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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:

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

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(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:

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(a) Cannot walk two hundred feet without stopping to rest;

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

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(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 18
the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty millimeters of 19
mercury on room air at rest; 20

(d) Uses portable oxygen; 21

(e) Has a cardiac condition to the extent that the 22
person's functional limitations are classified in severity as 23
class III or class IV according to standards set by the American 24
heart association; 25

(f) Is severely limited in the ability to walk due to an 26
arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition; 27

(g) Is blind, legally blind, or severely visually 28
impaired; 29

(h) Is pregnant, as defined in section 2919.16 of the 30
Revised Code, and at the time of the application, is either 31
within ninety days of the estimated date of the live birth, as 32
defined in section 3705.01 of the Revised Code, or is 33
experiencing complications as a result of the pregnancy. 34

(2) "Organization" means any private organization or 35
corporation, or any governmental board, agency, department, 36
division, or office, that, as part of its business or program, 37
transports persons with disabilities that limit or impair the 38
ability to walk on a regular basis in a motor vehicle that has 39
not been altered for the purpose of providing it with accessible 40
equipment for use by persons with disabilities. This definition 41
does not apply to division (I) of this section. 42

(3) "Health care provider" means a physician, physician 43
assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, optometrist, or 44
chiropractor as defined in this section except that an 45
optometrist shall only make determinations as to division (A) (1) 46

(g) of this section. 47

(4) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice 48
medicine or surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery under 49
Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code. 50

(5) "Chiropractor" means a person licensed to practice 51
chiropractic under Chapter 4734. of the Revised Code. 52

(6) "Advanced practice registered nurse" means a certified 53
nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified 54
registered nurse anesthetist, or certified nurse-midwife who 55
holds a certificate of authority issued by the board of nursing 56
under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code. 57

(7) "Physician assistant" means a person who is licensed 58
as a physician assistant under Chapter 4730. of the Revised 59
Code. 60

(8) "Optometrist" means a person licensed to engage in the 61
practice of optometry under Chapter 4725. of the Revised Code. 62

(9) "Removable windshield placard" includes a standard 63
removable windshield placard, a temporary removable windshield 64
placard, or a permanent removable windshield placard, unless 65
otherwise specified. 66

(B) (1) An organization, or a person with a disability that 67
limits or impairs the ability to walk, may apply for the 68
registration of any motor vehicle the organization or person 69
owns or leases. When an adaptive mobility vehicle is owned or 70
leased by someone other than a person with a disability that 71
limits or impairs the ability to walk, the owner or lessee may 72
apply to the registrar of motor vehicles or a deputy registrar 73
for registration under this section. The application for 74
registration of a motor vehicle owned or leased by a person with 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 195
to a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability 196
to walk, the registrar or deputy registrar shall enter into the 197
records of the bureau of motor vehicles the last date on which 198
the person will have that disability, as indicated on the 199
accompanying prescription. For a standard removable windshield 200
placard, not less than thirty days prior to that date and any 201
renewal dates, the bureau shall send a renewal notice to that 202
person at the person's last known address as shown in the 203
records of the bureau, informing the person that the person's 204
removable windshield placard will expire on the indicated date, 205
and that the person is required to renew the placard by 206
submitting to the registrar or a deputy registrar another 207
prescription, and by complying with the renewal provisions. If 208
such a prescription is not received by the registrar or a deputy 209
registrar by that date, the placard issued to that person 210
expires and no longer is valid, and this fact shall be recorded 211
in the records of the bureau. 212

(10) At least once every year, on a date determined by the 213
registrar, the bureau shall examine the records of the office of 214
vital statistics, located within the department of health, that 215
pertain to deceased persons, and also the bureau's records of 216
all persons who have been issued removable windshield placards. 217
If the records of the office of vital statistics indicate that a 218
person to whom a removable windshield placard has been issued is 219
deceased, the bureau shall cancel that placard, and note the 220
cancellation in its records. 221

The office of vital statistics shall make available to the 222
bureau all information necessary to enable the bureau to comply 223
with division (C)(10) of this section. 224

(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 256
payment of any service fee, shall issue the applicant a 257
removable windshield placard that is valid until expired, 258
surrendered, or revoked. 259

(F) (1) Upon a conviction of a violation of division (H) or 260
(I) of this section, the court shall report the conviction, and 261
send the placard, if available, to the registrar, who thereupon 262
shall revoke the privilege of using the placard and send notice 263
in writing to the placardholder at that holder's last known 264
address as shown in the records of the bureau, and the 265
placardholder shall return the placard if not previously 266
surrendered to the court, to the registrar within ten days 267
following mailing of the notice. 268

(2) Whenever a person to whom a removable windshield 269
placard has been issued moves to another state, the person shall 270
surrender the placard to the registrar; and whenever an 271
organization to which a placard has been issued changes its 272
place of operation to another state, the organization shall 273
surrender the placard to the registrar. 274

(3) If a person no longer requires a permanent removable 275
windshield placard, the person shall notify and surrender the 276
placard to the registrar or deputy registrar within ten days of 277
no longer requiring the placard. The person may still apply for 278
a standard removable windshield placard or temporary removable 279
windshield placard, if applicable. 280

(G) Subject to division (F) of section 4511.69 of the 281
Revised Code, the operator of a motor vehicle displaying a 282
removable windshield placard or the accessible license plates 283
authorized by this section is entitled to park the motor vehicle 284
in any accessible parking location reserved for persons with 285

disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk. 286

(H) No person or organization that is not eligible for the 287
issuance of license plates or any placard under this section 288
shall willfully and falsely represent that the person or 289
organization is so eligible. 290

No person or organization shall display license plates 291
issued under this section unless the license plates have been 292
issued for the vehicle on which they are displayed and are 293
valid. 294

(I) No person or organization to which a removable 295
windshield placard is issued shall do either of the following: 296

(1) Display or permit the display of the placard on any 297
motor vehicle when having reasonable cause to believe the motor 298
vehicle is being used in connection with an activity that does 299
not include providing transportation for persons with 300
disabilities that limit or impair the ability to walk; 301

(2) Refuse to return or surrender the placard, when 302
required. 303

(J) If a removable windshield placard or parking card is 304
lost, destroyed, or mutilated, the placardholder or cardholder 305
may obtain a duplicate by doing both of the following: 306

(1) Furnishing suitable proof of the loss, destruction, or 307
mutilation to the registrar; 308

(2) Paying a service fee equal to the amount paid when the 309
placardholder obtained the original placard. 310

Any placardholder who loses a placard and, after obtaining 311
a duplicate, finds the original, immediately shall surrender the 312
original placard to the registrar. 313

(K) (1) The registrar shall pay all fees received under 314
this section for the issuance of removable windshield placards 315
or duplicate removable windshield placards into the state 316
treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway purposes 317
fund created in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 318

(2) In addition to the fees collected under this section, 319
the registrar or deputy registrar shall ask each person applying 320
for a removable windshield placard or duplicate removable 321
windshield placard or license plate issued under this section, 322
whether the person wishes to make a two-dollar voluntary 323
contribution to support rehabilitation employment services. The 324
registrar shall transmit the contributions received under this 325
division to the treasurer of state for deposit into the 326
rehabilitation employment fund, which is hereby created in the 327
state treasury. A deputy registrar shall transmit the 328
contributions received under this division to the registrar in 329
the time and manner prescribed by the registrar. The 330
contributions in the fund shall be used by the opportunities for 331
Ohioans with disabilities agency to purchase services related to 332
vocational evaluation, work adjustment, personal adjustment, job 333
placement, job coaching, and community-based assessment from 334
accredited community rehabilitation program facilities. 335

(L) For purposes of enforcing this section, every peace 336
officer is deemed to be an agent of the registrar. Any peace 337
officer or any authorized employee of the bureau of motor 338
vehicles who, in the performance of duties authorized by law, 339
becomes aware of a person whose removable windshield placard or 340
parking card has been revoked pursuant to this section, may 341
confiscate that placard or parking card and return it to the 342
registrar. The registrar shall prescribe any forms used by law 343
enforcement agencies in administering this section. 344

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.

(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.

(N) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

Section 2. That existing section 4503.44 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

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

presented in this act.

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