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**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**Sub. H. B. No. 450**

To amend section 4503.44 of the Revised Code to  
authorize issuance of the temporary removable  
windshield placard to grant accessible parking  
privileges to pregnant women.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4503.44 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 4503.44.** (A) As used in this section and in section  
4511.69 of the Revised Code:

(1) "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:

(a) Cannot walk two hundred feet without stopping to rest;  
(b) Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a  
brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device,  
wheelchair, or other assistive device;

(c) Is restricted by a lung disease to such an extent that  
the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one

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second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or  
the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty millimeters of  
mercury on room air at rest;

(d) Uses portable oxygen;

(e) 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;

(f) Is severely limited in the ability to walk due to an  
arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition;

(g) Is blind, legally blind, or severely visually  
impaired;

(h) Is pregnant, as defined in section 2919.16 of the  
Revised Code, and at the time of the application, is either  
within ninety days of the estimated date of the live birth, as  
defined in section 3705.01 of the Revised Code, or is  
experiencing complications as a result of the pregnancy.

(2) "Organization" means any private organization or  
corporation, or any governmental board, agency, department,  
division, or office, that, as part of its business or program,  
transports persons with disabilities that limit or impair the  
ability to walk on a regular basis in a motor vehicle that has  
not been altered for the purpose of providing it with accessible  
equipment for use by persons with disabilities. This definition  
does not apply to division (I) of this section.

(3) "Health care provider" means a physician, physician  
assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, optometrist, or  
chiropractor as defined in this section except that an  
optometrist shall only make determinations as to division (A) (1)

(g) of this section.	47
(4) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine or surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code.	48 49 50
(5) "Chiropractor" means a person licensed to practice chiropractic under Chapter 4734. of the Revised Code.	51 52
(6) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means a certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified registered nurse anesthetist, or certified nurse-midwife who holds a certificate of authority issued by the board of nursing under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code.	53 54 55 56 57
(7) "Physician assistant" means a person who is licensed as a physician assistant under Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code.	58 59 60
(8) "Optometrist" means a person licensed to engage in the practice of optometry under Chapter 4725. of the Revised Code.	61 62
(9) "Removable windshield placard" includes a standard removable windshield placard, a temporary removable windshield placard, or a permanent removable windshield placard, unless otherwise specified.	63 64 65 66
(B) (1) An organization, or a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, may apply for the registration of any motor vehicle the organization or person owns or leases. When an adaptive mobility vehicle is owned or leased by someone other than a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the owner or lessee may apply to the registrar of motor vehicles or a deputy registrar for registration under this section. The application for registration of a motor vehicle owned or leased by a person with	67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75

a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk shall be 76  
accompanied by a signed statement from the applicant's health 77  
care provider certifying that the applicant meets at least one 78  
of the criteria contained in division (A) (1) of this section and 79  
that the disability is expected to continue for more than six 80  
consecutive months. The application for registration of an 81  
adaptive mobility vehicle that is owned by someone other than a 82  
person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to 83  
walk shall be accompanied by such documentary evidence of 84  
vehicle specifications or alterations as the registrar may 85  
require by rule. 86

(2) When an organization, a person with a disability that 87  
limits or impairs the ability to walk, or a person who does not 88  
have a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk but 89  
owns a motor vehicle that has been altered for the purpose of 90  
providing it with accessible equipment for a person with a 91  
disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk first 92  
submits an application for registration of a motor vehicle under 93  
this section and every fifth year thereafter, the organization 94  
or person shall submit a signed statement from the applicant's 95  
health care provider, a completed application, and any required 96  
documentary evidence of vehicle specifications or alterations as 97  
provided in division (B) (1) of this section, and also a power of 98  
attorney from the owner of the motor vehicle if the applicant 99  
leases the vehicle. Upon submission of these items, the 100  
registrar or deputy registrar shall issue to the applicant 101  
appropriate vehicle registration and a set of license plates and 102  
validation stickers, or validation stickers alone when required 103  
by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code. In addition to the 104  
letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed thereon, the license 105  
plates shall be imprinted with the international symbol of 106

access. The license plates and validation stickers shall be 107  
issued upon payment of the regular license fee as prescribed 108  
under section 4503.04 of the Revised Code and any motor vehicle 109  
tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, and the 110  
payment of a service fee equal to the amount established under 111  
section 4503.038 of the Revised Code. 112

(C) (1) A person with a disability that limits or impairs 113  
the ability to walk may apply to the registrar for a removable 114  
windshield placard by completing and signing an application 115  
provided by the registrar. 116

(2) The person shall include with the application a 117  
prescription from the person's health care provider prescribing 118  
such a placard for the person based upon a determination that 119  
the person meets at least one of the criteria contained in 120  
division (A) (1) of this section. The health care provider shall 121  
state on the prescription the length of time the health care 122  
provider expects the applicant to have the disability that 123  
limits or impairs the person's ability to walk. If the length of 124  
time the applicant is expected to have the disability is six 125  
consecutive months or less, the applicant shall submit an 126  
application for a temporary removable windshield placard. If the 127  
length of time the applicant is expected to have the disability 128  
is permanent, the applicant shall submit an application for a 129  
permanent removable windshield placard. All other applicants 130  
shall submit an application for a standard removable windshield 131  
placard. 132

(3) In addition to one placard or one or more sets of 133  
license plates, a person with a disability that limits or 134  
impairs the ability to walk is entitled to one additional 135  
placard, but only if the person applies separately for the 136

additional placard, states the reasons why the additional 137  
placard is needed, and the registrar, in the registrar's 138  
discretion determines that good and justifiable cause exists to 139  
approve the request for the additional placard. 140

(4) An organization may apply to the registrar of motor 141  
vehicles for a standard removable windshield placard by 142  
completing and signing an application provided by the registrar. 143  
The organization shall comply with any procedures the registrar 144  
establishes by rule. The organization shall include with the 145  
application documentary evidence that the registrar requires by 146  
rule showing that the organization regularly transports persons 147  
with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk. 148

(5) The registrar or deputy registrar shall issue to an 149  
applicant a standard removable windshield placard, a temporary 150  
removable windshield placard, or a permanent removable 151  
windshield placard, as applicable, upon receipt of all of the 152  
following: 153

(a) A completed and signed application for a removable 154  
windshield placard; 155

(b) The accompanying documents required under division (C) 156  
(2) or (4) of this section; 157

(c) Payment of a service fee equal to the amount 158  
established under section 4503.038 of the Revised Code for a 159  
standard removable windshield placard or a temporary removable 160  
windshield placard, or payment of fifteen dollars for a 161  
permanent removable windshield placard. 162

(6) The removable windshield placard shall display the 163  
date of expiration on both sides of the placard, or the word 164  
"permanent" if the placard is a permanent removable windshield 165

placard, and shall be valid until expired, revoked, or 166  
surrendered. Except for a permanent removable windshield 167  
placard, which has no expiration, a removable windshield placard 168  
expires on the earliest of the following two dates: 169

(a) The date that the person issued the placard is 170  
expected to no longer have the disability that limits or impairs 171  
the ability to walk, as indicated on the prescription submitted 172  
with the application for the placard; 173

(b) Ten years after the date of issuance on the placard. 174

In no case shall a removable windshield placard be valid 175  
for a period of less than sixty days. 176

(7) Standard removable windshield placards shall be 177  
renewable upon application and upon payment of a service fee 178  
equal to the amount established under section 4503.038 of the 179  
Revised Code. The registrar shall provide the application form 180  
and shall determine the information to be included thereon. 181

(8) The registrar shall determine the form and size of 182  
each type of the removable windshield placard, the material of 183  
which it is to be made, any differences in color between each 184  
type of placard to make them readily identifiable, and any other 185  
information to be included thereon, and shall adopt rules 186  
relating to the issuance, expiration, revocation, surrender, and 187  
proper display of such placards. A temporary removable 188  
windshield placard shall display the word "temporary" in letters 189  
of such size as the registrar shall prescribe. Any placard 190  
issued after October 14, 1999, shall be manufactured in a manner 191  
that allows the expiration date of the placard to be indicated 192  
on it through the punching, drilling, boring, or creation by any 193  
other means of holes in the placard. 194

(9) At the time a removable windshield placard is issued to a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the registrar or deputy registrar shall enter into the records of the bureau of motor vehicles the last date on which the person will have that disability, as indicated on the accompanying prescription. For a standard removable windshield placard, not less than thirty days prior to that date and any renewal dates, the bureau shall send a renewal notice to that person at the person's last known address as shown in the records of the bureau, informing the person that the person's removable windshield placard will expire on the indicated date, and that the person is required to renew the placard by submitting to the registrar or a deputy registrar another prescription, and by complying with the renewal provisions. If such a prescription is not received by the registrar or a deputy registrar by that date, the placard issued to that person expires and no longer is valid, and this fact shall be recorded in the records of the bureau.

(10) At least once every year, on a date determined by the registrar, the bureau shall examine the records of the office of vital statistics, located within the department of health, that pertain to deceased persons, and also the bureau's records of all persons who have been issued removable windshield placards. If the records of the office of vital statistics indicate that a person to whom a removable windshield placard has been issued is deceased, the bureau shall cancel that placard, and note the cancellation in its records.

The office of vital statistics shall make available to the bureau all information necessary to enable the bureau to comply with division (C)(10) of this section.

(11) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require 225  
a person or organization to apply for a removable windshield 226  
placard or accessible license plates if the accessible license 227  
plates issued to the person or organization under prior law have 228  
not expired or been surrendered or revoked. 229

(D) Any active-duty member of the armed forces of the 230  
United States, including the reserve components of the armed 231  
forces and the national guard, who has an illness or injury that 232  
limits or impairs the ability to walk may apply to the registrar 233  
or a deputy registrar for a temporary removable windshield 234  
placard. With the application, the person shall present evidence 235  
of the person's active-duty status and the illness or injury. 236  
Evidence of the illness or injury may include a current 237  
department of defense convalescent leave statement, any 238  
department of defense document indicating that the person 239  
currently has an ill or injured casualty status or has limited 240  
duties, or a prescription from any health care provider 241  
prescribing the placard for the applicant. Upon receipt of the 242  
application and the necessary evidence, the registrar or deputy 243  
registrar shall issue the applicant the temporary removable 244  
windshield placard without the payment of any service fee. 245

(E) If an applicant for a removable windshield placard is 246  
a veteran of the armed forces of the United States whose 247  
disability, as defined in division (A) (1) of this section, is 248  
service-connected, the registrar or deputy registrar, upon 249  
receipt of the application, presentation of a signed statement 250  
from the applicant's health care provider certifying the 251  
applicant's disability, and presentation of such documentary 252  
evidence from the department of veterans affairs that the 253  
disability of the applicant meets at least one of the criteria 254  
identified in division (A) (1) of this section and is service- 255

connected as the registrar may require by rule, but without the  
payment of any service fee, shall issue the applicant a  
removable windshield placard that is valid until expired,  
surrendered, or revoked.

(F) (1) Upon a conviction of a violation of division (H) or  
(I) of this section, the court shall report the conviction, and  
send the placard, if available, to the registrar, who thereupon  
shall revoke the privilege of using the placard and send notice  
in writing to the placardholder at that holder's last known  
address as shown in the records of the bureau, and the  
placardholder shall return the placard if not previously  
surrendered to the court, to the registrar within ten days  
following mailing of the notice.

(2) Whenever a person to whom a removable windshield  
placard has been issued moves to another state, the person shall  
surrender the placard to the registrar; and whenever an  
organization to which a placard has been issued changes its  
place of operation to another state, the organization shall  
surrender the placard to the registrar.

(3) If a person no longer requires a permanent removable  
windshield placard, the person shall notify and surrender the  
placard to the registrar or deputy registrar within ten days of  
no longer requiring the placard. The person may still apply for  
a standard removable windshield placard or temporary removable  
windshield placard, if applicable.

(G) Subject to division (F) of section 4511.69 of the  
Revised Code, the operator of a motor vehicle displaying a  
removable windshield placard or the accessible license plates  
authorized by this section is entitled to park the motor vehicle  
in any accessible parking location reserved for persons with

disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk.	286
(H) No person or organization that is not eligible for the issuance of license plates or any placard under this section shall willfully and falsely represent that the person or organization is so eligible.	287 288 289 290
No person or organization shall display license plates issued under this section unless the license plates have been issued for the vehicle on which they are displayed and are valid.	291 292 293 294
(I) No person or organization to which a removable windshield placard is issued shall do either of the following:	295 296
(1) Display or permit the display of the placard on any motor vehicle when having reasonable cause to believe the motor vehicle is being used in connection with an activity that does not include providing transportation for persons with disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk;	297 298 299 300 301
(2) Refuse to return or surrender the placard, when required.	302 303
(J) If a removable windshield placard or parking card is lost, destroyed, or mutilated, the placardholder or cardholder may obtain a duplicate by doing both of the following:	304 305 306
(1) Furnishing suitable proof of the loss, destruction, or mutilation to the registrar;	307 308
(2) Paying a service fee equal to the amount paid when the placardholder obtained the original placard.	309 310
Any placardholder who loses a placard and, after obtaining a duplicate, finds the original, immediately shall surrender the original placard to the registrar.	311 312 313

(K) (1) The registrar shall pay all fees received under  
this section for the issuance of removable windshield placards  
or duplicate removable windshield placards into the state  
treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway purposes  
fund created in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 314  
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(2) In addition to the fees collected under this section,  
the registrar or deputy registrar shall ask each person applying  
for a removable windshield placard or duplicate removable  
windshield placard or license plate issued under this section,  
whether the person wishes to make a two-dollar voluntary  
contribution to support rehabilitation employment services. The  
registrar shall transmit the contributions received under this  
division to the treasurer of state for deposit into the  
rehabilitation employment fund, which is hereby created in the  
state treasury. A deputy registrar shall transmit the  
contributions received under this division to the registrar in  
the time and manner prescribed by the registrar. The  
contributions in the fund shall be used by the opportunities for  
Ohioans with disabilities agency to purchase services related to  
vocational evaluation, work adjustment, personal adjustment, job  
placement, job coaching, and community-based assessment from  
accredited community rehabilitation program facilities. 319  
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(L) For purposes of enforcing this section, every peace  
officer is deemed to be an agent of the registrar. Any peace  
officer or any authorized employee of the bureau of motor  
vehicles who, in the performance of duties authorized by law,  
becomes aware of a person whose removable windshield placard or  
parking card has been revoked pursuant to this section, may  
confiscate that placard or parking card and return it to the  
registrar. The registrar shall prescribe any forms used by law  
enforcement agencies in administering this section. 336  
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No peace officer, law enforcement agency employing a peace officer, or political subdivision or governmental agency employing a peace officer, and no employee of the bureau is liable in a civil action for damages or loss to persons arising out of the performance of any duty required or authorized by this section. As used in this division, "peace officer" has the same meaning as in division (B) of section 2935.01 of the Revised Code. 345  
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(M) All applications for registration of motor vehicles and removable windshield placards issued under this section, all renewal notices for such items, and all other publications issued by the bureau that relate to this section shall set forth the criminal penalties that may be imposed upon a person who violates any provision relating to accessible license plates issued under this section, the parking of vehicles displaying such license plates, and the issuance, procurement, use, and display of removable windshield placards issued under this section. 353  
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(N) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 363  
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**Section 2.** That existing section 4503.44 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed. 365  
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**Section 3.** Section 4503.44 of the Revised Code is presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both H.B. 33 and H.B. 195 of the 135th General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section as 367  
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presented in this act.

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