

22 (1) designated by white or blue pavement marking hash  
23 marks, cross-hatching or other similar visual no-parking  
24 indicators;

25 (2) which provides additional space for a person using a  
26 wheelchair, wheelchair lift or other mobility device; and

27 (3) which is located adjacent to a parking space  
28 reserved for a person with a disability.

29 "Person with a disability." A person issued a plate or  
30 placard.

1 "Plate or placard." A plate or placard issued under:

2 (1) Section 1338 (relating to person with disability  
3 plate and placard).

4 (2) Section 1342(a) or (b) (relating to veteran plates  
5 and placard).

6 (3) Section 1346(b) (relating to special plates for  
7 recipients of Purple Heart).

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect in ~~60~~ 120 days.

<--